

Gaelic Park News... pg 24-25

Jim Tully:
American Writer, Irish Rover, Hollywood Brawler

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*Irish Times Pub
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The Celtic Traveller

By Maureen Callahan



To a Great Irish Traveler

I begin this column with a disclaimer. I've never written a memoir, and I have little experience with memorials or obits, either. But when I witnessed the sudden passing of an important member of the local Irish community a few months ago, I wanted to be sure everyone knew her. The truth is, I am heartbroken. And so when I was asked to say a few kind words about Debbie Cummane I agreed, since when referencing her, I don't know what other kind of words there might be.

In life, those of us who are lucky have two families. The one we are born into, and the one we create along the way. This is the great lesson taken from her sudden passing on July 4th. For Deb, the line between family and friend blurred. A lot. Once you met her, you were in. For always. Once she cared, she always cared. About you, and your family, and your life. She remembered everything about everyone. For someone who never married, she forged more bonds and partnerships with others than anyone else I ever knew. Over 600 mourners attested to the great love she bestowed on this world, first as a daughter to Tom and Barb Cummane, and as a sister to Marybeth, Caroline, Barbie, Tommy, Stephen and Kathy. After that, the list gets lengthy.

Everyone leaves a mark on this world. Some ordinary thing she does in a certain way, thereby making her extraordinary. Every life Debbie touched is somehow changed, if even slightly, for the better. For most, however, the impact of her presence in their lives is quite significant. She was the fun aunt who took the nieces and nephews wherever they wanted to go, the coach who encouraged the weakest link, the co-worker who lightened a tough work day, the patient listener who helped you figure things out. She could make anyone laugh, and pretty much did. When she asked how you were, she

waited to hear the answer. She hugged you hello, even if she was in a hurry.

Travel was a central theme to Debbie's life. To use her brother-in-law Billy's



words "if Deb wasn't on vacation, she was saving for her next one." She loved checking out new places, and it seemed she was able to combine this travel passion with her other main focus of family. Along with international journeys, annual outings to Vegas, Florida and weekends at the family lake house in Michigan were a priority, but Ireland was her place.

She organized a pilgrimage of relatives a few years back to trace her Cummane and Mackay family roots. Genealogy mattered to her. Her dad, Tom, has been tracing the family tree for decades. It includes many corners of Ireland, and is currently somewhere in the 1500s. While over there, Deb was the organizer of family reunions and meetings at local pubs. She was the one who pulled everyone and everything

together. It is the opinion of best friend Tammy O'Toole Kocher that "Debbie was facebook before facebook." She was the great connector who never stopped thinking the Cubs might honestly do it this year... or some year.

And she always cared. Cared what was new, what was wrong, what you needed. Debbie made it to every game, birthday, shower, wedding, party, etc. It mattered to her to be there for the dozens of tangents of friends from St. Joseph School in Downers Grove, Montini Catholic High School in Lombard, UIC, Downers Grove National Bank, and teams she coached. I have never met someone who was available for people the way she was, and had such genuine concern for people she hadn't seen in years, and in some instances, had never even met, the way she did. Her mom, Barb, puts this sentiment into words by describing her as "everybody's arm."

I have a feeling Deb, that if you were able to comment, you'd borrow a few

phrases from Flogging Molly... *If I ever leave this world alive, I'll thank you for all the things you did in my life. I'll come back down and sit beside your feet tonight. I'll take on all the sadness that I left behind and the madness that you feel will soon subside. In a word, don't shed a tear. I'll be here when it all gets weird. Wherever I am, you'll always be more than just a memory.*

Travel on to your new destination, remembering to pack the sense of humor we all treasure. Keep the laughs coming, the conversations going, the teams coached and the circles of old friends connected in your new place. Save some seats for the rest of us and get the Guinness flowing in the new hangout. And if the pub closes, just "leave it on the ledge."

Ar dheis De go raibh a h-anam.

Maureen Callahan is a Chicago freelance writer and columnist for the Irish American News. missmaurencallahan@gmail.com.

Groundbreaking Cook County Ordinance Becomes Law

On Monday, September 26th, Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle signed a simple, well-reasoned ordinance on immigration. The ordinance would require the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency to reimburse the County if it wants us to hold people in our jails longer than local law allows. This was an historic victory for Cook County taxpayers, the rule of law, and public safety. It was also a victory for immigrant families who are still being separated by ICE in record numbers.

The ordinance was passed by the Cook County Board on a 10-5 vote.

More about what the ordinance will do:

- This ordinance makes us safer, ends an unfunded mandate, and protects families. Public safety is improved if immigrants cooperate with police. When local police get involved in federal immigration enforcement, immigrants may fear interacting with police, and trust between police officers and law-abiding immigrants diminishes. Fewer people are willing to report crimes and serve as witnesses.

- End unfunded mandate and honor Cook County taxpayers. Currently, Cook County is



forced to pay as much as \$15.7 million annually to do the federal government's job of immigration enforcement. Cook County tax dollars should go to Cook County services, especially at a time when our County is strapped for cash.

- This ordinance protects families. Many of the people getting caught up in immigration enforcement are hard-working children and families of U.S. citizens, who pose no danger. The Obama administration has said it wants to prioritize its efforts on dangerous criminals. This ordinance advances that effort by requiring the federal government to use its discretion on who it wants to hold.

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For the Love of Brian Benefit 11-18

Friends and family of Brian Plane will be hosting a benefit at Gaelic Park on November 18th, 2011. Brian, unfortunately, is in the process of battling an undiagnosed type of cancer.

We are asking the community for their support on behalf of Brian, his wife Donna, and their three sons:

Alex-13, Steven-11 and Jason-8. They have been part of the New Lenox community for 16 years.

In an effort to help alleviate the financial burden and stress, there will be a benefit held in Brian's honor on November 18, 2011 at 6pm at Gaelic Park in Oak Forest, IL. All are invited to attend! Tickets are \$25 for adults

and \$10 for children under 14. For information on purchasing tickets, please contact www.fortheloveofbrian.com.

Local businesses, restaurants, and organizations can help sponsor the event by contributing a gift certificate, gift basket or merchandise to be used as a raffle prize. Monetary

donations are also welcome. All businesses and organizations that donate will be recognized on the "For the Love of Brian" website. On the day of the benefit all contributors will be noted in a video presentation that will play throughout the event. Any donation, no matter how great or small, is greatly appreciated!

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The Irish Connection



By Colleen Kelly



Great Fall Get-Aways with a Pint of Irish

The fall leaves are turning and the smell of autumn is in the air. My husband and I decided to get in touch with the fall season by heading out-of-town to Galena, Illinois. Galena is a three and a half hour drive north of Chicago and a town rich with an Irish connection. It has two hotels, two restaurants and one pub, all with a wee bit of Irish in them.

The Inn at Irish Hollow

On my first night in Galena, I headed over to The Inn at Irish Hollow (irishhollow.com). It was named after the street it sits on, Irish Hollow Road. This little gem in the country is a rare secret that I was fortunate enough to find when searching for Irish connections in Galena. Want pure luxury and peace in the country? I found it here! As I drove along a beautiful winding country road filled with autumn's deepest ambers and reds, I came upon an Old General Store Inn surrounded by six beautifully appointed and secluded cottages.

Owned by Bill and Tony, The Inn has been in Galena for over 21 years and truly feels like a labor of love. Warmly greeted by Innkeeper Matthew Carroll, he was quick to inform me that The Inn at Irish Hollow's

main focus is on relaxation, which, in his own words, meant "no kids, no dogs and no tv." All I heard was the "no tv" part. I traveled with my husband and didn't bring the kids or dog (check!) but the tv? I didn't know how I would make it.

However, my fears were swept away when I walked into "The Stonehenge Cottage," our own personal home on the grounds. When I opened the door, I had to hold my breath. Here in the heart of the country was the most luxurious little cottage I had ever seen. As I walked in, to my left was the down-filled king size bed and to my right was a cozy living room. But, it what it was in-between which was the biggest surprise... a large stone fireplace with a roaring fire that could be

seen from both sides. I decided right there and then to sell my house and move here. What more did I need? Well, maybe a tv... but I digress.

After a lovely candle-lit Autumn Harvest Dinner on the grounds at the General Store, we retired (that's what you do in the country) to our sweet little cottage; we indulged in the crackling fire and vowed never to return to civilization again.

After breakfast, we lingered over coffee and casually contemplated our next Irish Hotel in Galena... The Irish Cottage.

The Irish Cottage

The Irish Cottage (theirishcottage.com) is not necessarily a "cottage" but an Irish heritage hotel that is the culmination of a dream for two Irish immigrants. First cousins Jack Coulter and Basil Conroy took a lifelong dream and made it a reality by building



this Irish-themed hotel. In fact, they even named their pub after their grandfather, Frank O'Dowd. As I checked in, I noticed we were surrounded by all things Irish, and suddenly, I knew why this little piece of the Emerald Isle was built.

Life size photos of famous Irish-born and Irish-American men and women adorn their walls... everyone from Grace Kelly to John F. Kennedy to Ulysses S. Grant, who coincidentally, had a home in Galena. As we entered past the lobby, there was a beautiful dark wood reading room called the W.B. Yeats Library, filled with tons of Irish books and cozy oversized leather chairs.

The rooms at The Irish Cottage are all named after one of the 32

Irish Counties, with many of the hearths inside the suites imported directly from Ireland. Since I have children, I also duly noted the indoor pool and heard from a couple of people that this is a fantastic place to stay for snow getaways at Galena's Chestnut Mountain. *Note to self:* Got to get back for the Christmas season... the most decked out time of the year!

After I checked into our comfortable suite, we headed downstairs to check out Frank O'Dowd's Irish Pub. As I walked into the pub, I felt like I was transported back to Ireland. The most interesting part of the pub was the hidden "snugs," (walled off little rooms anchored at the end of the bar) positioned conveniently close to the bartender. The pub grub was great, the music lively... and the beer... well, what's not to like about a nice cold beer in an Irish pub?

One Eleven Main

After a half pint of Guinness, I headed out to town to grab some dinner and found out that these former Irish immigrants have made their mark on this town. Co-owner of The Irish Cottage, Jack Coulter, decided to join forces with his wife Debbie and open up the restaurant "One Eleven Main" (oneelevenmain.com), right in the heart of Galena. One Eleven Main is not only popular with the tourists, but absolutely loved by the locals. Jack and Debbie have been committed to using only local suppliers. All the meats, vegetables, fruits and everything in between come from the

local towns and farmlands. Local purveyor photos adorn the walls. The food is the freshest and most delicious this side of the Mississippi... and the hospitality, the very finest.

Vinny Vanucci's

With one restaurant a success behind this dynamic husband and wife duo, it seemed natural to open another. Enter Debbie with her Italian Grandmother's recipes and you have Vinny Vanucci's (vinnysgalena.com). If you love Italian food, this is the place. Don't forget to order the garlic bread... it is unforgettable!

Get-aways are always good to recharge your batteries and wind down. But adding the Irish connection when you travel, when you

value your roots, makes it feel like you're coming home. Slainte!

For more information, contact Galena at galena.org.

Colleen Kelly can be contacted through Travel Film Productions at info@travelfilmproductions.com. Please reference Irish American News.

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Irish Books and Plays in Review

Frank West



Let's Lead and Show What's Possible

Fear Not the Storm: The Story of Tom Cullen, an Irish Revolutionary, by Cathal Liam, is an unusual book. Unusual because it is about a man who changed history, but about whom little is known.

Cullen was Michael Collins's Assistant Director of Intelligence. Collins valued him for his competence and loyalty and friendship. He trusted him with his life.

Cullen's life too often hung in the balance during those British, spy-ridden days of Ireland's War for Independence (1916-1921). In his position of Assistant Director of Intelligence, Cullen matched wits with some of Britain's most dangerous spies and ruthless assassins. It was a deadly game of chance and Cullen became a skilled player. One mistake could mean forfeiting his life.

So how does a biographer get information about a person who had to be highly secretive? Author Cathal Liam, solved this problem by writing a 'true life novel.'



In other words, he used the statements of other Irish revolutionaries about events that they say Cullen was at or was involved in.

Cathal has written several acclaimed books about the period of Ireland's War of Independence: *Consumed in Freedom's Flame*, and *Blood on the Shamrock: A novel of Ireland's*

Civil War (1921-1924).

Liam is highly, almost intimately, knowledgeable about this period. Nevertheless, he minutely researched it. The sources and books he consulted fill many pages.

Liam describes what is factually known about persons and events of that ferocious period. A unique feature of this book are the official statements, made years later, to the Irish government. Persons at crucial events say that Cullen was there with them.

A quiet, self-effacing man, Cullen was quite content not to seek praise or credit for events that furthered Ireland's struggle for independence.

Judging from pictures of Cullen, the author estimates he was "about 5' 10" and weighed about 164 pounds. He had a fit, athletic build and likely walked with a confident purposeful gait. Tom's eyes had a sparkle to them and he had, as some would say, an infectious smile reflective of a cheerful disposition. His face as boyishly handsome, even impish at times. It was easy, because he possessed a sense of humour, a positive self-image and an optimistic outlook on life. I further believe he made friends easily."

Many of these traits were certainly assets when engaging in a disarming battle of wits with British secret service agents.

A police detective (who secretly worked for Michael Collins) described Tom Cullen: "He was a handsome man with fresh complexion and sparkling eyes. He was brave as a lion. A very likeable fellow in every way."

He was well liked and respected by his fellow revolutionaries. His optimism and friendliness were much valued, especially when times looked bleak, menacing and fateful.

After the War for Independence, the Free State was established that he had done so much to bring into being.

He served the new Free State as a Major General in it's army.

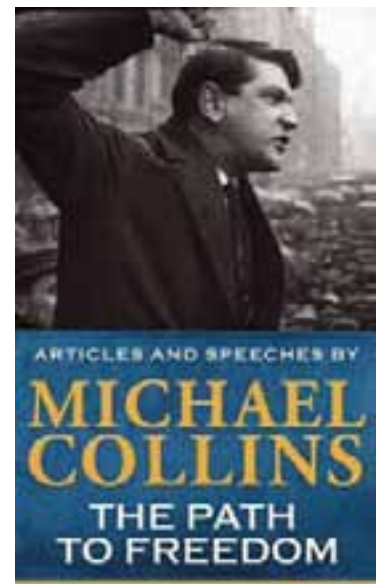
On a vacation with his wife in 1926, this gentle man drowned.

Thanks and

congratulations to Cathal Liam for his devotion to taking this Irish revolutionary out of the shadows of history, and placing him in the light for our admiration.

Fear Not the Storm: The Story of Tom Cullen, An Irish Revolutionary, by Cathal Liam. This and his previous books, are available from the St. Padraic Press in Cincinnati, from amazon.com and book stores. The author will be selling (\$16) and signing books at Chicago's iBAM!, an Irish Books, Arts, and Music Celebration taking place at the Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 N. Knox Ave., Chicago, IL 60630 on November 12, 13, 2011. More info at www.ibamchicago.com.

Ideas for Today



This book shows us Michael Collins' ideas about the golden future he foresaw for Ireland.

His vision was for Ireland to become a modern European country, with separation of church and state, and with a democratically elected parliamentary form of government.

As he said about that future: "It is in the hands of the Irish people themselves."

Collins wanted national prosperity for Ireland. And, to achieve that, he suggested Ireland's leaders learn from the examples of other small countries like Holland, Denmark, and Switzerland.

Collins foresaw the critical need for exports and for fiscal discipline.

Foreign trade must be stimulated by making facilities for the transport and marketing of Irish goods.

Investors must be urged and encouraged to invest Irish capital in Irish concerns.

Taxation, where it hinders, must be adjusted, and must be imposed where the burden will fall lightest, and where it will encourage rather than discourage industry."

This farsighted and noble person was killed during the Irish Civil War.

This was a great loss for Ireland, but his ideas live on.

Michael Collins said, "We have a rich and fertile country—a sturdy and intelligent people. With peace, security and union, no one can foresee the limits of greatness and well being to which our country may aspire."

The Path to Freedom: Articles and Speeches by Michael Collins. Mercier Press and DuFour Editions. info@dufour Editions.com

Influences on Irish Theatre

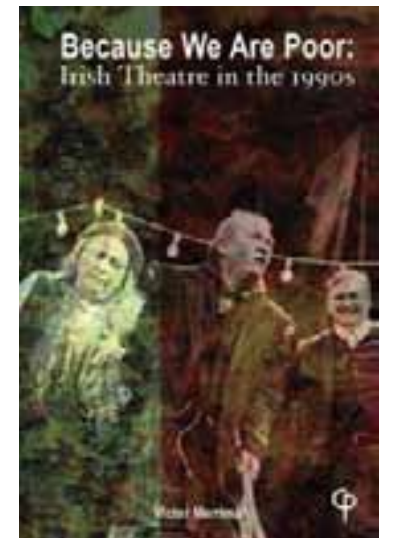
Theatre is a lens that makes visible, aspects of our humanity, the world we live in, and our place in it.

There are many insights about these in this book, however, I don't agree with the author's main theme: Ireland is profoundly influenced by its colonial past.

Long ago, Ireland had been invaded and occupied. But the Irish people never accepted being colonial subjects—conquered, but they didn't become subjects. Witness the rebellions in every generation, rebellious against overwhelming and hopeless odds.

Maybe Martin McDonagh addresses this influence of Ireland's past. His fictional world parodies the rural and small town past.

About that influence, Fintan O'Toole, drama critic for *The Irish Times* says: "The mixture of elements make sense because the country in which McDonagh's plays are set is pre-modern and post-modern at the same time. The 1950's is laid over the



1990's, giving [his] plays the apparent realism, the ghostly dizzying feel of a superimposed photograph. All the elements that make up the picture are real, but *the combined effect is one that questions the very idea of reality itself.*"

Because We Are Poor: Irish Theatre in the 1990's, by Victor Merriam. Carysfort Press and DuFour Editions. info@dufour Editions.com.

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The Irish Rover

By James McClure



Chicago Seminarian Shot Missiles of October

All was quiet on the end of the runway of Key West Naval Air Station while the world contemplated the silent horror of two superpowers going to war over the installation of Soviet nuclear missiles just 90 miles away in Cuba, aimed at much of the United States.

Navy Lieutenant Ed Feeks sat in his Crusader reconnaissance photo jet alongside his wingman ready to take off on a flight into the vortex of the international controversy. And just about everyone knew they were coming.

A few days before, Feeks was in a Navy photo lab as his squadron's first closeup photos showed the clear evidence of the missile buildup. "I remember the next day seeing Adlai Stevenson on television at the U.N. showing that same photo to the world," Feeks recalls.

Now on a silent airfield Feeks was prepared to take his own pictures, the first of four flights during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Easily within radio range of Cuba, the air station ceased all flight operations and radio traffic to avoid tipping off the Russians and Cubans awaiting their arrival at the photo target.

A quiet green light flashed from the control tower above the waving palm fronds and 85 degree temperature. Two jets roared to take-off thrust in the tropical heat on the tarmac across bay from Key West's North Roosevelt Avenue. "The puckering factor was pretty high," says Feeks, especially on his first flight into danger.

If the events of one's life flash before the mind's eye at such times, Feeks may well have thought back through the roar of the takeoff to the winter roar of a Chicago January a dozen years earlier when he was a seminarian attending Maryknoll College in Glen Ellyn. "We used to get a couple of Chicago days in January when we'd take the train to the city," the great grandson of Irish immigrants thought back. "It was the longest walk from the school to the railroad station—we were freezing our tails off!"

From crossing Roosevelt Road in frigid January 1951 to the moment of leaping off the baking noontime runway near Roosevelt Avenue in October, 1962 the only cold thought may have been the cold sweat of a 15 minute flight into the "imprisoned island" and the possibility of meeting small arms fire, anti-aircraft guns



Navy Lieutenant Ed Feeks

Cuba to enter into the southwest portion on a planned route over San Julian," Feeks says.

To say the two jets, flying side by side as a "section," were exposed was an understatement. Streaking from the ocean across the land mass the fighter jets turned photo thieves had no missiles, no guns, no bombs. "The only thing we had was speed, but you had to fly subsonic going in to navigate well."

The point of the precise navigation? Finding the quickest path in and out with the least exposure in order to "get the hell in and get the hell out!" emphasizes Feeks. "We flew our planned route and at 'feet dry' we're only at about two to three hundred feet altitude. We went low and fast and increased our speed overland until about a mile from the target we popped up over a thousand feet and snapped our pictures as we flew over."

On Feeks' first flight that would be an airfield where Russians and Cubans were unpacking new bombers from crates. Later flights would include suspected missile sites and other key military targets should war break out. "The heart rate increases a little bit," says Feeks of the experience, along with the relief exiting Cuba to find U.S. Navy fighter jets awaiting the two darting and zooming "Fighting Photo" jets rocketing through the sound barrier into a safe journey back home.

"Breaking radio silence and going to max (thrust) as you see fellow Navy fighters who are telling you no one is on your tail is a very reassuring experience," Feeks adds.

A month later, Feeks' squadron, VFP-62, would receive a special Irish American visitor who would fly in on a brand new Boeing 707 known as Air Force One. A wide photo of the scene shows President John Fitzgerald Kennedy giving the first peacetime unit commendation to the men of Feeks' squadron, and the Distinguished Flying Cross to the pilots.

On the left side you see the tallest pilot, Six-foot- One inch Edmond Michael Feeks standing at attention in the Florida sunshine, a long way from his Chicago seminary, and a moment's breadth from a little known part in world history. The father of six, and grandfather of a Marine just returned from combat in Afghanistan, resides with his wife in Jacksonville today as a retired Captain, enjoying warm Florida breezes far removed from the Cold War.

E-mail Jim McClure at IrishRoverJim@aol.com.

or even anti-air missiles.

"Taking off from Key West we stayed closed to the deck, about 100 to 200 feet to avoid radar. We hooked around



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Crystal Ball Gazing

A favourite story of mine occurs in various forms but is usually attributed to a character in Islamic folklore, Nasruddin. The story concerns a man who has offended or outraged a king and is ordered to be put to death. He pleads for his life and tells the king that, if spared for a year he will teach the king's horse to talk. The king accepts the offer but promises a worse death one year on if the man fails to deliver.

The man is upbraided by his friends for his foolishness. He responds: "I have gained a year. In that year I might die. The king might die. The horse might die. The king might change his mind. And who knows... I might even teach the horse to talk." The moral being that much can happen in a year. The corollary is that forecasting what will happen can be difficult.

Take the Irish Presidential election. By the time you read this Ireland will have a new President. With seven candidates and given our quirky electoral system, the race at this stage is too close to call. It has been fascinating. The last two Presidents have, with style and energy, transformed a role that is largely ceremonial, raising the stakes for all candidates this time round. The attempt by Sinn Fein to supplant Fianna Fail as the major opposition force by running its strongest candidate, Martin McGuinness, has added to the contest.

Indeed who wins is just one of the interesting aspects of the campaign. The results, including the voting transfers between the candidates, will be studied closely to see whether the remarkable outcome of the general election last February was a once-off or whether it marked a sea-change in Irish politics. Together with the accompanying by-election—to fill the seat vacated by Brian Lenihan's death (what had been Fianna Fail's only seat left in Dublin)—the Presidential poll gives the first opportunity to stocktake. There are signs that the Teflon coating on the new government is starting to crack with its room for manoeuvre circumscribed by the IMF as the first painful budget approaches.

Certainly there is a new volatility among a large section of the Irish electorate, a willing-

ness to be ultra-critical and to "throw the bums out" if they are perceived to have failed to deliver. In February this led to a collapse in the Fianna Fail

vote, with much of its traditional support seceding along class lines, middle class to Fine Gael, working class to Labour, republicans to Sinn Fein.

Since then Fianna Fail has signally failed to recover and has seen its support decline further in the polls, culminating in its decision not to contest the Presidential election. In vain has the party leadership pointed out that the new government is doing little beyond following the Fianna Fail blueprint for economic recovery. So far the electorate has seen through that one—the programme for recovery, negotiated with EU and IMF guns to the head, would never have been necessary in the first place had Fianna Fail not wrecked the economy.

Fianna Fail now faces a challenge for its self-proclaimed Republican soul, this time in a head to head with Sinn Fein, which is also stealing what is left of its populist quasi left-wing appeal. It can do nothing about it as it still tarred with the brush of economic mismanagement as well as the harsh programme of recovery. The omens do not appear good. Already some analysts are drawing analogies with what happened in Northern Ireland, where Sinn Fein has shouldered aside the SDLP.

Sinn Fein has a formidable party machine and a hard-headed leadership. And, it should not be forgotten, two decades ago a sizeable rump of the political wing of the Official IRA began the odyssey that led to membership of a government coalition (as the Democratic Left), before eventually merging with the Labour Party, where it soon took over leadership. Could this process be about to be repeated, *ceteris paribus*?

Lest we forget, however, these events in Ireland have a slightly "phoney war" feel to them. They are

taking place against the background of on-going uncertainty in the international economy. We have our own problems, and we are grappling with them. Indeed we've earned brownie points for being the good guys and taking our medicine within the EU, unlike the Greeks. The current popular line is that Ireland will be well placed to take advantage of the world economic recovery, when it comes. In one form or another all the political parties buy into this line.

Whether we can deal with the debt mountain tends to be glossed over, or, in a classic example of doublethink, our debt is dismissed as being something that will be subsumed in the new arrangements to follow a realignment of the world financial situation. This may well be, but there seems little or no appreciation of, and certainly no informed debate on, the collateral damage for Ireland that any such realignment would entail or, indeed of the type of catastrophic global economic situation which would necessitate such a realignment.

The Left, with Sinn Fein as cheerleader in chief, has embraced with enthusiasm the localised alternative of a national debt default. This tends to be viewed through Micawberish spectacles, an approach reinforced, up to now, by the perceived pussyfooting approach of the EU heavy hitters to the struggles of Greece actually to implement a rolling programme of austerity. The grim reality of what was involved for ordinary people when Argentina defaulted, or when the Russian economy collapsed, has had little airing here. What happened in a remote country far away could never happen to Ireland! Sadly, it could.

Here again crystal ball gazing can prove difficult. The international economy may well go into meltdown. As the cliché would have it we are now in uncharted waters. And if the world economy

does collapse the next generation of economic commentators and pundits will point to the events of the last three years—since Lehman collapsed—and will conclude that the signs were there for all to see, that there was a sequence of events almost teleological in nature which brought about the collapse. Frankly the only things clear at the moment are that the future is a hidden book and that the major political leaders worldwide are agreed only on their fear of the unknown and what the future may bring.

Much can happen in a year. Greece may well default over the next twelve months, in a process that began earlier and with consequences that will long persist. Ireland seems to have bottomed out economically in some respects but the when and how of recovery is contingent on many factors. We may get a helping hand - Eurobonds or a common Eurozone debt have been talked about. So has a fundamental restructuring of the Euro and the EU constitution itself. There are even references to how the young USA launched the Dollar in 1790. What will happen? Who can tell? The political obstacles to surmount seem almost as formidable as teaching a horse to talk.

Congratulations!

Irish American News columnist Sean Farrell's son, Sean Farrell, Jr., recently became a barrister, specialising in criminal law.

We wish him all the best in his future career. Congratulations to the entire family!

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pH Factor

By Pat Hickey



“May your troubles be as few and as far apart as my Granny’s teeth.”
—An Old Irish Toast

“You can major in communications in college, but it’s better to learn it by six or seven.” —Leo Alum Paul Kelly

“I applied for admission at Leo, because it was easy to spell.” —An anonymous Alumnus - now a \$ 500 an hour PC lawyer

Leo High School is home to captains of industry, military heroes, sports legends, men of the cloth, civil servants, and four of the funniest men in America. On Saturday, November 19th at 8pm, the Beverly Arts Center will roar with humor sparked by Four Lions of Laughter. Chicago’s own Paul

Kelly, Bill “Soups” Campbell, Kenny Howell and John Caponera will give one night tutorial on Stand Up Comedy. Each gifted man entered the crucible of high school years, through the portals of Leo High School.

18th Century Wit Joseph Addison wrote that laughter is “the bringing

together of images which have contrary additional ideas...” Seeing the ordinary in an extraordinary way is the essence of wit and humor. My all time favorite joke that never fails to get me giggling like the class jerk runs, “An elegantly dressed woman walks into a loud crowded bar with a mallard under her arm. The bartender shouts above the din and roar, ‘Hey where’d you get the pig?’

The grand dame frostily replies with dignity, ‘This is a Canadian Mallard, you lout... a duck.’ The bartender waxes chastened... for a moment, while the noisy bar quiets and awaits his snappy rejoinder. ‘I know, Toots, I was I talking to the duck!’”

Some days, it takes every ounce of human will to manage a smile. Thank God for the people in our company who not only coax the corners of our mouths heavenward, but also squeeze the bladders of our humors so hard that not only laughter gushes forth, but every muscle is taxed to keep human fluids where they belong.

The four Leo Lions of Laughter are as different as our senses and sensibilities. In the halls, classrooms, locker rooms and on the sidewalks around Leo High School humor helps students, staff and parents get through the day. Four gentlemen Lions took those magic moments with them into careers that keep us laughing and seeing the world through rosier lenses.

John Caponera is not only a great Canaryville Wit (tall task that, in itself), but a spot-on mimic. John Caponera has enjoyed a brilliant and well received life as a comic on television sitcoms, commercials and the club circuit. Witness John doing Harry Caray: <http://www.youtube.com/embed/Q83zNXhMLqk>

Bill “Soups” Campbell, now settled in Boston, MA, offers a family friendly cerebral consideration of laughter: <http://www.youtube.com/embed/W2mq3cSAF2U>

The youngest and the edgiest of

the four Lions of Laughter is Kenny Howell. Kenny has comic chops honed sharp and is introduced by comic legends everywhere: <http://www.youtube.com/embed/gVtJV5ahy4g>

Beverly Stand Up Stand out Paul Kelly, known as the comic laureate of Chicago, is known for his offbeat perspective and a unique physical style. Audiences see themselves in his hilarious real life routines. Paul is a master story teller and a quick ad-libber. He is the winner of the WGN Comedy Bowl and is proud to have a bratwurst sandwich named after him.

The *Chicago Tribune* recognized Paul Kelly’s genius—“A lot of comics know what they’re going to say before they get on stage, but I don’t,” added Kelly, who said he likes to start a show by “spritzing” (Yiddish for making it up as you go along). ”

“I try to clear my mind of all thought before I get started,” said Kelly. “I have routines I do over and over again, but I’m always looking for the optimum way to do them. I believe in something James Wesley Jackson (a *Chicago comic*) once told me. He said, ‘Being a comedian is not the study of what makes people laugh but the study of the laughter itself.’”

“I want to get to the laughter that comes from way down inside,” added Kelly. “I don’t do a lot of snappy one-liners because I want the laughter that comes out of a relationship or an emotion. Why sit around trying to think up jokes? Simple everyday reality is funnier.”

Much of Kelly’s stage persona came from growing up a *South Side Irish Catholic*. “I come from a family that had a lot of humor,” said Kelly, whose sister Elizabeth Dadd of Los Angeles married another standup comic, Terry Dadd.

After graduating from Leo High School in 1966, he saw a different view of the world when he attended Michigan State University in East Lansing. “The main thing that was shocking to me when I first left the South Side was finding out that St. Patrick’s Day was not a day off from school,” said Kelly, whose

family used to celebrate the holiday at St. Sabina Catholic Church.

Paul Kelly was the Mixmaster of the Lions of Laughter and helped Leo Alums, John Gardner - Alumni President, Bob Standing, and Mike Nix - Director the Beverly Arts Center, Public Relations Mogul Bill Figel and Leo President Dan McGrath offer a night of laughs and love for Leo High School.

This Stand-up, Knock-down, Drag-Up howl fest begins at 8pm in the Beverly Arts Center on Saturday Night, November 19th.



**Lions of Laughter:
A Night of Comedy with
Leo H.S. Grads,
John Caponera, Kenny Howell,
Soups Campbell & Paul Kelly
at the Beverly Art Center
2407 West 111th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60655
8pm, November 19th, 2011
Tickets:\$40 in advance; \$50 at the door**

All proceeds from this evening’s entertainment will benefit Leo High School. All the fun and laughter begins with you, gets better as the evening progresses and keeps getting better.

Tickets Available at Beverly Arts Center; call 773-445-3838, or buy them on-line www.beverlyartcenter.org/

Drop by Leo High School at 7901 S. Sangamon Street, or call -773-224-9600, or from a Leo Graduate with a wad of them in his mitts.

For added ease, join the Leo High School Family in honoring our Veterans on Friday November 4th at 11am for the Annual Leo Veterans Observances in the courtyard War Memorial on 79th Street.

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The James Liddy Papers at UWM

By Bob Jaeger

The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM) Archives Department is pleased to announce the opening of the James Liddy Papers. The collection contains the writings of a world-renowned Irish-American poet and former UWM professor.



James Liddy was born in Dublin, Ireland in 1959, Liddy attended law school. However, poetry was never

greany, Co. Wexford. His father, James, was also born in Ireland and worked as a dispensary doctor. His mother, Clare, was born to Irish parents in New York. After earning his Master’s degree in English from National University of

far from his mind, and he soon turned to his passion.

Liddy studied under Patrick Kavanagh and was influenced by other Irish writers like James Joyce and W.B. Yeats. Other influences included Charles Baudelaire, Walt Whitman, Jack Spicer, and Beat poets such as Jack Kerouac.

In 1963, Liddy co-edited the literary magazine *Arena* in Dublin with Liam O’Connor and Michael Harnett. Only four issues were produced.

Continued on Page 26...

Irish Times to Celebrate 20th Anniversary November 18-19

Twenty years ago an adventurous Irishman from Co. Galway arrived in Brookfield to look at a closed down pizza parlor, south of the tracks across from the BNSF Chicago to Aurora Metra station. Martin Cosgrave, who owned the popular pub "Molly Malone's" in Oak Lawn at the time, was impressed by the building and location, but uncertain about the prospect of opening an Irish bar in an area, that at that time had a relatively small Irish community. However he signed on the dotted line, and so began the journey that has made The Irish Times the most beloved Irish bar and restaurant in the western suburbs.

The early years were challenging, but Martin was a creative operator and gradually business improved, aided by an authentic Irish menu and a fine selection of Irish whiskeys and beers, served with a wink and a smile by the skillful and welcoming staff. The interior evolved into a warm, richly decorated space sprinkled with treasures ranging from Charles Vickery seascapes to ornate eclectic pieces harvested from places as far away as Ireland, to the neighboring Antique stores. Under the stewardship of Galway man, Michael Conneely, who managed and ran the Irish Times for almost 10 years, The Peter Cosgrave room was added in addition to Phelan's Cove and The Cottage, now the first choice for parties of all kinds.

In 2011, The Irish Times continues to prosper and expand under new owner, Martin Lynch, nephew to the founder. A native of Athenry, Co. Galway, who purchased the property and business in 2008, Martin brings youth, energy and an appreciation of the role of technology in developing the modern restaurant and bar. Under Martin the food and beer menus have expanded, with great daily specials like Monday night's \$5 1/2-lb. Angus Burgers. The Friday night All-U-Can-Eat Fish-Fry remains the most popular weekly event. The annual Guinness Oyster Fest, Halloween costume party, Superbowl party, New Years Eve, St. Patrick's week events and summer Pig roasts continue to set new records and standards each year, and the quarterly village wide "Trolley Nights" are hugely popular and bring people from near and far to enjoy them all.

Martin's goal is to oversee the improvement of the Irish Times experience for the benefit of all its loyal customers and to make new

friends along the way. Named after Ireland's most highly thought of newspaper, Martin intends to make his establishment the most highly thought of Irish pub and restaurant in the Chicago area.

The Irish Times celebrates its 20th anniversary this year, and everyone is invited to celebrate with owner

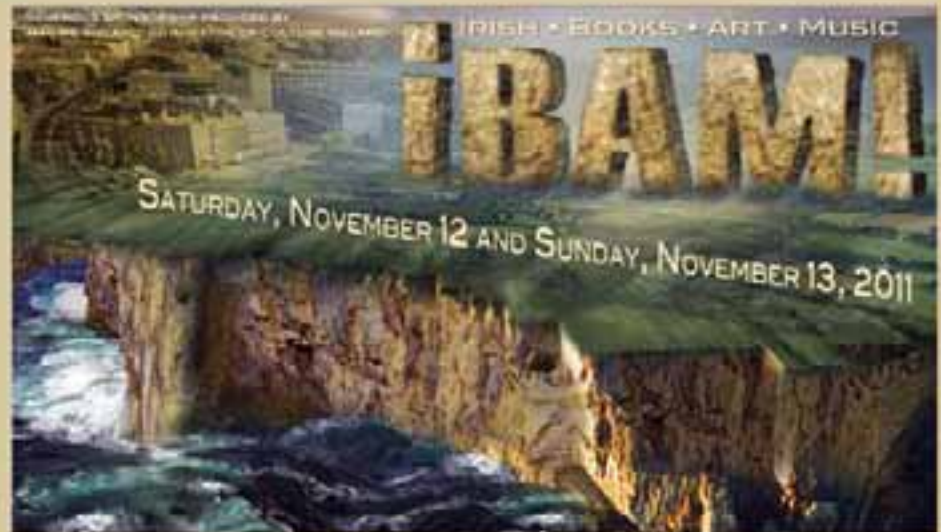


Martin Lynch and his friendly, hardworking staff on the weekend of the 18th and 19th of November 2011. This month's events will commemorate two decades of this landmark establishment. There will be live Music all weekend with some of the best musicians and talent Ireland has to offer. Friday the 18th kicks off the party with Paddy Homan and friends from 9:30pm and

on Sat. the 19th there will be Irish Dancers from 8pm followed by live music with Kara Eadie and Gerry Haughey. All are welcome for what is sure to be a memorable weekend and a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and make some new ones!

Find us on Facebook at – Irish Times, or on the web at www.IrishTimesPubChicago.com. Ph. 708-485-8787 or email us Martin@IrishTimesPubChicago.com. Irish Times, 8869 Burlington Ave, Brookfield, IL 60513.

iBAM! Chicago 2011 November 12 -13



Over 100 Authors, Musicians, & Artists
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One of the Finest Line-ups Ever Assembled in America!

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Authors - Frank Delaney, Chris Binchy, Kevin Barry, Glenn Patterson, Claire Kilroy, Mary O'Donoghue, Belinda McKeon, Joseph Woods, Eugene O'Connell, Brian Turner, Vincent Woods, Patrick Taylor, John Hoban, David Lynch, Patricia Falvey, Rita Emmett, Kevin O'Hara, Cathal Liam, Mary Pat Kelly, John O'Brien, Jerry O'Neill, Cynthia Neale, Joan McBreen, John Kenny, Dolores Whelan, Monica Dougherty, Sandra McCone, Arthur Cola, Michael Fallaw, Francis Boyle, Conor Cunneen, Eoghain Hamilton, Paul Bauer, Mark Dawidziak, Jack O'Keefe, Eric Johnson, Mary Kanak

Artists - Dancers - Theatre Art: Jennifer Allen, Elizabeth Cope, Cindy Mayti
Theatre: Smock Alley Theater, ShawChicago, Azusa Productions, and Seanachai Theatre
Dance: Brian Cunningham and Family

Gala Awards Dinner November 11th

Honoring the Outstanding Contributions of:

Maeve Binchy; Literature, Mark Howard; Performing Arts, John David Mooney; Visual Arts, Maurice Lennon; Music, and Fr. Andrew Greeley; Person of the Year
Gala Dinner Tickets (\$125 non-members, \$100 members of the Irish American Heritage Center)
708-445-0700, or 773-282-7035 ext 13 or online www.ibamchicago.com
Daily Tickets \$10 in advance (thru November 10) \$15 at the door
Special Hotel Rates at the Holiday Inn Express O'Hare, at www.ibamchicago.com



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Culture is Alive at Third Annual iBAM! Celebration

More than 100 Irish and Irish-themed authors, artists and musicians will participate in celebration of Irish Books, Art and Music

The third annual Irish Books Art and Music celebration; iBAM! comes to the Center this November. This year's theme is Handing Down the Tradition.

A fundraiser for the Center and its Library, iBAM! is Saturday, November 12 and Sunday, November 13 and opens each day at 11am.

iBAM! is a 2-day Irish cultural celebration that brings together as many as 100 authors, artists and musicians from North America and Ireland. The celebration features art and museum exhibits, panel discussions, poetry readings and competitions, a literary salon with author readings and music, live music, theater, dance performances and children's activities, all under one roof. Authors will sign and sell their books each day from noon-5pm. During the day and into the evening there will be live music performances with Irish musicians from Ireland and all over North America.

The cost to attend iBAM! is \$10 in advance each day and \$15 each day at the door. Two-day passes are available for \$20. Children 12 and under are free.

Festivities kick off at 11am daily, with a full Irish Breakfast and live entertainment. The breakfast is \$12 for adults and \$6 for children and tickets can be purchased at the door. Food and drink will be served all day and places to relax and enjoy a cup of tea or a refreshing pint while reading your new purchases will be everywhere!

Confirmed participants include:

Authors: Frank Delaney (Sunday only), Chris Binchy, Claire Kilroy, Glenn Patterson, Rita Emmett, Kevin O'Hara, Mary O'Donoghue, Belinda McKeon, John Kenny, Joseph Woods,

Joan McBreen, Cynthia Neale, Vincent Woods, Patrick Taylor, Kevin Barry, John Hoban, David Lynch, Mary Pat Kelly,

Jerry O'Neill, Patricia Falvey, Cathal Liam, John Francis O'Brien Jr., Monica Dougherty, Dolores Whelan, Arthur Cola, Sandra McCone, Brian Turner, Michael Fallaw, Eoghain Hamilton, Francis A. Boyle, Eugene O'Connell, Conor Cunneneen, Mary Terese Kanak, Paul Bauer and Mark Dawidziak, Flipside Works/Celtic Mor, National Folklore Collection, Midfield National School and Jack O'Keefe

Poetry: Joan McBreen (Sunday only), Jerry O'Neill, John Francis O'Brien Jr., Eugene O'Connor

Music: Dr. Larry McCullough, Jimmy Keane, Maurice and Ben Lennon, Jackie Daly, Matt Cranitch, Mick Moloney, Paul de Grae, Liz Carroll, Dennis Cahill and Martin Hayes, Ciara Walton, John Hoban, Patrick and Karen Cook-Cannady, father and son Cormac and Johnny McCarthy, Chicago Reel, Patrick Quinn, the Dooley Brothers, Aislinn Gagliardi, Sheila Doorley-Bracken, Pat Finnegan, The Broken Pledge Ceili Band, the Academy of Irish Music, the Irish Heritage Singers, Gerry and Kevin Carey, Joe O'Shea, Mike O'Shea, Noel Rice, Cathleen Rice-Halliburton and Kevin Rice

Exhibits: *The Life and Works of William Butler Yeats* from the National Library of Ireland in Dublin

The exhibition, which has been described in



Irish Times as "one of the most important literary exhibitions yet staged internationally," opened to unanimous acclaim on May

25, 2006. Since then, more than 100,000 people of all ages and nationalities have delighted in exploring the multimedia rich experience of this award-winning exhibition.

Wake Amusements from University College Cork Wake Amusements, an exhibition organized by Curator Mark Packer from the Lewis Glucksmann Gallery, University College Cork, Ireland. The exhibition features artist books by 12 contemporary Irish artists who use the book format as a space of display, investigation and interaction. Adopting the title of 'wake amusements', and drawing reference to the jovial funerary practices that were an Irish folk tradition until the turn of the 20th century, the books have been selected to reflect the theme of enlivening the dead as applied to people, places and objects. Mr. Packer will also be at iBAM! to speak about the exhibit.

Artists: The Cope Family; Elizabeth Cope, mother, oil and acrylic paintings - Reuben Cope, son, video installations; Jennifer Allen - White pencil drawings; Chicago Calligraphy Collective, and Photographer James Fraher

Dance: The Cunningham Family, Sean N6s dancers from Connemara

Theater: Performances by Seanachai Theatre Company, ShawChicago, Smock Alley and Azusa Productions

Food: Celebrity Chef Rachel Gaffney

On Friday, November 11, kick off the weekend with a celebration of the contributions of the Irish in the arts with the iBAM! Gala Awards Dinner, with Master of Ceremonies, Fox Chicago's Mike Flannery. The gala is a black-tie optional dinner in the IAHC's beautiful Erin Ballroom and includes a strolling cocktail reception on the IAHC's second floor Arts Wing. Dinner includes live music and the annual iBAM! Cultural Arts Awards, where five individuals will be honored for their outstanding contributions to Irish American culture.

The 2011 iBAM! awardees are:

Music: Maurice Lennon, world-class Irish fiddle player

Performing Arts: Artistic Director Mark Howard of Trinity Irish Dance Company

Visual Arts: John David Mooney, Chicago artist and arts philanthropist

Literature: Writer Maeve Binchy

Person of the Year: Father Andrew Greeley, Roman Catholic priest, sociologist, journalist and fiction writer

The dinner also features a cocktail reception from 7pm to 8pm and dinner follows at 8pm. The cost is \$100 for IAHC members and \$125 for general admission. Reservations are required. Proceeds from the dinner benefit cultural programming at the IAHC.

To purchase tickets, call the IAHC at 773-282-7035 or visit www.ibamchicago.com. Note: There is a surcharge for tickets purchased through the website.

With the generous support of Imagine Ireland, an initiative of Culture Ireland, iBAM! is co-produced by The Irish American Heritage Center, *Irish American News*, and the *IrishBookClub.com*.

Irish Heritage Singers Take A Journey Home For Fall Concert

The Irish Heritage Singers present their annual fundraising concert, *A Journey Home* this November. The Singers' Choir Director is Ciara Walton.

The group will be joined by musicians Sean Cleland on fiddle, Cormac McCarthy on piano and classically-trained Celtic Soprano Emma-Kate Tobia.

A Journey Home takes the audience on an Irish emigrant's journey through a repertoire of Sean N6s

songs (old style) in the Irish language, music by Stephen Foster, George M. Cohan and also features some of the best known traditional Irish airs.

The Singers perform traditional Irish and Irish-American music including songs and music by contemporary Irish choral composers. To date, the Singers is one of the very few Irish/Irish American Choral ensembles in the United States. They have performed at Chicago's Newberry Library, the Chicago Cultural Center, the Sligo

International Choral Festival, Celtic Fest Chicago, Milwaukee Irish Fest and for two Presidents of Ireland.

Emma-Kate Tobia is a classically-trained soprano who melds her pure lyrical voice with the timeless melodies of her Irish heritage.

A Journey Home is Sunday, November 20, at 2pm. Tickets are \$15 for IAHC Members and \$18 for general admission. To purchase tickets, call 773-282-7035, ext 10.



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President's Message

As we approach the holiday season, we give thanks for all we have been so fortunate to receive. The Center has been blessed this year with:

- The Irish American Hall of Fame
- An unparalleled iBAM! program
- The new Kids' Shamrock Club
- Dedicated Board of Directors
- Outstanding committees, committee chairs and event chairs

- Increased membership
- Increased Erin Room utilization
- Dedicated and loyal staff members
- Energized volunteers
- Talented Irish Heritage Singers
- Well-run Library and Genealogy center
- Fascinating cultural committee events
- Financial strengthening
- Tireless building committee

• Nimble Thimbles, who will assist with our Christmas Bazaar

We ask that you consider the Center in your holiday giving. By now, you have received information on the



- Annual Raffle
- And shortly, the Membership Renewal

We also ask you to bless us with your attendance at

- The Christmas Bazaar
- Our third annual iBAM! Festival
- Irish Heritage Singers fall concert, *A Journey Home*

And, I ask you to attend our town hall meetings. I promised you a members' culture and transparency. Our first Town Hall Meeting

will be on November 10th at 7pm in the Auditorium. There is room for all. I would like you, your ideas and your suggestions there.

Finally, I ask that you visit our Wish List box below. Each month, we will ask you to help us. Please take a look and see if you can help us with any items on this list.

Is there a better feeling than giving of yourself?

John Gorski
President

Wish List

We wish all members would:

- Give to the Annual Appeal
- Buy a Annual Raffle ticket
- Renew their memberships
- Volunteer
- Attend iBAM!

Visit a Winter Wonderland at the Holiday Bazaar

Get into the spirit with the Holiday Bazaar and Bake Sale at the Center.

The annual event is Sunday, December 4, from 9am to 3pm and includes mass, a breakfast, craft sale, bake sale, sing along and caroling and visit from Santa Claus. The Fifth Province Pub will be open from noon until 6pm.

Mass is celebrated in the auditorium at 10:30 a.m. with music



by the Irish Heritage Singers and a traditional Irish breakfast follows in the Erin Room. The cost for the breakfast is \$8 for adults and \$4 for children and reservations are required. There is no charge to browse and shop the craft and bake sale.

Holiday shoppers can browse the bazaar, where there will be a craft sale from Chicago artisans and an Irish-American quilt will be raffled off. There will be an

instant raffle with prizes from each of the day's vendors and local Irish import stores. The Fifth Province and first floor will be transformed into a Winter Wonderland, with trees and festive decorations, courtesy of the Nimble Thimbles.

The Jolly Holly Bake Shop sells tea, coffee, homemade pies, bread, scones, cakes and cookies. Santa Claus visits from 1-3pm and will pose for photos with each child.

For more information on the bazaar, or to purchase tickets call the Center office at 773-282-7035, ext. 10, by December 1st, or fill out the order form below and mail in with your check to the IAHC office.

Shamrock Kids Club Thanksgiving Dinner

Parents, bring your kids to the Shamrock Kids Club Thanksgiving Dinner in the Fifth Province.

The party includes a Thanksgiving dinner, kids-style, with turkey slices, mashed potatoes and more for the whole family! Kids can make crafts, such as pilgrim hats and headdresses and listen to live music. Come and gobble up the fun!

The Shamrock Kids

Thanksgiving Party is Friday, November 18 at 6pm and the cost is



\$4 per child for IAHC members and \$5 per child for general admission.

Reservations can be made by calling 773-282-7035, ext. 10.

You can also call the above number for more information on the Shamrock Kids Club. This club is a way for kids ages 6-12 to learn about their heritage in a fun way and for families to socialize with each other.

Stone Hearth Series Brings One Act Plays with Brunch

The Center continues its Sunday brunch/theatre series, The Stone Hearth Staged Reading Series, this November.

Each month, a cast of professional actors perform staged readings of Irish one-act plays in the Fifth Province Pub following an Irish brunch. On each date, brunch is served from noon to 1pm and performances begin at 1pm.



The November 6 performance is *Bed-time Story* by Sean O'Casey, directed by Si Osborne. The cast features Geoff

Rice, Lise "Kat" Evans, Wendy Robie and Gabe Franken.

Tickets for the brunch/theatre package are \$25 for IAHC members and \$30 for non-members.

Reservations are necessary, as September and October were SOLD OUT. To purchase tickets, call the IAHC office at 773-282-7035, ext 10 or visit www.irish-american.org.

Christmas Mass and Old Fashioned Breakfast Celebration

December 4, 2011

Please place order by December 1st

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Number of Tickets:

Adults _____ Children _____

Mail with check to:

IAHC
4626 North Knox Avenue
Chicago, IL 60630
Attn: Breakfast





THE HERITAGE LINE

Irish American Heritage Center

Chicago, Illinois



WWW.IRISH-AMERICAN.ORG

Staff Message *(Each month, a member of the IAHC Staff will write a message.)*

Just amazing! Walking the halls here at the Center with every room filled to capacity, it is amazing to see first-hand the fulfillment, not only of the mission to promote and educate about Irish heritage, but also the amazing sense of volunteerism and community spirit.

The night before I wrote this there was a benefit for Liam Kelly, a young child with cancer in our beautiful Erin Room. It seemed the entire town turned up in droves to help this child, but my favorite was Maureen O'Looney of the Irish radio show who remembers me as a "wee lad in knickers." On the elevator going up to help with the bar, the volunteer elevator attendant asked "What floor?" and a man replied in the most beautiful voice "Two, please." Now, I had never met the world-class Irish tenor Anthony Kearns, but I put two and two together and introduced myself to be delighted to meet such a kind fellow getting ready to perform in our Auditorium.

Turning the corner, the MaSamba group in from Dublin were packing away instruments and I spotted Joe

Cullen loading in gear to perform in the Fifth Province. Right behind him I see Fast Eddie, another great entertainer, loading in to play a birthday party and not far behind, Johnny Gleeson loading in to play the monthly Roscommon Club dance in the McGinty room. The next trip I see pipers Pat Cannady and Tommy Martin getting ready to play the Pipers Tionol concert with world class musicians Liz Carroll, Brendan McKinney, Kevin Henry and Sean Gavin of Bua in the house. Add in three or four birthday and office parties, I could only think; just amazing. To think that this was all built by volunteers and still upgraded constantly by John O'Malley and company; just amazing. To see the wealth of knowledge in the organization doled out in increments by the likes of Tom Boyle; just amazing. The Nimble Thimbles quilting and making presents to be sold at the Christmas Bazaar; just amazing. To see the constant state of driven goals



like Mike Boyle selling Margo O'Donnell tickets to benefit St. Patrick's Fathers; just amazing. To see and hear the constant vibe of Irish dance and music schools, Irish language classes, genealogy, Thursday night sessions with Sean Cleland, ceili dancing with John O'Grady on

Friday nights, Seanachai and the Stone Hearth theater series and Golden Diners; just amazing. To see the hard work and dedication of staff like Sheila Murphy in the pub and Barb Malone cooking the stew to make it all happen; just amazing. To see the efforts of the cultural and iBAM! committees with the likes of Frank Gleeson; just amazing. In short, it is just amazing to be a part of this great endeavor. Oh, if you want to book a wedding or party, give me a call or just stop in for a pint... All the best.

Kevin O'Kennedy
Director of Events and Operations

Annual Raffle

It's time again for the Annual Raffle at the IAHC. Just 500 tickets will be sold!

We ask you to support this most important fundraiser for the Center. All proceeds from the raffle are used to support our many programs and to complete the renovation of the Center.

TOGETHER WE CAN REACH OUR GOAL!

PRIZES:	
FIRST PRIZE	\$ 10,000
SECOND PRIZE	\$ 2,000
THIRD PRIZE	\$ 1,000

FOURTH PRIZE (4) \$ 500
Join us at the drawing on Sunday, December 4 at 3pm, following the Annual Christmas Bazaar. You need not be present to win.

Tickets are available from the Center office by calling (773) 282-7035, extension 10. You can also mail checks to the IAHC or stop by to purchase tickets.

If you would like to join the Raffle Committee, call Chuck Grant at 773-551-1924.

Fifth Province News

Join us for our new special Friday night Fish Fry each week in the Fifth Province from 6-8p, beginning November 18.

It's All You Can Eat! The meal features fish and chips and cole slaw. The cost is \$11 for IAHC Members and \$12 for general admission. Become a member the night of the fry and enjoy the members' price.

- Wednesday is Darts Pick Up Night
- Every Wednesday night, join us for the Dart Challenge.
- Members Culture

Membership is a key part of the IAHC foundation. Our members are important and we show that gratitude by including the following with all memberships:

A Fifth Province discount of \$1 off all meals.

Have Your Special Event at the IAHC

Rent the Erin Room

The perfect wedding venue

Room includes full bar service and catering available, a sound system and stage and free parking for hundreds of cars.

Rent One of Our Function Rooms

Having a birthday, anniversary, union meeting, benefit, retirement dinner, graduation, Christmas party or office party? Our rooms accommodate:

Erin Room-300
Ceili Room-100

Seanachie Room-120
Room 304-50

McGinty Room-120
Fifth Province-200

Rent Our Auditorium

Our Auditorium seats 658 and can host your school function, play, concert or assembly. To schedule a visit, call Kevin O'Kennedy, Director of Events and Operations at 773-282-7035, ext. 21.



Member You Should Know... Brian Shea Why? He's all about education!

Brian Shea, a third-generation Irish-American (Kelly on his mom's side, originally O'Shea on his father's) and a native of Massachusetts, is a weekly volunteer in the IAHC library. He and his family became members after learning more about what the Center had to offer. Shea's overall favorite parts of the Center are the cultural events, such as the lectures, movies, plays and iBAM!. Shea says he is constantly amazed at just how much the original and long-term volunteers and staff have accomplished. He says, "I've never seen anything like it - what a debt we all owe them. If those of us trying to follow in their footsteps can do half as good a job, we'll be doing very well indeed."

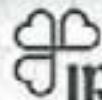
Shea works with his fellow volunteers to make the library better for everyone; most of all, he enjoys seeing the Irish classes meet, the Irish book club with Virginia Gibbons, and helping people to use the collections for an upcoming presentation, or just their own personal reading interests. Of course, he says, it's always great to see the kids about the

place, too. He hopes visitors and members feel comfortable offering comments on what works well now as well as suggestions for changes and improvements. He says, "The library is a great place; the Center has built

a wonderful resource and we members are very fortunate to have it. I've learned so much talking with Peg Reid, Maureen Neylon, Mary Moore, Theresa Choske, Alice Carney, Brian Donovan, Chuck Grant and the other volunteers."

Besides working in the library, Shea also likes to spend his time in other educational venues- he is currently taking an Irish history seminar at the Newberry Library and he teaches at an area university. He is certainly a well-rounded student and teacher! If you pop by the library while you're here, be sure to say hi to Brian Shea!





THE HERITAGE LINE

IRISH AMERICAN
HERITAGE CENTER Chicago, Illinois



WWW.IRISH-AMERICAN.ORG

It's Time for the Annual Appeal

We need you to support the Irish American Heritage Center's Annual Appeal.

Each year at this time, we ask our members and friends to support the Center by making a donation. Your donation is important to the operation and success of the Center. The Annual Appeal is a major part of our overall funding.

We thank you for your support in the past, and ask you to once again think of the Center by making a donation today.

We are working hard to preserve our Irish heritage and provide our members and friends with the many wonderful events and programming that you have come to expect from the Center.

We are also working on.....

- Increasing attendance at our events and programs
- Continued building renovation and upgrades to the parking lots
- Development and financial strategies
- Volunteer recruitment

- Increasing membership
- Upgrading computer services for the library, genealogy, museum and archives
- Increasing children's and young adults' involvement
- Increased transparency
- Holding regular Town Hall meetings
- Increasing the Center's visibility in Chicagoland... and nationally!

The Center is on the road to continued success, but we do need your support.

Your contribution will be enhanced once again by the matching funds program offered by Pat and Peggy Burke. We thank them for their continued generosity.

All gifts made to the Annual Appeal are tax-deductible to the extent allowable by law.

Help us continue to make the Center a special place in Chicago. Your children and grandchildren and all who follow after us deserve to enjoy and experience the Center as we have.

ATTEND THE TOWN HALL MEETING

*Join us on Thursday,
November 10 at 7pm in the Auditorium.*

What's New at the Center!

We have some new features we want to share with you.

We have a new volunteer bulletin board in the main hallway that you can check for opportunities. Volunteers can sign up to assist at concerts and events, as well as help out with on-going building work, the library or our Golden Diners Program. See the volunteer board for a chance to lend a hand.

We ask that all visitors and guests enter using the front (east) door of the Center for safety purposes.

Did you know that we have many magazine subscriptions in our Library collection? Browse our selection that includes *Chicago Magazine* and *Newsweek*.

This is a great way to save money and is eco-friendly! Want to pick up a few books for your collection? The Library has an ongoing Used Book Sale. Purchase some great gently used titles that won't break your bank.

We love to save our members money! We recently reviewed our cleaning supply and paper goods cost, which resulted in a new supplier AND a 37% SAVINGS!

In the next few weeks, we will be printing a new Cultural Events Punch Rewards Card. You can select from as many as twenty cultural events, as well as library, museum, art gallery and genealogy meetings and have your card punched to earn points toward attending an event for free.

Safety is crucial at the Center. We have AED heart defibrillator machines and a First Aid Station, which are located in the main office.

Starting this month, we will feature a monthly contest. If you are the first to reply correctly to this question, you will receive a \$10 gift card for the Fifth Province.

Who owns the Irish American Heritage Center? Drop off your response at the Center office or email your response to koneill@irishahc.org.

Culture Corner

Visit the IAHC Library

• for research and lending of our extensive collection, book signings, lectures and activities

the Genealogy Club

• for monthly meetings on finding your roots

the Art Gallery

• for Exhibits, lectures and art classes

and the Museum

• for our collection and special exhibits

Love to sing, dance or create?

The Irish Heritage Singers rehearse each Thursday night at 7:30pm. To join this lively and talented group, call 773-282-7035 ext.34 or e-mail irishheritagesingers@irishahc.org.

Love to ceili dance or want to learn? The Francis O'Neill Club meets every Friday night at the IAHC.

A Céilí Mor (Big Céilí) is held the first Fridays of each month. Free lessons begin at 7:30pm, followed by live music with The Ceoltoiri Chicago Céilí Band from 8:30-11:30pm. in the Fifth Province. The cost is \$10.

Regular Céilís are held the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, or 5th Fridays of each month, with taped music from 8pm-11pm. The cost is \$5 for Francis O'Neill Club members and \$7 for non-members.

Nimble Thimbles is a group of busy quilters and skilled artisans who needlepoint, crochet, knit and sew in an established workshop. The group meets Tuesdays at 9:30am and Wednesdays at 7:30pm in Room 205. If you would like to be a part of the group, contact Nancy Liston at 773-282-7035, ext 10.

An bhfuil Gaeilge agat? = Got Gaelic?

Join Na Gaeil for classes to learn the Irish language. Saturday classes meet 11am-1:30pm. Wednesday classes meet 7pm-9:30pm.

For information on the next beginners and intermediate class semesters, call the office.

HOURS

Genealogy Monthly Meetings

The last Sunday of every month at 1pm (except December)

Museum

Call our office for a docent led 45 minute tour

Art Gallery

Special exhibits throughout the year

Library

Mondays and Wednesdays - 4-8pm
Tuesdays and Thursdays 10-1 pm
Friday closed
Saturday 9-3pm
Sunday open on the 2nd and last Sunday of the month



*Nimble
Thimbles*

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



THE HERITAGE LINE

Irish American Heritage Center Chicago, Illinois



WWW.IRISH-AMERICAN.ORG

November 2011

Nov. 2	TIR NA NOG Seniors meeting	Fifth Province	10am
Nov. 4	Francis O'Neill Ceili Dance	Fifth Province	8pm
Nov. 5	Shamrock American Club Social	Sham Amer Rm	8pm
Nov. 6	Stone Hearth Staged Reading Series	Fifth Province	Noon
Nov. 10	Tara Club Senior Group Meetings	Room 304	10am
	Town Hall Meeting	Auditorium	7pm
Nov. 11	iBAM! Gala Awards Dinner	Erin Room and 2nd Flr	7pm
Nov. 12 & 13	iBAM!	Whole Building	11am
Nov. 15	Celtic Women Monthly Meeting	Fifth Province	7pm
Nov. 18	Shamrock Kids Thanksgiving Party	Fifth Province	6pm
Nov. 19	St. Patrick's Fathers Social	Room 310	8pm
Nov. 20	A Journey Home Concert	Auditorium	2pm
Nov. 24	Thanksgiving	Building Closed	
Nov. 27	Genealogy Meeting	Library	1pm

Regularly Scheduled Events

Tues.-Sat.	Golden Diners Lunch Program	Kitchen	12:30pm-2pm
Tuesday	Celtic Art Class	Room 304	7pm
Thursday	Live music session	Fifth Province	8pm
Friday	Friday Night Fish Fry	Fifth Province	6-8pm

Book your Holiday Party Now

We have many rooms to accommodate your family or employee party. To schedule a visit to see the spaces, call Kevin O'Kennedy, Events and Operations Manager at 773-282-7035, ext. 21.



the fifth province

UPCOMING ENTERTAINMENT

All shows start after 9 p.m.

NOVEMBER 2011

Fri, 11/4	Ceili Mor
Sat, 11/5	Seamus O'Kane and Jimmy Moore
Fri, 11/11	TBA
Sat, 11/12	iBAM!
Fri, 11/18	Joe McShane
Sat, 11/19	Battle of the Jug Bands
Sun, 11/20	Martin Doyle and Andy O'Driscoll
Fri, 11/26	The Dooley Brothers



Drop by for the very best in traditional and modern Irish music.

No Cover
Free Parking

Check out our live music session each Thursday night at 8pm, led by the students and teachers of the Irish Music School of Chicago

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 Membership
4626 N. Knox Ave
Chicago IL 60630

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____
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

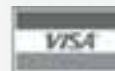
10-year membership without annual dues

\$2,500 - High King

25-year membership without annual dues

\$5,000 - Saint

Lifetime membership without annual dues



If you have an iPhone and the Kaywa Quick Response Code Reader App, scan the code to the right and be taken directly to the Irish American Heritage Center website!



Follow us on Facebook and Twitter

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



Facebook and Twitter



The Heritage Line Staff

Kathleen O'Neill, Editor

Contributors:

John Gorski	Mary Griffin	Frank Mahon	Mary Morris
Sheila Murphy	Kevin O'Kennedy	Leslie Singel	Ciara Waltion

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



Ireland Network Chicago Members' Forum For Business & Service Providers

By Imelda Gallagher – IN Committee Member

business atmosphere to create a social gathering where exhibitors had the opportunity to expand their audience and market their businesses.

The companies participating in the Forum were: American International Realty (Deborah Ryder), Artane Construction (Rachel & Simon McCormac), BIK Accountants (Michael McPharland & Jim Geise), The Concord Group (Ed Stritch), Conlon: A Real Estate Company (Ken Dooley), Author: Conor Cunneen, Hundley Law Group (David Hundley), McEntee Law Group (Fiona McEntee), Perl Mortgage (Brian Dixon), Perspectives Coaching (Orla Castanien), Regina Rathnau, Ridge & Assoc. Law Firm (Caroleann Gallagher) and Soluisce Solutions (Greg Lloyd). The IN members were delighted to receive their feedback below:



Deborah Ryder from American International Realty said that "It was great to be a part of such a successful business forum. The event was a unique way of profiling my business within the Ireland Network community. I look forward to participating again next year."



Rachel McCormac from Artane Construction stated that "The Business Forum was a fantastic event which gave us great exposure to a broad spectrum of potential clients. We would be very interested in participating in this event again."



Ed Stritch noted that "The Concord Group found the Ireland Network Member Business Forum to be a great platform for showcasing our business. We met with many people from different industries and made some good contacts on the night. We look forward to exhibiting at this event next year."



Ken Dooley of Conlon: A Real Estate Company, "thoroughly enjoyed the evening. The event allowed members to promote their Business and Services in a relaxed environment. There was an audible buzz throughout the evening and it was refreshing to see so much energy and enthusiasm from both attendees and exhibitors. I've no doubt next year will be even bigger and better."



David Hundley from Hundley Law Group had the following comment; "I took part in the Business Showcase primarily to support the Ireland Network, but also because Hundley Law Group provides legal counsel to small businesses, whether at the initial formation stage or when litigation needs arise. A significant portion of the Ireland Network membership is made up of innovators and entrepreneurs, that is, both present and future business owners and managers. Moreover, there aren't many forums where it's okay to sip a pint of Guinness while you showcase your business. Believe me, I've tried."



Author Conor Cunneen said that he "found the showcase a great venue to introduce my new book *For the Love of Being Irish*."



Fiona McEntee said that "The McEntee Law Group was delighted to be a part of the Ireland Network Members' Business Showcase Forum. It was extremely well organized, very well attended and it added a new dimension to the regular First Friday get together. The event provided members with a fantastic opportunity to display their business/products while simultaneously mingling with old and new friends

alike. We will definitely be signing up for the next showcase!"



Perl Mortgage: Brian Dixon said that "The event was outstanding! Very high quality group of attendees and exhibitors. Please keep me in mind for the next one."



Orla Castanien from Perspectives Coaching commented that "The Ireland Network Business Forum was a great event. It provided the perfect forum for making connections and creating awareness of my business in a relaxed setting"



Caroleann Gallagher of Ridge & Assoc. Law Firm noted that "Ridge & Assoc. are a Chicago based law firm with a state wide practice specializing in personal injury and workers compensation law. It was an absolute pleasure to be part of the IN Business Showcase event. I was impressed by the quality and expertise of the many vendors present and have made firm business contacts and hopefully firm friends also from attending this event"



Regina Rathnau



The other exhibitors at the event were BIK & Co, Regina Rathnau and Soluisce.

As always, the IN Members' Forum was successful because of the participation of many people within and beyond the IN. We would like to thank The Gage for their wonderful hospitality and for providing the appetizers to the attendees on the evening. Thanks also to The Drake Hotel for the raffle prize pulled from the "business card bowl." The lucky winner, James Burke, of JPMorgan Chase Bank, won a free stay at The Drake on the night of the Annual IN Black Tie Ball which will take place on Saturday, February 18th in The Drake Hotel. Of course, we extend our thanks and appreciation to Cliff Carlson and Cathy Curry of the *Irish American News* who are always so supportive of IN events and who allow us to reach out to the *IAN* readers!

The IN would like to give a special thanks and acknowledgement to Tim McDonnell, former Executive Director of the Irish American Heritage Center who is leaving Chicago to join his lovely wife in Florida. There has been much cooperation and collaboration on events with the IN and IAHC and we thank Tim for his promotion of IN events and his dedication to advocating "all things Irish" during his time in Chicago. *Go n'eiri an t-adh leat Tim!*

New IN members may subscribe at any IN event for \$50 per annum which provides access to the IN Chicago website and discounts at various events throughout the year as advertised. There will also be access soon to the IN-USA website to connect with our members nationwide. At the Members' Forum, the IN had a special discount rate of \$40 for annual subscription on the night.

The next events on the IN calendar include the First Friday on November 4th in Celtic Crossings. There will also be the IN Pub Quiz on Wednesday, November 16th in the "Elephant and Castle" when the prize for the winning table of 4 people will be free tickets to the Annual IN Black Tie Ball! Another event is "Cocktails for Causes" which will take place as the First Friday event on December 2nd at The Drake. So many wonderful events—yet more reasons to join the IN!!

For more information on the Ireland Network and our upcoming events, please visit our website: www.theirelandnetwork.com. Thank you for your interest in the IN and we look forward to greeting you at future events! All are welcome!

Safe Home

By Heather Begley



Stop Bullying

I recently gathered with former classmates at Cork and Kerry, a pub on Chicago’s southwest side, for my 20-year grammar school reunion. It was a fun night peppered with laughs and stories and dialogue on what we are up to now. We recalled our grammar school years and the teachers who instructed us during those formative years. Many former teachers were hailed as outstanding while our memories of a select few made me wonder how they ever got away with what they did. There were stories of a student getting hit with a bible and spanked. Likely, readers of the *Irish American News* have also heard stories of children getting hit by a teacher with

a ruler or other objects or being bullied by a classmate during school.

At my reunion, a former classmate, Kevin Moran (the bass player of the talented band, The Larkin and Moran Brothers) recalled how a teacher took my Claddagh ring from me in 6th grade because I was spinning it around on my finger, which was a nervous habit (that my colleagues may still see me do!). I clearly remember being upset as she placed the ring in her desk drawer telling me she couldn’t wait to give the ring to her daughter (who was the same age as me). The 11-year old version of me was shocked and devastated! Fortunately, a kind teacher retrieved

the ring for me later. Looking back at it now, that ring-stealing teacher was a bully!

Bullying in schools is a serious problem, not only because it negatively impacts a child’s learning atmosphere, but because it can have serious ramifications for a child’s safety. Bullies can be threatening, violent and emotionally hurtful. As an attorney, I have received inquiries on the subject of how to handle bullying and have also represented clients who have sustained injuries due to bullying.

Many schools are actively preventing bullying and intervening when it occurs. However, a school may be liable for damages in circumstances where the child was bullied if the child sustains an injury due to a teacher or another student. A school may also face civil rights liability if it fails to adequately address discrimination or harassment. These school liability matters may involve teachers, coaches or persons of authority—not students alone—who are directly involved in allegedly bullying a child and the law in this area is complicated because of the immunities that are afforded to schools.

The national campaign to stop bullying is underway. The website stopbullying.gov has resources for parents, school, students and children. Along with school faculty, parents play

a key role in preventing and stopping bullying. The local authorities should be called if your child is in any danger due to bullying. Please communicate with your children about bullying. Teach them not to bully others and to help out other students who are being bullied. Tell them to make it a point to include others who are left out. Importantly, teach your child to tell an adult at school and an adult at home if they know someone is being bullied.

American Ireland Fund Annual Chicago Dinner

The American Ireland Fund will hold its 27th Annual Chicago Dinner on Tuesday, November 15, 2011, 6pm reception; 7pm dinner, with a special performance by Frankie Gavin & De Dannan. The Black Tie event will be held at the Four Seasons Hotel, 120 East Delaware Place in Chicago.

Being honored at the annual dinner are: Leadership Award - Denis J. Healy, Co-Chairman, Turtle Wax, Inc.; Performing Arts Award - Michael Flatley, world renowned creator, producer, director and dancer; and Corporate Social Responsibility Leadership Award - Allstate.

For tickets and sponsorship information visit www.irlfunds.org.

Our Take on Social Services

By Paul Dowling, Director of Social Services, Chicago Irish Immigrant Support

This Month’s Senior Group Meetings

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

Gaelic Park: On Wednesday, Nov. 2 2011, our guest speaker will be Dr Steven Fox, a gerontologist and expert in the field of aging. Dr. Fox will be discussing Alzheimer’s disease and pose the controversial question—does Alzheimer’s really exist? Join us to find out more.

On Wednesday, Nov. 16th, we will learn about the common side effects of some of the most common over-the-counter drugs. There will also be an opportunity for seniors to bring along their own medication for a one-on-one consultation with a CVS pharmacist.

Our meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 30th, is for those who want to get a glimpse of the Ireland of yesteryear. We will be joined by Dennis, a collector of Irish coins, stamps, and postcards who will be bringing along some of his collection for some ‘show and tell.’

IAHC: Due to our calendar and Thanksgiving there is only one meeting at the IAHC this month. On Thursday, Nov. 10th, we will be joined by Mary Ellen Guest who is the executive director of the Historic Chicago Bungalow Association. She will be teaching us about both the architectural and social significance of the Chicago bungalow.

Take the Guess Work Out of Planning for Your Retirement

When retiring, most people experience a significant decrease in income. Because of this it is very important to plan for your future financial needs. Do you know exactly what how much your social security payment will be once you retire? The Social Security Administration has a new online calculator that can provide immediate and accurate retirement benefit estimates to help you to plan for your retirement. The online retirement estimator is a convenient, secure, and quick financial planning tool.

To estimate what your payment
Continued on Page 20...



TIME TO TALK TURKEY...

DINE-IN...

TRADITIONAL THANKSGIVING FEAST

Turkey with all the trimmings including homemade pumpkin pie **\$16⁹⁵**

(In addition to our regular menu)

Open Thanksgiving 11am - 8 pm - Reservations Suggested

TAKE-OUT...

COMPLETE DINNERS TO GO

22 lb. Turkey, Salad, Vegetables, Real Mashed Potatoes, Pinenut Stuffing, Giblet Gravy, Cranberry Sauce, and Two Pumpkin Pies **\$160**

Serves 12-15

Order for complete dinners must be placed by Mon., Nov. 21 to be picked up Thanksgiving

ALL ITEMS AVAILABLE A LA CARTE

Orders must be placed by Wed., Nov. 24

LIVE MUSIC
in the bar every Friday night
featuring
Frank Primo
or John Truncali



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CIIS Sr Group Meeting Features Coins

Chicago Irish Immigrant Support will hold a Senior Group meeting on Wednesday, November 30 2011 from 10am-12pm at Chicago Gaelic Park, 6119 W. 147th St., Oak Forest, IL 60452.

Dennis Coughlin will display his vast collection of Irish coins and paper money, along with other things of Irish interest.
colomakidd@yahoo.com.


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Contemporary Twist on Celtic Jewelry

A new online retail business, Celtic Promise launched last month to show-



case Ireland’s most talented jewelry designers of today. The venture takes a fresh approach to retailing Irish jewelry, and promises to bring unique and carefully crafted pieces to its customers—usually only found in exclusive design stores and craft fairs.

The designs are inspired by Ireland’s artistic and cultural past and profiles some of Ireland’s leading designers. The company tag line “Heritage Jewelry – Contemporary Twist” sums up the vision of the start up.

You can expect to find a wide variety of products on the site; including wedding and engagement rings, gent’s cufflinks, dainty necklaces, and more elaborate statement pieces—all representing Celtic heritage, the premise upon which the company is building the Celtic Promise brand.

www.CelticPromise.com.

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 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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Careers



By James F. Fitzgerald, CPA



Are These 10 Simple Steps Enough For Your Success?

Many of us presume because we have a bachelor’s degree or an MBA we are destined for success. That presumption is under a lot of scrutiny at the moment because of the effects of the economy. But being an eternal optimist, I am convinced that our economy will turn around in the relatively near future.

There are some actions that competent, smart, solid performers take at work that defeat even those who have earned degrees from the best colleges and universities. These career limiting actions are not an integral part of any university curriculum that I am familiar with, so let me share with you some that I have observed.

1. Hold YOURSELF accountable for your decisions and conduct. Many people, at all levels, feel the need to put the blame on someone else. They simply can’t seem to acknowledge that they make mistakes. They may not lie about their conduct, but they do become somewhat disingenuous when they are pressed to explain their behavior. They will leave out pertinent elements of the

situation which will distort one’s understanding of the events. This recommendation is fully supported by the authors, Posner and Kouzes, who say that Honesty is the most highly regarded trait of our business leaders.

2. Be prudent when engaging in argumentation. We would all be wise to remember Thomas Jefferson’s quote “In matters of style, swim with the current. On matters of principle, stand like a rock.” It seems that many Americans have lost the zest for argumentation (aka give and take discussion of opposing views). Learn to argue and disagree with your colleagues, but not be disagreeable. The desired outcome after a heated debate of legitimate, but opposing, points of views might very well be a friendly glass of wine or a cup of coffee.

3. Know your boss’ priorities. Many times people do a thorough job of something, but it is not what the boss wants done. As the boss sees it, you have wasted valuable time and not yet accomplished what the boss needs to have done.

4. Be firm but pleasant. Have you ever been in a meeting that

turned unpleasant? Commonly such meetings are not productive. They can be a waste of every attendee’s time. However, this does not mean that you and everybody else has to “roll over” because someone is trying to steam roll everyone with their point of view. Firmly, but pleasantly, diffuse the hostility. Bring some humor and levity to the discussion. Give the steam roller an opportunity to lessen their intensity and focus. Remember even a steam roller has a steering wheel that it can use. Always be respectful of the other person’s point of view.

5. Communicate frequently and clearly. Communicating with another human can be very difficult given the different backgrounds of the individuals. I asked a waitress if she knew where the nearest library was. She gave me two street addresses and phone numbers; but no indication of the towns or the distances from the restaurant. If I was familiar enough with the neighborhood to understand her notes I would not have had to ask her for directions. I once heard an experienced consultant say there were three ways to develop trust in an organization: 1. Communicate 2. Communicate 3. Communicate. We all like to know where we are headed.

6. Create your support system with your work colleagues. You want your colleagues to speak well of you and your work when the boss asks about you. On the other hand, take the time to find out their backgrounds, they could prove invaluable to you.

7. Admit your mistakes. Having admitted your mistakes, also tell your colleagues how you are going to remedy the mistake, even if it is only to study the matter more intensely. A corollary to admitting your mistakes is one of the best

pieces of advice I ever got from a very well regarded leader; “if you don’t know, keep your mouth shut.”

8. In all cases, be truthful. Nobody likes to be misled by mis-truths or half truths.

9. Get to work early and stay late. Simply getting to the office or shop 10-15 minutes before the expected starting time will be well received by your superiors. It will also give you some additional time to organize your day before others disturb your peace. Staying late does not mean burning the “midnight oil”; it means not beating a path to the elevator the second that clock tolls five. It gives evidence to your superiors that you are interested in your job, rather than simply doing the job for a pay check.

10. Be on time and be prepared for meetings. The person who organized the meeting set the starting time for some specific purpose(s). For example, it might be to accommodate the train schedules of the attendees. Being on time speaks to respect for the office of “facilitator” of the meeting. Similarly, giving evidence of being prepared for the meeting i.e., doing the advance reading, tells the facilitator that you take the matter seriously. Having prepared for the meeting will allow you to participate more fully while at the same time advising other attendees that you, if nobody else, takes the subject matter seriously.

Do these ten simple steps speak to you? Will they be helpful in your path to success? Try them and find out. *Carpe Diem.*

James F. Fitzgerald is president of James F. Fitzgerald & Associates, Inc.; an Oak Brook, IL-based executive coaching and career transition firm. Phone: 630-684-2204. Email: jamesffitz37@hotmail.com. Website: www.Jamesffitzgerald.com.

Our Take on Social Services

Continued from Page 18...

will be simply go to the website at www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator. You will be asked to enter certain personal information. This information will then be combined with the information social security has on record about your past earnings to provide a quick and reliable online benefit estimate. For more information on social security benefits call 1-800-772-1213 or visit www.socialsecurity.gov.

Don’t Forget

It is that time of year again—the Medicare Annual Open Enrollment Period is upon us! This year, the Open Enrollment Period will run from October 15-December 7. Medicare beneficiaries can use this period to change their Medicare Part D prescription drug plan or to enroll in or disenroll from a Medicare Advantage plan. So be sure to get the best coverage you can and review your Medicare prescription drug plan.

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Swimming Upstream

By Charles Brady



Did the Box Get Elected?

By the time this article goes to press our long-running Presidential race will be over, but as I write this the announcement of whoever has won is still a couple of weeks in the future. Mama Mia, though, it does seem to have gone on forever; and it has gotten dirtier and dirtier. I doubt that it will be remembered by anyone involved as his or her finest moments. Lord knows it's damned hard to be enthusiastic about any of them. For myself, I lean towards Sean Gallagher and I know that he has won quite a few doubters over; but to tell the truth, I'd be voting for him in order to keep certain others out rather than getting him in.

Let's be honest, all this rubbish about what they can bring to the table is just that: wholesale nonsense. It's a job that comes with next to no power at all. You might as well cast a vote for the box that little Michael D. Higgins so hilariously and not very presidentially perched himself on during one debate. In fact I wish the box were in the running. It had a damned sight more personality and charisma than those who were ranged around it. How can anyone take Mary Davis seriously, for example, when they cop a load of her ludicrously airbrushed posters. Ye Gods, when I first laid eyes on them I thought that some young model had got herself into the running. Did she actually approve them? There's nothing wrong with the way she looks so why draw attention to her vanity?

Gay Mitchell I can't really talk about without frothing at the mouth, but there's no need to say too much anyway as no one seems to know he exists until he comes out with another stupid statement.

Martin McGuinness is of course the one that gets most people going one way or the other. Yet despite the fact that so many simply see him in black and white terms he's the one that I always find myself saying about: "Well, I'd hate to see him representing us with all the unanswered questions still hanging over him; but..." Yes, Martin always comes with a "but." Take the clown Mitchell having a go at him last week over his credentials regarding his work on the Peace Process. Now you would think that not even his toughest adversities could take that from him, but Mitchell thought it would be smart to say that without him

there would have been no need for a Peace Process in the first place! Run that past me again? Of course McGuinness was quite right to answer by pointing out that it was actually because... eh, well sorry to break this to you but it was actually needed because there was a British force of occupation on this island. This is the kind of level of debate we've been getting.

McGuinness certainly did himself no favours this week when he belligerently confronted the interviewer Miriam O'Callaghan following another "debate." It was as if the mask slipped there for a minute and we got the same hot temper that we always knew was there; but... There it is again. But... when was the last time you had a major politician practically being called a murderer live on air? Never mind, Martin assuredly gained the not inconsiderable *Star Trek* vote when the actor Colm Meaney waded in with: "The shameful, vindictive, backward campaign won't work, it's going to backfire."

As for David Norris, would he just go away and annoy someone else please? I used to find him pretty amusing but this race has revealed him as arrogant, big-headed ("I am a man of some consequence") and just a royal pain. Does he ever speak at a normal level of decibels?

Of all the so-called scandals, though, would you

ever have guessed that one would be centred on Dana? Hopefully that one is finished with by the time this comes out, but why on earth did she feel the need to start babbling that way about all kinds of everything when the story—whatever it turns out to be—hadn't been in any of the newspapers?

The whole thing has just become an extension of those horrible, but inexplicably popular "reality shows," which have nothing to do with reality in any case. Still, Dana is right in intimating that social networking sites have changed these things for good. I absolutely detest Facebook and the bizarre Twitter—why do people feel the need to share their every waking moment with strangers?—but they're here to stay.

One of the most baffling things about this nonsense for me, however, is Sean Gallagher being beaten up on (and to a lesser extent Higgins and Mary Davis) for in the past having been tied to Fianna Fail. What the hell is that about? You would think that from the phoney outrage no one in this country ever voted for that shower. Did I just imagine that they were returned time and time again?

Anyway, by now it's all over and you know who has this pointless job. By the way, one of the best suggestions I've heard, apart from scrapping it altogether, was the idea of keeping on Mary McAleese in a part time way. You know, if she was willing then just trundle her out for something like the visit of Queen Elizabeth. After all, everybody is agreed that McAleese has been very successful.

As to who is in now, don't tell me. The suspense is so exciting.

2011 Thanks-for-giving Ball

Concern Worldwide will hold its first annual Thanks-for-giving Ball on Saturday, November 12, 2011 from 8pm-12am at the Hard Rock Hotel Chicago, 230 North Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60601. This event

is presented by The McShane Foundation and hosted by the Concern Leadership Network, a group of service-minded young professionals who support Concern's mission through outreach and event-based fundraising. This group develops long-term Concern leaders by hosting social and fundraising events throughout the year.

Attendees will enjoy an evening of music & dancing, great food and drinks generously donated by Diageo. The event will feature an auction with items donated by Lynfred Wineries and H&H Entertainment. Auction items include wine tastings, sports tickets, shopping gift cards and more!

Funds raised from the 2011 Thanks-for-giving



Ball will support Concern Worldwide's emergency and development programs in the Horn of Africa. The world's worst food crisis is devastating East Africa. A staggering 10 million people lack access to food and water and are in immediate and urgent need of humanitarian assistance. The region's worst drought in 60 years has scorched pastures and killed huge numbers of livestock, and the situation is deteriorating daily. Concern is implementing programs to save lives now, while continuing to work on long-term development programs to prevent a future crisis.

To purchase tickets, on sale now for \$125, please contact Lisa Jacobus at 312-431-8400 x200 or lisa.jacobus@concern.net.

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HUNGER-STRIKE’S 30TH ANNIVERSARY. The photo here is of the Chicago event held on Oct. 8th to commemorate the ultimate sacrifices of Mickey Devine, Kieran Doherty, Francie Hughes, Martin Hurson, Kevin Lynch, Ray McCreesh, Joe McDonnell, Tome McIlwee, Patsy O’Hara, and Bobby Sands. Though commemorating an historic tragedy, the evening was memorable, held at the impressive Irish Legend Restaurant, 8933 So. Archer, Willow Springs. Owner Vince Touhy (ex-Dublin) donated great edibles throughout the evening. Songster Tom Fitzgerald donated his talent. Proceeds will provide name markers at the fifteen known but unmarked graves at Mt. Olivet’s Irish Nationalist Monument plot if cemetery management OKs our plan.

EVENT SPEARHEADERS Regan and Shay McShane and Allan Watson are great spirits. Relative newcomers from north Co. Antrim, their energy and commitment will benefit Chicago for years to come. McShanes’ other brother, Padraig, returned to Antrim and won election to Moyle District Council. Like everyone of conscience Padraig is devastated by Israel’s decades-long genocide of the Palestinians. He participated in last year’s 180-vehicle convoy delivering crucially-needed

supplies to Gaza, being co-driver of a vanload that joined similar vehicles from other Irish counties before crossing to England and joining many more, to France and yet more, etc., all the way to Gaza.



Months previously Israel horrified the world by murdering 1387 Gazans and maiming 5,000, mostly women and children. American taxpayers, intentionally or not, were accomplices in that massive crime. Our taxes provided the F16s, apache helicopters, white phosphorus and other instruments of death used by Israel.

TWINNING MOYLE & GAZA. As Moyle District Council Chairman, Padraig McShane organized the twinning. The Irish of Moyle, having lived under British terrorism for generations, sympathize with the Palestinians. McShane wants justice for Palestine, is thus on the right side of history. But here’s the rub: British Loyalists identify with their own equals, the Israeli genocidists. The flags may be gone now, but a few years ago when Palestinian flags began to fly throughout Occupied Ireland’s Irish neighborhoods the bigots responded by flying Israel’s Star of David in theirs. *THE BALLYMONEY TIMES* of Co. Antrim reported on September 6th (in part): “Cllr McShane pushing on with Gaza ‘twinning’ bid.” The report cited complaints from obviously Loyalist Councillor Allister trying to block the twinning by means of inflammatory references to Hamas and allegations of “negligence” and “overreaching” by McShane. The report continues: “Independent Councillor Padraig McShane said: ‘It is my earnest hope that all the citizens of Moyle can be part

of this wonderful Twinning initiative. The press release from Mr. Allister is factually incorrect and it points to what might be considered shortcomings in his party colleague in Moyle rather than in my performance as Chairperson. My electoral credentials withstand scrutiny in Moyle, having topped the poll in consecutive elections in two electoral areas in the District. I take the slight on my position as Chairperson as an attack on those who entrusted me with their vote, in both Ballycastle and the Glens. The June 27th Minutes of Moyle District Council’s meeting show that I informed the Council of my intention to invite the Mayor of Gaza to visit Moyle and complete the Twinning Agreement. The minutes also state that all members were present including Councillor Sharon McKillop, Mr. Allister’s party colleague and fellow TUV member. His colleague never objected. No Councillors

raised any objections. Furthermore, when the minutes were presented for adoption the following month, again no councillors raised any objections. Chairperson McShane went on to say: ‘Mr Allister informs us through this statement that we may not ‘engage in politics at an International level.’ May I recommend that Mr. Allister peruse The Local Authority Handbook on International Relations by the Local Government International Bureau to avoid embarrassing himself further? Given his background in the legal profession, I am surprised that Mr. Allister accuses me of inviting Hamas representatives to Moyle. It indicates a lack of understanding with regards to the internal workings of Municipality of Gaza which is formed of professionals in various fields including a Doctor in Prosthetics, a University Lecturer, and a young teacher who has never been outside the Strip. No one from Hamas or any other political entity received an invitation from Moyle. Those Councillors who voted in favour of the motion to Twin with the Municipality of Gaza support a peaceful settlement in Israel/Palestine based on the principles of democracy and justice. I believe we maintain an independent position on internal politics within Palestine, favouring neither Fatah, Hamas nor any other Palestinian political organisation. Ours is a humanitarian gesture to the people alone, evidenced by the

calibre of the delegation we invited. I fail to understand why Mr. Allister is opposed to the Moyle Peace Park in Gaza, a family centre with a children’s Play Park! In the spirit of these new times I again offer Mr. Allister and his colleagues a meeting to discuss any perceived concerns. It is my earnest hope that all the citizens of Moyle can be part of this wonderful Twinning initiative.”

THIS EPISODE demonstrates the long-time plight of not only the Palestinians, but also the Occupied Irish. Chairman McShane is obviously possessed of integrity and courage, but he’s been receiving death threats recently. And this is NOW, with the Good Friday Agreement supposedly in effect.

WHERE WERE THE “GOOD GERMANS” when Nazis ravaged Europe? The answer? -The same place as the “Good Americans” while Bush/Obama waged criminal wars across the globe—on borrowed money yet. The same place as the “Good Americans” who said nought while banksters crashed the U.S. and international economies and retirement funds by means of entirely fraudulent “AAA-rated” Collateralized Debt Obligations and Credit Default Swaps. The same place as the “Good Americans” who kept mum while Congress became Israeli-occupied territory through wholesale bribery. It will not end well. The best we can hope for is to force our gov’t to re-commit to America’s wellbeing instead of further crimes for Israel, the military/industrial complex, and the banksters.

THE “GOOD IRISH” – of Ireland and the Diaspora. Where were they while the Clintons, FBI criminals, traitors Adams and McGuinness, the State Dept’s Britain Desk, et al handed-over Ireland’s Six Counties to Britain? Ulster Volunteer Force leader/mass murderer David Irvine is recorded stating that a State Dept. chief informed him that the US handed it to the Brits to free up Britain’s military for use in the Neo-Cons’ planned war against Islam. That was in 1994; long before the 9/11/2001 “justification” of our war on Islam.

WHICH BRIT REG’T starved your relatives? See www.irishholocaust.org. &nb sp; **WHO ARE THE TERRORISTS** re Occupied Ireland? See www.terrorismireland.org. &nb sp;

GOOD FRIDAY AGREEMENT; beneficial? See www.freegerry.com, www.michaelmckevitt.com, and www.friendsofcolinduffycity.com.

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medical insurance department of the Chicago Journeyman's Plumber's Union of Chicago LU130. Patty is a second generation Irish American.

Revolution?

People have taken to the streets to protest corporate greed and political corruption, and the stalemate that exists between the Republicans and the Democrats.

All across this country, state, city, and county governments are buckling under the weight of underfunded pensions. Six figure salaries and pensions for public servants have become commonplace. Did we sign a blank check at the ballot box?

Did our trouble begin with the North American Free Trade Agreement? U.S.A. manufacturing and assembly industries lost thousands of jobs. Then came 9/11. Now add in the banking crisis and the stock markets decline, the housing market's steep decline, the costs of fighting two wars—all on the backs of the tax payers, who now must pay more as the politicians dream up more taxes.

Anthony Kearns

The great Irish tenor, Anthony Kearns, who performed at the Irish American Heritage Center, Saturday, October 15th, was a huge disappointment. I don't know why he chose to sing obscure songs that were every bit of 65 years old. Songs like the Roses of Piccardy, Granada, Ole Solo Mio, La Vie en Rose, and Finnuculi Finnucula, since the show was to feature songs from Broadway, Ireland and opera—why didn't he sing songs from *Les Miserables*? His accompanist, Patrick Healy, who plays piano very well, tried his hand at humor with some very tired old Winston Churchill jokes... When Mrs. Astor told Winston Churchill he was drunk, and he said, "Madam you're ugly. I will be sober in the morning, but you will still be ugly." My advice. Take the show off the road. Now if only I can get my \$70 back.

Patty Fadden

My good friend Patty Fadden was honored at the annual Emerald Society Dinner at Gaelic Park on Saturday, October 8th. Patty was presented with the Emerald Society of Illinois Presidential Award. The award is given to an individual who demonstrates a selfless commitment to the Irish culture of Chicago, and the Emerald Society.

Patty works for the Plumber's welfare fund, the

She went to St. Bede, the venerable grammar school, and Queen of Peace High School.

It was at Local 130 that she got involved with the St. Patrick's Day Parade by typing a few things for Mel Loftus. Her involvement is now year-round, beginning with the Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner, the Queen Contest, and the Parade itself. Patty is now on the executive committee, and serves as assistant parade coordinator, and is on the finance committee. In her spare time she proofreads the parade book.

In 1996 Patty won the Fahey Flynn Award for her outstanding contribution to the parade.

When you meet Patty you will be smitten by her sense of humor, and beguiled by her smile. Congratulations Patty. You are the best.

iBAM!

iBAM! kicks off on Friday, Nov. 11th with the Gala Awards Dinner in the Erin Room of the Irish American Heritage Center. This will be followed by two days of celebrating Irish culture across the spectrum of literature, music, poetry, dance, and theatre. "Handing Down the Tradition," is the motto that defines this event. The practice of passing on the knowledge, the skills, and the culture to the next generation. Frank Delaney will give a lecture on W. B. Yeats, and the critically acclaimed Yeats exhibit will be on display. Tickets for the dinner are \$100 for members, and \$125 for non IAHC members. For tickets call 708-445-0700.

Irish Fellowship Club of Chicago

I have retired from the Board of Directors, and have accepted the title of Director Emeritus.

Veteran's Day

Let's not forget our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan and the difficulties they face. We can all help by supporting the USO, and one of my favorite charities, the Paralyzed Veterans of American Wars.

Late Breaking News

The City of Chicago's Austerity Program will eliminate support for all of the parades, including the St. Patrick's Day Parade. They will not provide barricades for the streets, the reviewing stands or any other assistance. Welcome to hard times!



Mick

Mike Morley



Nashville law firm hired by the *Tribune*, King Ballow and Little, is the "biggest union-busting law firm in America." One day security guards appeared with attack dogs, threatening the union men, hunting them out of the Freedom Center. It was a lockout.

I took a friend along to run camera and we set out toward the big new *Tribune* plant on the river at Chicago and Halsted, "The *Chicago Tribune* Freedom Center." It was completed in 1982 at a cost of \$187 million.

It was a weekend, Sunday, I think, and the area was deserted. I had Marty set up the

Rhubarb

A new trend moving through some of the world's most ancient civilizations, Muslim Spring, seems to have energized American youth to occupy Wall Street, or at least Zuccotti Park, owned by US Steel, and other locations in city center throughout the US and beyond.

They are protesting a variety of issues: the 2008 bank bailouts, foreclosures, high unemployment. They carry signs: "No to Stop-and-Frisk in Black & Latino neighborhoods" and "No to Spying and Harassment of Muslim Communities." The OWS movement vows to stay put through the winter.

It reminds me of the 1980's when driving through Chicago I'd always be surprised to see strikers still on the picket lines outside the *Chicago Tribune* and its distribution centers. And they were invisible to society. When you stand up to a media giant, you can't expect much publicity. Those union Pressmen, Mailers and Typographers stood out there four years through the dead of winter, huddled around scrap fires burning in old 55 gallon drums. There was hardly ever a mention in any newspaper or newscast. When I began the *Irish Journal* TV show in 1987, the union pickets had been out over two years. In February 1988, the printers overwhelmingly rejected a new contract with *The Tribune* and continued their strike. I determined to shoot a story and find out what was going on.

I went to see the guys on the picket line. It was a cold morning. They had set up plastic sheeting and tarps to make a small shelter. Several strikers huddled around drum fires outside, warming their hands, stamping their feet. These guys looked worn, disheveled. They'd been on that street nearly three years, butting heads with an implacable enemy. I heard some things about the strike which were never mentioned in the tiny blurbs printed on rare occasions in the *Trib* and *Sun Times*. When I asked the men about their walkout, I was told there had been no walkout. Robert Hagstrom, president of the pressmen's union, charged that the



Continued on Page 31...

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Chicago Gaelic Park

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



A Chairde:

Gaelic Park hosts Set Dancing on Monday evenings at 7:30pm and Ceili Dancing on Tuesday evenings at 7:30pm. I would recommend either or both as a wonderful low level workout and a great way to socialize. It is always a pleasure to hear the strains of Irish music mingled with the sounds of laughter and conversation which I always hear on Monday and Tuesday nights from the dancers. Both groups are always open and happy to welcome new people of any age and the cost is \$2 or \$3 per week. Gaelic Park Players Fall production *The Beauty Queen of Leenane* will be opening on Friday, November 4. It is a powerful drama set in one of Ireland's most beautiful and haunting landscapes. Leenane is the gateway to Connemara and at the mouth of Ireland's only Fjord, the scenery

while rugged is breathtaking when the sun is shining, but takes on a whole different perspective with the inevitable rain. On my recent trip to Ireland, I visited Inishmaan the middle and least populated, of the Aran Islands, where Gaelic is the language of choice. I ate fish fresh from the sea and vegetables and potatoes straight from the garden, and it was wonderful to taste that freshness that we took for granted growing up in Ireland many years ago. Now we talk about organic food like it is a new discovery. Tickets are available from the Office, Bar or your favorite Director for our Super Fund Raiser on Sunday, December 4, and on behalf of Gaelic Park, I thank you for your continued support of all that we do at Gaelic Park.

John Devitt, President

The Beauty Queen of Leenane

by Martin McDonagh and directed by Barney Farrelly

The Beauty Queen of Leenane is a dark yet comedic tale of two women who find themselves victims of isolation and loneliness.

Set in the rural and remote village of Leenane, Western Ireland, Maureen toils with her solitary life of drudgery and caring for her ailing mother Mag. This play brings a realistic and astounding conflict to the stage, we witness relationships unravel and hurt that goes much deeper than surface wounds.

\$12 for Theatre Performance only • Opening night (Nov. 4th) 2 for 1.

\$25 for the Sunday Dinner/Theatre Combination (reservations are a must for Dinner/Theatre)!

This show contains strong language and adult content, not suitable for children under 12.

Show Dates:

Fridays, Nov 4, 11 & 18 8pm

Saturdays, Nov. 5, 12 & 19 8pm

Sundays, Nov. 6, 13 & 20 3pm

If you would like to join our mailing list, please send your name, address and email to info@gaelicparkplayers.org, or mail to: Gaelic Park Players, 6119 W. 147th St., Oak Forest, IL 60452.



SAVE THE DATE!

NOVEMBER

- 11/2 Musical Luncheon
- 11/6 Sunday Celtic Supper
- 11/13 Monthly Mass & Breakfast - 10am
- 11/24 Thanksgiving Dinner

DECEMBER

- 12/3 Andy Cooney's Christmas Show
- 12/4 Gaelic Park Super Fundraiser
- 12/7 Musical Luncheon
- 12/8 & 15 Mingle Jingle Christmas Party
- 12/15 Mingle Jingle Christmas Party
- 12/31 Family NYE Party
NYE Gala
Dinner Dance

Gaelic Park Annual Fundraiser

Tickets are now in circulation.

Only 1000 tickets will be sold.

Tickets can be purchased from any one of the Directors, our main office or the Carraig Pub.

The Grand Raffle will be held at Gaelic Park on Sunday, December 4 at 8pm.

Come early, join the fun and hear the winning tickets announced!



Gaelic Park Hosts Old St. Pat's

Wednesday, Nov. 16, 2011

Sr. Joan Marie Weithman Chaplain, Palos Community Hospital
Topic: *Chaplaincy in Today's World*

Please contact Rosemary at chitownrosie@att.net if you have any questions.

More dates to come in 2012...

11/11/11
Cash Prizes! **BUNCO!**
St. Jarlath's Youth Grp
Come out for a night of fun, food and prizes! We will have pizza and more. Cash bar available.
Door Prizes! Split-the-Pot!

Event open 8pm
Save the Top 5 Open
12 Adults Minimum

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

For Tickets
Josephine Ryan (708)415-8222
Dor Wynn (708)687-1238

Celebrate Thanksgiving at Chicago Gaelic Park
Thursday November 24, 2011

A Delicious All You Can Eat Buffet Dinner
With All Of The Traditional Trimmings
Choice of Soup, An Extensive Salad Bar,
Vegetables, Potatoes and Desert.
Served from 3:00pm to 6:00pm
Music and Dancing continues to 8:00pm

Reservations are required.
Adults - \$23.00 Children 4 to 12 - \$11.00
Admission includes Dinner and Entertainment
Chicago Gaelic Park - www.chicagogaelicpark.org
6119 W. 147th Street - Oak Forest, IL 60432
(708) 687-9323

Mingle & Jingle
Bring your office to Gaelic Park's Annual
Mingle & Jingle Christmas Party!
Thursday December 8th and Thursday December 15th, 2011
from 6:30 pm to 10:30 pm in the Emerald Room.

Have more fun with more people as you join together with other offices in the area for one of those fun holiday celebrations! Everyone attending will enjoy a delicious buffet dinner, a four hour open bar and live DJ for only \$15.00 per person!

Gaelic Park's Mingle & Jingle Christmas Party is perfect for businesses...

- Too small to rent a hall
- Unable to host an on-site party
- With staff too busy to organize a spirited and reasonably priced holiday celebration

Call Gaelic Park and ask for Melody to make reservations for yourself or the entire office!

Reservations must be made as soon as possible!
Payment in full due by November 20th.

708.687.9323
6119 W. 147th Street • Oak Forest, IL 60432
www.ChicagoGaelicPark.org



Chicago Gaelic Park

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



Chicago GAA Keeps The Party Going in The Off-Season On December 3rd, The Chicago Patriots Gaelic Football Club will host a Dinner Dance at Gaelic Park including live entertainment, a four hour long open bar and a video of an Old Boys Game that will be held on Gaelic Park's main field on November 5th. The Patriots will put on this Old Boys Game at 5pm with drinks and entertainment to follow. The game will feature a team made up of entirely over 40 players from throughout the league, up against a younger set of current players. This showdown of agility versus experience should be a match to remember, and the Patriots promise to have a full highlight reel from the game at their Dinner Dance. Tommy Dolan, Sr. says, "What makes you think the young guys are going to win? All I know is I'm markin' either Sean or Tommy (his sons)". All are welcome at this event according to The Patriots. "This is meant to be a league wide game that is open to anyone who is willing to come out and kick the ball with us a bit. It would be good to see a lot of people out there as it might be a kind of turkey bowl football game for the gaelic players", states Tommy Dolan, Jr. For more information, you can contact Tommy at TommyDolan9@yahoo.com.

-Greg Miller

Monthly Mass and Breakfast
The Monthly Mass and Breakfast is coming up again Sunday, November 13th at 10 a.m. with a hot Irish breakfast served after Mass for the modest cost of \$8 for adults and \$4 for children 12 and under.

Sunday Celtic Supper A delicious hot food buffet is served for the price of \$16. Children are welcome, and admission for those under 12 years old is just \$8. Enter-

tainment for the November Celtic Suppers will be: John Dillon on November 6, Sean O'Donnell on November 13, Gerard Haughey on November 20 and John Dillon on November 27. **Reservations are required.** The buffet is available from 4-7pm and music and dancing from 5- 9pm.

Monthly Musical Luncheon
Luncheons are scheduled for November 2 and December 7 at Noon. For the modest cost of \$13, you will enjoy an afternoon of lively entertainment and a delicious sit down lunch will be served. Call 708.687.9323 and make your group reservations today! Gaelic Park is the place for your holiday get together with friends and family.

CGP Sunday Radio Program live broadcast is held on Sunday nights from 7-9pm straight from Gaelic Park by Harry Costelloe, Mary Hackett and Mary Riordan on WCEV 1450 AM.

Hear all the week's Irish news and sports direct from Ireland, in addition to all the latest events and goings on at Gaelic Park. **Call 708.687.9330 to request a song or dedication.**

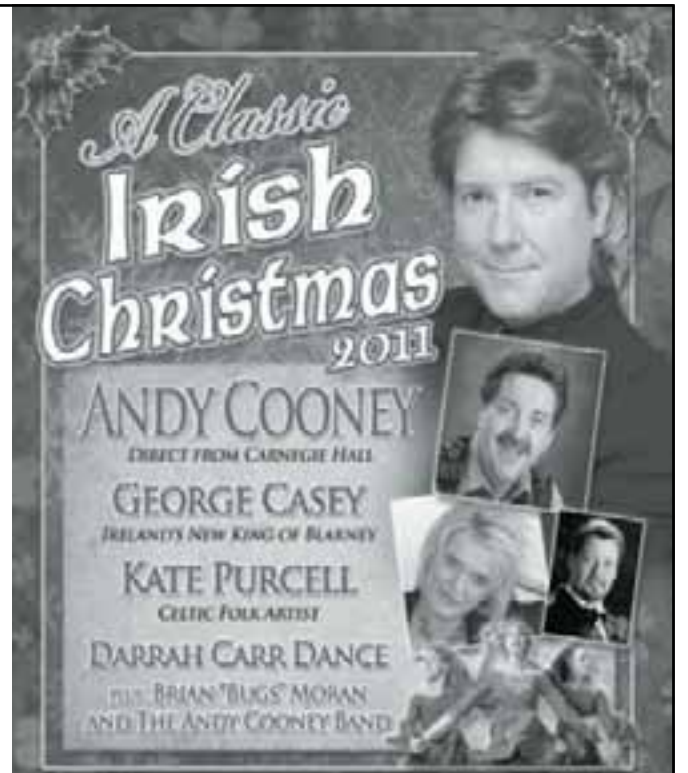
PUB QUIZ NIGHT with quiz master Tim Tobin is drawing big crowds on Tuesday evenings in the Pub. The evening starts at 7.30pm and teams can consist of up to five players. The cost is \$5 per person and 20% of the total amount collected is put aside and at the end of each season, the money is donated to a local charity. The pub quiz night is a great way to spend an evening with friends and have a chance of wining prizes.



Appearing at
Chicago Gaelic Park
Saturday, Dec. 3, 2011

Doors Open 7pm
Show at 7:30pm
Tickets \$25

Call
(708) 687-9323
to get your tickets
NOW!



Christmas Shopping at CGP

As Christmas nears, why not give remembrances of Gaelic Park to everyone on your list! Our merchandise includes framed sketches of Gaelic Park, coffee mugs, beer glasses, tee shirts, golf shirts, and hats with the famous Gaelic Park crest logo!



All items are available for purchase at the gift shop in the main office. Everyone loves a night out, so don't forget to pick up several Gaelic Park gift certificates that can be used for most anything at Gaelic Park, from shows to dinners in the Carraig Pub!

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

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Daily drink and food specials.

the CARRAIG IRISH PUB

"Pub Trivia" Every
Tuesday Night @ 7:30pm

Live Music in the Pub

- 11/5 John Dillon
- 11/11 Justin Griffin
- 11/12 Mulligan Stew
- 11/18 Joe Cullen
- 11/19 Joe McShane
- 11/25 Bernie Glim & Country Roads
- 11/26 John Dillon

Music begins at 7:30pm on Fridays and 9:30pm on Saturday nights. OPEN TO EVERYONE WITH NO COVER CHARGE!

Check Website for Full Schedule

Chicago Gaelic Park
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www.chicagogaelicpark.org

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Chicago Gaelic Park

Mail to: Chicago Gaelic Park Membership Chairperson,
6119 W. 147th St, Oak Forest IL 60452

Monthly Specials for CGP Members

November/December coupons will be arriving soon. Come out to the Park often and take advantage of these discounted offers... for members only!

An Immigrant’s Musings

Fr. Michael Leonard



“Immigration Not a Problem But an Opportunity”

This month I would like to share with you excerpts from an article written by Archbishop Gomez of Los Angeles. The full text can be seen at: justiceforimmigrants.org. He wrote:

“Our political debate about immigration in America frustrates me. Often I think we are just talking around the edges of the real issues. Both sides of this argument are inspired by a beautiful, patriotic idea of America’s history and values. But lately I’ve been starting to wonder: What America are we really talking about?”

“America is changing and it has been changing for a long time. The forces of globalization are changing our economy and forcing us to rethink the scope and purpose of our government. Threats from outside enemies are changing our sense of national sovereignty. America is changing on the inside, too.”

“America is becoming a fundamentally different country. It is time for all of us to recognize this—no matter what our position is on the political issue of immigration. We need to recognize that immigration is part of a larger set of questions about our national identity and destiny. What is America? What does it mean to be an American? Who are we as a people, and where are heading as a country? What will the “next America” look like?”

“As Catholics who are faithful citizens in America we have to answer these questions within a larger frame of reference. As Catholics, we have to always remember that there is more to the life of any nation than the demands of the moment in politics, economics and culture. We have to consider all of those demands and the debates about them in light of God’s plan for the nations.”

“This is a big challenge for us in this culture. Our culture pushes us to “privatize” our faith, to separate our faith from our life in society. We always have to resist that temptation. We are called to live our faith in our businesses, homes and communities, and in our participation in public life. That means we have to bring a Catholic faith perspective to this debate about immigration. We cannot just think about this issue as Democrats or Republicans or as liberals or conservatives.”

“I think we all know the teachings of our Church on immigration. What we need to understand better is how to see immigration in light of America’s history and purposes, as seen through the perspective of our Catholic faith. When we understand immigration from this perspective we can see that immigration is not a problem for America. It’s an opportunity. Immigration is a key to our American renewal.”

**Aidan Cronin,
Consul-General
of Ireland, Chicago**

We warmly welcome our new Consul-General of Ireland, Aidan Cronin, his wife Maedhbh and fam-

ily to Chicago.

Aidan worked as Private Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and as Head of the Minister’s Private Office from May 2009 to April 2011.

Aidan was subsequently a member of the team that organised the visit of President Barack Obama to Ireland in May 2011, with lead responsibility for the President’s visit to his ancestral home in Moneygall, Co. Offaly.

From 2005 to 2008, Aidan served as Deputy Head of Mission in the Irish Embassy in Canberra and from 2003-2005 as Deputy Head of Mission in the Irish Embassy in Tehran. He also worked in the Irish Embassy in Beijing from 1998-2001 and, in the course of his career at the Department of Foreign Affairs in Dublin, has worked on EU, Legal, UN and Irish Abroad issues.

Before joining the Department of Foreign Affairs, Aidan qualified and worked as a lawyer, having graduated from University College Cork as a Bachelor of Civil Laws.

Aidan is a native of Cork and is married to Maedhbh, who is also a public servant, and is a native of Dublin. They have a daughter, Caoimhe, aged 6, who was born in Iran, and a son, Cadhla, aged 4,

who was born in Australia.

Dorothy Day

I was a little surprised recently, when speaking to our senior group in Gaelic Park, to learn that not many had heard of one of the greatest American people of the last century. I spoke of Dorothy Day and here is a quote from her to inspire all of us.

“What we would like to do is change the world—make it a little simpler for people to feed, clothe, and shelter themselves as God intended for them to do.”

“And, by fighting for better conditions, by crying out unceasingly for the rights of the workers, of the poor, of the destitute... we can, to a certain extent, change the world; we can work for the oasis, the little cell of joy and peace in a harried world. We can throw our pebble in the pond and be confident that its ever widening circle will reach around the world. We repeat, there is nothing that we can do but love, and, dear God, please enlarge our hearts to love each other, to love our neighbor, to love our enemy as well as our friend.”

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

James Liddy Papers

Continued from Page 10...

but it still became a well-known publication in Ireland. Years later, after arriving at UWM and much to his surprise, Liddy learned that the UWM Archives had acquired the *Arena* files in 1966.

Soon after the end of *Arena*, Liddy began to travel, first to Spain, and eventually made his way to San Francisco in 1967. Once there, he began a career in teaching. He continued to work at various universities across America, taking him to cities like New York, Portland, and New Orleans, until finally settling at UWM in 1976. He taught classes in English, Beat literature, creative writing, and Irish literature for over 30 years.


Liddy was well liked by his students and his adopted city of Milwaukee. A publisher once described Liddy’s work as a “treasure,” and Milwaukee was lucky to give that treasure a home. A former student wrote to Liddy and thanked him for “encouraging the poetic insights within my soul.” The poet John Ashbery described Liddy as “one of the most original among living Irish poets.”

Writing prolifically, Liddy con-

tributed articles, reviews, and poems to numerous periodicals. He also gave countless readings. Over 30 books and chapbooks of poetry and prose bear his name. Some of his better known works include *In a Blue Smoke* (1964), *Blue Mountain* (1968), *Baudelaire’s Bar Flowers* (1975), *Corca Bascinn* (1977), *Young Men Go Walking* (1986), *A White Thought in a White Shade* (1987), *Art is Not for Grownups* (1990), *Collected Poems* (1994), *The Doctor’s House* (2004), and *The Full Shilling* (2008).

He was recognized for his writing as well, winning awards from the Council of Wisconsin Writers, including the Posner Poetry Award in 1995. He was also one of the first members of Aosdána, the prestigious Irish association of artists. Liddy passed away in 2008 at the age of 74.


The Liddy collection contains correspondence, photographs, publications, notes, and drafts of his works. There are also several unpublished works, including a novel. A guide to the collection is online at <http://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/wi-archives.uw-mil-uwmms0300>.



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Daly Investor

By John P. Daly



A Word With Monsignor Boland

The Voice of Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Chicago

Rev. Monsignor Michael M. Boland

Administrator, President and CEO



Good Advice

Working with markets, understanding risk and return, diversifying and portfolio structure—we've heard the lessons of sound investing over and over. But so often the most important factor between success and failure is ourselves.

The recent rocky period in financial markets has brought to the surface some familiar emotions for many, including a strong urge to try to time the market. The temptation, as always, is to sell into falling markets and buy into rising ones. What's more, the most seemingly "well-informed" people—the kind who religiously read the financial press and watch business television—are the ones who feel most compelled to try and finesse their exit and entry points.

This suspicion that "sophisticated" investors are the most prone to try and outwit the market was given validity recently by a study, carried out by London-based Ledbury Research, of more than 2,000 affluent people around the world. The survey found 40% of those questioned admitted to practicing market timing rather than pursuing a buy-and-hold strategy. Yet the market timers were more than three times more likely to believe they traded too much. "On the face of it, you might think that those who were trading more actively would be more experienced, sophisticated and able to control themselves," the authors said. "But that seems not to be the case—trading becomes addictive."

There is also a psychological piece to it. Investor experience more unhappiness from losing \$100 than they gain in happiness from acquiring \$100. These behavioral issues and how they impact on investors are well documented by financial theorists. Commonly cited traits include lack of diversification, excessive trading, an obstinate reluctance to sell losers and buying on past performance.

Mostly, these traits stem from over-confidence. Just as we all tend to think we are above-average in terms of driving ability, we also tend to over-rate our capacity for beating the market. What's more, this ego-driven behavior has been shown to be more prevalent in men than in women. A study quoted in The

Wall Street Journal showed women are less afflicted than men by over-confidence and are more likely to attribute success in investment to factors outside themselves—like luck or fate. As a result, they are more inclined to exercise self-discipline and to avoid trying to time the market.

The virtues of investment discipline and the folly of "return" chasing are highlighted year after year in the survey of investor behavior by research group Dalbar. The latest edition showed in the 20 years to the end of December 2010, the average US stock investor received annualized returns of just 3.8%, well below the 9.1% delivered by the market index, the S&P 500. What often stops investors getting returns that are there for the taking are their very own actions—lack of diversification, compulsive trading, buying high, selling low, going by hunches and responding to media and market noise.

So how do we get our egos and emotions out of the investment process? One answer is to distance ourselves from the daily noise by appointing a financial advisor to help stop us doing things against our own long-term interests. An advisor begins with the understanding that there are things we can't control (like the ups and downs in the markets) and things we can. Some of the things we can control including ensuring our investments are properly diversified—both within and across asset classes—ensuring our portfolios are regularly rebalanced to meet our long-term requirements, keeping costs to a minimum and being mindful of taxes. Most of all, an advisor helps us all by encouraging the exercise of discipline—the secret weapon in building long-term wealth.

John P. Daly is a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ and President of Daly Investment Management, LLC a fee only Registered Investment Advisor specializing in financial planning and wealth management for individuals and families. Phone: 312-239-1317 Email: john@dalyinvestment.com Readers are encouraged to call or email John with questions regarding Investments or financial planning. www.dalyinvestment.com.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society: Living God's Love

It is a privilege to serve the poor. It is Christ's command to the whole human family: "Love your neighbor as yourself!"—and there are no exceptions to that rule. Christ calls us to be his hands and heart today.

"When our hearts stop burning with love, others will die of the cold." This motto of the Saint Vincent de Paul Society in the Archdiocese of Chicago and throughout the world reminds all of us that to love God means caring for His people in poverty. Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago has wholeheartedly shared this Vincentian mission of charity for 94 years by providing professional and compassionate social services and basic human needs to more than one million people each year. Recently, I had the great privilege of accepting The Saint Vincent de Paul Award, the highest accolade bestowed by DePaul University, the country's largest Catholic university, founded and staffed by the Vincentians, based on the works of Catholic Charities.

St. Vincent founded the Congregation of the Mission in 17th century France. His charisma, and that of St. Louise de Marillac—direct service to the poor through works of charity—continues today. In 1813, Frederic Ozanam, who became the founder of the charitable "Society of St. Vincent de Paul," began his college career at the Sorbonne in Paris. He never imagined that he and his colleagues would begin a worldwide organization of volunteers dedicated to serving those living on the edges of society—the poor, the hungry, the homeless and desperate. Yet, God did...

Since 1857, The Society of St. Vincent de Paul in the United States, and especially in Chicago, "has cared for those in need regardless of creed, ethnic or social background, health, gender or political opinions." Vincentians cared for Confederate prisoners at Camp Douglas in Chicago who were starved and dying due to inhumane conditions. They were instrumental in helping the Catholic bishop and pastors in opening new schools and caring for the aged.

The Society helped the Archdiocese of Chicago raise funds to purchase the property in Des Plaines, Illinois, where Maryville Academy now stands. Vincentians fed and housed victims of the Great Chicago Fire. They fed the hungry during the Great Depression

and are still feeding the hungry today.

Vincentians follow the first responders in natural disasters. They were there when Katrina struck. Their HOPE Truck was sent to help the victims. It fed over 10,000 people. Members also helped and continue to help in natural disasters here and abroad. They are still collecting funds for Haiti.

Vincentians to this day visit the sick, the lonely and imprisoned, and provide encouragement and spiritual sustenance. In other words, "Hope"—the hope that springs forth out of a mission dedicated to living, loving and serving others as called forth by the Gospel. Vincentians are Servant Leaders. Their mission: "Spirituality, Friendship and Service."

In the Archdiocese of Chicago—Cook and Lake counties—there are over 2,265 Vincentian volunteers in 127 parishes and they run 40 food pantries. Last year, St. Vincent de Paul parish conferences, thrift stores and councils served over 425,000 people with an estimated \$4 million value in services and donations. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is truly a "network of charity" and has 750,000 members in 146 countries. Members donate millions of hours of service to those in need—all in the name of Love itself.

Our largest food pantry fed over 90,000 people last year. This year this food pantry will exceed this amount by 30-40%. Staggering numbers...

unfortunately, the side effect of a distressed economy. One hundred percent of all donations to conferences are used to support those in need. Many Vincentians not only donate their time and service, they donate from their own funds.

Poverty in America is growing by leaps and bounds. A new catch phrase is on the rise: "Today's poor is yesterday's middle class." This is frightening.

2010 Census Bureau Statistics bear this out:

- 46.2 million people living in poverty—the largest number in 52 years—15.1%.
- Rising rate of child poverty: 22% in 2010, up from 20.7 in 2009.
- Median household income declined by 2.3% in 2010, while the number of uninsured increased by nearly 1 million.

The need is great—so are the hearts of the members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. New members are always welcome. For more information, see the Vincentian website: www.svdpcicago.org; or call (312) 655-7181. To advocate for the poor with state and federal lawmakers, join the Voice of the Poor Capwiz Email list; and visit the Voice of the Poor Advocacy Page: www.svdpsusa.org.

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Piping It In

Jack Baker



I was afraid that this month would roll by with no new releases to talk about and then, in a very short time, I received four new CDs that blew me away. “You’re always blown away by new stuff!” ya say, but not really. I only tell you about the good stuff. Believe me, there’s many a CD I get that get played once and that’s all. Luckily there always seems to be more than enough really good stuff to chat about, so here goes.

First off this month is the second release this year from master buttonbox wizard Paddy O’Brien. I’m still enthralled with his last release *The Sailor’s Cravat* and here comes *Mixing the Punch*, his new one! Released in the US by New Folk Records, a label that’s quickly getting a reputation as a powerhouse of Irish Trad, *Mixing the Punch* features Paddy doing magic on his button accordion joined by Teresa Baker (no relation, dog gone it) on piano and Felim Egan also on button accordion. The recording is loaded with what Paddy O’Brien is famous for, blistering traditional Irish music that grabs you by the ankles and makes your feet want

to start dancing. It even grabs my two left feet and makes me wish I had rhythm. One other nice thing about Paddy’s new release, that was



also true of *The Sailor’s Cravat*, is the amount of music you get for your money. There are 17 sets of jigs, reels, hornpipes, polkas and one lonely slow air on *Mixing the Punch*, that’s a lot to hear and a lot to enjoy. There were also 17 tracks on *Sailor’s Cravat*, but there are no songs on the new CD, it’s all instrumental. So roll up the rug, pop this new Paddy O’Brien CD on and off we go, mind the china cabinet.

I recently got a packet in the post from Shannon Heaton containing her two new recordings. What a

day that was! Track after track of new beautiful music to feed my ears and bring a smile to my face, issued forth from my CD player. Shannon plays Irish flute with as nice a touch as you’ll find on this side of the pond. On her new solo CD, called *The Blue Dress*, she demonstrates her talent, joined by Matt Heaton on guitar and bouzouki, Maeve Gilchrist on lever harp, Paddy League on bodhran and Liz Simmons on guitar. The whole CD is beautiful, haunting, lively, effervescent (always wanted to use that word) and impressive. I have always been impressed by Shannon’s flute work but this is her finest work ever.

The second CD Shannon sent was from her group, Long Time Courting, and is called *Alternate Routes*. The group consists of Shannon on flute, whistle and vocals; Ariel Friedman on cello and vocals, Liz Simmons on guitar and vocals and Sarah Blair on fiddle and vocals. These four ladies put together a lovely sound, very trad, very smooth and with stunning vocals. They obviously enjoy making music and making it together and they communicate that joy to the listener. This is a CD you’ll enjoy playing over and over, God knows I have. I just put the CD player on repeat/shuffle and let it go. I have always been a big fan of the tune “Barbara Allen” but I have never heard it done better than the way these ladies do it. Their voices blend so well and Ariel’s cello gives it the proper touch of sadness. Two winners from Shannon Heaton!

Last CD for the month comes from that long-lived Scottish band Battlefield Band, their latest *Line-up*. A surprise for me in that this is the first Battlefield Band recording without original band member Alan Reid! The new lineup consists of the ever-dapper Mike Katz on pipes, Alasdair White on fiddle, Sean O’Donnell on guitar and Ewen Henderson

on fiddle. Of course, all the band members double and triple up on myriad other instruments but I’m running out of room here. With Alan gone, there seems to be more of an emphasis on instrumental sets but that’s not a bad thing with these guys. Mike Katz’s piping, with additional piping by Ewen Henderson, is stupendous, I love this stuff. These guys, or actually the band’s earlier incarnation, were some of the first to successfully incorporate the bagpipe into the folk music setting. The current lineup continues that successful blend here. All-in-all it’s a very well-done effort by the new lineup (I’m really trying to work that CD title in there) and it’s been received well

by those customers I’ve played it for. This marks more of a milestone for Battlefield Band in that this is their 25th recording, by my count and I might have missed one or two, no small accomplishment these days, or ever, for a trad/folk band from Scotland. Nice to see that the tradition continues and I look forward to hearing more from this new lineup in future.

My last word this month is in memory of Bill Ellis, retired police officer, piper and friend. He was called home last month and he will be sorely missed.

You can reach me at pipin-gitin@comcast.net or call me at the store 630-834-8108. *Slainté*.

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Virgil Wilk, as the director of the Royal Chicago Scots Band Academy, will be giving lessons to anyone who may be interested in learning to play bagpipes or drums at no cost.

The group is a not-for-profit corporation.

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future classes will be held on Friday evenings at 7pm at West Leyden High School in Northlake at the corners of Diversey and Wolf.

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Commissioner Terrence J. O’Brien, President and Executive Director David St. Pierre of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, announced the appointment of Dr. Thomas Granato as Director of Monitoring and Research at the District.

Pictured (L-R) are President Terrence J. O’Brien, Dr. Thomas Granato and David St. Pierre.

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The Dogs of Ireland - Glen of Imaal Terrier

By Ray Cavanaugh

The Glen of Imaal Terrier is a spunky dog hailing from County Wicklow. It came from the Elizabethan era, when German mercenaries brought Dachshund-type dogs with them on their quest to quell Irish uprisings. These Dachshund-type dogs soon mated with local terriers; the result was the Glen of Imaal Terrier.

The breed soon proved itself a vermin-hunting prodigy. In addition to such prowess, legend had it that some were even able to turn spits of meat over the fire.

The Glen is a short, strong breed that can take as long as four years to reach its full growth. Though four years is half a life-expectancy for some breeds, these terriers have plenty of time to mature, as they routinely live for fifteen years or longer.

Bryan Richard’s Pocket Guide to Dogs says the Glen of Imaal

Terrier is a “tenacious and silent hunter that continues to be employed as a ratter.” However,



these days the breed is more likely to be found in the role of household pet. Most are plenty content with this vocation.

That being said, their inherently strong prey drive can result in calamity, as inadequately trained Glen of Imaals have been known to take down the household cat.

The Glen of Imaal Terrier Club of America tells how invisible fences may not be adequate for this breed, whose desire to “chase the squirrel [may negate] the jolt of the fence.”

Though they do not tend to bark much when on their own, they are known to “join the chorus” when in the company of other barking dogs. People can be taken aback by this breed’s bark, which can be deep and forceful, suggesting a much larger canine.

Indeed the Glen of Imaal becomes much larger upon provocation; many a fight they have finished. It is said that: “Many Glens are not suited for the dog park, but make excellent, loving pets.” Those that are park-suitable have been known to exhibit goofy behavior, such as “running in circles.”

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Notre Dame Goes Quietly Into the Night Against the Trojans

By Coleman Clarke

The Notre Dame PR machine was working overtime to promote their 1st night game in this once great rivalry between the Irish and USC for weeks leading up to this game. This was going to be the marquee matchup for ND with their hated rivals from Southern California. This would be the game that showed that last year's win was not a fluke, but a harbinger of even greater success for the Irish against not only USC, but the rest of their opponents in the future. After all, this was a night game in October in a stadium where there used to be a mystique and magic that was truly palpable. Notre Dame would show the rest of the skeptical college football world that they indeed were on the ascent to greatness.

However, after all the of the whistles and pregame pomp had subsided, USC had shown the rest of college football that the Irish were merely average at best, beating up on lesser foes with weaker athletes. In fact, from the opening kickoff, USC bullied the Irish in every facet of the game leading to a resounding 31-17 win that could have been even more of a blowout, given Notre Dame's penchant for inopportune turnovers at crucial junctions in the game.

USC jumped out to a 17 pt. lead before George Atkinson finally helped the Irish get on the scoreboard with a breathtaking and acrobatic kickoff return for a touchdown, his 2nd one of the season. Notre Dame never seemed prepared for USC, both offensively and defensively. USC was able run the ball at will against a suddenly porous defense, while quarterback Matt Barkley had seemingly all day to find receivers streaking unimpeded across the middle against the befuddled Irish.

On offense, the Irish never established a rhythm all night long. Irish quarterback Tommy Rees was effective in spurts, but wasn't able to find All-star wide receiver Michael Floyd, who was corralled for most of the game. Irish Head Coach

Brian Kelly, who appears to be overmatched as the Notre Dame Head man, was unable to make any adjustments at halftime, and clearly seemed unable to inspire his team in one of the biggest games of his early career at ND. At one point in the game, with the Irish threatening near the USC goal line, he inexplicably switched quarterback Dayne Crist with the inexperienced sophomore quarterback Andrew Hendrix, thwarting an Irish scoring opportunity that could have changed the complexion of the game.

This was a devastating loss that will be felt in a number of ways. First and foremost, Notre Dame had 40-50 of the top high school recruits in America at this game who wanted to see firsthand if Notre Dame was a team on the rise. What they got instead was a poorly coached and uninspired effort from Brian Kelly and his staff, along with players who repeated some of the same mistakes that cost them in their losses to Michigan and South Florida, respectively.

The truly sad thing about the Irish is the fact that these types of games are no longer an anomaly. The Irish have been losing with alarming regularity for quite some time now. They tried to pump in a horrible Ozzy Osborne song throughout the night in an attempt to manufacture artificial enthusiasm from the crowd which did oblige with occasional towel waving. This spectacle was very transparent to the savvy Irish fans that remember and long for the days of Notre Dame Football where the play on the field generated excitement from fans who didn't need to be prompted with ridiculous musical jingles more suited to a Disneyland excursion.

The Notre Dame administration just doesn't get it. They continue to allow this once great brand to erode and rot from within and attempt to place band aids on a program that is in need of a transfusion. Until this program is overhauled with competent people who understand how to build a winning tradition, they will continue to spiral into oblivion until people stop caring all together. Fans will talk about Notre Dame's glory days the ways they do about the once great Army teams of the 1940's with Doc Blanchard and Glenn Davis.

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Strictly Commercial

By Kevin O'Donnell and Susan Farmer



Sure blasting *Blarney on the Air* and typing emails in your pajamas is a much more comfortable environment for work, however is it a conducive one? Working from home may seem like the ideal set up with no traffic to battle and less bills to pay, but does it offer appropriate meeting spaces for clients or promote team collaboration?

As a commercial real estate firm, of course we believe in the need for appropriate office space... afterall that is how we make a living, but after doing a little bit of research and diving into our realms of market knowledge, we truly believe that working OUT of the home is a better option in most cases. With a variety of shared office spaces on the market, and the anxious landlord looking to fill up his overwhelming vacancies, there are a lot of cost-concise options to fit the needs of small companies. Whether you're a one-man shop or a small team organization, finding an office space that fits your budget, special needs, and client's expectations is easy when using a commercial real estate agent.

We've come up with a few reasons that now is the time to find a suitable office out of the home:

1. **Impress your clients.** Sure your Irish charm and wit (and accent if you're lucky) have the ability to woo customers, but we're pretty sure your in-home office adjacent to the mud room isn't the best place to hold a sales pitch. Today, many office buildings and parks not only offer smaller office suites for single users, they have the ability of offering shared conference rooms, kitchenettes, and reception areas. Having a friendly secretary that you only pay your pro-rata share of can be the difference between you and the "big guys" you're pitching against. Plus the shared conference room that you only pay a minimal amount for is probably easier on your wallet than all those "lunch meetings" or "coffees" that you've had to purchase in the past due to a lack of presentation space.

Shared office suites also offer the advantage of an actual business address. No longer will your clients have to send their monthly payments to Wispering Springs Drive or fret about what to put in the signature line of your email. And if you went the cautious route of a P.O. Box, well guess what? You no longer have to make an afternoon trip to the Post Office where your clients are sending mail, fully aware that you have a post office box because you DON'T have an office. The mere suite number added to your new office space address indicates that most likely you are not a "fly by night" organization and that if a landlord is

going to rely on you for monthly rent, than a client can rely on you to perform.

2. **Short term leasing options and promotions.** It's no secret that today's commercial real estate market is a tenant's market. Walk down the block and you're sure to see at least one Office Space for Lease or Free Rent, Inquire Today sign in your travels. Landlords are hungry for tenants.

Gone are the days tenants are required to sign a five year lease in order to get a landlord to look their way. In fact, many landlords are encouraging 12-36 month transactions in hopes that by the time your lease is over this thing we call an economy will be turned around and right side up again.

Furthermore, landlords are making the deals more attractive. Sure, you're probably thinking that Free Rent sign is a classic example of the old bait and switch. Alas, you'd probably be wrong. As commercial real estate agents, we prefer to not represent any landlord that won't be offering one month of free rent for every year of the lease. In our market this is pretty much going rate, as long as the rent is at a suitable number. However, if it is the rent you're more concerned with rather than the abatement, most landlords can be rate aggressive as well. Think of it as a teeter totter, the less you ask for them on one side of the equation means the more you can probably ask from them on the other side.

3. **Positive work environment.** Just like putting on your best suit, a professional office suite can also provide for a more productive day. The act of driving to the office may make a world of difference in itself. For example, you may have a gym card and pay the monthly bill with every intention of going on a frequent basis, but until you actually get off the couch, get in the car, and go chances are slim you'll use that membership. When working out of the home it is easy to get wrapped up in housework, spend time with the kids, or zone out in front of the television. An office space will have far less distractions, even if it means you actually have to get dressed in the morning.

Additionally, for those working in small teams, office suites are especially essential. Even though technology has drastically improved our ability to quickly communicate with one another regardless of their geographic coordinates, it can never compare to the age old "open-door" policy where associates have the ability to pop in for a quick chat that results in a fully thought out sales pitch. Ideas, solutions, and even camaraderie can be formed over coffee breaks, spontaneous office chats, and break room lunches.

So if we've successfully convinced you to start your own office search, feel free to call or email us. We'll help you find the best space, that fits in your budget and isn't too far from home (in case forget to stop at the cleaners and need to wear your sweats in afterall.)

kevin@odcre.com. susie@odcre.com. 630-444-0444.

Mick

Continued from Page 23...

camera, framing me as I stood on the sidewalk before the plant gates. Halfway through my opening standup I was interrupted by a loud disembodied voice telling me to leave the property. I looked 'round and saw no one. But a security camera was pointed my way, and somewhere there was a loudspeaker. I assumed whoever was behind the voice from the "Freedom Center" could hear what I was saying, because "the voice" wasn't awakened until I started speaking about the strike. There was no negotiating with the voice. I moved away from the gates a little way up the street, but when I started to speak again, the voice boomed out even more sternly: "You are trespassing on private property; Be aware you may be subject to arrest." I looked all around and saw no one. I listened for the sound of dogs. I thought: "would attack dogs be trained to bark, or rather to sneak up quietly on their prey"? I finally decided that Chicago Avenue was surely city property; and when I moved off the sidewalk I was allowed to speak without interruption.

It's hard to find much on the internet about that strike. I searched Google and Wikipedia and turned up bubkes. The men on the line had sad tales to tell. Many strikers had simply left the union. Many had lost their homes. There had been several divorces, and a couple of suicides. They told me it was really disheartening when the Teamsters made a deal with the *Tribune* and decided to cross their picket lines.

How different now the OWS protests. Passersby do not ignore them. The press offers wide coverage. Unions like the United Federation of Teachers and the Transport Workers are in "solidarity."

When OWS protesters were doused with pepper spray in New York, it was reported that individual Army and Marine members were on their way to support and protect the demonstrators. Lefty celebs like Michael Moore and Susan Sarandon are stopping by to show solidarity. As of printing, nearly \$300,000 for the protesters has been donated to an account at Amalgamated, a bank owned by the service employees union, SEIU.

OWS has even become a foreign policy football. When the US announced it had uncovered an Iranian plot to assassinate the Saudi ambassador to Washington, Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said that the U.S. accusation was meant to divert attention from the Occupy Wall Street protest movement.

Can an OWS Aid concert or a Hollywood production be far behind?

(*Rhubarb: a quarrel or squabble.*)

E-mail: IrishTV@att.net. Watch: IRISH JOURNAL TELEVISION

Chicago cable- CAN-TV, Channel 19: Monday 7pm, Tuesday 2pm

Comcast-(Skokie system) 24 North suburbs-Ch. 19 (or 35): Tuesday, 6pm Comcast-(Elmhurst system) 41 West suburbs-Channel 19: Tuesday 7:30pm. © Mike Morley 2011.

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Tradition In Review

Bill Margeson



November 12 and 13. Mark it. Mark it well. iBAM!

In its third year, the iBAM! gathering (Irish Books, Art and Music) at the Irish American Heritage Center sets a new high this year. Wow! There really is no event like this anywhere in the Irish community in the country. Beginning at 11am each day, the Heritage Center will be

alive with authors, artists and musicians, with events centering on the very latest and best in books from and about Ireland, as well as some incredible music and gorgeous art. This entire weekend had its genesis in discussions between *Irish American News* editor, Cliff Carlson and the paper’s Irish book reviewer, Frank West. Since Chicago has the best Irish American Cultural Center in the world, why not—they reasoned—have an entire weekend dedicated to the best of the current crop of books and music available? It didn’t take long for the Heritage Center to get on board, and this is the third year of magic. Get this. Tickets are only \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. More on that later. We can’t cover it all. Let’s just play random name association to show you the quality of what’s coming in.

How about the fabulous artist, Elizabeth Cope with her beautiful

paintings of County Kilkenny? Chris Binchy with his new book, *Five Days Apart*. How about the iconic Maurice Lennon with his dad, Ben,



and uncle, Charlie, arguably the greatest family of Irish Traditional Music, in a historic appearance right here in Chicago? Hm? Jackie Daly. Matt Cranitch. Mick Moloney. Paul De Grae. The immortal Liz Carroll on fiddle. Martin Hayes and Dennis Cahill. Jimmy Keane. Our Jimmy Keane. Our Ciara Walton. John Hoban. Johnny and Cormack McCarthy. Our Chicago Reel. The Cannadys. Dear God, we just got derailed by all the musicians! Well, this IS a musical column. This could not possibly be any better for traditional music fans. What an incredible lineup.

Let’s go back to some of these authors. Frank Delaney, whom *National Public Radio* says is the most eloquent man in the world, talking about literature. Glen Patterson with a host of his works, and Belfast-born. County Clare’s Mary O’Donohue with her lovely new novel, *Before the House Burns*. County Longford’s

Belinda McKeon with her brand new novel, *Solace*. Joseph Woods, director of *Poetry Ireland* since 2001. After a long line of wonderful works, he’s out with his brand new third collection of poems, *Ocean Letters*. Vincent Woods, noted RTE broadcaster and prolific author. Patrick Taylor, now living in Roscommon, currently at work on the fourth book in his series of short stories and essays. Three novels, and all of them fab, from Claire Kilroy. She also was awarded the Rooney Prize for Irish Literature in 2004. The United States premier appearance for Kevin Barry with his first novel, *City of Bohane*, which will be released in America this spring. He is another

winner of the Rooney Prize for Irish Literature. Back on tour, John Hoban—traveller, musician, raconteur and author from Castlebar in Mayo. Political and economic writer David Lynch from the *Bloomberg News*. A wonderful self-taught artist, Jennifer Allen, specializing in using white pencil on black paper. Incredible. Cindy Matyi with her impossible-to-describe, but gorgeous paintings of fantasy and Ireland, all combining in something really special. It dawns on us in trying to write about all this that we’ve just left out a ton of artists, musicians, and authors who are going to be there!

Look, here’s the deal. This is easily the premier Irish cultural event in America. No debate. No argument. There is nowhere else where you can see this kind of collection of these legendary musicians, authors and artists under one roof on one weekend. If you have any pride in

your Celtic heritage, you’ll be there. If you’d rather sit home and watch two colleges play football, who you don’t even know where they are from, so be it. The real Chicago Irish and Celtic community will be at iBAM! this year for both days. Go to the website. Just Google iBAM! Chicago. There are the schedules—a ton of activities, panels, concerts, artists displays, book signings. We’re even going to host a panel on Irish Music in Chicago, Post-O’Neill. Who’s going to be on that panel? Try this on for size: Jimmy Keane, Liz Carroll,

Irish Music School of Chicago’s Sean Cleland, and Irish Fest founder, Ed Ward. We’re looking forward to just asking questions, sitting back and learning right along with the audience. This is only one panel, and we’re flogging it because we’re part of it. Time to stop yakking. Get to the website www.ibamchicago.com and get to iBAM! We’ll be there both days. This is not to be missed. While you’re there, find Cliff Carlson, Frank West, and the people who run the Heritage Center. Thank them for this magical moment.



Reel Jiggy

Deirdre Kozicki



My stomach was full of fluttering butterflies. I was standing side stage to dance for the first time ever in a PC competition. Usually you dance with another person on stage, but to add to my nervousness, I had to dance alone. I did as best as I could in my reel, but to be honest, I think I could have done better. I was concentrating on the steps and not the corrections. I felt pretty good about my slip jig. It was now time for my treble jig. I feel that I am better in my treble jig than my slip jig, so I wasn’t as nervous. I quickly changed my shoes and before I knew it, I was already on stage doing my treble jig. When I was done, I was tired and breathing heavy, but I thought I did a really

good job. Then I waited a while for the results. That was the best part about PC. You got to have a results ceremony like at Oireachtas. I wasn’t expecting to place because it was my first PC feis, and I didn’t. I didn’t place but I didn’t mind. Some people have been in this level a long time and I was just starting. I really just wanted to get some practice in before Oireachtas. When I went home, I checked my results online and it turned out I got an 18th overall. I was happy with myself. I knew I could do better, but I didn’t get last which was my goal. (Only for the first one, though.) Well, I have another one coming up soon and I know I will do better. For now, I have many more practices for Oireachtas which is (can you believe it?) a month away. I have been practicing a lot and my goal is to qualify for Nationals, so I know I need to work extra hard. It will be here before I know it.

I recently joined my school’s robotics club. I’m not one to put two wires together or use science to make things, but it sounded really fun. You make these robots and you make everything waterproof. Then after our robots are finished were going to test them in pools and the Chicago River! It seems so fun. I can’t wait to start building. I’ll keep you updated on the progress of my robot!

In two months I’ll have my Oireachtas results so I want to wish all the MHG dancers well doing Oireachtas, and I hope everyone has a lovely Thanks-giving!

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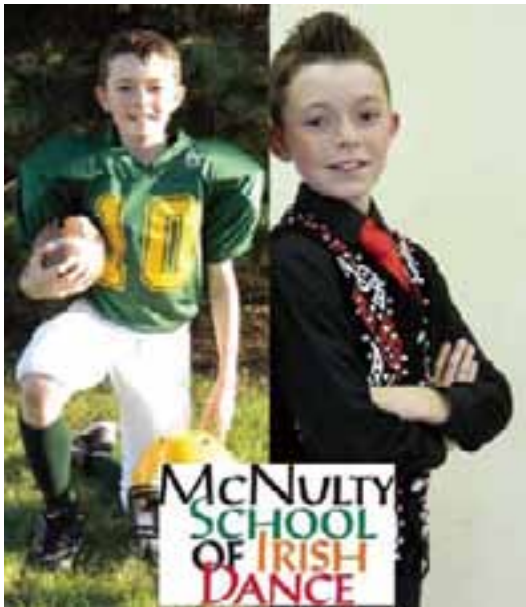
Third Championship Hopes for Local Irish Dancer

Twice-reigning U.S. Midwest Champion, McKimmon Engelhardt, hopes to retain his title and cap off three years of competitive success at the Mid American Irish Dance Championships this November.

“Mack” has danced for six years with the McNulty School of Irish Dance and currently attends classes in Naperville, Aurora, Villa Park, and Arlington Heights along with his three siblings.

The Sugar Grove native is a sixth grader at Holy Angels School and splits his time between Irish dance and football. Most recently, Mack won Sixth Place at the World Championships of Irish Dance this past April in Dublin, Ireland.

The Mid American Championships will be held on November 25, 26, and 27 at the



McKimmon Engelhardt, 12, splits his time between football and Irish dance. He is currently ranked 6th in the world and will be competing for his 3rd straight title as Mid America Irish Dance Champion this November.

Hyatt Regency O’Hare Hotel in Rosemont.

The McNulty School of Irish Dance celebrated its 40th Anniversary this year. Founded in 1971 by Barbara McNulty T.C.R.G., the McNulty School has grown to become one of the most active schools in the Midwest, with classes in more than 17 locations across Chicago-

land, Bloomington, and Rockford, Ill., as well classes in Wisconsin and Iowa. The McNulty School of Irish Dance seeks to preserve the rich traditions of Irish music and dance by celebrating them now and passing them down for future generations.

For information on classes and winter registration, please email McNultyDancers@aol.com or visit <http://www.mcnyltyirishdancers.com/>.

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Celtic Thunder’s Paul Byrom Releases *This Is The Moment*

Celtic Thunder has been one of the great musical phenomena of the past decade. Since their debut in 2007, the Irish vocalist supergroup has conquered the world, becoming PBS favorites and topping the world music charts in the U.S. and top concert attractions everywhere. Original Celtic Thunder vocalist Paul Byrom, who unlike most of his Celtic Thunder comrades had a recording career in Ireland prior to the group’s formation, decided in Fall of 2010 to leave the group, in order to re-locate to the States and launch his worldwide solo career with a new solo recording. The resulting album, *This Is The Moment*, is a beautiful work that shows the full range of Paul Byrom’s talent, demonstrating why he had been saluted as Ireland’s premier young



The Moment, which includes semi-classical material, Irish-inflected song and unique interpretations of popular songs as diverse as Bette Midler’s “From A Distance” to a unique ballad interpretation of The Beatles’ “All My Loving.”


tenor. *This Is The Moment* will be released by Shanachie Entertainment on November 8, 2011 to coincide with Paul Byrom’s first solo North American tour.

old and went on to study as a tenor under the legendary Dr. Veronica Dunne, Ireland’s leading lady of opera and renowned vocal teacher. A through grounding in classical technique gave Paul a strong foundation as a vocalist. He was a professional singer by his early teens and recorded his first album, as a boy soprano, when he was just 14. A second album, *Velvet*, was released in Ireland in 2005 and hit #2 in the Irish music charts.


As a classically trained singer, Paul Byrom brings his spectacular voice to an impressive range of material on *This Is*

In 2007 Paul was invited to join the new “supergroup” Celtic Thunder, as one of the five soloists. Celtic Thunder became a worldwide phenomenon, selling hundreds of thousands of records, touring prestigious concert halls around the world and, in the United States, becoming a staple of PBS concert programming. Each of the five soloists in Celtic Thunder developed their individual followings; Paul was known as “The Swanky Tenor” due to his suave and romantic performing style, especially on such key Celtic Thunder numbers as “Remember Me Recuerde Me” and “She.” After three years with the group, Paul felt the urge to spread his wings with material that was not necessarily appropriate for Celtic Thunder and so he left the group to go solo in November of 2010. The results on *This Is The Moment* will appeal to his Celtic Thunder fans but also to lovers of quality popular song and light classical vocal styles.

As part of his North American tour, Paul Byrom will play *The Mercury Theatre*, 3745 North Southport Ave. in Chicago, on Nov. 9th, 2011. (773) 325-1700.



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Do You Remember St. Adrian Parish?

St. Adrian Parish recently held a dedication/blessing at a new five foot white marble statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This outdoor statue completes the set of three which includes Sacred Heart of Jesus, Our Lady of Fatima, and St. Adrian in the fenced-in flower garden bordering the north wall of the Church. Renovation of the "Old School" building is complete and religious education classes have begun once again. Landscaping around the convent and "Little School" has beautified both buildings.

Fr. Leo McNamara, a living legend in his day among the thriving Southside Irish community, founded the parish in 1929. In respect of Fr.



Father Tom Mescall

McNamara, the church appears much the same as it was during his tenure.

The memory of "Fr. Mac" remains fresh in the minds of all parishioners who knew him. He was one-of-a-kind priest and pastor with a heart as big as the state of Michigan, where

he is buried. People still telephone the rectory asking about him and statues and relics which he brought to the parish during his long years of service.

Fr. Tom Mescall, St. Adrian's administrator says, "no matter where I go among the Irish community in Chicago, I encounter people who eagerly relate stories about Fr. Mac, and their fond memories of the parish."

Fr. Tom invites all former parishioners and friends to drop in anytime for a walk down memory lane and see the work being done to complete the mission of Fr. Leo McNamara in the Marquette Park neighborhood on Chicago's Southside.

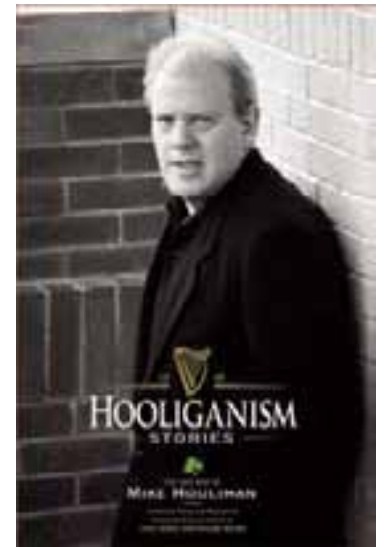
St. Adrian Parish, 7000 S. Fairfield Ave., Chicago IL 60629, 773-434-3223.

Hooliganism in Riverside!

On Saturday November 19th, *Irish American News* columnist Mike Houlihan will hold court at Mollie's Public House in Riverside to tell some stories, sign, and sell his book *Hooliganism*. The fun begins at 7pm and Houlihan will be joined by *Chicago Jazz Magazine* and AOL Patch cartoonist Charley Krebs with an exhibit of his work. Charley's award-winning cartoons appeared for decades in the *Suburban LIFE* Newspapers. Leading off the night's musical presentation will be guitarist and songwriter Paul Halvey.

Stop into Mollie's for some Saturday night fun at 31 Forest Ave., in Riverside, IL. (708-447-2233) Mollie's is a very cozy Irish pub with Guinness on tap as well as several

other favorites. They also serve food. Hope to see you there!



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Celtic Tenors *Feels Like Home* CD

The Celtic Tenors are back! Their latest CD, recently released, *Feels Like Home*, is a 13-song CD that celebrates the uplifting music of Ireland, Scotland, England and Wales, while borrowing a few songs from other cultures along the way. Some of the songs on *Feels Like Home* are traditional and some are contemporary, but all of them serve as a reminder that the world is still a hopeful place.

The Celtic Tenors are a three-man vocal group that includes Matthew Gilsean, James Nelson and Daryl Simpson. The trio has been weaving together an eclectic repertoire of Celtic, operatic and popular songs for audiences worldwide since 2000.

The new CD, *Feels Like Home*, is about hope, with all of the changes—financial and cultural—going on in the world today, The Celtic Tenors themselves are living proof of that hope.

The tenors are joined on *Feels Like Home* by some of the most prestigious musical talent in Ireland. Their core musical accompaniment con-



sists of producer and multi-instrumentalist Martin Quinn, pianists Colm Henry and Gavin Murphy (who is also the orchestral arranger), and drummer/percussionist Andrew Quinn. John O’Brien plays pipes and whistles on several tracks. Also on hand is the Radio Teilifis Erin (RTE) Concert Orchestra (Ireland’s premier orchestra) and the Omagh Community Youth Choir. The Omagh Choir was founded in the late 1990s by Simpson in response to a 1998 car bombing by an IRA splinter group called the Real IRA in Omagh, in Northern Ireland. The bombing killed 31 people and injured hundreds of others. This commitment to harmony in the midst of discord is what underscores and inspires *Feels Like Home*.

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Fiona Molloy in Milwaukee Nov. 12

Some of southeastern Wisconsin’s finest Celtic singers, musicians and dancers will be featured when Irish singer Fiona Molloy and special guests Dublin O’Shea perform in the Hallamor of the Irish Cultural and Heritage Center, 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, on Saturday, Nov. 12, at 7:30pm. They will be joined by bodhran player David Klawes, Highland bagpiper Sean Cavanaugh, and the Kinsella Academy of Irish Dance.

Although she now calls Wisconsin home, Molloy is originally from Derry, Northern Ireland, where she was dubbed the Songbird of Peace for her performances during the “troubles” in the 1970s. Her “angelic” voice has been heard by many world leaders and she has been a favorite of Milwaukee Irish Fest audiences. Molloy’s songs range from original ballads and rowdy pub favorites to songs by other artists including Joan Baez. An engaging performer, she can make an audience laugh one moment and bring a tear to their eyes the next.

Accompanying Molloy will be David Klawes



on the handheld Irish drum. Klawes has performed at Irish Fest and plays regularly with the well-known duo Frogwater.

The beauty and precision of Irish step-dancing will be showcased by champion dancers from the award-winning Kinsella Academy. The dancers have earned top honors at local, national and international level competitions.

Opening the night’s entertainment are the freewheeling and fun-loving band Dublin O’Shea, known for energizing audiences with songs from Ireland, Scotland and the nautical tradition played on guitar, fiddle, mandolin and bodhran.

Sean Cavanaugh will add the thrilling swirl of the bagpipes to the evening’s festivities. Cavanaugh is a member of the Milwaukee Shamrock Club Color Guard, Pipes, and Drums.

Reserved seat tickets are \$19. To order tickets and also view the full Hallamor concert series, visit www.ihc.net. Tickets may also be ordered by calling (414) 345-8800.

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Real Ireland

By Rachel Gaffney



Georgina Campbell

Is it any wonder that Godfrey Lighthouse in West Cornwall, England, could inspire *To The Lighthouse* by Virginia Woolf? Once you visit you will know the answer to this question. So, how does a young girl growing up here, a member of "The Society of Friends" (Quakers) become Ireland's leading authority on food, hospitality and travel? I wanted to know.

I waited with my morning cup of coffee, freshly sharpened number two pencil and pad of paper with a few questions scribbled down but truth be told, I knew the conversation would dictate the questions. It always does. The phone rang and I answered. I thanked Georgina for taking the time to call and speak with me and she responded with a soft and gentle voice. Over the years I had become a fan of this lady. Her honesty jumped off the pages and still does. Most recently I read her account of a food symposium in County Wicklow. "Unlike the previous sessions, there was a sense of disquiet among the audience, many of whom dearly felt that some of the serious issues raised had not been adequately addressed." For me, this kind of honesty is refreshing.

It was early morning. My household was still slumbering, making this time with Georgina all the more special. Before I had finished my first cup of coffee, we had already begun to talk about her life in Cornwall. I was eager to know where she was coming from. As Edmund Burke, famous

Irish author, statesman and orator said, "People will not look forward to posterity who never look backward to their ancestors."

They lived on a small farm. "The kind that all but disappeared over the last couple of generations but is now coming back, as we're recognizing the value of what has been lost," Georgina explained. Her parents had chosen this life. They opted out of their respective religious backgrounds and were admirers of Rudolf Steiner (Austrian philosopher and founder of biodynamics.)

Georgina recalls the small dairy herd, a breed called Red Polls, a couple of Guernseys and Jerseys. "I loved the dairy side of things, the coolness of the dairy with its ultra clean smell of disinfectant, making butter, clotted cream and cottage cheese, not on a commercial scale, but for the house."

I now knew 'Doll,' well I felt as though I did after our conversation. She was the lovely old cart horse who had come with the family when her parents moved from Yorkshire, in 1947. When the day old chicks arrived, chirping frenetically, she loved warming them under the lamps in the big greenhouse and collecting eggs from the runs, sorting them into grades for market and packing them into their layers in the strong hinged wooden boxes of twelve dozen.

While Georgina potted about, apple and pear picking, bottling and canning, her mum taught domestic sci-

ence to senior secondary students. Being Scottish, she (the latter) had a very down to earth approach and as we know, the Scottish (much like the Irish) have a great tradition of baking. Georgina's first cookery books were her mums college references *The Edinburgh Book of Plain Cookery Recipes*.

One of their earliest domestic duties was to prepare something wholesome and simple before their mother arrived home from work and at Christmas the kids were encouraged "to up their game a little!" Using their fathers produce they became quite adept at pie making, canning, preserving



Georgina Campbell, apple picking as a young girl.

and cooking.

She attended Queens College Belfast, where she studied English and French. It was here that she met William, the son of a doctor's family from Co. Down. He was the obvious reason for staying on in Ireland, but "I felt absolutely at home after only a few weeks in Belfast and might well have stayed anyway," she told me.

Trinity College Dublin was where Georgina completed her Higher Di-

ploma Education in English and French. Her first job was teaching Business English and Restaurant French at Cathal Brugha Street, now known as DIT (Dublin Institute of Technology.) This course was to "give catering students the skills to deal with their businesses correctly, in terms of correspondence."

The students on the Chefs and Cooks courses were from rural areas and were very young. "We did general literature with them, including poetry—I remember how strange they thought it was that Seamus Heaney (who was a lecturer—and a very good one too—when I was at Queen's) would think something like digging turf was a suitable subject for poetry." (*Nobel Prize Winner ~ Literature*)

When Georgina married and had her first child she knew she wanted to work from home. Her initial thoughts were to write a column about crafts. Turning your trash into a treasure.

She contacted Janet Martin, the Women's Editor of the *Independent* newspaper. Janet was interested and agreed to come chat with Georgina about this idea.

It was the mid seventies and Georgina had just prepared a light lunch. "Quite an ordinary lunch really, just a simple quiche and salad," she recalls.

It was this lunch that turned the tides for Georgina Campbell, for the editor knew instinctively that this simple lunch was not simple at all. It was baked with love and fresh ingredients. They were looking for a food writer and Janet Martin knew that her search was over as she had found someone to champion home cooking.

Georgina's memories are fond memories. From speaking with her it is clear that she has an inherent love and respect for the land and those that care for it. If Georgina Campbell recommends it... then you know it has to be good.

Georgina Campbell is the author of *Ireland for Food Lovers*, *Irish Country House Cooking—The Blue Book Recipe Collection* and her current book *Georgina Campbell's Ireland—The Guide*. The latter is sold out and a new edition is currently being reprinted, according to the web site, www.irelandguide.com.

Georgina Campbell's Irish Apple Cake

This lovely moist cake is very popular in farmhouse kitchens in the late autumn, when there's an abundance of apples. For the same reason it's often served at Halloween, although it isn't associated with Halloween customs in the way that Barm Brack is. It can be served cold, as a cake, or warm with cream or custard, as a pudding.

1 cup self-raising flour
2 pinches of salt
2 good pinches of ground cloves
1/2 cup butter, at room temperature (preferably Kerrygold unsalted)
4 cooking apples if available, if not Granny Smith apples

1/2 - 3/4 cup sugar, to taste
2 eggs
a little milk to mix
a little sugar to sprinkle over
Grease a 1 lb. loaf pan. Preheat oven, 375°F

Sieve the flour, salt and cloves into a bowl, cut in the butter and rub in until the mixture is like fine bread crumbs.

Peel and core the apples; slice thinly, add to the mixture with the sugar—the amount depends on how much sweetening the apples need. Mix in the egg and enough milk to make a fairly stiff dough, then turn the mixture into the prepared tin and sprinkle with granulated sugar.

Bake in the preheated oven for 30-35 minutes, until crisp, golden brown and springy to the touch.

The Michael J. Murphy Music Scholarship Fund has been created to provide music instruments and lessons to children from families that do not have the financial means to provide this opportunity.

Please join us on Saturday, November 5, 2011 for a fundraising benefit at 115 Bourbon Street, 3359 West 115th Street, Merrionette Park, IL from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

If you are unable to attend, but would like to support a young musician in the Chicagoland area, monetary donations can be sent directly to:

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Hooliganism

Mike Houlihan



Can God Be Tricked?

Of course not you say, God is the epitome of wisdom and would never fall for anything, especially any goofy scheme dreamed up by the likes of me.

So it would be foolish to assume that God could be flattered or conned into doing anything. But love, well that’s a different story.

I know God loves me and will answer my prayers. He certainly has

before, lots of times, a series of miracles over the years. In fact just about anything I ever really, really wanted I prayed for and got. And He keeps telling me “Ask and you shall receive, knock and the door shall be opened.”

So here’s my trick. I constantly thank him in advance for helping me whenever I ask. It’s not a con because I know He will come through for me... eventually. So as we hit Thanksgiving

this month why not try to thank the Lord for all the gifts He has given us, but also the blessings He will bestow in the future.

Maybe try thanking God every day for winning Lotto. Finally your numbers come in and you drop dead of a heart attack as you are overcome with joy. Well, you didn’t pray for that... or did you? Certainly the gift will help your family pay for your funeral and you can go to Heaven knowing that your prayers have been answered and your kids and grandchildren will drive fancy cars and never have to work another day in their lives. I’ll take that any day Lord.

The key to getting the big prayers answered is to make sure you give thanks for the little ones. Like that parking space that just popped up out of nowhere or the twenty-dollar bill you find on the floor of the ladies room. Or the fact that Oprah has stopped doing her show. Thank you Jesus!

I have lots to be thankful for this Thanksgiving. I sold my house last year and got a pretty good price for it. In this economy, that’s a miracle. I spent over a year praying for that one.

My granddaughter Charlotte is now two years old, thanks be to God.

I moved south to become the Baron of Berwyn and started attending St. Odilo Catholic Church. Turns out St. Odilo is the only parish in the United States dedicated to the Souls in Purgatory and every time I set foot in the church it’s worth a special indulgence of 200 days. It’s like going to the bank for me, since my wife tells me that the average stay in purgatory is 40 years and she implies that I will be doing even harder time. But at the rate I’m going at St. Odilo’s with the indulgences, I’ll be out in a couple years max. Hey I can do that standing on my head.

Actually standing on your head is what they make the Protestants do in purgatory. Or so I’ve heard.

I’m also thankful for the pastor at St. Odilo, Father Tony Brankin. He was at St. Thomas More for years on the south side before coming to Berwyn. This guy is terrific, an old school preacher. He’s not afraid to call out the phony Catholic politicians in our state who promote abortion and “marriage” for gaysters. And he blasts away at these fakers right from the pulpit.

And let me tell ya, after a week of the likes of Anderson Cooper and Rachel Maddow talking about “their” version

of the world, it’s damn refreshing to hear Tony Brankin tell it like it is as he calls out their ilk as “pod people” and “moral zombies!”

I’m also thankful for *The Skinny & Houli Show* sponsors, *Our Irish Cousins* donors, Social Security, my family, and Herman “The Herminator” Cain.

Those are all answered prayers. And what about the future goodies I’m giving thanks for this Thanksgiving? Well, that’s between The Lord and me.

After all, a magician never reveals his greatest trick. But I’ve definitely got something up my sleeve. Happy Thanksgiving everybody!

Horoscope



Theresa Castro



ARIES: You could find yourself in a sudden situation. Planets Uranus and Jupiter are positioned to require you to spend money on a sudden health related issue. Insurance matters could come into play as well. Inheritance might be key. Do you have a rich uncle?



TAURUS: When it rains it pours in the romance department! Jupiter is often the harbinger of abundance (or excess) as the case may be. Along with Jupiter are many planets in your sector of significant others! Please do not bite off more than you can chew where others are concerned!



GEMINI: Your health or the health of a friend may be the focus this month of November 2011! For some of you, a surprise addition to the family could be a distinct possibility! Whatever the situation, emphasis will be on the suddenness of events!



CANCER: You are in a long lasting phase where Pluto, the master of transformation, along with a large group of other planets are smiling on you! You should be quite busy this month with the affairs that are dearest to you! Your children or creative projects will flourish!



LEO: Mars is making you impatient this month of November 2011. Other planets are positioned to add to some of the frustration as well. Thankfully, these should pass within a few short weeks and things should calm down!



VIRGO: This is a time when you could use a vacation or at least a bit of rest and recuperation! The planets will not cooperate with the calmness you so desperately need! You will probably experience a lot of comings and goings this busy month of November!

LIBRA: Spend! Spend! Spend! Is there no end? The planets are situated



so that you will have some necessary financial wrangling to do! If money is tight so will be your nerves! Please try to deal with all of this in ways that are workable for yourself. Make a realistic budget!



SCORPIO: You have the world by a string now! If you do not have a significant other in your life, Do NOT sit at home! You could meet someone special! If you do have someone in your life, you will be treated like royalty! Enjoy this time. You deserve every bit of it!



SAGITTARIUS: You could now see some cash coming your way! This will be in the form of a settlement of some kind or a result of your own savvy maneuvering! Whatever the source, you should come out on top of the game! This month is also a good time to begin such a project!



CAPRICORN: You are due for a return on all of your hard work this month of November 2011! It is likely that you have some kind of business venture that is turning out quite nicely now! For the unemployed, a job offer could be a distinct possibility. It is your turn to bask in the sun!



AQUARIUS: You have been dealing with some pressure and strife lately and are in need of help! Well it looks as if the cavalry has arrived! The help you could receive comes from an unlikely source! Guardian angels really do exist, and in the nick of time!



PISCES: Powerful and helpful friends are waiting in the wings to help you! Do not be afraid to ask for assistance if you need it. You cannot go it alone! If you are in a state of denial you can’t move forward with some relationships. Moving on is the best solution for your emotional self. Don’t let illusions block your path to happiness and success!

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Here's to the men and women who marched off with their country's siren song echoing in their ears,
To those whose beautiful banner of freedom, banished their own innate mortal fears,
To those who kept tyranny and hell, contained on some foreign shore,
To those who gave up their precious lives, and to those who gave much more,
To those who died in battle, without blessing and without grace,
To those who are sentenced to sleep forever, with foreign dirt above their face,
To those who fill our V.A. hospitals, with only the parts of themselves they managed to bring back home,
With no chance to live the "American Dream", because of sacrifices made so far across the foam,
To those who came home shattered, forever married to the demons of war, with no real hope of ever getting well,
And may God forgive us, to those we left behind, condemned to live in what's far worse than any hell,
To those who served, who were wounded physically and mentally and whose scars are seen by themselves alone,
To those who try to live a "normal" life, with constant pains and haunting memories that will never be outgrown,
We shall keep your sacred memories seared deep within our Nation's heart, and we will carry them to our grave,
And we shall see your faces upon the Stars and Stripes, whenever we see our precious Flag of Freedom wave,
To all those brave brothers and sisters - We have not forgot! We have not forgot!
We love you - We thank you - We pray for you - We salute you -
The American Patriot.

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Jerry O'Neill

◆ To All Who Proudly Served Our Country ◆ Thank you and may God bless you ◆

◆ AMERICAN PATRIOT'S ALL ◆

Online Only This Month

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

- Meehall Recalls
- Terry From Derry

They will all be back next month for your reading pleasure!

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