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OBITUARIES - BURKE

James Burke, age 79, born in County Kerry, Ireland. Beloved husband of Philomena (nee O'Connor).



Loving father of James (Nancy), Kathleen (Mark) Mackinnon, Mary (James) McInerney, John, and Thomas (Maribeth). Cherished grandfather of Ashley, Katelin and Lauren Burke; Rachel and Ryan Mackinnon; Meghan (Richard) Dencs, Colleen (Jason) Erber, William Loftus, Megan and Michael McInerney; Katherine, Sarah and Claire Burke; Shannon and Alyssa Burke. Devoted great-grandfather of Richie and Connor James Dencs. Dear brother of Peggy (Christy) McSweeney, Jack (Joan) Burke, Tim (Val) Burke, the late Jerome (the late Kathleen) Burke and Tom Burke. Fond uncle of many nieces and nephews. James and Philomena were founding members of St. Cecilia Church. James was a 59 year member of Local Union 399 Operating Engineers and a Korean War Army Veteran. Memorial donations to the American Cancer Society, 225 N. Michigan Ave., Ste. 1200, Chicago, IL 60601 would be appreciated. Visitation Friday 3-8pm at Smith-Corcoran Funeral Home, 185 E. Northwest Hwy, Palatine, and Saturday 9:00am until time of funeral Mass at 9:30am at St. Cecilia Church, 700 S. Meier Rd., Mt. Prospect. Interment St. Michael the Archangel Cemetery. www.smithcorcoran.com or 847-359-8020.

When the outset of World War I delayed Home Rule for Ireland, a faction of Irish nationalists took direct action. On Easter Monday 1916 a rebellion was launched from the steps of Dublin General Post Office and the existence of an Irish Republic proclaimed. The British drove the rebels back and they surrendered just over a month later. But this was not the

The War for Ireland 1913-1923

The turbulent and bloody years between 1913 and 1923 saw the battle for the independence of Ireland. This book tells the story of the 'Troubles' and the struggle for power, first against the occupying British forces, beginning with the Easter Rising, and then in a violent and bloody civil war that tore the country apart and whose resonances are still with us today.

When the outset of World War I delayed Home Rule for Ireland, a faction of Irish nationalists took direct action. On Easter Monday 1916 a rebellion was launched from the steps of Dublin General Post Office and the existence of an Irish Republic proclaimed. The British drove the rebels back and they surrendered just over a month later. But this was not the

end of the issue. Irish nationalists in the shape of Sinn Fein and the IRA took political power in 1919 with a manifesto to claim Ireland back from an English 'foreign' government by whatever means they could. The 'Troubles' of the Anglo-Irish War made heroes of Michael Collins and Eamon deValera, who were cast



as freedom fighters against colonial oppression. While that war ended with the Government of Ireland Act (1920), and the opening of a separate Parliament in Dublin in 1921, negotiations between Unionists and Protestants over the Treaty were fraught, and divisions between the two Irish factions an open sore. When Irish Protestant Sir Henry Wilson, the government's advisor on security matters, was shot dead by two IRA men, civil war followed. Terror and counter-terror operations ensued and in the short bloody battles of the period there were more deaths than in the preceding years of struggle for the Free State.

As well as the troubled path to independence and the creation of the Irish Free State, this book includes information on the various factions and the Irish Volunteer Forces.

The War for Ireland 1913-1923, edited by Peter Cottrell. Osprey Publishing, Oxford, UK, 2009. Hardcover; 248 pages; \$28.50. www.ospreypublishing.com.

We Get Letters

Northern Ireland Police Retaliate Against McCord Congressional Hearing

CAPITOL HILL. Thursday, December 17, 2009 — The Northern Ireland police (really the British Government because justice and policing have not been devolved) have stripped the Historical Enquiries Team (HET) of the authority to continue its investigation into

the murders of Raymond McCord Jr. exposed by Operation Ballast, the O'Loan Report of 2007. The report found police collusion not only in the McCord killing but also in over 20 murders.

Young McCord's father, Raymond Sr., who gave devastating testimony before a Congressional Hearing on October 22, said: "Security elements are in a state of panic over the recent Hearing and are alarmed at the success of the HET in recently charging over 12 people with murder. They also fear that the HET were about to charge former and serving police officers with murder". At the Hearing, McCord had expressed great confidence in the HET and called for their funding to be increased.

In Washington, Fr. Sean McManus, president of the Capitol Hill-based Irish National Caucus, who worked closely with Mr. McCord in arranging the Congressional Hearing, reacted: "If this was done to further cover-up police

collusion, then it may be the worst collusion of all - coming at a time when we are told that collusion has ended. The only thing that makes the original crime worse is the cover-up - as certain Catholic Bishops have learnt to their cost and to the outrage of the Faithful. Irish-Americans must not take this lying down and the US congress must not be silent".

Fr. Sean McManus
President
Irish National Caucus
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ONLINE ONLY THIS MONTH
We've run out of space on these pages this month for everything we would like to print, but don't despair, we are putting several things online-only at www.iannews.com.
Immigrants Musings
by Fr Leonard
For the Republic
by Chris Fogarty
Horoscopes
by Theresa Castro



From the Motherland

Sean Farrell



Not By Bread Alone

Ireland, the USA, Australia and New Zealand have many things in common, not least historical Irish communities, a common language, a common legal system and a passion for sport. One link, not immediately apparent, is that in none of these sport-mad countries is soccer the number one spectator sport, in contrast to most of the world. There are historical, sociological, and developmental reasons for this, but what can be stated, with a reasonable degree of certainty, is that, in three of the four, failure by the national team to get to the soccer World Cup finals (to take place in South Africa next summer) would not be a major news event. The odd one out is Ireland, where failure to qualify, and the circumstances surrounding it, dominated the media here (and indeed in Britain and France) for several weeks after November 19.

The explanation is simple. Soccer in Ireland is largely urban and working-class. It is also underfinanced and in constant competition for players and support with both Gaelic football and rugby. The most talented players have traditionally gone to England. However, the proximity of England, the presence there of a large Irish community, and the free availability in Ireland of British and satellite television showing English soccer matches, has generated enormous interest in and support for soccer, albeit at one remove, throughout Ireland. Every week hundreds cross the water to attend games involving their favourite English teams. Add in traditional support for the man (or woman) wearing the green jersey, and it is easy to understand why the fortunes of the national soccer team are front page news.

In 2009 the success of the team was invested with a new element. The country is in economic crisis, there is very little good news, and things have not been as bad for 20 years. Back then, in 1988 and more famously in 1990, the Irish soccer team achieved a level of success unequalled before or since, reaching the World Cup quarter-finals in Italy in 1990. Whatever about the footballing merits of the team's performances (they reached the last eight without actually winning a game—advancing on a penalty shootout), in the rosy hue of nostalgia, they are seen as having lifted the spirit of the nation at the time. Fast forward two decades and many hoped that, *ceteris paribus*, the current team might do likewise.

However, it was not to be. After an unbeaten but uninspiring campaign in the preliminaries, Ireland finished second in her section and qualified for a play-off with France, a footballing giant which was underperforming. The first leg, in Croke Park, was largely disappointing and saw France victorious by a lucky deflected goal. The second leg, in Paris four days later, proved a different game. Ireland, needing a victory away from home, abandoned their cautious approach of earlier contests and dominated for much of the game, taking the lead after 30 minutes. The score stayed this way until the end of the regulation 90 minutes and then, since scores over the two games were level, went into overtime.

At a critical point a highly controversial goal was awarded to France after a clear handball assist by the French star player Henri, seen by everybody except the referee and his assistants. The incident was also clearly and unambiguously shown on TV. There was no further scoring

and Ireland were out, denied even the opportunity at least to take part in a penalty shootout. Predictably the players and the fans were gutted. Soccer is well known as a game where the referee's decision is final, and also as a game which has up to now rejected the use of modern technology to assist officials with their decisions. There is no "Hawkeye," there is no review procedure. That, you would think, was that.

Then a departure from the script. Public opinion in Ireland was outraged and refused to let the matter die. Radio and TV stations were swamped with complaints. There were widespread calls for the game to be replayed. The French players in general, and Henri in particular, were branded as cheats. At a higher level, there were dark rumours of a conspiracy by those who ran soccer to ensure that France (a soccer giant) would qualify and Ireland (a soccer minnow) would not. People who should have known better joined in the chorus. An official complaint was made to FIFA (soccer's international governing body). Irish soccer officials reportedly requested that Ireland be invited to participate in the World Cup finals as an extra team. The display was in some way a metaphor for the reaction of sections of society to the precipitate economic downturn of the last two years. It was unfair, a scapegoat had to be found and the situation rectified!

As I write, emotions have cooled and public opinion has become more sanguine. Certainly Ireland were unlucky, having dominated the game in Paris, but arguably the run which put Ireland into the play-offs was launched by an equally dubious refereeing decision in Ireland's favour. In a group game last February, Ireland were trailing lowly Georgia—a real soccer minnow—in the closing minutes. The referee then awarded Ireland a penalty for a very dubious handball (the ball actually striking a defender's shoulder), described by one commentator as scarcely believable. Ireland tied the game and shortly after scored the win-

ning goal. The points gained proved vital later in the group. The coach of Georgia described his players as very angry and added "we did not deserve to lose." In both cases, as in many others over the years, the referee's decision was final. The Irish coach, Giovanni Trapattoni, observed, in effect, that decisions like this happen and that on this occasion Ireland had the luck. Significantly, Trapattoni was much more muted in his reaction to the Paris defeat than were the Irish players, officials, or sections of the Irish public.

There is no doubt that soccer could do with a good makeover—to include tightening up of discipline on and off the field and proper and severe penalties for downright cheating. There is also a strong case for improving officiating at games either by increasing the number of match officials or using video replays on controversial decisions. Up to now the argument has been that all this would take from the natural flow of "the beautiful game" but with so much at stake and the continued development of technology, it should surely be possible to arrive at some happy medium. At least some good could then come out of the Paris game and its aftermath. As it is, the referee and his officials have been unfairly pilloried, and Thierry Henri, by common consent one of the greatest soccer players of recent years,

has had his reputation besmirched. Just last week an English commentator, referring to a hand ball incident, described it as "an Henri moment."

In conclusion, it is ironic to note that, while Ireland will not be going to South Africa, the USA, Australia and New Zealand will.

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Chicago Gaelic News

Pat Hennessy



Happy New Year!

New Year blessings for a happy, healthy and successful coming New Year extended to our readers and friends. A special thanks to our fine Editor, Cliff Carlson, and his all-star staff who make all our columns readable month after month. To the readers who wrote or called during the year, pro and con, we thank you also. Hearing from readers is always the best part of attempting to write a column. So keep up the good work my good friends, even if do criticize now and then. Slainte, a cairde.

Beautiful Irish Christmas at Gaelic Park

Once again, record crowds of patrons at Gaelic Park enjoyed a beautiful and typical Irish Christmas in the midst of delightful decorations and lighting, inside and outside. Gaelic Park is noted for such family entertainment and has become the favorite meeting place on the southwest side of the city in beautiful Oak Forest. Irish favourite entertainers, Andy Cooney, George Casey, Kay Tobin Dance Troupe and others directed by the "old

Maestro," Brian "Bugs" Moran made this a wonderful evening and brought back fond memories of Ireland and the old turf fire.

Record crowds were also expected for Gaelic Park's New Year celebrations timed for 4pm for the kids (with a sparking juice toast) and 6pm (Ireland's midnight hour) for the adults with the usual drink. It should prove to be another memorable occasion. Slainte, a cairde.

Our humble thanks and congratulations are again extended to dynamic President John Griffin, and his hardworking Board of Directors, with charming Manageress, Marian Ryan, Harry Costello (the man for all seasons), and the lads at the Carraig, and the various committees who make such an event so enjoyable. Gur a mile mait agat, a cairde.

Chicago Firefighter Footballers in Ireland

Our congratulations are extended to the Chicago Firefighters Gaelic football team, who toured Ireland recently and played great games against Dublin and Ulster teams. This is wonderful news for the Gaelic Athletic Association, and hopefully, now this team will affiliate with Chicago GAA and okay in either the Junior or Senior championships during the coming season. The team should be capable

of playing in the Senior play-offs, but then again, it might be better to begin with the Juniors and work up to the Senior stage.

With juvenile Irish-American kids now playing the games at Gaelic Park, and playing good skillful caman craft and football, plus the Firefighters team coming along, it offsets the lack of "new seed" players coming from Ireland because of restrictive U.S. immigration laws. Now, hopefully, more Irish American youth will be attracted towards hurling and Gaelic football. Tanum cun De (Thanks to God).

Welcome Back

Brother McGovern

We are very pleased and thankful to God to welcome back Br. Donald McGovern from his hospitalization for spinal surgery. Br. McGovern is the hard working Province Development Director with the Edmund Rice Brothers. Donations for the many developments of the CB are being accepted at Rice Christian Brothers, P.O. Box 42903, Evergreen Park, IL 60805.

Low Awaited U.S. Immigration Reform

Hopefully when the long debated health bill being discussed in Congress and eventually signed into law by President Barack Obama, the long awaited immigration reform will be next on the his long agenda. The Irish Reform movement must be prepared for a long fight in order to prove the "unfairness" of the present law as it applies to the Irish and other western European countries like, Britain, France, and Germany, etc.

When the Rodina bill was passed in the House in the early 60's, it covered "handicapped countries" with different patterns such as Irish, German, etc. For instance, the Irish for the most part immigrate as a single person, man or woman, whilst Asians and some others travel as whole families, father, mother and several kids. The Irish got one visa and others get five or six, depending on the number of children. Thus at the end, the Irish and others with a low amount, were forced to go to the bottom of the totopole and got much less. The first year the present law went into effect, the Irish received a few hundred visas, whilst others received a few thousand.

Despite this "unfairness," the Senate allowed the Rodina bill to "die," with the result that the unfairness prevailed all those years without being corrected. In the 80's, the Irish did receive over 60,000 visas in the amnesty deal, but that,

no doubt, was to compensate for the "unfairness" of prior years. The "unfairness" continues and needs to be corrected. The Rodina bill allowed for that unfairness by establishing a floor of approximately 10,000 for the Irish and others. That has never been allowed, nor has the promise made by the Senate Department at that time to the effect that "no country shall be handicapped."

Today's young Irish that roam our streets are well-educated, hard working, and speak the language. No doubt the ones that are working are paying tax and obeying our laws. They would make outstanding citizens, if given a fair chance to live as good citizens. Eventually, when the country recovers from this recession, we are going to need a well educated labor force to keep up with our global competitors.

Without being boastful, our ancestors who came to our great country years ago, fought our wars gallantly, dug the railroad lines, and helped to build our great cities, and to reverse the flow of the Chicago River, so that our citizens could have pure water to drink. They were for the most part some of our best citizens, and to reject this generation of Irish is indeed being unfair and demands correction.

So let's get together with our respective Irish Reform Movements, agree upon the bill that we want passed in Congress, inform our senators and respective congressmen on a national level, and above all, stay off the streets, waving flags and shouting.

Dan Hynes for Governor

That's the best of living out of state, you can recommend candidates for any office to another state, provided that the Editor agrees. But joking aside, Dan Hynes, son of the familiar Tommy Hynes, well known former Cook Co. Assessor, and indeed the entire Hynes family, have close ties with the great County of Galway. The Hynes family are great supporters of St. Patrick's Day parades, and the GAA Hurling and Gaelic Football at Gaelic Park. More importantly, Hynes receives highest marks for being an outstanding Illinois Controller. He has been cited numerous times for his ability to handle the important position of Controller. He will make a great Governor, a major change from the people had. He knows how the people's money should be handled, and has proved upon several occasions that he is an excellent legislator. He should be elected on his splendid record, compared to others.

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Spóirt

Mary Margaret O'Leary



A few months ago, after Sunday Mass I asked Father Ryan, the pastor of my parish if he knew of anyone within our community who was involved in the world of sports. I told him I had just started writing for Irish American News and wanted to find interesting stories. He told me he would keep me in mind and I knew he would. A few weeks later, my dad ran into Father Ryan and when he came home he told me Father Ryan had suggested someone for me. The person that Father Ryan connected me with turned out to be far more impressive and inspiring than I could have ever imagined.

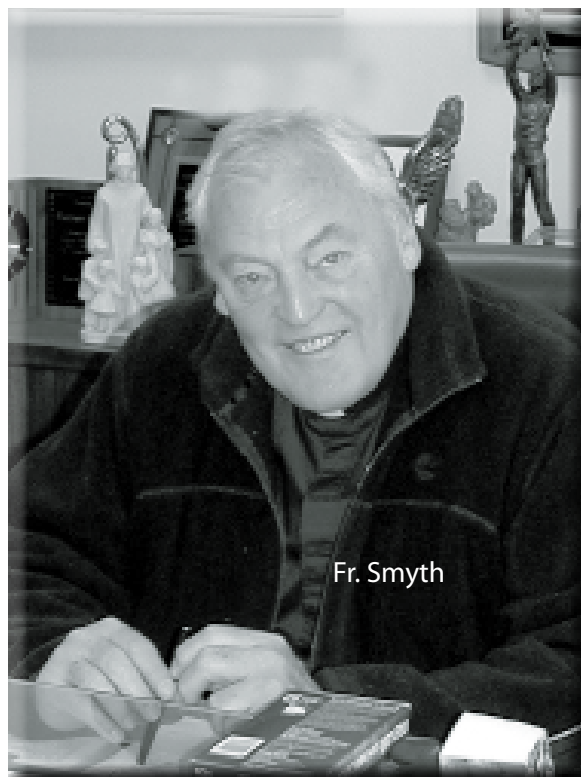
His name is Reverend John P. Smyth. When I started to research Rev. Smyth, I became increasingly impressed with each detail I discovered about him. I found out that he was an All-American and the senior captain of his University of Notre Dame basketball team. The thought of anyone playing a sport at the collegiate level impresses me—especially if it is at Notre Dame. I also learned that he was a first-round draft choice to the St. Louis Hawks and that he elected to forgo a career in the NBA—to enter the priesthood. I

couldn't imagine a person declining an opportunity to play at the highest level in any professional sport—it boggled my mind! Much to my surprise, my initial findings on Rev. Smyth seemed like trifles after meeting and talking with this man.

I met Father Smyth at Notre Dame College Prep in Niles, Illinois—where he has been the President since 2007. Upon arriving, the first thing I noticed from the parking lot was a large grotto with a statue of the Blessed Virgin. It looked strikingly similar to the grotto I had seen at Notre Dame University years before. I would later find out that the grotto was one of the first things Father Smyth had constructed at Notre Dame College Prep. It is modeled after the grotto at Lourdes, France. It is 80 feet by 20 feet which is larger than the grotto at the University of Notre Dame in

South Bend, Indiana.

When I entered Father Smyth's office and saw him standing there it was quite clear that he would have been a great athlete in his youth. His tall stature towered over my 5'10 frame and his hands were large and his body broad—I was sure he wasn't pushed around much on (or off) the basketball court. He greeted me with a warm smile and we sat down and started to talk. I learned Father Smyth had played football and basketball in high school at DePaul Academy, captaining both the teams. An injury to



Fr. Smyth

his right shoulder ended any hopes of a collegiate football career, but after teaching himself to shoot a basketball with his left hand he continued on with his basketball career.

His senior year at Notre Dame University, he was an All-American and one of five guys chosen for the "College Allstars". The College Allstars toured the U.S. and played against the Harlem Globetrotters. After that tour, came the 1957 NBA draft. Smyth was first draft choice to the St. Louis Hawks. Smyth recalled, "I think they wanted me to protect Bob Pettit, so I was willing to do that, but then I just decided I enjoy basketball and enjoy playing, but something else kept gnawing at me to do something different and I decided to become a priest. The G.M. for the Hawks called me up about fifty times. He said I was crazy, my teammates

and everyone else thought I was crazy. I just decided to do something different and I have never regretted it in my life."

In 1962, Father Smyth was ordained a priest and took his first assignment at Maryville Academy in Des Plaines, Illinois. Maryville is one of Illinois' oldest childcare agencies, dedicated to providing children and families the tools they need to reach their full potential. Father Smyth worked at Maryville for forty-five years, and became Executive Director in 1970. "I loved the assignment. The need was extremely evident. Looking at these kids' life and the depredation of their life—you wouldn't dream of how bad it is. Many of the kids were angry when they came in, they didn't know how to relate, they came from such disrupted backgrounds that they

didn't trust anyone—when you're on the streets you don't trust people. They were there just to survive... and they did wonderfully," said Smyth. Any person who came to Maryville would also receive post training when they left. Whether it was college, or trade school, Maryville would pay for everything and set each person up with a mentor who would check in on them and build a relationship with them. At one point there were over 300 young people from Maryville in college.

Upon arriving at Notre Dame College Prep in 2007, Father Smyth immediately began to make positive changes, just like he had done at Maryville. The "Past, Present, Promise" campaign will give students additional space for reflection and prayer in the grotto, enhanced educational space, technological upgrades, a new field house for multiple sports and activities, stadium upgrades, and a growing endowment to provide aid for future and current students. Father Smyth said he thinks the best part of Notre Dame Prep is the "family spirit". It was noticeable to me when I visited. Everyone knew everyone, the staff was very friendly, I could tell it was a special place just from the atmosphere.

Another thing I found interesting was the fact that students at Notre Dame do not have bells between classes. Essentially, in a small way, everyday they have to make a decision to get to where they should be going. Instead of the hectic high school hallways I was used to, it was a calm and peaceful environment. Additional advances at the school are

the programs that have been created to cater to different students' needs. One of these programs includes the Burke Scholar Program which is designed for students with mild cognitive disabilities. The program was named after Supreme Court Justice Anne Burke, who helped found the Special Olympics and her husband, Chicago alderman Edward Burke. Notre Dame is one of nine Catholic high schools in the United States offering a program for learning differences.

Father Smyth is also responsible for creating the Standing Tall Foundation. Its mission is "to provide the means through which the lives of the homeless, underserved and/or at-risk children and disenfranchised families may be improved in order to

develop and establish a safe, secure, functional and productive lifestyle for the well-being of the child and/or for the preservation of the family unit." Presently, 172 people are attending high school or college because of the Standing Tall Foundation.

It is clear that sports are still important to Father Smyth. Sports played a major role throughout his entire life. Athletics were a big part of Maryville, they are a big part at Notre Dame College Prep (Smyth is the kicking coach). Still there is more to life than sports. Father Smyth is a shining example of a man who has chosen faith as his sport and God as his coach.

To find out more about Father Smyth's foundation visit <http://standingtallfoundation.org>.

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Chris Fogarty



"FAMINE" VS. HOLOCAUST. On the Doolough-to-Louisburg, Co. Mayo "famine" walk back about 1997, Mary and I were distributing my MASS GRAVES OF IRELAND; 1845-1850 pamphlet when a woman asked if we would help her publisher promote her "famine" book in the States, we answered; "Of course." I promptly added: "But your book identifies all seventy-five food removal regiments, doesn't it?" When she said; "No," I asked; "But why would you bother adding to the pile of cover-up books?"

Her mouth was forming her answer when someone shouted; "John: when will you write the book that everyone is waiting for?" "John's" answer: "It's too soon. The publishing industry will still kill any book that tells the truth about the starvation of Ireland." Why would anyone say such a thing? "John" proved to be John Pilger, the eminent human rights advocate from Australia, one or more of whose books I already had in my home library. Pilger is possessed of a towering integrity, but his claim that publishers will kill a book

that proves Britain's 1845-50 genocide of Ireland sounded strange.

THE FOOD REMOVAL is undeniable—nobody even tries to deny my irishholocaust.org map that, for the first time (other than in Britain's National Archives where I discovered it in 1983), identifies all seventy-five British perpetrating regiments and the Irish district each was assigned to strip of edibles. The more than five million eliminated were Ireland's most Gaelic, and when they were murdered, Gaelic died as Ireland's main language. They were the noncollaborators with the invaders, and they died in their thatched cabins on the land they tilled the product of which the landlord seized (with the aid of the British army) to maintain his lordly lifestyle in England. Tens of thousands of other Irish were evicted by the same British army that had robbed their ancestors of it. Landlords' wrecking crews used battering rams to broach house walls and sawed or pulled down the roof ridge beams, thus collapsing the thatched roofs, so that the evicted families died under trees, in scealps, in the bogs, along the roads, in cemeteries, and in the rain and snow. Whoever would interfere with that sentence of death by starvation and exposure by granting them shelter even in a cowhouse would, themselves and their entire family, suffer the same fate. The landlords' purpose in evicting was to rid "his" land of the Irish, and when so many of Ireland's landlords were doing likewise, the effect was ethnic cleansing. The genocide wasn't total. Nearly all of us are descendants of the more Anglicized, surviving half of Ireland's population.

"FAMINE" BOOKS focus nearly exclusively on the failure of a minor crop—potatoes. Some go so far as to call it a "potato famine." They leave the impression that the Irish grew only one failure-prone crop from the Atlantic coast to the Irish Sea and thus have only themselves to blame. It is to keep that lie going and to cover up one of history's deadliest genocides that they conceal the fact of the far greater acreage planted in grain crops—crops

that didn't fail and would have kept their cultivators abundantly fed but for the seventy-five British regiments that removed them at gunpoint. The cover-up artists remain active; they continue to exploit, for money and/or British thank yous, the murders of millions by covering up for the genocidists.

WHERE ARE the truth-telling books? John Pilger's comment about the publishing industry's killing of any truth-telling book on this subject seems borne out. Not for a century has a book truthfully recounted Ireland's Holocaust. When, in the 1960s, Cecil Woodham-Smith's THE GREAT HUNGER took a new approach by seeming sympathetic to the victims, it sold like wildfire into many reprints. Her cover-up of the food removal, and understating of the death toll while over-reporting blight and charity food distribution, made it pure British propaganda. Her approach has been adopted by all subsequent "famine" writers. But there is wonderful news. An older, truth-telling book has been reprinted: Michael Davitt's THE FALL OF FEUDALISM: OR THE STORY OF THE LAND LEAGUE REVOLUTION (1904). Only one chapter covers the Holocaust (which Davitt witnessed), but the entire book exposes the English landlord system that created it. Like the Irish Examiner newspaper in 1847 (then the Cork Examiner), when Davitt wrote his book in 1904 he, too, described Ireland's starvation as "holocaust." Thus Jews' exclusive claim on "holocaust" is unwarranted. Prior usage establishes Ireland's superior claim. "Genocide," being of WW2 coinage, is hardly applicable to 1845-50 Ireland despite its aptness otherwise. Another book on Britain's holocaust-creating policies is John Stuart Mills' ESSAYS ON ENGLAND, IRELAND, AND THE EMPIRE (1860s). A sample: "The difficulty of governing Ireland lies entirely in our own minds; it is an incapability of understanding. When able to understand what justice requires, liberal Englishmen do not refuse to do it. They understood the injustice of the religious disabilities

of Catholics, and they removed them. (Mill refers here to the Penal Laws, that were mostly abolished in 1829.) "They understood the injustice of endowing an alien Church, and have made up their minds that the endowment shall no longer continue." (From 1869 onward Ireland's Catholics were no longer forced to tithe to the [Anglican] "Church of Ireland.") "Foreign nations and posterity will judge England's capacity for government by the ability she now shows to overcome the difficulty of seeing what justice requires in the matter of Irish landed tenure." (Here he refers to the fact that some 95% of Ireland's land and crops were still claimed by mostly-absentee English landlords.) "To her it is a difficulty. Other nations see no difficulty in it. To the Prussian Conservative, Von Raumer, and the French Liberal, Gustave de Beaumont, it was already, thirty years ago, the most obvious thing in the world. It will seem so to future generations." (Beaumont, a colleague of Tocqueville who wrote DEMOCRACY IN AMERICA, toured Ireland in the 1830s and wrote a scathing indictment of British rule there.) Mill again: "Hostile feeling, too much of it, still remains between England & the United States, more than eighty years after separation; & Ireland has actually suffered from England for many centuries, evils compared with which the greatest grievances of the Americans were a mere fleabite."

THE AWAITED BOOK, the truthful one about Ireland's Holocaust, nears completion. A Kilkenny-born professor wrote one chapter; a Cork-born, retired civil servant in London wrote another. Both are published authors. The rest is by me, fully documented by official data compiled by Mary and me for essentially a lifetime and more intensively this year. People distributed my Mass Graves of Ireland pamphlets at "famine" book promotions across the US and UK. Their subsequent books abandoned some 90% of their earlier falsehoods but they still cover up the Food Removal. Thus this book speaks for, bears witness for, the murdered millions who cannot defend themselves against those who still slander them. They were murdered; they didn't die of "terminal stupidity," of their own "dirty negligence." Watch for upcoming ads in the IAN.

WHO ARE THE TERRORISTS regarding Occupied Ireland? See terrorismireland.org.

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Reel Jiggy

Deirdre Kozicki



Oireachtas was awesome!! It was so fun! On Friday when I got there, I went exploring. It was a big hotel and it was packed with dancers. I went to the convention center where Oireachtas was taken place. I watched some of the awards and went back up to the room to get my coat and my mom, dad, and I went to dinner. It was delicious and it filled me up. When I woke up on Saturday, I was so excited! I couldn't wait to dance. I got ready and my mom and I were on our way. I went to the practice rooms and practiced with some of my friends. Finally, it was time to leave. I checked in for my traditional set and had to wait a while. I had butterflies in my stomach. It was my turn to dance. I danced really well, but you never know what the judges think. After that I watched my friend's team which danced really well. By the time that was finished, it was time to practice for my choreography. I got my team dress, which was so pretty, and we practiced as much as we could. We checked in our team and as soon as the judges arrived my team and I got on stage. We danced our Roisin Dubh.

We danced amazing! Pretty soon it was time for the results! I found out earlier that I had recalled in my traditional set. Traditional set was called first. First they called the people who recalled but did not place. I was not one of them. Then they called 6th place, I still was not called. I ended up getting 4th place out of 67 people! I was so happy I got teary eyed. Next was choreography. My team and I got second place! We started screaming. We were so happy. After all the excitement I went back to the hotel room and had dinner in my room. I was so tired but still so happy. I can't use words to describe how happy I was. I fell asleep and had happy dreams. On Sunday I left and when I got home my sister made me a banner saying congrats. I was very happy with that. Good job to all of the Mullane Healy O'Brien teams and soloists. You all did great! I just wanted to say that all the things I sacrificed, for the hours of practice and hard work, it was worth it. Thanks to all my teachers for their dedication, and parents for your support, and all they have done! Hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season.

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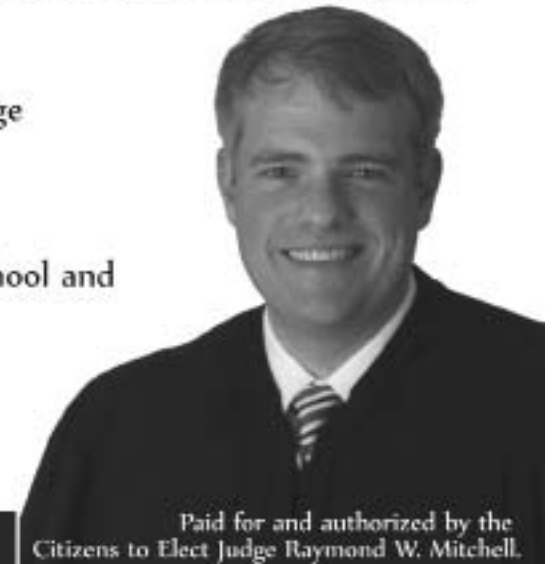
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Fr. McManus Honored at NY City Hall 25th Anniversary of Mac Bride Principles

Fr. Sean Mc Manus, president of the Irish National Caucus, was honored in New York for his work on the Mac Bride Principles.

In November 1984, the Irish National Caucus launched the Principles - named after Fr. Mc Manus's good friend and supporter - Sean Mc Bride, Noble Peace Prize laureate.

The Speaker of the City Council, Christine Quinn, hosted the event. Fr. Mc Manus's friend and colleague in the struggle for the Mac Bride Principles, Pat Doherty was also honored. Doherty has worked for all the NY City Comptrollers since 1984

Below is Fr. Mc Manus's acceptance speech, December 8, 2009.

In 1795 Thomas Paine wrote: "An Army of Principles Will Penetrate Where an Army of Soldiers Cannot" (Agrarian Justice. Pamphlet was written in 1795, published in 1797).

I think that perfectly applies to the Mac Bride Principles.

The Principles penetrated the previously UNPENETRABLE bastion of anti-Catholic discrimination - the Northern Ireland State.

In the early years of our campaign, our opponents used to tell us to mind our own business - they clearly did not subscribe to Martin Luther King's dictum: " Injustice anywhere is an

affront to justice everywhere". But when our campaign began to take effect, they stopped telling us to mind our own business - because when Americans make sure that U.S. dollars are not subsidizing anti-Catholic discrimination in Northern Ireland, they are minding their own business.

It is generally accepted that Martin Luther King's movement would not have succeeded without Jewish-American support. And the Mac Bride Principles would not have succeeded without Jewish-American support.

Just look at the record
In July 1979, Congressman Ben Gilman (R-NY) commissioned the Irish National Caucus to conduct an investigation of the U.S. companies in Northern Ireland.

We then planned to have our principle, "United States dollars should not subsidize anti-Catholic discrimination in Northern Ireland", enshrined into law. In 1983, Congressman Dick Ottinger introduced Bill HR 3465: "Requiring United States persons who conduct business or control enterprises in Northern Ireland to comply with certain fair employment principles." We had, of course, modeled the Ottinger Bill on the Sullivan Principles.

Our activity got a lot of attention and soon many State and City officials who wanted to join our campaign contacted us: most notably, New York City Comptroller Harrison J. Goldin and Council Member Sal Albanese (who introduced the very first Mac Bride Bill in the entire United States).

Comptroller Goldin went on to provide magnificent support

and economic muscle for the Mac Bride Principles until he left office in 1989. His successors, Liz Holtzman (1990- 1993) and Alan Hevesi (1994-2001), continued to provide indispensable support for the Mac Bride Principles.

My dear friend, Congressman Ben Gilman, Chairman of the House International Relations Committee, championed our campaign in the Congress and the Mac Bride Principles (despite very powerful opposition) became US law in 1998.

So you can easily see the importance of Jewish-American support.

Since 2002, Comptroller Thompson has provided magnificent leadership on the Mac Bride Principles. And here, again, is something that has touched me deeply: the support of African-Americans, who know a thing or two about discrimination. Along with Comptroller Thompson, the other names that immediately come to mind are Congressman Charlie Rangel of New York, one of our very earliest supporters, and Congressman Don Payne of New Jersey.

I have already mentioned Sal Albanese and the key role he played in our campaign. But one cannot mention American activity on behalf of Ireland without mentioning that other great Italian, Congressman Mario Biaggi, who for many ears was our key ally in Congress.


Isn't it very striking? The elected officials who led the campaign to end anti-Catholic discrimination in Northern Ireland were not Irish-Americans, but Jewish-Americans, African-Americans, Italian-Americans, Hispanic Americans and others! To me, that is the great moral lesson of the Mac Bride Campaign.

God bless America and God save Ireland.

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John Griffin: Gaelic Park's Go-To Guy Up for Election

By Cliff Carlson

The Lawman

John Griffin is a candidate in the February 2, 2010 election for Cook County Circuit Court Judge in the 15th Subcircuit. With his strong background, and the respect his peers have for the job he's done at Gaelic Park and in the practice of law, he should be elected.

John was appointed judge in 2008, and has been a fair and wise voice on the bench. As a judge, he started out where everyone does - traffic court. But, the powers that be realized his considerable strengths were in the chancery division and the mortgage foreclosure/mechanic lien section of the chancery division. Mostly, John hears mortgage foreclosures both commercial and residential. His job is very compatible with his background as he primarily represented many builders and contractors.

He took the bar in 1976 and passed. He worked as a law clerk in Cook County court for about 18 months, and went into private practice in 1977, joining his uncle, Joe Griffin, who started the law firm of Griffin and Gallagher in 1946 after World War II with John's father, James.

The original office was downtown, but when the firm learned that they were going to build a new courthouse in the Palos Hills area, land was purchased in Palos Hills and a new building went up to house the firm. John stayed with the family business until 2008 when he was appointed judge.

The Irishman

John's passion for all things Irish was sparked in the 1970's and the flame still burns steady and strong. John was the last live St. Patrick in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in 1976. He serves on the parade committee as treasurer, and he is also on the board of directors. He was the first treasurer of the Young Irish Fellowship Club and served on its first board. He was the fourth president of the YIFC. He helped draw up the first by-laws, and he was the chairman of the first few "Forever Green" celebrations at Navy Pier. He served as vice-chairman with chairman Jim Sweeney on "The World's Largest Block Party."

John was a member of the Irish Fellowship Club when they announced that they were starting a Young Irish Fellowship Club. They held a meeting and took volunteers.

Judge Arthur Dunne was very involved in it. Meetings were held in Maureen Connors apartment. The LeFevours were involved, Tom Moore, John Griffin and others. They called it a by-laws committee and drew up the by-laws.

Gaelic Park

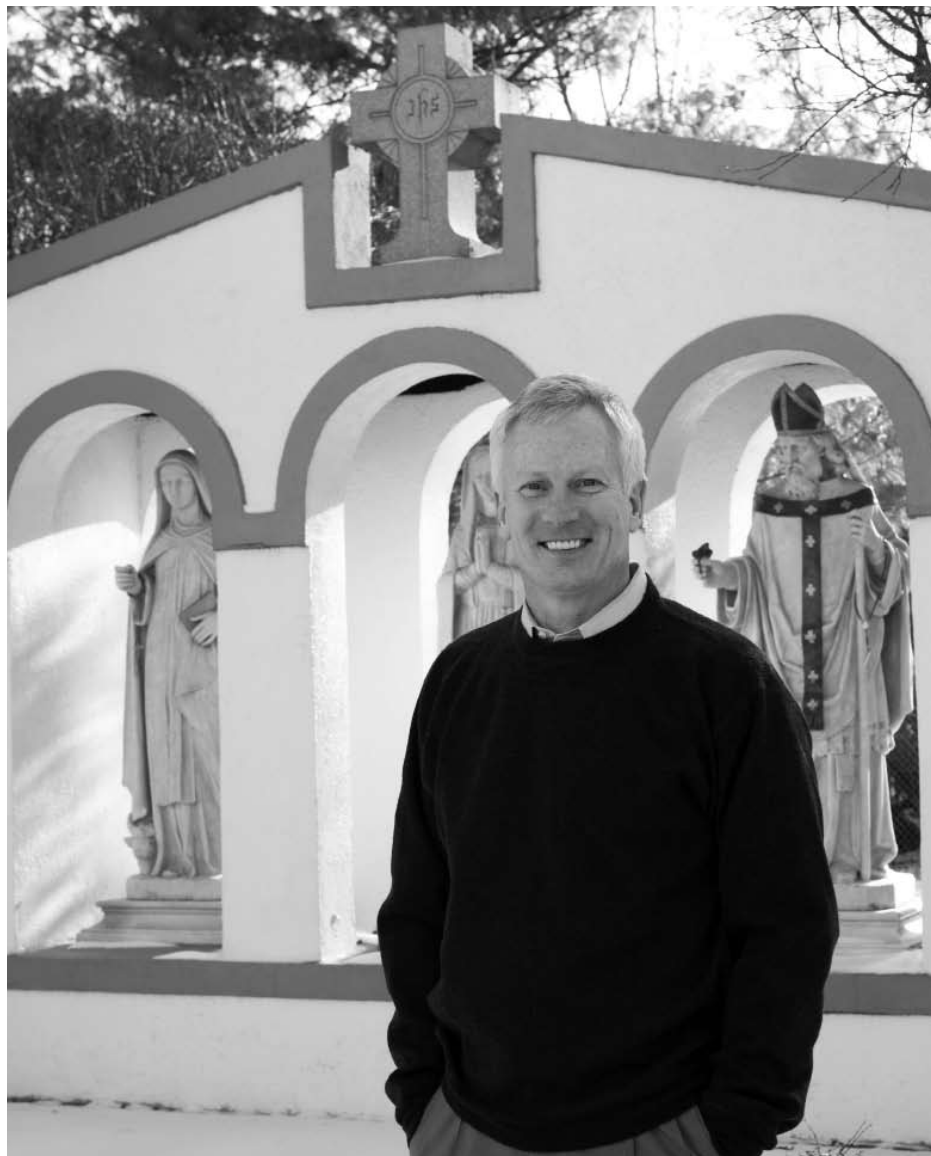
Some marriages work. Some don't. When Gaelic Park elected John Griffin to be their president in 1991 it was to be a marriage made in Heaven! Now, eighteen years later, this exceptional relationship shows no signs of ending soon.

Gaelic Park came about because the Gaelic Athletic Association (headquartered in Dublin) wanted a place in Chicago to put on the games, but none of the fields were big enough. The GAA has been playing football, camogie, handball, and hurling in Chicago for about 100 years at local football stadiums. In Ireland they play with 15 people on the pitch, but in America they play with 13 people on the pitch because of the size of most of the fields they played on were not full sized. So, a group got together and started an organization in 1979 that ultimately became Gaelic Park, and they were a GAA group. The story is that Michael Flatley's father who lives in the Palos area saw the property for sale (9 acres) and the committee ended up buying it. "The thing that has always impressed me and kind of amazed me is that the

GAA people who started GP had the foresight to give up control of it. I assume they felt that there could be more done with a Gaelic facility than just sports. A new organization for Gaelic Park was formed. Of course the basis of GP is Gaelic sports and the GAA, but it is also a home to Irish music and dancing schools, Irish theatre and all the other activities that go on at the park," said John.

"The collective wisdom of the people who were looking for a home for Gaelic games knew that their first allegiance would be to their particular sports team," said Griffin.

John explains his role, "I've always felt my role their was to keep my eye on the big picture, and keep people working together and pulling in the same direction. The individual issues become less important such as what the pub hours are or whatever. At the end of it we work together and move forward.



John Griffin in front of the grotto at Gaelic Park containing donated statues of St. Patrick, St. Brigid and of the Blessed Mother Mary. (photo by cathy curry).

It's just a great bunch of people with a magical chemistry in my mind that has come together. I don't know if you could recreate it. There are so many very strong people of high integrity that have provided the leadership. I just try to get out of the way and let them do their thing and keep everybody pulling in the same direction."

Around 800 to 900 people and organizations originally invested in Gaelic Park. The GAA and the Irish American Heritage Center were original investors.

It took two or three years before

the land was purchased and Gaelic Park really got going. Chicago Gaelic Park is up to 54 acres now. Griffin sees lots of changes coming over the next ten years. There are plans for redoing the new Celtic Room to make it a multi-purpose room with permanent theatre facilities. They are looking for funding now towards that. The Irish government has given the park money for that, but its not enough to move forward just yet.

The pub has been remodeled, and the Emerald Room has been remodeled at least twice with the most

stage and is redoing the indoor stage. He's planning to use the whole Tara Room during the next festival. The theatre is moving outdoors into a tent. Last year he brought the feis into the festival. This year it will expand and Bradley is rearranging where it will be located. When it comes to the festival, Gaelic Park's goal is to not be stale.

About the Man

When asking for quotes about John, there was no shortage of opinions.

Irish Counsel General, Martin Ruaine: Gaelic Park is a fundamental part of the social structure here in Chicago. John has been a leading light in developing and progressing the interests of Gaelic Park in his own quiet way. He has an enormously able and willing group working with him.

Jim Sweaney: In any Irish organization there is always a healthy representation of different views. One of John's great strengths is that he has been able to work through a variety of situations and arrive at solutions everyone can live with. He is very visionary, and has helped to take Gaelic Park through growth and changes for many years now.

John Devitt: He is a tremendous leader and visionary. He has a wonderful sense of humor. He's a steady individual who always has great things to say about people. He is not in this for the glory. He genuinely enjoys it. His humility makes him appealing to everyone.

Frank Bradley: He's just a class act. He follows through. He is a great guy and a great partner to work with. He delivers on what he says. He is a great asset to Gaelic Park and we are lucky to have him.

His grandparents landed on the Southside around the turn of the Century, and John's parents settled in St. Rita Parish near 63rd and Western. John went to both St. Rita Elementary and St. Rita High Schools before going to Notre Dame, and then DePaul University College of Law to become a lawyer, following in his father's footsteps.

John is married and lives with his wife in the Southwest suburbs.

Canadian Board Commemorates Joseph Ryan

By John O'Flynn, Rúnai - Canadian County Board

Ninety-one years after his death, Joseph Patrick Ryan, a son of Ireland who greatly contributed to the early development of Cranbrook and British Columbia in Canada, was honoured as one and the last of the seven original founders of the Gaelic Athletic Association (November 1, 1884 in Hayes Hotel, Thurles, Tipperary) by the Canadian County Board on Saturday,

December 19, 2009. Ryan was remembered at a beautiful and moving mass in St. Mary's Church with Father Harry Clarke celebrating. The President of the Canadian GAA, Brian Farmer, spoke passionately about the role of the GAA at the end of Mass and the importance to Canada that one of the Founders would be forever remembered.

The North American Board (GAA) was represented by Eamonn Kelly (PRO) Chicago and many Irish Canadians in the Cranbrook area were on hand with representation from a number of counties including Antrim, Armagh, Clare, Cork, Donegal, Derry, Dublin, Galway, Kerry, Limerick, Louth, Mayo, Meath, Sligo, Tipperary and Westmeath.

As the last event of the GAA's 125th anniversary year, GAA members from Ireland, Seattle, Vancouver, Red Deer and Toronto gathered for the seventh founding member.

It was edifying to see the interest and pride on display for a true Son of Erin buried in a foreign land and for one who contributed in establishing the greatest amateur sporting organization in the world.

Wreath laying ceremonies conducted at

Ryan's grave included Clonmore, Armagh's Brian Farmer of the Canadian Board, Eamonn Kelly of the North American Board, John Keane (Honourary Irish Counsel in Seattle) with Loughgiel, Antrim's Paul McGarry of the Seattle Gaels and Cranbrook's Mayor Scott Manjak.

Ryan's grave was surrounded by the GAA's 125 anniversary flag and those of Ireland, Canada, USA and British Columbia. Those gathered in the snowy cemetery sang three national anthems with due dignity. A brass plaque was attached to the grave that remembered the events of this auspicious day for the GAA in Canada and for acknowledging the place of Ryan in GAA history.

Terry and Hilary Segarty who organized the

Continued to page 15

ELECT JAMES MICHAEL BAILEY for JUDGE **PUNCH 185**
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- Taught advanced trial practice at area law schools. Lectured criminal & civil law issues to police officers, schools, civic and church groups
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- Past Regional Commissioner and National Executive Board Member of the American Youth Soccer Org.
- Lector and Catechist teacher at St. John of the Cross Parish.

WWW.BAILEYFORJUDGE.ORG **PUNCH 185**
VOTE DEMOCRATIC FEBRUARY 2, 2010
 Paid for by Citizens for James Michael Bailey



Eamonn Kelly, PRO N. American Co. Board; laying wreath from N. American Co. Board on grave.

New Year's Resolution: 'This Year I'll Make Sure I Vote for Qualified Judges.'

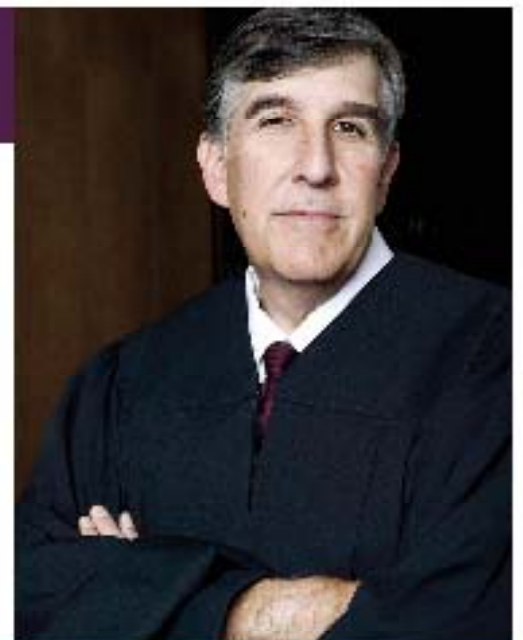
Judge Jim Epstein, Democrat for Appellate Court, makes it easy for you...

A Record of Achievement

Over 10 years' experience on the Circuit Court, currently serving in the Chancery Division; fifteen years in private practice while teaching at Northwestern University Law School; five years as a public defender; chosen by other judges as President of the Illinois Judges Association; Selected by the Supreme Court for the prestigious Education Committee; Recently honored as Judge of the Year by the North Suburban Bar Association; Officer of the Daniel Murphy Fund, providing scholarships to low-income Chicago children

Bar Ratings and Endorsements

Highly Qualified:	Illinois State Bar Association Dialogue Society of Lawyers
Qualified:	Chicago Bar Association Asian-American Bar Association
Recommended:	Cook County Bar Association Women's Bar Association of IL Hellenic Bar Association of IL
Endorsed by:	Rep. Luis Cordero, IL-4 Rep. Mike Quigley, IL-5 Rep. Jan Schakowsky, IL-9 Dawn Clark Netsch, ND Law Professor & former IL Comptroller American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Council 31



Make a resolution that's easy to keep:

On February 2nd, vote for Judge Jim Epstein, Democrat for Appellate Court, First District

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Elect Daniel B. Malone



**Democratic Candidate
for
3rd Judicial Subcircuit**

**PUNCH NO.
201**

Primary February 2, 2010

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ELECT JUDGE JOHN C. GRIFFIN

Candidate for Cook County Circuit Court Judge – 15th Subcircuit



**JUDGE
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SEEKS
YOUR SUPPORT**

In the
February 2010 Election

**Candidate for
Cook County
Circuit Court Judge
15th Subcircuit**

The Chicago Federation of Labor endorsed John C. Griffin, for Cook County Circuit Court Judge, 15th Subcircuit in the far south and southwest suburbs

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

- ◆ Graduate, DePaul University, College of Law, Cum Laude
- ◆ Graduate, University of Notre Dame, With honors
- ◆ Graduate, St. Rita High School



PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- ◆ Practicing Attorney – 31 years
- ◆ Appointed Circuit Court Judge – March, 2008
- ◆ Judge – Mortgage Foreclosure/Mechanics Lien Section, Chancery Div.-14 months

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- ◆ Chicago Gaelic Park, President – 1981 - Present
- ◆ Moraine Valley Community College, Trustee – 1986 – 1991
- ◆ Irish Fellowship Club, Director – 1986 – Present
- ◆ St. Xavier University – School for Continuing Professional Studies, Advisory Council – 2007 – Present
- ◆ Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee, Director and Treasurer – 1980 – Present

PHILOSOPHY

- ◆ Follow the law
- ◆ Be honest
- ◆ Work hard
- ◆ Treat people equally and with dignity and respect

You must take a Democratic ballot and vote in the Democratic Primary in order to vote for John Griffin

For more information, visit www.judgejohngriffin.com

ELECT JUDGE JOHN C. GRIFFIN

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Celtic Kitchen —Pure and Simple



By Julianna Leber

Flower Power in the Kitchen

I am always on the lookout for either a creative remake of a classic or even better, a culinary invention that will make waves. I recently discovered a newbie on the food front that I think will make big waves, Elixir by The Lounging Gourmet. I found this quiet gem at the Food Expo in Cleveland nestled in with larger neon booths sampling their new versions of mustard and BBQ sauce. Elixir marks an edge of sophistication that I only hope will inspire others to keep developing new, innovative, and yes, fun products for the kitchen.

What is this wonderful, desirable new item, you ask? The Elixir products are exotic, edible flower extracts combined with other herbs, spices, flavors and cane sugar to create flower syrups, elixirs if you will. The four elixirs are Damascan Rose, Antillean Hibiscus, English Lavender and Andean Fire Orchid. Each of the flower elixirs are 'true to taste,' in other words, they taste EXACTLY the way they should, the way they would smell if you picked them fresh. The reason for this clarity is they are made from pure extracts. The flavors, the cane sugar, the purified water, the colors, and even the citric acid (which helps the shelf life and is basically lemon juice) are all natural. They add sorbic acid, but that is so it can be held without refrigeration. I am a la-



bel reader and when I found this type of natural product, I needed to know more. As I sipped a sample each of ALL FOUR, which were lightly topped with club soda, Nora Egger, the owner and developer of Elixir, told me all about her experiences in



developing her new product.

Nora was born in Austria and moved to the United States in 1985, landing in Cleveland, and became a US citizen. She received a BA in political science and was campaign manager for Kevin Kelley in Cleveland. She left Ohio for Europe and after receiving her MBA at Weatherhead College in Budapest, she worked in several areas of business

administration, including consulting and recruitment for a business school. Her work had her travelling extensively and she settled in Europe for a decade. She left her job and wandered to far off places, becoming inspired by the new, fascinating food and drinks. She returned to the States and when the economy hit a low point she knew she wanted to start something that she would believe in. Her inspiration started at home, thinking about her exotic travels, and while in Cleveland, she saw the many trendy flavors added to alcohol, like pomegranate, raspberry and chocolate vodka. With that inspira-

tion, she then thought about some of the flavors in Europe and their use of flowers, especially rose. Armed with social trends in food and beverage and a vast history of business, Nora created recipes for her elixir in her home kitchen. She knew she wanted arose and after some searching found the other three and created her line of the four she has now. In naming the company, she simply went to

the relaxed European food culture of sitting around the table, lounging with family and friends and taking the time to enjoy the whole experience. Once she managed her recipes, and received the FDA approvals and made it through all of the other red tape, she was ready for business. November 2009 I met her at the Food Expo, four months after Elixir hit shelves.

Once I bought the four bottle set, I eagerly sat them on my counter and waited to be inspired. I thought of the obvious drinks, like tropical martinis and even a splash of Orchid with Jameson. My mind wandered. How about Lavender in Irish breakfast tea or an Italian cream soda with Hibiscus or for elegance, champagne with Rose lightly poured on top, floating down and smelling like a freshly picked bouquet? Then I really started stretching and thought about a Lavender glaze over sweet scones, Rose in buttercream frosting on white cupcakes, Orchid, thickened slightly with cornstarch, and poured over citrus or tropical (coconut or mango) sorbet, and the Hibiscus mixed in mascarpone cheese or freshly whipped cream and served over a light orange marmalade cake. Or for the romantic, a flourless chocolate cake topped with Rose whipped cream. For savory, try the Hibiscus or Lavender in vinaigrette for salad. The options and imagination are endless.

The Lounging Gourmet is a young but strong company. I recently talked with Nora and she confirmed that the product is readily available for orders online at www.thelounginggourmet.com, phone in orders, 216-385-0292, and in specialty stores in the north-east Ohio region. She also told me

Happy New Year!

From **JUDGE JIM RYAN**
Democrat for Appellate Court

VOTE
Tuesday,
February 2nd

Punch #133

endorsed by **The Chicago Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO**
Chicago Firefighters Union Local 2
Sheriff Michael F. Sheahan, Ret. Cook County Sheriff

Paid for by Citizens for Judge Jim Ryan

she has been available for months in several restaurants, hotels and gourmet stores with product, which is exciting for a new business and their line. New flavors are being developed, and in-home Elixir Mixer parties will be new for 2010. Elixir Mixer parties are demoparties where samples are prepared drinks, with

alcohol and non alcoholic mixers and other recipes for party-goers at discounted prices. It's a new year with so many opportunities for adventurous food experiences. Then again, when creativity, ingenuity and necessity combine who really knows where the fates will lead. This time, it was to a field of flowers.



LAKEFRONT HOME FOR SALE
Long Beach property priced to sell. Lot is 40 x 150. Beautifully updated home with natural colors. Large windows overlooking landscaping and THE LAKE! 3 levels of living with cozy, comfortable rooms and a large deck overlooking lake. One car garage and 3 additional parking spaces. 3 bedroom 3 bath, approx 1760 sq. ft., \$1,099,000. Call or email Maureen for details. obrien.realty@att.net 312-961-1515.

Tropical Snows Martini

For two martinis

- 3 oz. Orchid Elixir
 - 6 oz. vanilla vodka
 - 4 frozen coconut milk cubes (from canned or carton, frozen in ice cube trays)
 - 3 water ice cubes
- Combine in a shaker, shake vigorously, pour and serve in two glasses.
- Julianna Leber is a graduate of the professional food and wine courses at Ballymaloe Cookery School in County Cork, Ireland. She occasionally serves as a personal chef while also continuing her studies toward a dietetics/nutrition degree at The University of Akron, Ohio. Julianna can be contacted at julileber@hotmail.com and will respond to your questions and comments as soon as possible. Any questions regarding the Elixir Mixers, please contact me at the same email.

Canadian Board Commemorates Joseph Ryan

Continued from page 12

day at the local level and the Knights of Columbus, who are celebrating 125 years in Cranbrook, acted as honour guards throughout the ceremonies as Ryan was a former Grand Knight in the area.

In an editorial appearing in The Cranbrook Herald after Ryan died,

printed between heavy black bands top and bottom, the newspaper said in part that "a gloom was cast over the city" when his death was reported calling him "Judge Ryan" who "possessed fluency of language to an unusual degree... his Irish brogue and wit will long be remembered."

Ryan who was born in Carrick-on-Suir, Tipperary, in April 1857 was a solicitor in Ireland before emigrating to Canada in 1899 and becoming involved in the life of British Columbia with the Board of Trade, the mining

industry, a judiciary member and prominent journalist.

In a memoir on Ryan's life, his grandson-in-law, Alf MacLochlainn, described him as "a voluble, articulate life-of-the-party" person during the years he lived in Canada.


This commemoration was an opportunity to honour and say thanks to a great man whose vision and contribution to both the people of the GAA and the people of Cranbrook, BC, is finally acknowledged. www.canada.gaa.ie.

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Vote for Maureen Kelly Tuesday, February 2, 2010

For more information, go to www.maureenkelly.org
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THE HERITAGE LINE



IRISH AMERICAN
HERITAGE CENTER Chicago, Illinois



Searson Back By Popular Demand

The Center is pleased to present the return of Celtic Folk Rock favorites, Searson this January. The band plays Celtic Folk Rock.

With talent that remains full of fierce energy, Searson continues to astound their audiences with unguarded sincerity in their vocals, raw fiddle playing and ferocious step dancing. These three sisters have been taking North America by storm, performing an average of 150 shows a year.

Growing up in the Ottawa Valley of Ontario, Canada, Erin, Heather and Colleen Searson began performing for audiences at a young age. With each sister learning various instruments, the earliest beginning at age 4, their lives were filled with a love and appreciation of music.

The sisters gradually excelled in their individual instruments which include Erin on piano, lead vocals, and mandolin, Heather on



bass, and Colleen on fiddle, vocals, and mandolin. The sisters began performing at events in their community and eventually moved on to bars, clubs, theatres and festivals. What began as a summer job turned into a full time career for these girls as they performed throughout both Canada and the U.S.

Rounding out the live show they are joined by Mary Gellner on drums

and Andrew Krause on acoustic and electric guitars.

With a relentless tour schedule ahead, Searson performs live in Canada, the U.S. and Europe. Searson performs at the IAHC on January 23 at 7:30pm. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased by calling 773-282-7035, ext 10 or visiting www.irish-american.org.

2010 Film Series Keeps it Reel

The Film Series at the Center returns in February with the screening of the critically-acclaimed documentary, Jackie: Behind the Myth.

For a few short years, she was America's legendary First Lady. The film traces the arc of the extraordinary life of Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy Onassis, from her seemingly idyllic youth to her days as a beloved First Lady to her post-White House marriage and career and finally to her valiant efforts to promote and preserve America's cultural heritage.

This program reveals an intelligent, insightful woman whose courage and commitment captured the heart of a nation.

Co-writer Karen Kelleher will be present to introduce

the movie and present a post-film discussion.

The film is Friday, February 5 at 8pm and the price is \$10. Tickets can be purchased at the door.

PBS HOME VIDEO



Meet Your Match at the Annual Hooley



Valentine's Day is fast approaching and love is in the air, at least in the Fifth Province. The IAHC will celebrate Valentine's Day again with its annual Valentine's Day Hooley.

What's a hooley? A hooley is an old-fashioned Irish term for a dance and party. It has been a huge success in the past and includes dancing, singing, refreshments and live music.

To celebrate the holiday, there will be a Lisdoon-



varna corner. Lisdoonvarna, County Clare, Ireland, is home to the Lisdoonvarna Matchmaking Festival, where each year, swarms of singles travel to meet that someone special.

The IAHC's foray into matchmaking will be set against the backdrop of the Fifth Province's fireplace, with facilitators available to make that perfect match. We have had many folks meet that special someone during the hooley, one



match even resulting in a 2008 wedding!

Already paired up? No matter, the event is open to all who just want to celebrate the holiday with live music and dance.

The Hooley is Sunday, February 14, 2010 from 5pm to 9pm. The cost is \$12 and a cash bar and refreshments will be available. For more information on the Valentine's Day Hooley or to purchase tickets, call the IAHC at 773-282-7035, ext. 10.



Save the Date for our annual St. Patrick's Day Celebrations and Munnelly in Concert
March 12-17, 2010
Tickets go on sale February 1, 2010



THE HERITAGE LINE



IRISH AMERICAN
HERITAGE CENTER Chicago, Illinois



President's Message

Happy New Year! Most of you are probably reading this all wrapped up cozy in your Snuggie while listing out all those familiar New Year's Resolutions that many of us most likely never get around to doing. You know things like: lose weight, reconnect with old friends, be a better neighbor, try harder at work, exercise more, read the great novels of history and do more at the Irish American Heritage Center. Well, the good news is that we can certainly help you cross one of those items off your list. This is going to be a great year to spend more time at The Irish American Heritage Center. Our calendar has never been this full of quality and wide-ranging events.

If 2009 was a year of change around the Center, 2010 will most likely become known as a year of tremendous growth. The Center is poised to move into a new phase of its history. Our future success will hinge on us doing the right things in the present to grow and build the foundation for years to

come. The plan for this year is to add to what we currently do well while reaching out to new and wider audiences than we have in the past. The focus will be on:

- More programming: delivering high quality experiences and activities that add to or enhance our current programs

- More events: building on the success of our two main stalwarts Irish Fest and St. Patrick's Day, we will add more events that reach larger and different audiences: i.e. Irish Earth Day, iBAM, concerts, other themed events such as Halfway to St. Patrick's Day, family events and more

- Better Marketing: our Center is still one of the best kept secrets around. We need to expand our marketing reach to raise the awareness of our organization, which in turn, will attract new members and new audiences to the Center

Already you can see the results



of this plan with upcoming performances by Seanson, Munnely, The Mickey Finns, the Trinity Irish Dance Academy and others. We are in the planning stages of many other programs and events that will help us reach our goals.

For example, we are working on creating an Irish American Hall of Fame that will be housed at the Center and also planning a joint effort with the Holocaust Museum in Skokie that highlights the roles of Irish American soldiers

who helped liberate the concentration camps. This is just the tip of the iceberg as you read through this edition and follow what's going on at the Center, you will see amazing amounts of activity happening at all levels of the organization.

2010 will be a year of growth and it will also mark an amazing milestone for our Center. We bought the old Mayfair College in 1985 and this year marks our 25th anniversary for the beginning of the

transformation of that neglected building into our beautiful Center. In addition, 2011 will mark the 35th anniversary of our organization which was founded in 1976. To celebrate these dual milestones, we will begin a year-long celebration and commemoration at Irish Fest in July that continues through Irish Fest 2011. The story of our Center is filled with great memories of hard work, good times, friendships and success. After 25 years, it is time to recognize that we are an adult organization and claim our place in the world.

It is an amazing time to be part of the Center. So do yourself a favor and scratch at least one New Year's resolution off your list. Come around our Center more often and invite your family and friends, too! As for those other resolutions... well, you are on your own.

Robert McNamara
*President, Board of Directors,
The Irish American Heritage
Center*

Executive Director's Message

Compliments from high places:

Back in mid-November, we received a special visit from Mary Hanafin, a member of the Irish cabinet and Minister of Social and Family Affairs for the Republic. Sharp and dynamic yet strikingly down-to-earth, Minister Hanafin made playing host an easy task on the IAHC staff and the roughly twenty IAHC volunteers who came to greet her. We showcased all corners of our 86,000 square foot Irish palace for Mary, with several different voices spinning yarns along the way. While in the library, one of our Board members remarked that "one would have to travel a long way in this country to find another Irish cultural center like the IAHC." The Minister quickly replied, "You would have to go a lot further than that." The fine ladies

of our Nimble Thimbles knitting crew prepared tea and treats for everyone in the Shamrock American Room. In parting, we presented the Minister with a membership to the IAHC and a photo album to bring back to Ireland that shows the evolution of the Erin Room from the old Social Center into the beautiful ballroom it now is. Although we gave Mary 65 pictures, we left another 200+ open sleeves in the album, so that we can keep our newest member in touch with her friends in Chicago and all of the Center's special moments in 2010 and beyond.

I take the Minister's compliment to us as an important validation of the vision and commitment of the Irish American Heritage Center's leaders and

volunteers in guiding this old city school's transformation across the past twenty-five years. Piece after piece, the 'big shoulders' and the steady hand of

our volunteers laid the foundation - the Fifth Province, the Shamrock American Room, the Auditorium, the Library, the 3rd floor theater, the Erin Room. However, the biggest accomplishment of all is that they have put the Center on the cusp

of truly great contributions to Irish America. This building is a cultural mecca, and it stands as an important monument to the heritage and to the Irish American experience. The same way that Chicago served as a crossroads for the Irish who dug the Illinois and Michigan Canal, after digging the Erie Canal and before digging for gold in Cali-



fornia - this Center should and will serve as a crossroads for the roughly 38 million people in contemporary Irish America, a landmark and a destination in the heart of this country. As we start to join hands to celebrate the Center's silver anniversary, it is important that we cherish memories of where the Center has been but also rally behind where the Center is going. Several projects remain to 'finish' the building transformation, but we are ready to welcome the world in. A city upon a hill "cannot be hidden." Raise your voices to encourage each other, to encourage the Center and to encourage Irish near and far to visit and be a part of your special Chicago Irish home.

Onwards,
Tim McDonnell
*Executive Director
The Irish American Heritage
Center*



THE HERITAGE LINE
Irish American
Heritage Center Chicago, Illinois



Stay in Touch

The Center seeks e-mail addresses for its special events database. If you want to receive updates about upcoming concerts, lectures or festivals, e-mail koneill@irishahc.org and type "add me" in the subject line with your name in the body of the e-mail.

Lend a Hand, Climb a Ladder, and Don Your Volunteer Cap in 2010

We are proud of our many volunteers and grateful for the time they offer to the Center's many projects.

In 2010, we will continue ongoing building projects that will need your expertise. We need help on Saturdays with building projects and general maintenance of the Center and its property. We also need cooks who can assist with Saturday lunch



for these events. All volunteers who work these events get the perk of seeing the show for free.

So, grab a rake, climb a ladder and done your volunteer

to feed our hungry volunteers.

With the added lineup of concerts we will present, we also need folks who can usher or take tickets

cap to help make the Center the best it can be in 2010. Interested volunteers should call the Center Office at 773-282-7035.

Irish American Heritage Center
2010 Annual Appeal

Yes! Count me in as a donor to the 2009 Annual Appeal at the level indicated below*:

- President's Club (\$5,000+)
- Director's Circle (\$2,500-\$4,999)
- Center Champion (\$1,000-\$2,499)
- Benefactor (\$ 500-\$ 999)
- Patron (\$ 250-\$ 499)
- Advocate (\$ 100-\$ 249)
- Friend (up to \$99)

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Enclosed is my check for \$ _____

OR (choose one) VISA _____ MasterCard _____

Please charge my credit card as a:

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 (\$10.00 minimum for 12 months)

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My company has a matching gift program

I am making this gift in honor/memory of _____

All donations will be acknowledged in the February 2010 Heritage Line unless donor requests anonymity.
 *Gifts of all sizes are welcome and appreciated!

BECOME A MEMBER

Chicago boasts one of the finest Irish Centers in the world. Become a part of it.

Running, maintaining, and upgrading the Center is a big job that takes big commitment.

Your membership helps make the Center happen.

To join call 773-282-7035 x10, visit www.irish-american.org, or fill out the form below

Send payment to:

The Irish American
 Heritage Center
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 4626 N. Knox Ave
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City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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Credit Card # _____ Exp _____

3 Digit code on card's back: _____

Individual Membership
Annual dues

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

Family Membership

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

\$250 - Harper

3-year membership
 no annual dues

\$500 - Bard

5-year membership
 no annual dues

\$1,000 - Chieftain
 10-year membership without
 annual dues

\$2,500 - High King
 25-year membership without
 annual dues

\$5,000 - Saint
 Lifetime membership without
 annual dues





THE HERITAGE LINE

Irish American Heritage Center

Chicago, Illinois



Planning a Special Event?



Visit the IAHC and tour any of our rental rooms for your special occasion.

The Erin Room (above) is a brand new, high-end social venue seating up to 310 people. Perfect for weddings, galas, benefits, anniversary parties, sweet sixteen parties, corporate luncheons, funeral luncheons and many other gatherings.

The room is air-conditioned and includes a top quality sound system, top quality projector system, a 10'x20' stage, a mahogany bar, a cloak room, a bride's room, a prep kitchen, brand new chairs and 72-in and 54-in round tables.

To book a visit call 773-282-7035.

Think You're So Smart? Test your trivia knowledge with **Quiz Night at the IAHC**

\$30 per team
With a limit of six players per team
Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place

Food and drinks are available from the Fifth Province
January 15, February 19, March 19, April 16 and May 21

8pm

No reservations necessary

January 2010

January 1	Building Closed		
January 2	Shamrock American Club Social	Sham. Amer Rm	9pm
January 6	TIR NA NOG Seniors Meeting	Fifth Province	11am
January 7	Irish Immigrant Support Meetings	Sham. Amer Rm	10am
January 10	Great Irish Books Club Discussion	Library	2pm
January 9	St. Patrick's Fathers Social	Social Center	9pm
	Irish Immigrant Support Meetings	Sham. Amer Rm	10am
January 15	Quiz Night	Room 109	8pm
January 19	Celtic Women Meeting	Room 304	7pm
January 21	Irish Immigrant Support Meetings	Sham. Amer Rm	10am
January 31	Genealogy Meeting	Library	1pm

Regularly Scheduled Events

Tuesday	Quilting & Needlework	Room 205	9:30am
	Traditional Irish Art Class	Room 308	7pm
Wednesday	Quilting & Needlework	Room 205	7:30pm
	Open Music Session	Room 302	7:30pm
Thursday	Irish Heritage Singers Rehearsal	Room 304	7:30pm
Friday	Francis O'Neill Ceili Practice and Dance	Room 111	8pm
Saturday	Irish School	Various	9am

IAHC Board of Directors 2009-2010

Mary McAleese, *President of Ireland and Honorary President, Irish American Heritage Center*
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Kathleen O'Neill, *editor*
Contributors:
Mary Griffin
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Bob McNamara
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the fifth province

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

UPCOMING ENTERTAINMENT

January 2010

Sat, 1/2	Dyed in the Wool
Fri, 1/8	Joe Cullen and Kathleen Keane
Sat, 1/9	Reilly
Fri, 1/15	Gerry Haughey
Sat, 1/16	The Dooley Brothers
Fri, 1/22	Seamus O'Kane and Jimmy Moore
Sat, 1/23	Johnny Cash Night
Fri, 1/29	Joe McShane
Sat, 1/30	The Mickey Finns-\$5 cover



Drop by for the very best in traditional and modern Irish music.
Pub food is served from 6pm-10pm.

No Cover
Free Parking

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But not to worry -

"The Kettle will still be on!"



Raised on Songs and Stories



Shay Clarke



Rock and Roll forever, or so I thought until that night 25 years later at the Olympia Theater in Dublin.

Where had they been for all those years? They were certainly not on my radar. Other ballad groups had replaced them in Ireland.

I never really knew Liam Clancy, and I only saw him once in concert at the Olympia Theater in Dublin. The tickets for the show were a gift from my aunt, and I had little interest in going to see Makem & Clancy... it was not my scene. That sort of music was buried way in my past, but the words came back to me that night and I will always remember his gorgeous voice singing "Red is the Rose," as the entire audience joined him in the chorus. I really cannot explain why little tears came to my eyes that night as I sang along, they were tears of joy or pride, who knows, but they came back again on December 7th, the day that Liam was laid to rest, the day that Dan Larkin guest hosted with me on Blarney on the Air, our radio show.

We were live in the WDCB studio that night and we both brought along Liam Clancy songs to play as our little tribute. We had fun and

took calls in the studio, but it was the Facebook messages from listeners all around the country that cracked me up. Tears were shed on both sides of the microphone that night, as fans of all ages related their Clancy stories and I could hardly read them for the lump in my throat.

I'm sure that like many kids in the early 60's, I was mesmerized by "Shoals of Herring" and "Brennan on the Moor." Songs like "Rising of the Moon" brought our history into focus, and it was not long until I could play "The Holy Ground" and "The Wild Rover" on my cheap guitar. America had Elvis Presley, England had The Beatles, but we had The Clancy Brothers and there was, for a moment, a great pride in that.

Shortly afterwards, I learned the chords for "The House of the Rising Sun" and I was lost to

The Dubliners, The Wolfe Tones, The Furey Brothers and the ballad singers Paddy Reilly, Johnny McEvoy and Jim McCann. Ballad sessions were everywhere, in every pub, in every village and town, and I never really connected the dots until I came to America and realized that the Clancy Brothers and Tommy Makem had been hiding in plain sight. It was I who had my head in the sand.

Those mortal voices are gone now but their legacy will live on forever. Tommy Makem, Paddy Clancy, Tom Clancy, Bobby Clancy and Liam Clancy were "the men who dug the well," and it will never run dry.

Congratulations to Liz Carroll and John Doyle on their Grammy nomination, well deserved, and to Paddy Homan on his awesome new album. Paddy, it was well worth the wait... Brilliant.

Elect Mike Boland Illinois Lieutenant Governor



Mike is currently serving his seventh term as State Representative for the 71st Representative District, which includes the counties of Rock Island, Carroll, Henry, and Whiteside, and throughout his career he has been a strong leader for consumers, veterans, and the working people of Illinois.

The founding principle in Mike Boland's life and his political activities comes from a slogan he first heard from his father: "Fair play is the American way." It is this value that has guided Mike and by living up to these words he has built his reputation of political integrity.

Paid for by the Mike Boland Campaign.

Is the West of Ireland calling you? You owe it to yourself to answer.



Welcome

About the West

The 7 Western Counties

Exploring the Talents

**The West Works
for Business**



Lookwest.ie is the definitive online guide to Ireland's Western Region. Browse LookWest.ie to discover the benefits of living, working, owning a home and doing business in the West of Ireland. Find jobs, properties, business connections and all the information you need about relocating to Ireland's Western Region.

The definitive guide to living and working in Ireland's Western Region

LookWest.ie
An initiative of the Western Development Commission

Is the West of Ireland calling you? You owe it to yourself to answer.

Welcome to LookWest.ie

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to LookWest.ie, the definite online guide to living, working and doing business in Ireland's Western Region.

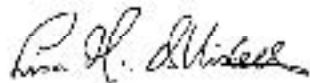
LookWest.ie was launched in 2004 by the Western Development Commission to provide information for people who were thinking of moving to the West.

Now, five years later, it has grown to become the voice of the West of Ireland and is an information-rich resource which users have come to rely on for timely, relevant and up-to-date information.

If you are thinking of setting up or relocating a business, LookWest.ie has all the information you need to help with your decision. If you want to move to the West to experience a superior quality of life, everything you need to know is contained at LookWest.ie.

Be sure to sign up for our regular LookWest.ie e-zine (www.lookwest.ie/alerts-signup). It's packed full of useful information and contacts and a great way to keep up to date with all that's happening in Ireland's wonderful Western Region.

Best wishes



Lisa McAllister
Chief Executive
Western Development Commission



LookWest.ie Team Members Mary Keaveney (left) and Joanne Grehan with Ian Walker, Skipper of the Irish boat the Green Dragon in the Volvo Ocean Race 2009

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Life Changing – We've Got Balance in the West

People in the West often talk about their great quality of life with a clean environment, lots of leisure activities, beautiful scenery, friendly people and a captivating heritage. Yet hand in hand with this people see rewards for business as well.

When you ask people why they live in the West, they'll tell you it's because they genuinely love living there. They tell you that it's a great place to raise children, with a lower cost of living, reasonable property prices and a quality of life that's unsurpassed.

Commuting times are also considerably shorter than in large urban areas. Surveys show that 62.6 percent of people in the West spend 30 minutes or less getting to work compared to 44.5 percent in the Greater Dublin Area.

All counties have a great range of sports and leisure facilities including water sports, golf, fishing, hill walking, surfing, swimming pools, blue flag beaches and local sports clubs including rugby, soccer and Gaelic games. Long waiting lists for club membership and high levies just aren't a part of life in the West; clubs, amenities and facilities are easily accessible and play an important role in people's lives.

Childcare is another important consideration for parents and the Western Region has lots of quality childcare that's considerably cheaper than in other parts of the country. People who have moved here from abroad often say that one of the primary reasons for their move was the availability of quality childcare and the freedom that children experience in the Western Region.

The cost of living in the West is also lower than in other parts of the country. Official statistics show most food, drink and services are cheaper outside Dublin. In May 2009, the statistics showed that a pack of best back rashers for a Sunday morning fry-up was 24 percent cheaper, a pint of stout cost 9 percent less, a visit to the hairdresser for a ladies wash, cut and blow dry worked out at 23 percent less expensive while a man could save an incredible 47 percent on his short, back and sides.

For parents of young children who are considering a move to the West, they'll be happy to know that primary

Catching A Pike



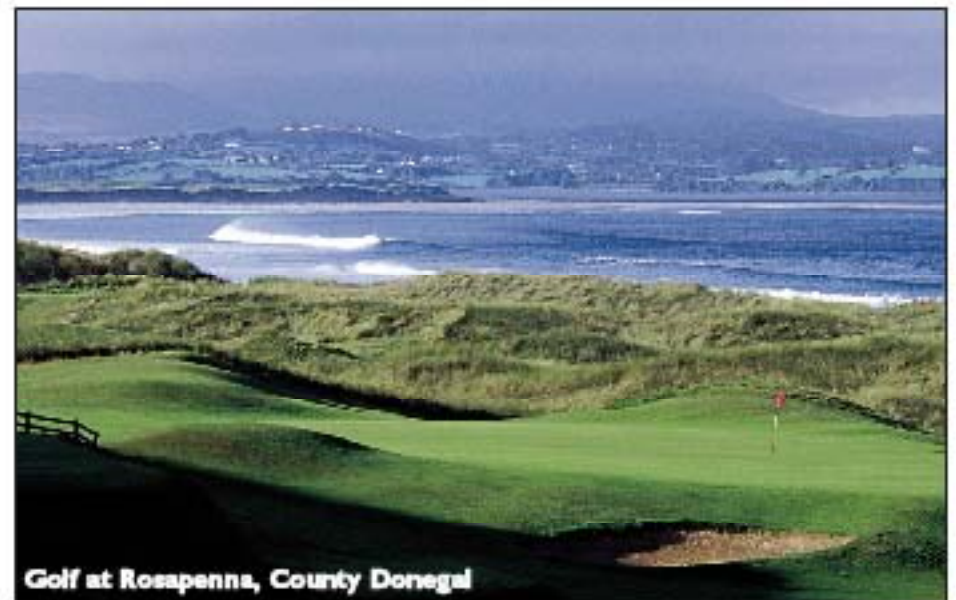
A pub scene in Letterfin



schools in the West generally have smaller classes which give children a great start in school. Moreover, secondary schools have an excellent record, both in terms of results achieved and of entry to third level college. A higher proportion of second level students go on to further education than the national average resulting in a young, vibrant and highly educated workforce—a huge draw for business.

Shopping in the West is easy, friendly and fun as the smaller size of towns makes parking and getting around much easier. Most of the big names in fashion, grocery and DIY are in the West so people have the choice of the larger cities without the crowds and the traffic and all with the buzz and excitement of a great day's shopping.

Mention the West and many people think of entertainment and the arts. Events and festivals take place every month of the year and they focus on everything from kids to over 55's, from music to dance and from literature to walking. The West has been a magnet for artists of all types for many years, creative people are drawn by the amazing clarity of light, and the welcoming environment which fosters inspiration. The result is a flourishing arts scene with theatres, traditional arts and music, street theatre, literature and visual arts. It's a welcoming sector, easy to get involved in and available to everyone.



Golf at Rosapenna, County Donegal

Festivals and World Class Events

THE WEST IS HOME to some fantastic festivals; from world class events to small community-based festivals.

Internationally famous festivals include the Galway Arts Festival which celebrated its 30th festival in 2008, the Earagail Arts Festival which celebrated its 21st festival in 2009 and the Boyle Arts Festival which had been successfully staged for the past 20 years.

Throughout the year and throughout the region there is a wealth of arts festivals which deliver the best of performing and visual arts featuring writers, artists, performers and

musicians creating theatre, spectacle, street art, music, comedy, literature and music. The West is truly a hive of cultural activity and celebration.

2009 was a highlight for Galway and the Western Region when Galway played host to the Volvo Ocean Race, and staged a two-week festival which attracted over 650,000 people to Galway to enjoy air shows, concerts, art trails, photo competitions, in-port racing and the warmth, fun and hospitality of the West of Ireland. Click on the Pix.ie button on www.LookWest.ie for the stunning collection of photographs taken during the festival.

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The Seven Counties of Ireland's Western Region – Something for Everyone

Ireland's Western Region comprises seven spectacular counties: Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim, Brecknann, Galway and Clare, each with its own unique attractions and appeal. The region appeals to those who are from the area originally and want to move back home as well as people with no prior connection to the West who want to make it their new home. Which county grabs your interest?



Donegal

Call it Ireland's hidden jewel, and with a population of about 130,000, Donegal offers outstanding quality of life – beautiful scenery and the rich history of the County Council and Island Communities of Donegal, Leitrim and Sligo counties. It's a beautiful County offering everything Donegal National Park has to offer as well as the Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim and Island Communities.

Donegal also has a rich and varied cultural heritage and is famous for its many legends, legends, music and other arts. The Donegal coast is fast becoming a leading international sailing destination.

Literature and music are also a part of Donegal's rich cultural heritage and there is no doubt that Donegal's rich history and culture will continue to attract and inspire visitors from all over the world. The Donegal coast is fast becoming a leading international sailing destination.

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Sligo

The highest point in the world, Sligo is a beautiful County offering everything Donegal National Park has to offer as well as the Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim and Island Communities.

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Leitrim

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Donegal, Donegal



Sligo, Donegal



Leitrim, Donegal



Galway, Galway



Roscommon

Roscommon is often described as 'the heart of modern-day Ireland'. With a rich history, great culture and traditions, an abundance of green space and family friendly, it really is Ireland's heart as a place to work, live and thrive.

Roscommon played host to both the Exploresy and the Exploresy of Ireland, creating a collaborative network by the heart of the county.

Roscommon is a vibrant county with a growing population and a quality of life that is second to none. It's a county that is a mix of rural and urban, with a rich history and a vibrant future. It's a county that is a mix of rural and urban, with a rich history and a vibrant future.

Roscommon's location, at the top of the county, offers a lot of opportunities for work and living. It's a county that is a mix of rural and urban, with a rich history and a vibrant future. It's a county that is a mix of rural and urban, with a rich history and a vibrant future.

offer shopping centres, retail centres and public parks. Exploresy is the county's main hub for work and living, with a mix of rural and urban, with a rich history and a vibrant future.

Some of the highlights of the county are the Roscommon Race Club, which is the county's main hub for work and living, with a mix of rural and urban, with a rich history and a vibrant future.

Other highlights in Roscommon include the Roscommon Race Club, which is the county's main hub for work and living, with a mix of rural and urban, with a rich history and a vibrant future.

Local Affairs Contact Roscommon
Population (2011) 51,741 Population Growth (2002-2011) 1.1%
Population Density 28 per (2011) 20%
Pop. Growth Rate (2002-2011) 1.1%



Mayo

Mayo is often described as 'the heart of modern-day Ireland'. With a rich history, great culture and traditions, an abundance of green space and family friendly, it really is Ireland's heart as a place to work, live and thrive.

Mayo has a rich history and a vibrant future. It's a county that is a mix of rural and urban, with a rich history and a vibrant future. It's a county that is a mix of rural and urban, with a rich history and a vibrant future.

The Mayo Mayo Institute of Technology (MIT) is a major educational institution in the county, offering a wide range of courses and programs. It's a county that is a mix of rural and urban, with a rich history and a vibrant future.

offer shopping centres, retail centres and public parks. Exploresy is the county's main hub for work and living, with a mix of rural and urban, with a rich history and a vibrant future.

County Mayo is a vibrant county with a growing population and a quality of life that is second to none. It's a county that is a mix of rural and urban, with a rich history and a vibrant future.

Local Affairs Contact Mayo
Population (2011) 121,831 Population Growth (2002-2011) 2.4%
Population Density 28 per (2011) 21.9%
Pop. Growth Rate (2002-2011) 2.4%



Galway

Galway is often described as 'the heart of modern-day Ireland'. With a rich history, great culture and traditions, an abundance of green space and family friendly, it really is Ireland's heart as a place to work, live and thrive.

The county of Galway is a vibrant county with a growing population and a quality of life that is second to none. It's a county that is a mix of rural and urban, with a rich history and a vibrant future.

The city of Galway is a vibrant city with a growing population and a quality of life that is second to none. It's a city that is a mix of rural and urban, with a rich history and a vibrant future.

offer shopping centres, retail centres and public parks. Exploresy is the county's main hub for work and living, with a mix of rural and urban, with a rich history and a vibrant future.

Galway was the last port for the 1918 Irish Civil War and the city played a significant role in the war. It's a county that is a mix of rural and urban, with a rich history and a vibrant future.

Other highlights in Galway include the Galway Races, which is the county's main hub for work and living, with a mix of rural and urban, with a rich history and a vibrant future.

Local Affairs Contact Galway
Population (2008) 171,874 Population Growth (2002-2008) 1.8%
Population Density 28 per (2008) 21.9%
Pop. Growth Rate (2002-2008) 1.8%



Clare

Clare is often described as 'the heart of modern-day Ireland'. With a rich history, great culture and traditions, an abundance of green space and family friendly, it really is Ireland's heart as a place to work, live and thrive.

Clare is a vibrant county with a growing population and a quality of life that is second to none. It's a county that is a mix of rural and urban, with a rich history and a vibrant future. It's a county that is a mix of rural and urban, with a rich history and a vibrant future.

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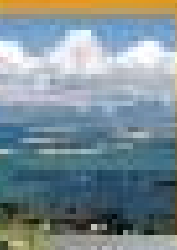
In the county and the city of Clare, you will find a vibrant city with a growing population and a quality of life that is second to none. It's a city that is a mix of rural and urban, with a rich history and a vibrant future.

Highlights of the county in Clare include the Clare Races, which is the county's main hub for work and living, with a mix of rural and urban, with a rich history and a vibrant future.

Local Affairs Contact Clare
Population (2011) 121,831 Population Growth (2002-2011) 2.4%
Population Density 28 per (2011) 21.9%
Pop. Growth Rate (2002-2011) 2.4%



Lough Corrib, Mayo



Lough Corrib, Mayo



Lough Corrib, Mayo

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the initiative of the Western Development Commission

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The West Works for Business

Enterprising People ... Enterprising Place

BUSINESS IS BEST ON YOUR OWN when setting up or relocating to the West with many benefits for all sizes of enterprises including cost effective work space, grant aid and training support.

Funding and grant aid assistance come from a range of sources including City and County Enterprise Boards, Enterprise Ireland, IDA Ireland, LEADER companies, Shannon Development, Údair na Gaeltachta, WRSTHC and the Western Development Commission (WDC) Investment Fund. Other supports are available from Thugae, RMIH Ireland, Bord Iascaigh Mhara and Bord Bia, while local Chambers of Commerce play an important role in promoting the economic and social development of local business communities.

The Western Development Commission's Investment Fund (WDCIF) is a unique seed and venture capital fund. Investments are made on a commercial basis and range from 100,000 to 1 million euro in return for a shareholding in the investee company. The WIF investment is complementary to supports available from mainstream enterprise development agencies and the WDC co-invests with other venture capitalists, BES (Business Expansion Schemes) or Angel investors. www.wdc.ie Tel: +353 (0) 94 986 1441



Innovation in Business Centres at GMT and IT Sligo
Business Innovation Centres support the development of new enterprises by providing incubation space and business development supports such as marketing, finance, patenting, export strategies and have access to research, graduate and post-graduate students.

www.kitbc.ie
Tel: Sligo +353 (0) 71 914 4131
www.gmit.ie/bic
Tel: Castlebar +353 (0) 94 90 43198 or
Tel: Galway +353 (0) 91 742822

Business Development Centre at Letterkenny Institute of Technology (LYIT)

The Business Development Centre links the expertise and resources of LYIT and the development needs of the commercial sector and wider community. It provides incubation facilities, communication and IT infrastructure and training and business development supports. www.bdc.ie
Tel: +353 (0) 74 9186703

County & City Enterprise Boards (CEB) CEAs offer a range of supports to entrepreneurs ranging from advice on the steps involved in setting up a business, to the provision of grants for feasibility studies, financial support, and a range of soft supports such as training and mentoring. www.enterpriseireland.ie for contact details of individual CEAs.

Enterprise Ireland
Enterprise Ireland is the government agency responsible for developing and promoting the indigenous business sector. Its clients are manufacturing and internationally traded service companies employing more than 10 people, as well as high potential start-up companies. www.enterpriseireland.com
Tel: +353 (0) 1 908 2000

EÁS
Ireland's National Training and Employment Authority enhances the skills and competencies of individuals and enterprises to further help develop Ireland as a competitive, inclusive, knowledge-based economy. It provides tailored training and employment programmes. Please visit www.fas.ie for details of individual EÁS Centres across the region.

Creativity—the West Inspires it

THE WESTERN REGION is Ireland's hub for the creative sector, those businesses which rely most on human creativity to generate economic value. Creative businesses such as graphic design, architecture, TV and other media production, theatre, music, computer gaming, art, jewellery and crafts are spread right across the region.

The creative sector is a major economic contributor to the economy of the Western Region as there are almost 5,000 creative businesses operating there. Many are small businesses while others are internationally renowned such as the Druid Theatre from Galway, the cluster of audio-visual companies that has emerged in Connemara, and the wealth of internationally known writers, musicians and playwrights.

By virtue of its natural beauty and

quality of life, the Western Region has inspired a culture of creativity that continues to attract creative people from all over the world who, from their home in the West, can feed the world appetite for design, music, film, digital media and the arts. The West offers a lifestyle that creative people crave, combined with the advantages their businesses need.

The creative sector is recognised as a driving force for Ireland's economy where wealth creation will be increasingly driven by ideas, intangibles and the creative application of Information and Communications Technology.

Famous artistic people and organisations from the Western Region include:

The Druid Theatre Company from Galway—one of the best known theatre companies in the English speaking world

which has toured extensively in the US including Berkeley, Champaign-Urbana, Chapel Hill, Chicago, Columbus, Los Angeles, Malvern, Miami, Minneapolis, New York and Washington DC.

Enya, Ireland's best-selling solo artist and four-time Grammy award winner, originally comes from the Donegal Gaeltacht of Gaoth Dobhair. She is a former member of the family group Clannad and now ranks alongside the most successful female artists in the world.

WB Yeats spent his childhood years in Sligo and is buried in Drumcliffe in county Sligo. He and his brother Jack were inspired by Sligo for their work.

Emmy award winning production company, Telegael based in Spiddal in county Galway.

John McGahern, one of Ireland's

finest and most-revered writers, was a native of Co Leitrim. His work chronicled traditional Irish rural life in books, plays and a hugely successful memoir. His best-known work, *Amongst Women*, was shortlisted for the Booker prize and won The Irish Times/Aer Lingus Fiction prize.

Matt Molloy, Irish traditional flute player with the Chieftains and owner of Matt Molloy's, Westport—county Mayo's best known pub.

Emmy award winning Director Dearbhla Walsh from Tubbercurry in county Sligo who won the best Director award for Charles Dickens 'Little Dorrit.'

The new Royal Theatre & Event Centre in Castlebar county Mayo which brings the biggest international acts to the Western Region.

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IDA Ireland

IDA Ireland is the Government agency responsible for securing new investment from overseas in manufacturing and internationally traded services sectors. Over 1,050 overseas companies have chosen to invest in Ireland as their European base and are involved in a wide range of activities such as e-Business, engineering, information communications technologies (ICT), pharmaceuticals, medical technologies, financial and international services. www.ida.ie

Tel: +353 (0) 1 603 2006

Local Development Groups

Local development groups administer LEADER (the European Union (EU) Community Initiative for Rural Development) and national exchequer funding to support the diversification and development of rural enterprises.

www.leader.ie Tel: +353 (0) 71 918 6708

Shannon Development

Shannon Development in County Clare is the regional development company responsible for economic and tourism development in the Shannon Region. It also manages the Shannon Free Zone and the Shannon Development Knowledge Network.

www.shannondev.ie Tel: +353 (0) 61 362 555

Údair na Gaeltachta

Údair na Gaeltachta offers grant schemes and financial incentives to new and expanding business in Gaeltacht areas. Attractive financial packages are available for business in sectors such as Biomedical/Pharmaceutical, manufacturing and engineering, internationally traded services, ICT, and natural resources.

www.uda.ie Tel: +353 (0) 91 503 100

WESTBIC

Established in 1987, WESTBIC is a specialist provider of supports to indigenous industry including manufacturing, knowledge-based industries, tourism, crafts & textiles, internationally traded services, food, technology and aquaculture.

www.westbic.ie Tel: +353 (0) 91 730850

NIJ Galway Technology Transfer Office (TTO) and Business Innovation Centre

The TTO guides breakthrough NIJ Galway research to business reality and manages the NIJ Galway Business Innovation Centre. It offers incubation space and support services for new knowledge intensive companies in sectors such as the biotechnology and biomedical sectors.

www.nijgalway.ie/tto

Tel: +353 (0) 91 492147

Chambers of Commerce

Chambers of Commerce consist of local business representatives who join together to promote the economic and social development of their community. There are a number of Chambers of Commerce in each county in the Western Region.

www.chambers.ie for contact details of local Chambers.

Building on Business Success ... Particular Business Sector Strengths Include:



The Knock Claremorris Bypass

Within Easy Reach...

Compared to congested urban areas, commuting in most of the West means less time spent getting to work and home again. Two international airports (Shannon and Ireland West Airport Knock) and three regional airports (Donegal, Sligo and Galway) make flying a convenient option.

Inter city/town passenger rail services run from Dublin to Sligo, Galway, Ballina, Castlebar, Westport, Limerick and Fermoy. Rail services from Galway to Knock will commence in 2010 facilitating onward connections to Cork, Kerry and Waterford.

Broadband is being rolled out across the region with a growing choice of service providers. All main towns are connected and special schemes and technological innovation are linking smaller centres and rural areas.

The electricity infrastructure in the region is

constantly being upgraded and the new Galway-Mayo natural gas pipeline will provide gas connections for towns across these two counties.

Natural Talent

Business managers need highly skilled employees—the West offers a young, vibrant and highly educated workforce.

Skilled Workforce

The West has the people and the skills; a higher proportion of students in the Region go on to third level education than the national average.

Knowledge Centres

An excellent network of third level institutions—Universities, Institutes of Technology and specialist Colleges offer courses in business, science and engineering, software, maths, hospitality, the humanities, art and others.

Companies in Ireland's Western Region represent all major sectors...

Life Sciences

The West is a leading global hub for the Medical Devices and Technologies (MDT) industry. Companies include Medtronic, Boston Scientific, Baxter Healthcare, Allergan Pharmaceuticals, Aerogen, Crospon, Tyco Healthcare, Hammac and Abbott Laboratories.

Information and Communications Technology (ICT)

The region is closely linked into the global ICT market with the Galway and Shannon areas hosting both large and small companies including Hewlett Packard, IBM, Cisco Systems, SAP, Oracle, RSA Security, Enterasys Networks and Pramerica, Cora Systems, Nooked and Instinct Technology.

Engineering

Engineering has had a long tradition in the Western Region, with the northwest being the traditional centre of Ireland's tool-making sector. Activities range from aerospace technology to materials handling and automotive components.

International Services

The West has a strong presence of international services companies such as supply chain management, eLearning, shared services centres, content management, consulting and call centres including Bank of America/MBNA, Pramerica, Fidelity Investments and GE Capital.

Food

The food sector is one of the region's top employers ranging from small artisan producers to large, diversified Co-ops and a vibrant organic food production sector.

Tourism

The West has a huge amount to offer tourists. Assistance and support is available for encouraging more tourists to visit Ireland's regions, offering great potential for new tourism enterprises in the West.

Public Sector

The public sector is a large employer in the West and its presence presents potential sales opportunities for businesses.

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Some other useful websites:

Clare County Council www.clarecoco.ie

Clare FM www.clarefm.ie

Daft - online property search www.daft.ie

Donegal County Council www.donegalcoco.ie

Fáilte Ireland www.discoverireland.ie

Galway Bay FM www.galwaybayfm.ie

Galway City Council www.galwaycity.ie

Galway County Council www.galwaycoco.ie

Highland Radio (Donegal) www.highlandradio.com

Leitrim County Council www.leitrimcoco.ie

Mayo County Council www.mayococo.ie

Mid West FM (Mayo) www.midwestirishradio.com
and www.midwestradio.ie

NUI Galway www.nuigalway.ie

Ocean FM (Sligo and North Leitrim) www.oceanfm.ie

Roscommon County Council www.roscommoncoco.ie

Shannonside Radio
(Roscommon and parts of Leitrim)
www.shannonside.ie

Sligo County Council www.sligococo.ie

Western Development Commission
www.wdc.ie and www.lookwest.ie

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James P Nally - A Candidates Lawyer

By Cliff Carlson

Lawyers specialize in various aspects of the law so that they can become experts in their field. James Nally knows what it takes to get his clients on the ballot and keep them there.

Son of an emigrant, Vincent Nally of Hollymount in County Mayo, James has a strong bond with the Southside of Chicago and Ireland as the rest of his father's family emigrated to the Southside except one sister who stayed in Ireland, giving James first cousins in Ireland as well. James mother - first generation Irish with parents from County Limerick - grew up two blocks from Wrigley Field which explains his life-long love of the Cubs.

Chicago all the way, Nally attended St. Margaret Mary grade school, Loyola Academy, and DePaul University, and then John Marshall Law School.



James P. Nally

James started as an assistant attorney general, and then he spent about a year in the appeals division. He was good at it, and this experience in the appeals division served him well when he went into private practice. He has probably served over 100 cases on appeal. He started his own firm in the early 1990's with offices at 8 South Michigan in the Willoughby Towers where he is to this day on the 35th floor. He has a killer view of the city, and could probably charge admission for his view of Grant Park and Millennium Park.

James has a general civil practice and a niche in election law. There are only about a dozen lawyers who specialize in election law, and James is one of them. He helps people get on the ballot, and stay on the ballot. And, he helps them remove others from the ballot. Hundreds of people file to be on election ballots, and many don't do it right.

From Al Gore running for president to local school board candidates, James has represented them all. Election cycles are good to Jim. He probably represents 30 to 40 clients each cycle and he has been doing it

for over 20 years!

He has represented all political parties, non-partisan.

Jim is not involved in politics, but, he wants to see his good friend, Terrence O'Brien, become the Cook County Board President. "I've represented Terry in all areas since he started running for the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District. He was elected to the board in 1988, and elected by his colleagues on the board as president in 1997. He is someone I greatly admire. His word is his bond. He's been a great friend over the years. He introduced me to my wife when we were on a cruise almost 25 years ago. I have three kids with two in college. So, for that, I am eternally grateful," mused Nally.

"You don't get a triple A bond rating in the public or private sector unless you run a greatly managed company in a fiscally responsible way,"

*James Nally
on Terrence O'Brien*

"Since Terry has been the president of the MWRD they have had a triple A bond rating. Last year, the MWRD gave back 56 million dollars to the taxpayer in tough economic times. I can't think of any area of the government that has done that. The workforce has been reduced through attrition by 30% during O'Brien's tenure there. Not thru layoffs or people losing their jobs. That's just a sign of good management. You don't get a triple A bond rating in the public or private sector unless you run a greatly managed company in a fiscally responsible way," he said.

Nally continues, "I've also worked with John Griffin who is running for judge this year, and with judge Tom Lyons. Both were practicing attorneys before they became a judge. I've worked with Dan Hynes on his bid to become governor. All good men. I'm a little more invested in Terry O'Brien's candidacy. I've helped a lot of people over the years, but with Terry it goes beyond that. We've had a life-long friendship and he is somebody that I really believe in, and I believe he is the right candidate at the right time for this job. There is no question that Cook County needs to be reformulated. It can't go on the way it is. Terry is the guy who can bring his experience at the Water Rec in terms of fiscal management, and good responsibility to the taxpayers. So, I'm working extra hard for him to see that he is elected on February 2nd."

Robert Clifford Honored by Peers



Robert A. Clifford, nationally renowned personal injury attorney in Chicago, has been named Chicago Best Lawyers Medical Malpractice Lawyer of the Year for 2010.

Best Lawyers, the oldest and one of the most respected peer-review publications in the legal profession for the last quarter century, is designating "Lawyers of the Year" in high-profile legal specialties in large legal communities. Only a single lawyer in each area is being honored as "Lawyer of the Year."

Clifford, who has been on its list for more than two decades, was given the highest honor for 2010 after being designated the 2009 Chicago Personal Injury Litigator of the Year by the organization.

Best Lawyers' compiles its lists of outstanding attorneys by conducting exhaustive peer-review surveys in which thousands of leading lawyers confidentially evaluate their professional peers. The current edition is based on more than 2.8 million detailed evaluations of lawyers by other lawyers.

As this year's honoree, Clifford received particularly high ratings in its surveys by earning a high level of respect among their peers for his ability, professionalism and integrity.

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We'll Have A Sup Of Tea

Tom Boyle



Sunday Business Post are so condemning, I don't think you will find much more than empty pews in the churches.

The Murphy Report (Dublin)

Judge Yvonne Murphy conducted an independent report to investigate how the Church dealt with allegations of sexual abuse of children by priests from 1975 to 2004. The report concluded the way the Dublin Archdiocese dealt with cases of child sexual abuse was to maintain secrecy, avoid scandal, and protect the reputation of the Church and the preservation of its assets. No consideration was given to the welfare of children or justice for victims. The Archdiocese did not implement canon law in order to avoid the law of Irish state, they protected the offenders. An investigation by the Garda Siochana "God Squad" produced "nothing of substance?" This, in spite of the fact that priests were transferred to other parishes where they continued to abuse, and despite public admissions, that no relative information was given to the authorities. No charges will be made against senior church members. Pardon me while I puke! This has played out like the cover-up in Chicago. The commission identified 320 victims between 1975 and 2004, and 120 victims from May of 2004. Four Archbishops, John Charles McQuaid, Dermot Ryan, Kevin McNamara, and Desmond Connors, who served during that time, handled complaints badly. Talk about understated complicity. One priest admitted to over 100 cases of abuse. Another admitted to abusing somebody every two weeks for twenty-five years. That's 650 victims, and this pervert said Mass every day and administered the Sacraments!

The reports in the Irish Independent and The

The Bishops and Archbishops covered it up, the Cardinal covered it up, the Papal Nuncio covered it up, and the Pope knew it!

When I read Sinead O'Connor's letter, I thought asking the Pope to step down was a little over the top, not anymore! The cover-up goes all the way to Vatican City.

I'm sure somebody will react to this by saying "you're hurting the good priests." What's important here is that the abuse stops, and if there are still pedophiles hiding in the priesthood, let's root them out. Don't forget, priests live in the rectory. If you were living under the same roof with someone, don't you think you would know who might be deviant? The "Code of Silence" has been steadfastly enforced and that's just as bad as committing the sin. If it was your child, what would you do? I think I know! Some of these priests actually visited the homes of their victims and abused them while the family was at home.

The Garda need a wake up call. They must distance themselves from the Church hierarchy. They are just as responsible as the Bishops, the Cardinal, the Papal Nuncio and the Pope himself, for allowing the abuse to continue. It's time to stop!

Many thanks to my cousin, Dermott Cooney, for sending me all the articles from the Sunday Tribune, the Sunday Independent, and The Sunday Business Post.

From Ireland's Sunday Tribune of 6 December 2009:

"Brady also said church authorities would be working with Minister for Children, Barry Andrews, and othersto ensure the church observes

'the highest standards of child safeguarding' throughout the country.

Despite this commitment, 19 out of 26 dioceses around the country are continuing to use priests as their designated child protection 'delegates', so it is left to them to deal directly with potentially traumatised abuse victims rather than independently trained and appointed specialists in the area."

From Ireland's The Sunday Business Post of 6 December 2009:

"The commission investigating the handling of abuse claims in the diocese of Cloyne has said it will not use diplomatic channels to request information from the Vatican.

A spokesman for the three-person commission, which also conducted last month's report into abuse in the Dublin archdiocese, said that the inquiry team took the view that it was seeking information from the Church as a body, and not from the Vatican as a state.

The Vatican has said it will not correspond with any inquiry outside diplomatic channels via the Department of Foreign Affairs.

The Vatican and Papal Nuncio did not respond to correspondence from the commission, which was headed by Judge Yvonne Murphy, when it was working on its investigation into the handling of abuse claims in Dublin."

The Sunday Independent headline for November 29, 2009 read: "Martin: Is there a paedophile ring? Disturbing connections between abusing priests prompts Archbishop's request to gardai for further investigation."

Cook County Board

The race is heating up with Dorothy Brown taking an early lead in the polls. The three black candidates are all ahead of Terry O'Brien, the "great white hope," in the polls. This poll only involved 500 people and that's not a very big sample. Our friend Todd Stroger is running third.

If once again we encounter voter apathy and vote strictly along party lines, we'll get more of the same. Some of the candidates are running on reform platforms. Who's telling the truth? It looks as though Todd Stroger will not be endorsed by Mayor Daley. It will be interesting to see how the Democrats sort this one out. After reading Cliff Carlson's interview with Terry O'Brien in last month's issue of IAN, I would be willing to support Mr. O'Brien if he follows through on the statements he made regarding cost cutting measures in County government.

Bishop McDevitt

After 12 straight wins, Bishop McDevitt's football season came to an end, losing to Cumberland Valley in double overtime on Saturday, December 5th. They played like champions and left it all on the field. My grand nephew, Victor Shaffer, has had a number of major universities express interest in having him attend their school, not only for his athletic abilities, but for his scholastic capabilities as well.

IAHC Christmas Bazaar

My favorite day at the Center, Mass with a great homily about Saint Nicholas of Myra, the original Santa Claus, by Father Langsdorf. The name Santa Claus comes from the Dutch "Sinterklaas." Mass is followed by breakfast in the elegant Erin Room. We had an interesting group at the breakfast table. Ann Dalton, Bridie Boyle from Castle Gregory on the Dingle peninsula, where my cousin Patricia Casey Fitzgerald lives. Also at the table was Nora Kirrand, Pete Lamb, Gerry Archbold, Tom Looney, John and Corina Fitzpatrick, along with Conor O'Keefe.

Chicago Saint Patrick's Day Parade

The Saint Patrick's Day Parade will take place on Saturday, March 13, 2010. On Thursday, January 28, 2010, the Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner which is the fundraiser for the Parade will be held at Plumber's Hall. Tickets are \$70 each. If you want to order a table, you can call Patty Fadden at 312-421-1010. The Saint Patrick's Day Parade Queen Contest will be held on Sunday, February 21, 2010. If you know a young woman who would like to enter the contest, simply go to the Chicago Saint Patrick's Day Parade website, where you can download the necessary forms (www.chicagostpatsparade.com).

Judges

Please don't forget Terry McCarthy, Dan Malone, John Griffin, and Russell Hartigan. I highly recommend these men.

We Get Letters

From: soconnor@mobileemail.vodafone.ie

Date: Tue, 8 Dec 2009 00:07:47

To: <editor@examiner.ie>

Subject: From sinead o connor

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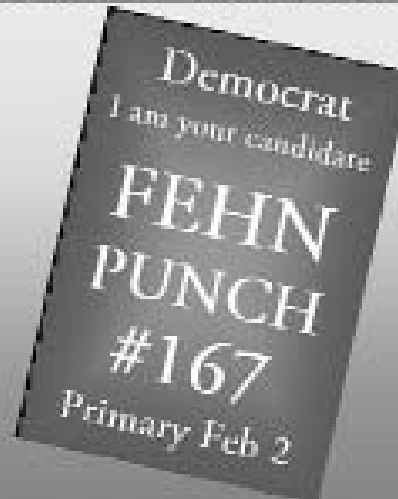
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have kept their mouth shut.. I demand the Irish government expel the papal nuncio and recall the Irish ambassador from the vatican city in order to respect the people of Ireland who are outraged by the contempt displayed by the vatican for the suffering endured by survivors of clerical abuse and for the people of Ireland in general.

I demand also the pope himself stand down for his contemptible silence on the matter and his acts of non cooperation with the enquiry.

Popes have had no problem voicing their opinions when we wanted contraception or divorce. No problem criticising the da vinci code. No problem declaring Harry Potter books as evil. No problem criticising Naomi Campbell for wearing a bejewelled cross.. Yet when it comes to the evils done by paedophiles dressed as priests they are silent. It is grotesque.. Unbelievable.. Bizarre and unprecedented. They stand for nothing now but evil. And our ancestors gave up anything that would have given them a moment's joy.. Because they believed these liars.

They have brought Catholicism and the idea of God into disrepute. We need to take back the church.. Which is OURS.. Not theirs. They are not fit to call themselves representatives of Christ. They represent nothing but evil any more.

They never believed that God was watching. And they still act as though they don't think God is watching.. But every one of them will have to meet their maker in the end.. Even the pope himself. And if I were them I would be very afraid.

Mr. Quigley Goes to Washington

By Christopher Kozicki

Mike Quigley was taking in all the excitement at Grant Park the night Barack Obama was elected President of the United States. He noticed Congressman Rahm Emanuel pacing nervously around the area. Mike wondered what was going through his mind. Little did he know that what happened that night would have a profound effect on his own political future. Emanuel would become the new President's Chief of Staff and would create a vacancy in the 5th Congressional District on Chicago's North Side. Quigley, the reform champion on the Cook County Board, would go on to win the open seat and continue his career in Washington D.C.

I sat down with the Congressman in his Chicago office to discuss his Irish heritage and how he is adjusting to his new job.

CK: Can you tell me about your childhood and early influences in your life?

MQ: "I had a great role model in my father William. He was a self made man who was very proud of his Irish heritage. He would sing Irish Folk songs and we had this cool map of Ireland hanging in the house. He worked for the phone company for 35 years and never missed a day of work. He was very proud that he served our country in the Army. Our family came to Chicago from the coal mines of Ohio. My maternal grandmother was a McCabe. I remember that I had forgotten to memorize a poem for 2nd grade and my teacher called on me to recite one. My dad always listened to Tommy Makem and Clancy Brothers songs at home. I said a phrase from one of their songs and the teacher was very impressed. My dad's influence saved me that day."

CK: What was it like to become a member of Congress?

MQ: "I was at a bill singing for civil rights with President Obama and Congressman John Lewis of Georgia, and I couldn't believe I was a part of such history. That is when it started to sink in, it was a great feeling. I grew up a sports and political junkie and it is amazing to meet many of these people who are legendary figures."

CK: Do you miss the Cook County Board?

MQ: "I was sad to leave but I was proud that I was able to draw people's attention to the waste in County government. I believe that the reform movement will continue. If I could save Millions at the county level, I hope to save billions at the federal level."

CK: Have you been to Ireland?

MQ: "I was there for a stopover on the way to Iraq. We flew



Mike Quigley and Chris Kozicki

over the country 3 times on an air force plane and I couldn't believe how beautiful it was. After I landed in Iraq I called my wife to tell her we will visit Ireland soon."

CK: How was Iraq?

MQ: "They are experiencing sectarian violence. I met with U. S. Special Envoy to Iraq Richard Holbrooke and they are facing many of the same issues that occurred in Northern Ireland. George Mitchell was there and he is trying to duplicate a model to solve some of these issues like he did in Northern Ireland."

CK: What are some of the issues you plan to focus on in Congress?

MQ: "I will fight for the same things I always have and will not change my DNA. I will continue to fight tax increases, fight for transparency and accountability in government, human rights, peace for our children, education and comprehensive health care for my constituents. I have a great chance to help people."

CK: I spoke to you this summer at the Irish American Heritage Center's summer festival. What are your thoughts on the IAHC?

MQ: "It is an amazing place! I love it. It reminds me where I come from and that I am with family. I met many great people who care deeply about the Center and I look forward to helping in any way I can in the future."

CK: I understand you are a huge hockey fan?

MQ: "I play hockey twice a week. I laugh because a lot of people are afraid to check a Congressman into the boards. I was hit harder as a County Commissioner. I am a proud Blackhawks season ticket holder. CEO John McDonough is a good friend of mine. He helped save a franchise I love. He gets hockey! He should be the next NHL Commissioner."

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Tradition
In Review

Bill Margeson



The natural thing is to try NOT to go to extremes. I mean, it sounds so silly, over the top, wacky when you start "raving." Your friends begin to fear for your mental state, and you walk around with your eyes in a glazed state that invites intervention. Thank heavens your brain can't be breathalyzed. So, be warned. Here goes. Brace yourself.

Chicago's Paddy Homan is probably the best male Irish singer I've ever heard. Yup. Now, you were warned as to the direction of this column. Writing about the music for over 20 years, I've heard almost all of them. I grovel before Len Graham. Frank Harte was a genius. Sean Keane, and even more so his brother Matt, are treasures. Tim Dennehy. Sean O'Se is a gift from God. Sean Tyrrell is incredible. Have always loved Kevin Conneff with the Chieftains. Don Stiffe out of Galway is a master among masters. A magical voice. I really, really grovel before Len Graham. I could go on. And on. You get the idea.

But, Paddy Homan is the deal. Complete. I hesitate to say the next bit. He is a tenor. Stop. Don't roll your eyes. Everyone—and I do mean everyone—says the same thing. "I don't like Irish tenors—but Paddy is not an Irish tenor." Well—yes he is. But that is like saying Secretariat was simply a horse. This Cork native (he arrived in Chicago about three years ago) is no patent leather shoe, tuxedo-wearing poseur. We are all, all sick of the guys screaming out nasal tenor voices improperly placed in the glottal area and too high in the throat. You know exactly the type I'm talking about. You've heard them. And, they seem to be rapidly breeding and reproducing. Get a dart gun.

Then comes Homan. The album is self-titled. Recorded at the growingly important Chicago studio of Dennis Cahill. As stated, Paddy is originally from Cork, and moved here about three years ago. Wait. Let's look at it this way. Check out this list of accompanying musicians—Jimmy Keane on accordion, Dennis Cahill on guitar, Maurice Lennon on fiddle, John Williams on button box, Jimmy Moore on four different instruments, Kathleen Keane on fiddle and whistle and Pat Broaders on bouzouki. Incredible musicians, but here is the point. These musicians get asked constantly to work on albums. They can pick and choose at this level. And, they are all on this album, supporting this singer.

The voice. Oh, the voice. Clear as a bell, and a gift from heaven. Now, we hear Paddy has had formal voice training, but he fortunately has taken the best of the formal stuff and left the other squealy nonsense behind. Oh, the voice. I was at both of Paddy's recent album launches in Chicago at the Heritage Center and at a great, lovely pub on North Clark, The Galway Arms. Jimmy Keane, Dennis Cahill and Maurice Lennon accompanying. I have never been at better sessions. I kept thinking I'd eagerly pay \$50 or more for this ticket, and all it took to be there was a short drive and the purchase of a pint of Smithwick's. My dentist, Dr. Andrea Adam—a genius in her own right—was there. She likes the music, and she was as stunned as the rest of everyone else in the full pub. A trad loving dentist, for God's sakes!

Nobody sings like this, and nobody sounds like this. The voice never, ever grates. The range is stunning. The interpretation is perfect. This is the whole, total complete deal wrapped up in one voice, one talent. I suspect Paddy Homan is going to get very famous, and I hope very rich. You read about him here first, and radio show partner Mary Ann Keifer and I were thrilled to offer the world premiere of his album on our Monday night program a few weeks ago. I know you can get the album online, but far better is to get to The Rampant Lion in Villa Park, Donegal Imports on Devon, Paddy's on the Square in Long Grove, and, of course, Maureen O'Looney's shop, Shamrock Imports on North Laramie. Now, stop sitting there. Get this. I warned you at the start of this column—but here it comes—this is history in the making. The day you bought Paddy Homan's first album. In a world of lunacy and junk, there is this voice. And, it sings to every one of us, reminding us all of what could and should be. Get up. Get it. Good Lord, this is a new level. I warned you. Rating: 4 Harps—oh, hell—throw away the harp rating, there aren't enough harps! Paddy, you are THE boyo!

And, look who is here! The wonderful Kat Eggleston. We consider her a Chicago gal, also. Never mind that she is living near Seattle temporarily. (We insist she return as soon as the time is right.) This incredible artist has a brand new album out, which Mary Ann Keifer and I also gave a world premiere to on the radio show. It is called, Speak. It should tell you all you need to know that the two premiere groups at work in Irish music, Bohola and the David Munnely Band both invited Kat to join them. She also recorded an album with Bohola, and it is stunning, especially her and Jimmy Keane's version of "How Will I Ever Be Simple Again?"

She wrote 11 of the 12 songs for Speak. The 12th is a trad Scots tune, "The Birken Tree." And, famed musician Andy Cutting wrote the accompanying tune in Sanctuary/History Man. Fab. Here's the deal. It is just she on guitar and vocals. Now, my plea of ignorance. I had NO idea how superbly she plays the guitar. I said this to Dennis Cahill and he looked at me as if to say, "You didn't know THAT??" Well, no. But, I do now. Dennis raves about her as a person, guitarist and vocalist. So do I. Buy Paddy Homan and Speak. You will know where the music is, and even more importantly, where it is going. Paddy is more traditional than Kat on these albums, so you really get the alpha-omega thing. Kat Eggleston is going to win some major awards with Speak. This is a beautiful, wondrous album.

These two albums are my reward for the 500 awful albums I have to wade through every year. Like walking through a field of aural musical thorns—and then, right in the middle of the detritus, are Kat Eggleston and Paddy Homan. Suddenly, everything is worth it. Renews your faith sort of thing. Speak is a gem. A treasure. Rating—thank God I already threw out the Harps rating for Paddy Homan, so I don't need to assign a number to this. It is beyond all that. I'm listening as I write this, and just as I'm concluding the column, Kat starts singing "Home." My favorite song on the album. See you next month. I'm going to lean back now, and just listen. And, breathe some fresh air through my ears. Sing it, Kat! *Ta!

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A Word With Father Boland

The Voice of Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Chicago

Reverend Michael M. Boland

Administrator, President and CEO



The results can be astounding—and inspiring. Lisa Shelton, a former resident of Samaritan House, told her story to the other guests at the celebration. In 1994, she was 22 years old, homeless, with four children—two of whom were in the care of the Department of Children and Family Services. She had just completed her sixth drug

treatment program.

In Lisa's own words: "Samaritan House assisted me in changing my lifestyle. They taught me how to be a parent to my children, be responsible by saving money monthly, prepare meals daily for my family, and how to cook for others. I learned social skills, responsibility, cleaning skills, budgeting and how to interact with other women and children as a family.

After four months, she was awarded a Section 8 voucher and moved out of Samaritan House, "but I took what I learned with me." Today, Lisa has 15 years of recovery, owns her own home, has earned her undergraduate and master's degrees, and is currently working toward a doctoral degree in psychology. She is employed as an alcohol and drug counselor supervisor. Her four children, ages 21 to 15, are in school and working part-time. In addition, Lisa became a foster parent and adoptive mother to an infant who is now four years old.

This young mother who was aided by Catholic Charities' Samaritan House is now in a position to help others—to be a "Good Samaritan" in all aspects of her life. As we touch and heal the lives of our clients, they in turn touch and change others' lives for the better.

May God bless you and your families in this New Year with the spirit and love of the Good Samaritan!

Samaritan House: Celebrating Twenty Years of Rescuing Families

Recently, scores of guests and benefactors gathered with residents at Catholic Charities' Samaritan House in Lake County to celebrate two decades of helping homeless mothers and children regain their self-respect and self-sufficiency.

There is no sign on the residence that states: "For the last 20 years, this special place has been home to 940 mothers and children who were rescued from homelessness." And yet, this is a place where miracles happen, where the Gospel story is lived, where spirits are revived and families are saved. This is truly the house of the Good Samaritan.

The very first emergency shelter program in Lake County for homeless women, Samaritan House was dedicated by Cardinal Joseph Bernardin in 1990. Families with young children headed by mothers 18 years of age and older stay for up to 90 days and learn skills that help them care for themselves and their children. Each family, assisted by experienced case managers, makes a plan, including employment and budgeting skills, that will lead to long-term stability, housing and financial independence.

A large, home-like setting, Samaritan House provides both private space for each family and a community kitchen and dining room where families prepare and eat meals together. Thanks to generous benefactors, children have wonderful play space in a spacious, fenced-in back yard with swings and bikes.

Unfortunately, a major reason why mothers and children become homeless is that they are fleeing domestic violence, often from a male head of household. Thankfully, Samaritan House has been there for women and their children when they have faced despair and injustice, helping them to build stronger families and a future filled with hope.

Everyone knows the story of the Good Samaritan in the Gospel of Luke (10:25-37). He was the stranger who took care of an injured man who lay half-dead by the side of the road. "Moved with compassion at the sight," he did far more than what was required at that moment. He treated the man's wounds, carried the helpless person to a place of safety, paid for his lodging and promised to return to make sure the bills were paid. The Samaritan was the true neighbor "who treated him with mercy," fulfilling God's law of love.

Just as the Good Samaritan went "above and beyond" to care for the wounded stranger in Luke's Gospel, so too are we all required by God's law of love to "Go and do likewise!"

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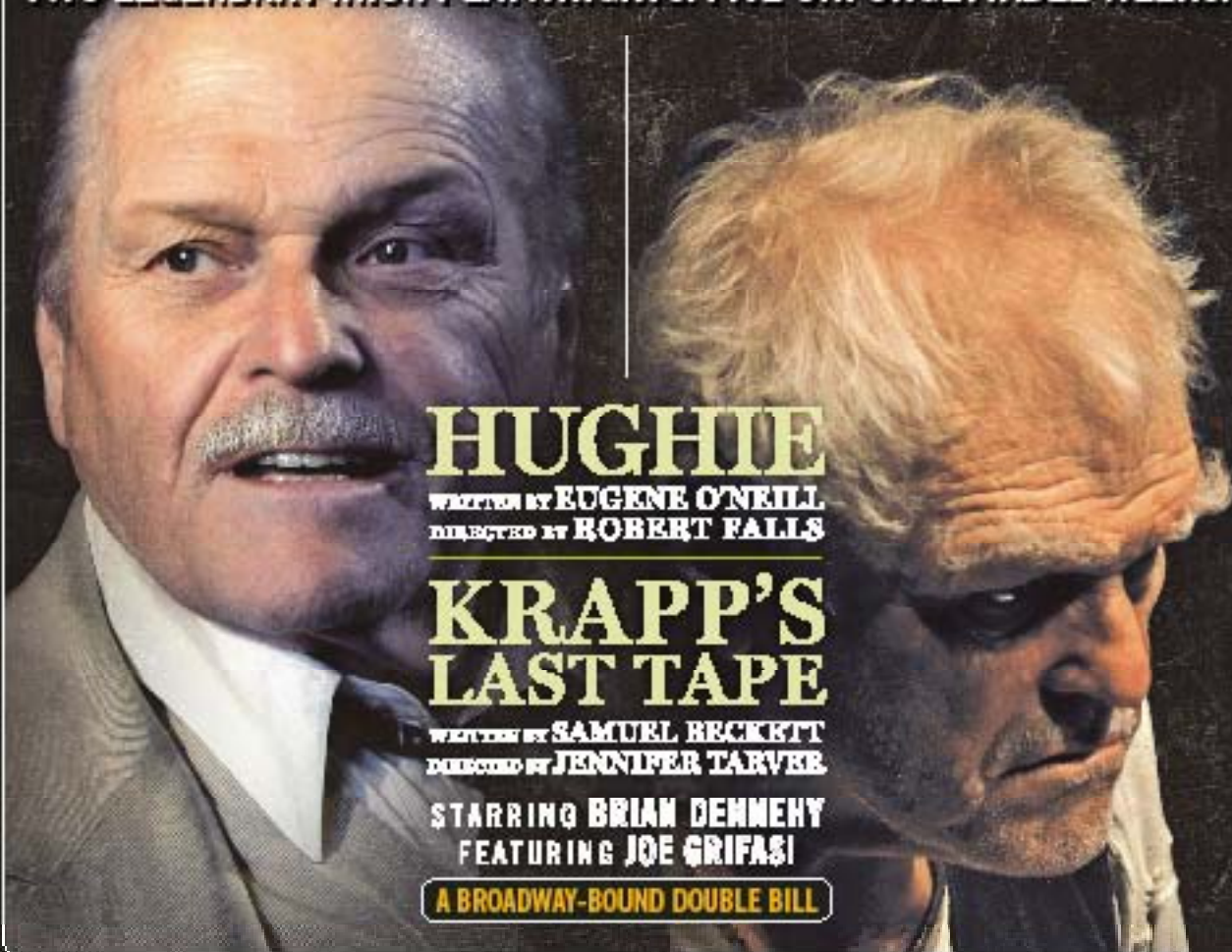
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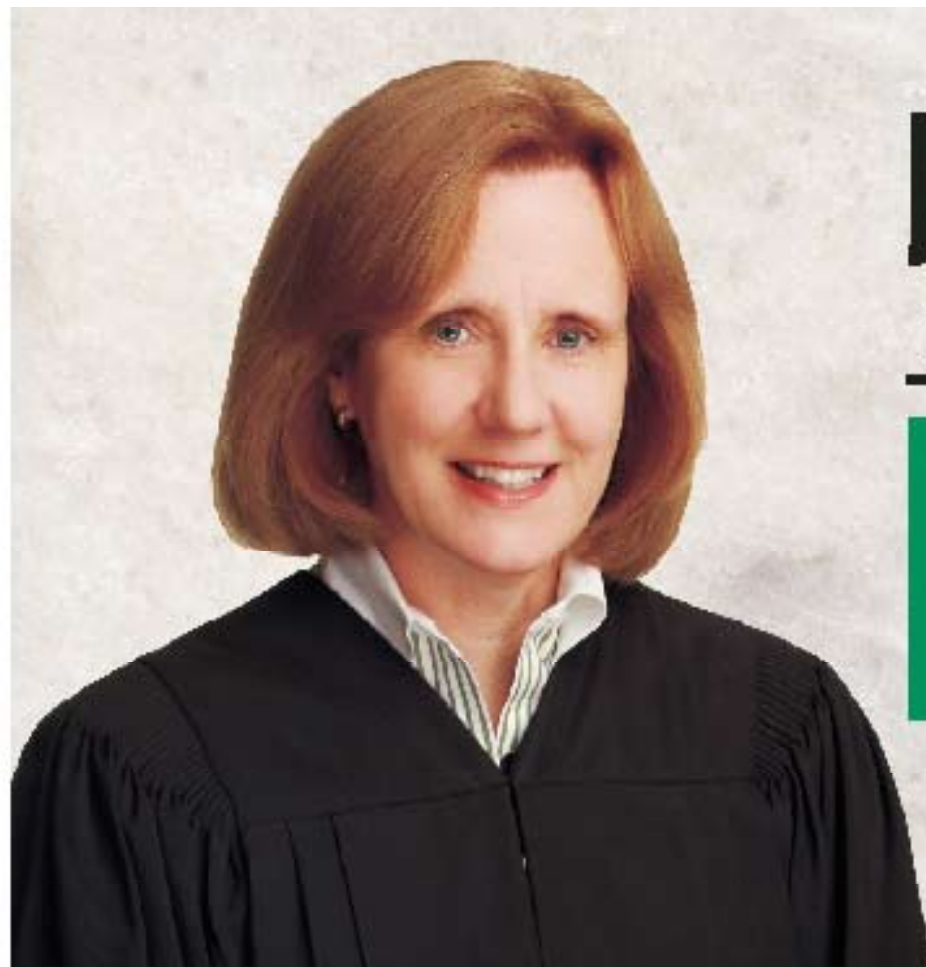


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GOODMAN'S, International Performer for *Hughie* and *Krapp's Last Tape*. Brian Dennehy is played by P. Charles Erickson, courtesy of Long Wharf Theatre. Brian Dennehy in *Krapp's Last Tape* by David Fox, courtesy of Lincoln Center. Photo of Dennehy by Mike Hickey.



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Mary Katherine**



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**Punch
142**

Judicial Experience:

Judge Rochford has been a member of the judiciary of Cook County since February, 1991. Judge Rochford has served in the Chancery and Law Divisions and First and Second Municipal Districts, handling a variety of calls, both civil and criminal. She has an established record of competence, fairness, and an excellent work ethic.

Education

University of Notre Dame

- J.D. Cum Laude
- B.B.A. Magna Cum Laude

- Former Member, Subcommittee of 2nd District Domestic Violence Coordinating Committee.
 - Former Chair, 2nd District Community Safety Initiatives Committee: managed programs focused on reducing drunk driving among young people.
 - 2007 Award YWCA Evanston/ North Shore for Outstanding Achievement in Domestic Violence, in recognition of the "many lives...(she) saved."
 - 2006 Judge's Award North Suburban Bar Association
- "... [she was praised for] her integrity, outstanding service to the Judiciary, and continued dedication to the community."

As reported by the *Women's Bar Association* at the time of award.

Mary Katherine was born and raised in Chicago by her parents Thomas and Bridget, natives of County Mayo.

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Enter to represent the United States Midwest in Ireland for the 2010 Rose of Tralee Selection this August. If you are a young lady of Irish descent between the ages of 18 and 27, you may enter to win the experience of a lifetime!

There will be only 30 girls chosen from all the Midwest to participate in this year's selection to be held Friday, March 12, 2010 during the Southside Irish Celebration in Chicago. The selection will take place at the Beverly Art Center Theater and the 30 winners will participate in the entire Southside Irish Celebration. The staged event will be held Friday and the winner will be announced on Saturday evening.

DEADLINE: All preliminary applications need to be in the hands of the Committee no later than January 31, 2010.

Midwest Rose of Tralee Rose Entry Form

THIS PRELIMINARY APPLICATION IS FREE! (There is no entry fee to enter at the preliminary stage.)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

State you will represent: (please circle) *Must be a resident of that state*

Illinois Indiana Iowa Minnesota Wisconsin

Date of Birth: (MM-DD-YY) _____

(Must be 18-27 years old - by August 20, 2010)

In a paragraph, tell us why you want to be the Midwest Rose of Tralee:

(You can add a sheet of paper to this application if you do not have enough room)

Irish Organizations and Clubs you are affiliated with: _____

Irish surnames in your family: _____

Signature of applicant: _____ Date: _____

For more information visit our website at www.chicagoroseoftralee.com and the International website at: www.roseoftralee.ie

Rules:

- *You must be available the entire weekend, March 12, 13 & 14th.
- *Preliminary Application and photo is in the hands of the Committee no later than January 31, 2010.
- *You must be between the ages of 18 and 27 as stated above.
- *If chosen as one of the 30 Midwest Finalists from the preliminary application, you agree to secure a \$300 sponsorship fee. (This can include businesses, friends and family).
- *Able to travel to Ireland for a 2-week all expense paid trip in August 2010.

Please mail completed entry along with photo to: Mary Kay Gavin-Marmo | Midwest Rose of Tralee | 11137 S. Artesian | Chicago, IL 60655 | 773-239-3927

Call for Help for Phoenix Marie...

Noah Smulkis of the Na Gaeil Irish Language Group has put in a general plea for help for his good friend, Phoenix Marie, who has been battling a serious illness, which has taken a deadly turn after running out of funds for medical treatments for too long. She is a fellow Celt, of Irish and Scottish descent, in fact, her grandmother's mother, Nona O'Connell, is a direct descendant of the great Daniel O'Connell who stands in Dublin. Phoenix is a gifted and talented musician, photographer, and an extraordinary writer who has spent a lifetime caring for others and bringing joy to those she was close to, as well as working as hard as a person can, on her own and independent since she was a teenager.

After a near fatal heart failure in 2006, she was diagnosed with progressive heart valve disease that was apparently congenital, or from birth, and was misdiagnosed in childhood as harmless. She struggled with raising money to see specialists without insurance, and went through a lot of difficulty receiving and affording treatment without insurance. During a bout of fainting spells, she fell on a hard wooden piece of furniture and it broke her neck, dislocating the 2nd vertebra from her skull 180 degrees sideways, which has been causing horrible pain, blindness, and brain damage, which is now becoming permanent, as she hasn't been able to afford consistent medical treatment to have it healed properly and set back in place.

This has been a remarkably painful and long struggle for her, and now she is losing her hearing, is in a life-threatening situation with her health, and she is in urgent need of raising enough funds for another year of treatment. She has found a famous doctor who has worked with 7 of Chicago's top hospitals, and he has given her a huge discount on her treatments, though she owes this doctor thousands of dollars already for treatment when she was going to die without it, and they let her go and started a bill. That debt is postponed

till she is able to work again later in the year, but she must raise funds immediately to proceed with treatment, for to stop the treatment again would put her in grave danger, or a wheelchair, or she may have permanent irreversible brain damage.

Photo Print sales that will give all proceeds to Phoenix's medical fund raising effort so far are: http://blogalicious.teapoweredphoto.com/?page_id=236 (Jody Elliot is an Aussie photographer who has lived in Asia, Europe, and the US and loves teal); <http://mickmercer.livejournal.com/1002629.html> (BIG CATS! A few photos to start the print sale from famous novelist/photographer Mick Mercer... more to come.) Phoenix will also be selling her amazing photography soon, when she is well enough to organize online.

If she receives consistent treatment without stopping, within six months she should be able to work gently part-time and be out of debilitating pain, and within a year or two, she may recover from the intense nerve damage in her brain and ears. If you read the page, you will hear the story. She is in extreme pain, experiences partial blindness often, and is having major organ infection and dysfunction. It's crucial that we raise as much money as possible, she really needs more than is listed on her Chipin widget to get a chance to live and have a normal life again. All of her conditions are treatable if she remains in treatment and continues, and her heart condition can be treated and managed if she receives treatment for at least 1-2 years. Without treatment, she could lose her life, or her hearing and her ability to think and function normally.

Go raibh míle maith agaibh. Thank you for any help that you can give in our effort to aid Phoenix with her desperately needed health care costs. There is an official donation page for the fundraising effort: <http://helpphoenix.teapoweredphoto.com/>

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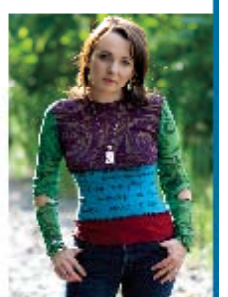


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- ☑ Member of the Illinois Judges Association since first becoming a Circuit Court Judge in 1997
- ☑ Actively involved in a number of civic organizations in his community
- ☑ Member of the Saint Cajetan Parish Council, St. Ignatius Alumni Association, and served as President of the Board of Directors for the Beverly Area Planning Association.
- ☑ Graduate of Chicago Kent College of Law (1980), the University of Notre Dame (1976), and St. Ignatius College Prep (1972)
- ☑ Lifelong Chicago resident (Tom, his wife Cathleen, and their sons Timothy and Patrick, reside in Chicago's Beverly community)

Primary February 2, 2010

For more information, please visit

www.judgehogan.org

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Judge Hogan

Four Irishmen at Goodman Theatre

By Frank West

Robert Falls is the artistic director of the Goodman Theatre, and a great interview because he not only speaks fluently, his optimism, enthusiasm, and love for the theatre ooze out of every sentence he utters.

Falls has held that very important position since 1986. His biography lists the many awards he has received and the many plays he has produced.

He is directing the formidable Brian Dennehy in Eugene O'Neill's *Hughie* as part of a double bill with *Krapp's Last Tape* by Irish playwright Samuel Beckett. Dennehy plays both *Erie Smith* and *Krapp* with shows running from January 16, through February 21, 2010.

Goodman Theatre summarizes *Hughie*: "Erie Smith, a small-time gambler, wanders home to a seedy New York Hotel fresh from a grief-stricken bout of drinking: Hughie, night clerk and once captive audience for Erie's tall tales, has died. Will Erie find in Hughie's replacement the affirmation and companionship he craves?"

O'Neill wrote the play in 1942. It was one of only two more plays he wrote after writing the masterpiece,

Long Days Journey Into Night.

Robert Falls Interview:

Q. How does being an Irish-American influence your relation to Irish-Americans Eugene O'Neill and Brian Dennehy?

A. We share being raised in that culture, and in attending parochial schools. Brian and I have explored the many similarities of experience



Robert Falls

they give us, and a close understanding and feeling for works by fellow Irish-American, Eugene O'Neill.

Q. How is Eugene relevant today?



A. His plays are extraordinary since they are intimately about the human condition. He transcends his time like Shakespeare or the Greeks. He's the greatest American playwright, and was influenced by Ibsen and Strindberg.

Q. *Hughie* is an overlooked masterpiece. Would you please speak to this?

A. It is an absolute masterpiece. It is endlessly fascinating. It includes all the themes of O'Neill's other plays. He wants us to look in a mirror to see who we are. I put it at the top with *Long Days Journey Into Night*, and *The Iceman Cometh*.

Often we think O'Neill was too serious, even gloomy. But, he loved comedy, singing, partying, and jokes. There is a lot of humor in his plays, but we have to look for it.

Q. Both plays deal with the essential loneliness of humans and the emptiness of life. I feel both playwrights encourage us to make the most of life.

A. That's true. Both O'Neill and Beckett are exhilarating persons. They are not at all depressing. They give us a message of hope. They want us to fight against existential loneliness, and to embrace life in the moment.

Q. You have been asked about this a thousand times, but tell our readers how you elicit such great performances from Brian.

A. I trust him. I trust his understanding of a play, his judgment,

his ability to show the meaning of a play. I trust him and he trusts me. We wrestle with plays to understand the playwright. We have to go to the edge of the play, to show the meaning and to tell the truth.

Legendary actor, Brian Dennehy, will star in both *Hughie* and *Krapp's Last Tape*.

These powerful plays will be presented in a double bill at the Goodman Theatre, 170 N Dearborn. 312-443-3500 for tickets.

American Buffalo at Steppenwolf Theatre

Steppenwolf Theatre Company will present *American Buffalo*, by David Mamet, through February 7, 2010 in Steppenwolf's Downstairs Theatre, 1650 N. Halsted St. in Chicago.

In a cluttered, run-down Chicago junk shop, three small-time crooks plot to steal a valuable buffalo nickel. As the heist unravels, the men's frustration and paranoia intensify. Ensemble member Amy Morton directs this groundbreaking American play that weaves humor and menace throughout an emotionally charged struggle for identity and dominance.

312-335-1650; www.steppenwolf.org.

Jeeves in Bloom Liven Up Winter Nights

First Folio's *Jeeves in Bloom* will run from January 27 through February 28 at the Mayslake Peabody Estate, located at 31st St. and Rt. 83 in Oak Brook, IL.

This sequel to First Folio's hit production of *Jeeves Intervenes* features the return of the lovably loopy Bertie Wooster and his unflappable butler Jeeves. When Bertie gets himself into another scrape, Jeeves must resign his service, leaving Bertie in the lurch.

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Gaelic Park in January

Monthly

Musical Luncheon

Chicago Gaelic Park will host their monthly Musical Luncheon on Wednesday, January 6th, 2010 beginning at noon.

The Musical Luncheon is a great way to enjoy a winter day with an afternoon of music by Joe Cullen, dancing and a delicious sit down lunch. Tickets are \$13 and reservations are required.

Monthly

Mass & Breakfast

The Monthly Mass and Breakfast will be held on Sunday, January 10th with Mass beginning at 10am. A delicious traditional Irish breakfast including bacon, eggs, sausage, black and white pudding and more will be served following the Mass for \$8.

Sunday Celtic Suppers

Gaelic Park hosts weekly Celtic Suppers every Sunday, from 4-9pm. They are a great way to spend a Sunday afternoon with friends and family, and perfect for family celebrations. With the \$16 ticket price music, dancing and a delicious, hot, all you can eat buffet meal is provided.

This month's entertainment includes Sean O'Donnell on January 10th, Joe Cullen and Kathleen Keane on January 17th, John Dillon on January 24th and Gerard Haughey on January 31st.

Children are welcome, ages 4-12 are \$9.00 and children under 3 are free. Call to reserve tickets.

Carraig Pub

Gaelic Park is home to the Carraig Pub, the place for a great night out with music and delicious food. The Carraig offers many daily specials and serves food Mon.-Thurs. 5-9pm, and Fri. and Sat. 5-10pm.

Music is also big at the Carraig with free entertainment every Friday and Saturday beginning at 9pm with the best local performers. This month's entertainment includes: Katie & Randy on Fri., Jan. 8th; Week Back on Sat., Jan. 9th; Joe Cullen on Fri., Jan. 15th; Mulligan Stew on Sat., Jan. 16th; John Dillon on Fri., Jan. 22nd; Bernie Glim & Country Roads on Fri., Jan. 29th; and Richie Z on Sat., Jan. 30th

Entertainment on Fri., Jan. 15th and Jan. 22nd will be from 7-11pm.

The Carraig is also a great

place for sports with all Bears games and Monday night football games shown on all of the pub's TVs. A complimentary half-time buffet is served during all Monday night football games.

Thursday evenings, come to the Carraig for the traditional Irish music session given by Pat Finnegan, Sean Cleland and

the students of the Irish Music School of Chicago beginning at 7:30pm. Everyone is welcome.

The Merry

Ploughboys Party

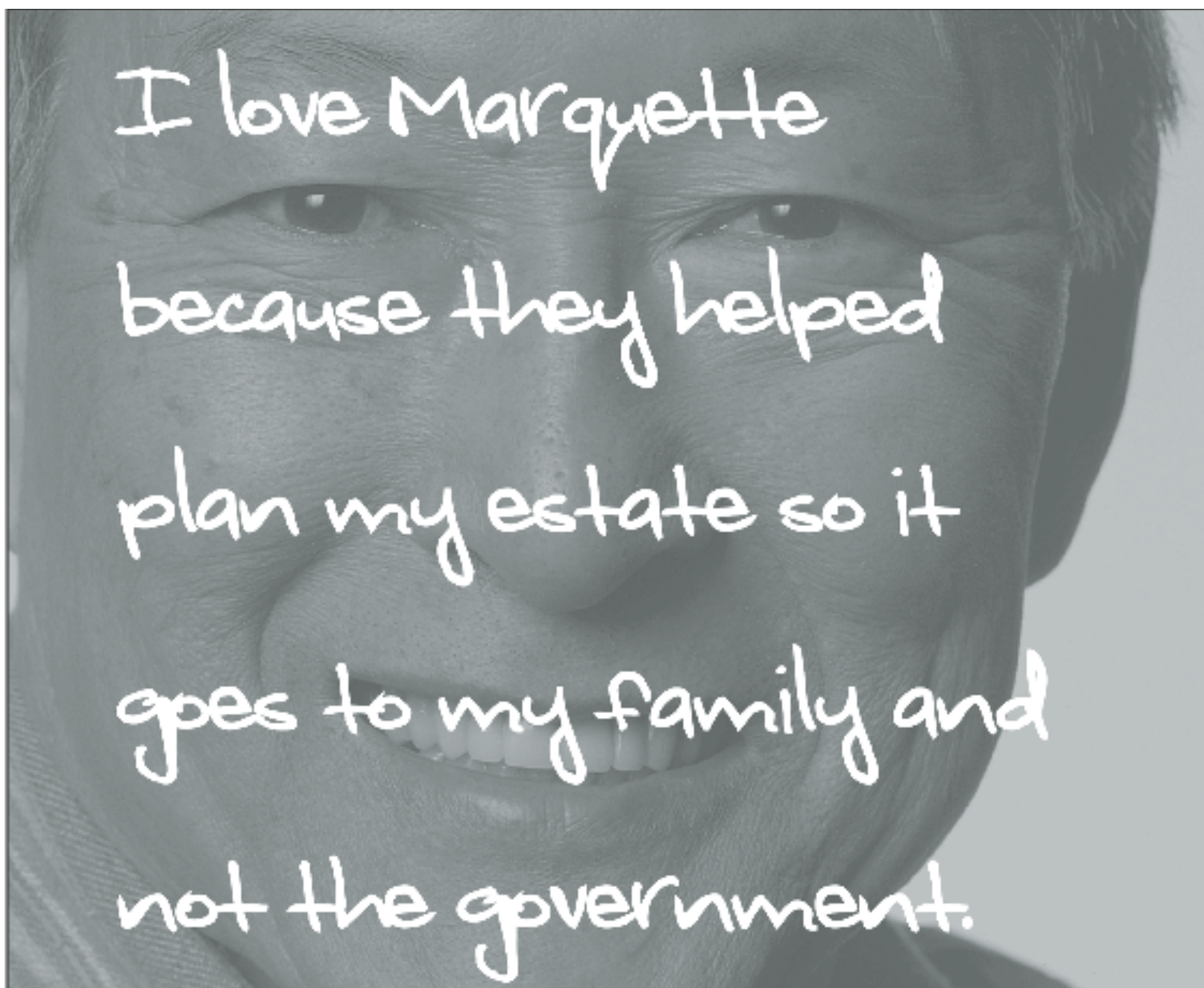
Gaelic Park will host The Merry Ploughboys on Saturday, February 6th, 2010 with the doors opening at 7:30pm. Tickets are \$20.

The Merry Ploughboys, from

Dublin, have been performing for over 17 years. Their act includes performances of old Irish rebel songs, ballads and more. The Merry Ploughboys are Irish enthusiasts and enjoy classical as well as contemporary approaches to music making. With the sounds of the fiddle, bluegrass banjo, bodhran, bass guitar, piano accordion and the distinct sounds of a mandolin, The Merry Plough-

boys will rouse the crowd with their music.

Gaelic Park is located at 6119 West 147th St. in Oak Forest, IL. Call (708) 687-9323 to reserve tickets or for more information on any events. Visit www.chicagogaelicpark.org for a full calendar of upcoming events, special performances, information on Gaelic Park's cultural activities, and much more.



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Irish Books and Plays in Review

Frank West



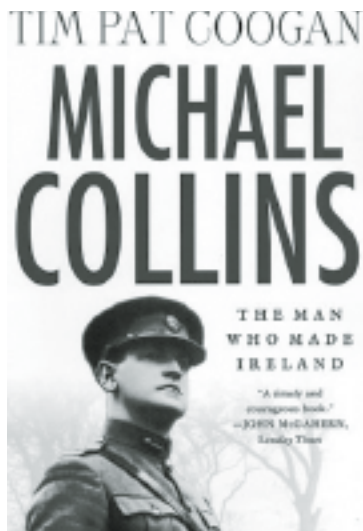
Both styles of warfare were effective at neutralizing the great advantages the British had.

You can read further about the events and people of this period in: Michael

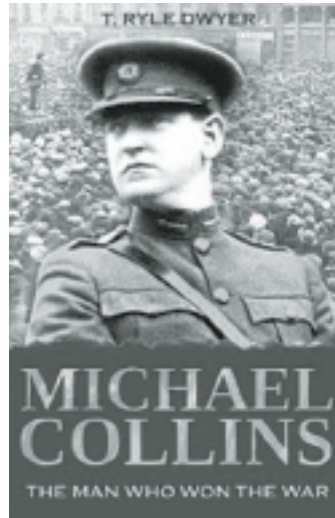
Collins: *The Man Who Made Ireland* by Tim Pat Coogan, and in Michael Collins: *The Man Who Won the War* by T. Ryle Dwyer.

Dufour Editions is distributing a great, rich trove of books about Ireland's War of Independence from 1916 to 1921. These books contain interviews with Irish soldiers and officers as well as the character of people involved, and detailed descriptions of events of that period. These books can be ordered from Dufour Editions, Chester Springs, PA 19425, 610-458-5005.

Our *Struggle for Independence: Eye-witness accounts from the pages of An Cosantoir*, edited by Terrence O'Reilly for Mercier Press and Dufour edition, Cork, 2009. 256 pages, \$25.95.



The IRA was supplied by Michael Collins, who also developed urban guerrilla warfare. This was often fought at close range with revolvers.



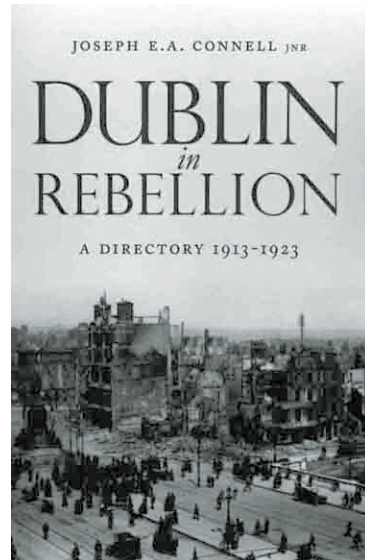
1916-1921 edited for Mercier Press and Dufour Editions. Cork, 2009. 288 pages, \$30.95.

Rebel Heart: *George Lennon - Flying Column Commander* by Terrence O'Reilly. Mercier Press and Dufour Editions: Cork, 2009. 288 pages, \$31.95.

Dublin in Rebellion - *A Directory - 1913 - 1923* by Joseph Connell. Lilliput Press and Dufour Editions: Dublin, 2009. 496 pages, \$39.95.

Limerick's *Fighting Story: 1916 - 1921* edited for Mercier Press and Dufour Editions: Cork, 2009. 383 pages, \$37.95.

The Donegal Awakening: Done-



The magazine of the Irish armed forces describes the defense of Mount St. Bridge in 1916: Ten Irish soldiers held off two battalions of the British army.

Rebel Cork's *Fighting Story:*



gal and the War of Independence by Liam O'Duibhir. Mercier Press and Dufour Editions: Cork, 2009. 352 pages, \$31.95

Kerry's *Fighting Story: 1916 - 1921* edited for Mercier Press and Dufour Editions: Cork, 2009. 352 pages, \$37.95.

And, the most unique of all: A book written for children. *Michael Collins: Most Wanted Man* by Vincent McDonnell. McDonnell is a prize-winning author of books for children. This is his eighth novel. I've reviewed most of them. This book shows the excitement and drama of Collins' life. It is published by the Collins Press and Dufour Editions: Cork, 2009. 136 pages, \$15.95.



Quade Helps Develop New Play

WGN talk radio veteran Jerry Agar shares the ups and downs of a radio talk show host in the new stage comedy, *You're On The Air: A Talk Radio Parody*, for two shows only.

You're On The Air opens on Saturday, Jan. 16th, 2010, 8pm, at the Beverly Arts Center, 2407 W. 111th St. in Chicago, with a 2nd performance on Sunday, Jan. 17th at 2pm.

This is a fictional and funny story of one man's slide down the radiodial, and the callers who take him on that ride, played by comedians Tim Slagle, Ken Sevara, and Dobie Maxwell, heard on WGN as "Jerry's Kidders."

You're On The Air is a spoof of talk radio as Jerry Agar creates a fictionalized version of himself. The play was created by Agar, Slagle, Sevara, Maxwell, and Chicago playwright Vicki Quade. The five became friends after meeting on the air while Quade was promoting her "nun" comedies at the Royal George Theatre, including the hit *Late Nite Catechism*.

To help promote her comedy, Sunday School Cinema, Quade began writing movie reviews in the voice of her nun character for Agar's talk radio show. Those reviews aired for 18 mos. from 2007-08 while Jerry worked at WLS-AM radio. When Jerry moved to WGN-AM, he approached Quade to help him and the Kidders create a play about life on the airwaves.

Box office (773) 445-3838, extension 200. www.beverlyartcenter.org.

Trinity Bests the Rest at Regionals

Dancers from Trinity Academy of Irish Dance stormed the stages of the Mid-America Irish Dance Championships, besting all other schools with 10 gold medals and 60 qualifications for the 2010 World Irish Dance Championships to be held in Glasgow, Scotland. This year's competition was held in Columbus, Ohio, from Nov. 27-29, bringing over 1,409 top notch dancers from 59 schools across the Midwest.

These driven, motivated dancers now begin a three and a half month training period to sharpen their skills in preparation for the World Irish Dance Championships. Trinity team dancers took the 2008 World Champion title and following a year off, they take the stage again to reclaim their title for the United States.

Trinity Academy of Irish Dance has convenient locations throughout Chicagoland and Wisconsin and is currently accepting new enrollment for the 2009-10 school year. For more information, call 877-326-2328 or visit www.trinityirishdancers.com.

Irish Heroes for the New Year

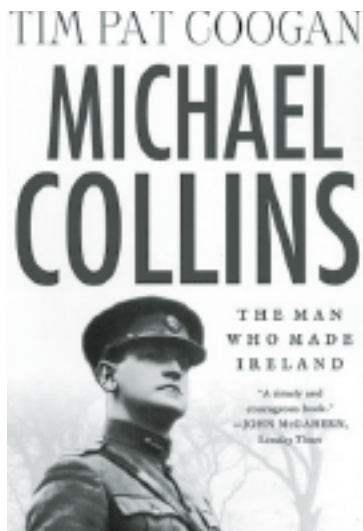
We are the sons and daughters of warriors! Over the centuries Irish people fought for many countries, but finally, they had the chance to fight for their own country in the War of Independence from 1916 to 1921.

During that war our soldiers and civilian ancestors showed bravery, fortitude, determination, and great endurance.

In this war they also had to rely on cunning and guile. This was because the Irish Republican Army was greatly outnumbered by the British army. The British had almost unlimited men, weapons, and money.

How could farm boys and clerks determined and resolute as they were, fight an army like that? The IRA used guerrilla war tactics: A small force of determined soldiers could hold down a huge army. And, that is just what happened. The enemy never knew where or when they would strike. The

IRA fought the huge British army to a standstill.



The IRA was supplied by Michael Collins, who also developed urban guerrilla warfare. This was often fought at close range with revolvers.

WANNA PLAY?

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

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



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Five Unforgettable Weeks: Brian Dennehy in Hughie and Krapp's Last Tape at Goodman Theatre

Two-time Tony Award-winner Brian Dennehy has thrilled Chicago audiences in unforgettable productions over the past two decades; now, he will portray contrasting roles in the double-bill of *Hughie* by Eugene O'Neill and *Krapp's Last Tape* by Samuel Beckett. The first production, *Hughie*, features Dennehy as the wise-cracking, down-on-his-luck gambler Erie Smith, and Joe Grifasi as night clerk Charlie Hughes. Then, in "a transformation of extraordinary stature" (Associated Press), Dennehy becomes the title character in Beckett's classic one-man show, *Krapp's Last Tape*.

In *Hughie*, high-rolling gambler Erie (Brian Dennehy) and *Hughie*, the credulous night clerk at a single-occupancy hotel, were confidants. *Hughie* admired Erie for his bold lifestyle and Erie considered *Hughie* his good luck charm. When *Hughie* dies unexpectedly, Erie's luck

changes for the worse and he finds himself in dire straits. Then Erie meets the new night clerk (Joe Grifasi), who reminds him enough of *Hughie* that he takes the gamble that his luck is about to change.

Krapp's Last Tape is Samuel Beckett's classic one-act, one-man show. Every year on his birthday, Krapp (Brian Dennehy) records the important—and the banal—moments of the last year. As he prepares to record a new tape on his 69th birthday, he begins to listen to his archives. This immersion in his own history leads Krapp to question, with growing regret, whether his present lives up to his past.

Hughie/Krapp's Last Tape runs January 16 – February 21, 2010 at the Goodman's Albert Theatre, 170 North Dearborn in Chicago. www.GoodmanTheatre.org, at the box office (170 North Dearborn) or by phone at 312.443.3800.



Short Shakespeare! The Comedy of Errors

Chicago Shakespeare Theater (CST) presents *Short Shakespeare! The Comedy of Errors* on CST's Courtyard Theater stage (800 E. Grand Ave. in Chicago) on Saturday mornings at 11am, January 23 - March 6, 2010. CST's *Short Shakespeare!* series offers a perfect introduction to the Bard—for audiences of all ages. In this 75-minute abridged production, a wildly entertaining tale unfolds as identical twin brothers—and their identical twin servants—are lost in a mixed-up world of mistaken identities. Following each performance, audiences are welcome to join the cast for a post-show discussion.

Recommended for ages 10 and up.

www.chicagoshakes.com. 312-595-5600.

Private Lives at Chicago Shakespeare Thtr

Chicago Shakespeare Theater (CST) will run *Private Lives*, from January 6 – March 7, 2010 at Chicago Shakespeare's Courtyard Theater on Navy Pier, 800 E. Grand Ave. in Chicago. *Private Lives* is a revelation of the humorous complications of marriage penned by master play-

wright Noël Coward. This classic comedy takes us into the private lives of a stylish, ferociously intelligent divorced couple who meet again quite by accident—on their honeymoons, with new spouses in tow.

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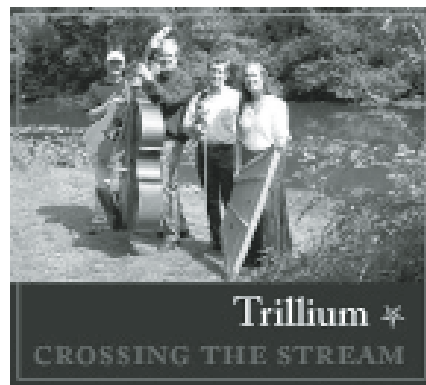
Jack Baker



it and hear what a real Irish tenor sounds like. This is McCormack reborn and I'm not kidding. Another major talent here in the city that's known for major Irish musical talent. Go hear him if you get the chance, you won't be

disappointed.

Pat Hughes from the Emerald Society dropped by the shop last month to bring me his brother's new CD, Small Tom, From the Heart. Tom lives in Mayo and has made quite a reputation playing his guitar and singing in local pubs. You know the type, the real local talent. We've seen them in a hundred small pubs in rural Ireland, we've sung along with them, drank with them and enjoyed their shows. Lots of American country tunes and a few original bits. Small Tom is the real deal, the



real country pub singer and original performer. Here's one you won't find at Best Buy.

For all you lovers of gritty Irish rock, the Wild Colonial Bhoys have come out with their latest release, Live... What's It To Ya? If you've had the opportunity to see this band in person, here's the CD that captures their sound, warts and all, and communicates the feeling generated at their live performances. They, too, perform Galway Girl and 15 other of their most requested tunes.

One of our personal treats this past year was getting to see the Scotia Glenville Pipe Band perform at the Capital District Highland Games in Altamont, NY. This band is a juvenile band, all members under the age of 18, under the direction of Pipe Major Maureen Connor. They competed this year in the World Pipe Band Championships in

Scotland and took third in the juvenile grade, no small accomplishment. They have released a CD of their work and it is a beauty, The Pipes Are Calling features the band's competition pieces, some excellent solos, and many of their concert offerings. If you want to feel good about the future of piping, give Scotia Glenville a listen and you'll walk away with a smile. Great work Maureen!

Another fine bit of solo piping came to us from John Bottomley, a piper friend of ours from Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. He recorded in the Old Chapel of Central Moravian Church in Bethlehem and the acoustics were something to hear. He was attempting to put together a primer for the solo pipe fan to include all the various styles of tunes and I think he's nailed it pretty well. Titled simply, Bagpipe Classics New and Old, John's recording covers all the different styles of classic solo piping, some of the tunes you'll recognize, some you won't but you'll enjoy them all. Lovely stuff, each cut a classic.

Local band, Trillium, has released their third CD, Crossing the Stream, featuring: Mim Eichmann (hammered dulcimer & vocals), Ed Hall (guitar & banjo), Doug Lofstrom (bass) and Jonathan De Souza (fiddle & mandolin). Trillium has a smooth folk sound anchored by Mim's beautiful vocals and strong hammered dulcimer.

They combine their talent with their passion for the music to build a totally unique and very pleasant sound. This is one of the CDs you'll hear me playing when you stop by the shop. They play an interesting blend of Celtic and Americana, with interesting tunes that are definitely not the run of the mill.

I hope everyone had a happy and safe new year's celebration, let's make this year a good one. Just a note, you can always get the CDs I write about at our store. As always you can catch me at Rampant Lion Celtic Traders, 47 S. Villa in Villa Park or call me at 630-834-8108 or drop a line to pipingitin@comcast.net. Slainté.

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Happy New Year, here we go again and I hope this one is better for us all than last year, I want to thank all of you who wrote and called and stopped by inquiring about my arm. It's coming along nicely and I'm back to doing my own typing. Before I go on though, I want to thank Dr. Klaud Miller of Windy City Orthopedics & Sports Medicine and Dr. Derek Kelly of Swedish Covenant Hospital for all their good work on my damaged wing and other dysfunctional parts of my aged body. Two great guys, I owe them both, big time. I also want to send a big thank you to the great staff at Swedish Covenant Hospital who made my stay there very pleasant. I'll be honest, when it comes to hospitals, I'm a big chicken and these good folks went way out of their way to make my time there as nice as it could be. It was as smooth a process as you could hope for, and everyone was cheerful and helpful to a fault. I had nothing to complain about and there's a first.

I've got a fistful of interesting CDs to tell you about but first I want to tell you about my latest addition to my top ten favorite CD list, Paddy Homan's self titled CD. It showcases Paddy's incomparable tenor voice and a who's who of Chicago's best Irish musicians. I know Bill Margeson is doing a full review of this wonderful CD but I just had to mention it and encourage everyone to go and buy

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The Irish Rover

By James McClure



ing over him. It's hard to believe for me, but it's finally been impressed on me that all six foot three of me can be intimidating

in person. Gunneau, dressed in expensive sweat gear and a woolen cap, looked up at me with a gaping mouth.

I'd like to think it was because he was scared out of his wits. Truth be told he was drugged or drunk and was probably dumfounded why anyone would be dressed like Indiana Jones on a frigid Chicago night. He looked up to see me standing over him in my brown fedora, brown leather jacket and silhouetted against the high street lamp. No impromptu whip... Liz was already irked that she was freezing and I figured the likely chance of my drawers dropping unhindered by a belt would not add to my current tactical advantage.

"C'mon, Jim, he's obviously lost or drunk!" said Liz with a roll of her eyes and a shiver. "Let me in the car!"

"Where are the keys?!" Gunneau said menacingly with a slur. "Give me the ____ing keys!"

The F word he used was not frappuccino, and what little warmth Elizabeth Anne had from her shad long dissipated and she wanted to be dropped off at her apartment.

"I WANT YOUR KEYS! GIMME THE ____ING KEYS!" he demanded as he leapt out of the car and reached inside his hooded sweatshirt to emphasize the point. The F word he used was not the tail end of caed mile failte, nor did I wish to give him a hundred thousand welcomes to my wheels.

"I think not, my friend!" I said as I put up my hands and backed away slowly into the two way traffic to lure the miscreant away from the non-plussed Liz and toward me. The old Chicago saying of Never Bring a Knife to a Gunfight wasn't quite apropos, I'll just advise that a smirk and a fedora (not to mention baggy khakis) aren't the best in a knife fight.

Mr. Gunneau was further about to impress me that a 45 year old shouldn't take on a 25 year

old (and I him—that perturbing Fighting Irish Marines was ill-advised), when I looked toward the two opposing streams of traffic bearing down on us in the middle of street, stared him in the eye and offered him the choice of the front end of a speeding Chevy or taking me on.

As I lowered my arms and stepped toward him he ran at an angle into an alley and I tossed Liz into the car and locked her in. Sufficiently certain that Jason wasn't coming back with his buddies and Liz wasn't about to slug me, at least not til I got her back to her place, I called 9-1-1 on the phone and he was arrested in two minutes.

At the police station I found out he had a long record of home invasion and burglary. Detectives were not eager to do a lot of paperwork on a holiday, but I insisted. "Oh, we got a real Public Citizen here," the senior detective wisecracked. My thought was this fine fellow shouldn't be back on the street, since in one case he invaded the home of a woman.

Seven months later a Cook County judge kept him behind bars after Liz and I testified. "Gee thanks Jim, I look forward to him coming after me when he gets out," she said. I headed off to a job in Anchorage, Alaska knowing that wasn't a concern for a few years.

And just a month ago I saw his face again. In the paper. And heard on the radio, "29 year old Jason Gunneau, an accused gang member, has a long criminal record including burglary and battery convictions. He was paroled just last September. Now, he's in trouble again, charged with a felony count of impersonating a police officer."

He's back in custody for flashing a fake badge to Chicago police. That's even dumber than taking on mild-mannered reporters. Irish-RoverJim@aol.com.

A Date with Jail

Most people associate the new year with resolutions or the promise of new possibilities... I still associate it with the night I almost became a victim of crime and did something about it.

Shortly after New Years, 2005 I picked up my friend Elizabeth Kelly, at the time an editor at Irish American News, at Union Station after she had been visiting relatives out of state. It was an icy cold night as Liz and I went out to dinner in an Italian restaurant near Catalpa and Broadway in the northern part of Chicago.

With the freezing temps, I was especially pleased to have my remote car starting device. So after dinner I fired up the car from inside the restaurant, as I helped Elizabeth into her coat and donned my own attire. The car was three spots down from the front window. To this day I swear I also locked the car after starting it.

As we approached the car I noticed a slight movement within. Liz almost opened the door when I figured out it was young man rifling through my CDs. "Liz, get back!" I said in a hushed tone as frosty subzero breath went in the air and I silently pointed her back to the sidewalk.

I didn't learn much in the Marines that applied to this situation, but the element of surprise in battle proved handy. An overnight ambush training at Camp Pendleton did illustrate the value of lying in wait... I clicked the remote again and locked our new acquaintance in the car. He was trapped.

While I moved around to the driver side I had a brief flashback of my Dad teaching me how to whip out my belt and turn the buckle into the business end of an impromptu whip. "Crack 'em with that in the noggin and that's the end of your troubles, Buddy Boy!" Dad-0 McClure advised as a remedy for a grade school bully.

As I peered in the window the intruder still hadn't seen me, so I opted for surprise instead and flung the door open. My CD's had been neatly lined up by then 25 year old Jason Gunneau of Chicago... and he was still was rummaging when he looked up to see me stand-



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"Just shut the hell up!"

Folks had been telling that to Jerry O'Bannion ever since he was a kid. When he didn't make Little League at Brainerd Park in the fifties he was devastated. And of course, he let everybody know it.

When Sheila Hagerty dumped him in eighth grade, he thought it was the end of the world. He made sure everybody knew his world had ended too.

Anybody who made the mistake of asking Jerry, "Why so glum, chum?" was given chapter and verse on what a bitch that Sheila was for breaking his heart.

Stoic, Jerry O'Bannion was not. If he had a hangnail you might read about it in Kup's column.

Jerry endured his trials and tribulations but always made a point of broadcasting his misfortunes. In high school he actually counted his zits to prove he had more than anybody else.

That's about the time everybody started calling him Job, like the guy in the bible. The name stuck for the rest of his life.

Jerry was just a glass half-empty kind of guy.

If the Bears won the Super Bowl, he'd lament the injury to the long snapper on the last play of the game. If he won Lotto, he'd be freaking out about how it was going to ruin his life like that guy on TV with the ponytail.

He'd actually had many blessings over the course of his life. He even wound up marrying Sheila Hagerty. The joke around the neighbor-

hood was that Sheila married Job so he'd stop bad mouthing her.

Jerry was blessed with three handsome sons and gorgeous

twin daughters. He'd had a great job with the Dept. of Water for thirty years and when he retired in 1990 he took his pension and opened a bar, "Job's Emerald Oasis" on Kedzie. It was the culmination of Job's dream to have a genuine Irish bar and he had all the woodwork imported from the old country, including the bar stools. Of course, he told anybody who would listen that the Oasis was going to leave him penniless.

Jerry spent almost two years getting the bar ready to open and he was obsessed with the look of the natural wood engravings throughout the Oasis. He moaned about how difficult it was getting a license, what a pain in the ass the carpenters were, and how he was sure he would never find bartenders who wouldn't steal him blind.

He rang up twenty grand behind the bar the night of his grand opening. Jerry drove home complaining to Sheila about all the drunks who stayed til closing.

If his family was blessed, Jerry was always waiting for the other shoe to drop.

And then it did.

Very early the following morning at "Job's Emerald Oasis," a fire broke out in the kitchen and burnt the entire structure to the ground. Cinders were all that was left of Jerry's dream. What happened next surprised everybody. That's when Jerry O'Bannion stopped talking.

When he got the news he was understandably upset, and for the next few hours he was merely taciturn. But when the arson investigator told him they suspected that someone had set the fire intentionally, that's when Job clammed up for good.

His vocabulary was reduced to just whimpering until the fireman told him they hadn't a clue who did it, but witnesses said the suspects were heard laughing as they scampered from the scene and one of them shouted, "Now he'll really have something to bitch about!"

After that, there wasn't a peep out of Job. Oh, he got his insurance money and rebuilt the bar, but his sons took over running the joint and Jerry would just sit in the window with a dazed look on his face.

Doctors couldn't figure out if Jerry was depressed or if his silence was a psychosomatic result of the fire.

Jerry's kids enjoyed their dad's silence and Sheila blossomed with a new sense of esteem. Turns out Job's dilemma was healthy for all the O'Bannions. Jerry's twin daughters married twin bartenders and they all got fat and had kids of their own as Jerry stared out the front window of the Oasis.

And then something really strange happened. Sheila gave birth to another child, late in life for this woman of a certain age. Now it was the whole town doing the talking. The new baby was a very pretty redhead they named Molly and tongues wagged whether she was really Job's daughter or the milkman's. Sheila merely smiled through it all.

And then at Molly's christening, Job shocked the crowd. He hadn't spoken a word in years and he started lubricating his throat with booze. And then he proposed a toast to his new daughter.

Jerry opened a bible and read aloud the story of Zachariah, husband to Elizabeth. The angel Gabriel had appeared to Zachariah and told him Elizabeth would bear a son, who would become John the Baptist. But Zach said, "Come on, I'm in my eighties, and so is my wife and besides, we haven't had sex in twenty years."

Gabriel said, "Oh so you doubt the power of God?" And he struck Zachariah dumb until the day the child was born."


It was now almost midnight at the Oasis and Job told the friends and relatives that the birth of Molly was the culmination of his lesson learned. He had spent those years of silence, listening and learning to give thanks for the blessing he'd received and promised to never ever again complain about anything. As he continued running his mouth, one of Jerry's sons was heard to whisper, "Where's Gabriel when we need him?"

Sheila stepped forward, took Jerry's arm and said, "Jerry, actions speak louder than words. And the main reason you finally got some action was your silence, so please, just shut the hell up!"

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Careers

By James F. Fitzgerald, CPA



banks and mortgage companies will allow you to restructure your debt.

Don't panic when you realize your salary

will stop on a certain date. Determine how much cash you have available. Remember that you might be able to tap into your IRAs. You could take a loan from a credit union. You could cash in savings bonds. You could redirect some of your other savings programs on a temporary basis. There is a cash surrender value available from your insurance policies. You could reduce some of your payments, opting to pay the minimum required amount for a few months. Perhaps you could shrink or eliminate your charitable contributions. You could sell some items on e-bay. Postpone major purchases. Examine carefully and reduce your social spending.

People are less likely to dip heavily into their savings if they take the time to develop a financial plan soon after losing a job. Frankly, many white collar job hunters require far less money during their searches than they anticipated. And they can also learn to spend more wisely.

Set a target date for the start of your new job. Choose a reasonable date based on an evaluation of your marketable skills and your perception of the job market. Then direct your efforts toward reaching that goal. Outline the elements of your ideal job. Include job title, salary, cubicle/office size and location. Be specific and visualize yourself in the new job. If you don't know what you're looking for, how will you know when you find it?

Start an exercise program. This doesn't require an expensive health club. Rather, establish a schedule of walking, running, swimming, hiking or some other activity that will absorb your excess energy and diminish your frustrations. Your appearance will likely improve also.

Make your job search a game. Establish your own rules. Decide what constitutes a touchdown, first down and a fumble. Don't view your search as a struggle. See it as an opportunity to enhance your family's standard of living and your self esteem. Make the most of this fresh opportunity.

Set a daily schedule and stick to it. Now that you're not catching the 7:37 a.m. train or fighting freeway traffic, it's tempting to stay in bed and sleep a few extra hours. Don't do it. Destructive habits are easily acquired and extremely difficult to break. When the opportunity clock rings, get moving.

The process of finding a job is a contact sport.

The more people you contact, the faster you'll find a new position. It can be uncomfortable explaining to people that you're out of work, but unless you meet with network contacts and potential employers on a daily basis, your search will drag on endlessly.

Dick Bolles, author of "What Color is Your Parachute?" says that about two out of every three job hunters spend less than five hours a week actively looking for new positions. How long could you last in any job by working actively just one hour each day? Your career deserves a full-time effort.

Be accountable. Find another person who is in transition and become mutually accountable to each other. Have a specific time to report progress to each other.

Ignore the crepe hangers. Don't watch the local news or read newspaper articles on obviously distressing topics. You have other issues that are more important than today's trauma. Listen instead to upbeat motivational tapes/discs, many of which are available at public libraries.

Resist the temptation to become home-bound. Unemployment is not the time to run family errands or spend hours shopping for a new blender. Your time should be spent focused on your objective of landing a new job. Setting aside an hour or two each day to get groceries or drop off dry cleaning is fine, but don't allow messy closets or piled-up mending to distract you from the real work at hand, namely, finding that next job.

Review your wardrobe critically. First impressions are absolutely key. That beat up old suit that you used to wear every Thursday just won't cut it anymore, especially not for interviews. A worn cuff or scuffed shoes may send the wrong message. It's amazing how many job seekers will be dressed to the "nines", but their shoes are dirty.

In my opinion, it's inevitable. You will find a challenging, responsible new job. The question is how long will it take? By demonstrating a positive attitude and making yourself accessible to employers and networking contacts, you can shorten the time between paychecks.

This column is the fifth of six columns that address some aspect of the job search process. For those of you currently searching for that next job, God bless.

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Game for a Job Search Pep Talk?

Just nine days after losing his position in a corporate cut back, Richard Matthews took his wife and two children on an expensive, two week vacation. He reasoned that to succeed in his job search, he needed to be rested and refreshed. He also decided that his family's happiness outweighed this speed bump in his career. It wasn't a smart move.

Two months later, Richard (not his real name) finally launched his search in earnest. The first nine days after his layoff were spent packing and planning for the trip. After returning, he attacked a series of home improvement projects that he had neglected while working. It took a family gathering over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend to shock Richard into action. When his wife was asked what he was up to these days, she responded, "He working as a handyman between visits to the unemployment office."

Finding the motivation to start a job search after being terminated can be extremely difficult. It isn't unusual for individuals to dedicate their time to "busy" work so they can avoid resume writing, phone calling and interviewing. Maybe they had a bad experience that damaged their self confidence and they want to retreat into activities that feel secure.

Treating the family to a vacation or painting the garage may provide temporary ego-stroking. They don't help one to find a new job, however. Only a focused objective and the determination to achieve it can uncover a challenging new position. With this in mind, consider the following dictums. They'll help you conclude your search successfully!

Stop kidding yourself. The job is gone. It's not likely to come back. Even if company executives made a mistake in letting you go, they'll never acknowledge their error. They may, however, be a bit more generous with the severance package. Use this awareness to your advantage.

Don't feel sorry for yourself for too long. It's all right to be upset, frustrated, annoyed, disappointed and even angry during the first 24 or 48 hours. After that, such feelings will hinder your job search. Don't curl up in a ball and lick your wounds.

Accept the realities of a job loss. This is a stressful period in which you've likely lost some long standing relationships with your co-workers. You may experience anxiety, anger, and guilt; the same emotions people feel after the death of a loved one. Allow yourself a few days to mourn, and then move on. Remember, the loss of a job doesn't diminish your dignity, no matter how poorly you might have been treated. As Dr. Viktor Frankl said, only YOU own your dignity.

Review your financial situation. Develop a financial survival strategy. Accept unemployment compensation-it's yours, you've earned it. Consider advising your creditors of your unemployed status and your sincere interest in maintaining your credit worthiness. For example, many

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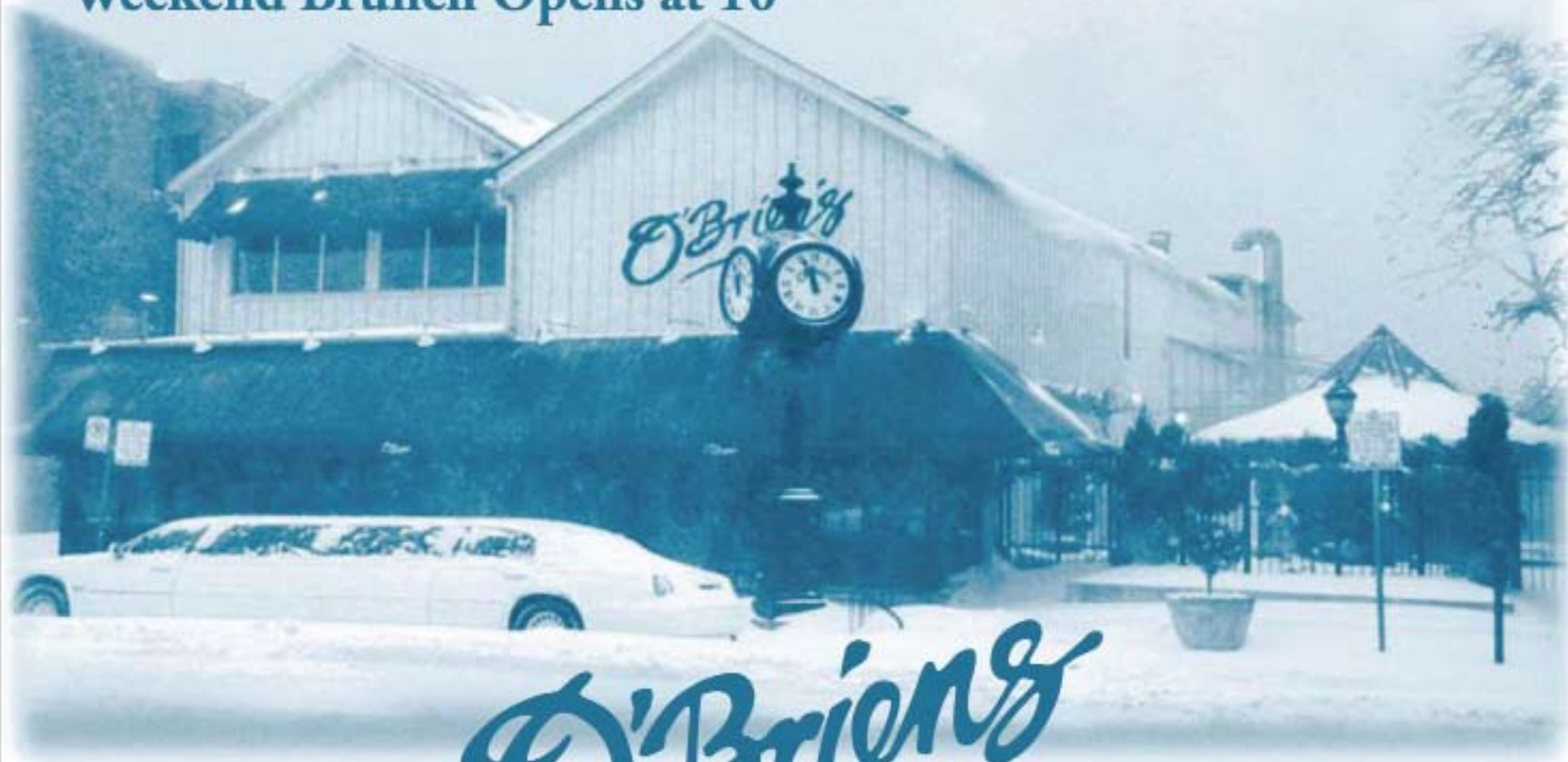
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