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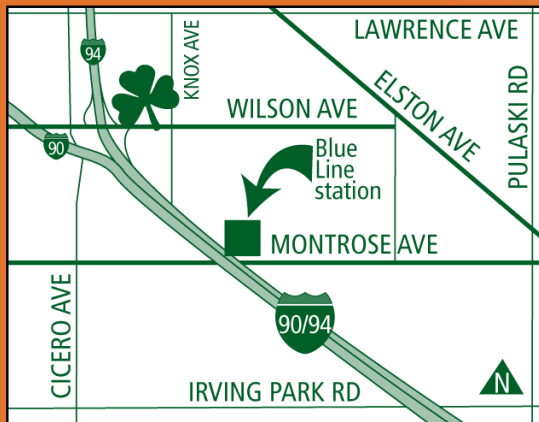
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Special People Day at Gaelic Park June 24

On Sunday, June 24th, 2012, The Clare Association of Chicago will celebrate the 26th Anniversary of our "Day for Special People" at Chicago Gaelic Park, 6119 W. 147th Street in Oak Forest, IL. We are very proud to sponsor this day and as in the past, our day will start with 10 am Mass on the Patio, with our main celebrant being Bishop Frances Kane of Chicago. A delicious Irish buffet breakfast will follow, as always there is no charge to our "special guests," and a nominal fee charged to all others.

Our Grand Raffle, one of the highlights of this day will follow the breakfast. All of our special guests' names are placed in a drawing upon entry to the park that morning. Names of winners will continue to be drawn until all the prizes are gone. The grand raffle prizes consist of televisions, DVD players, video recorder / players, stereo equipment, bikes, musical equipment, large toys, etc. All the prizes are displayed on the stage awaiting our winner's selection. Following the Grand Raffle, all the guests are invited to play four games from a choice of ten, for which they are guaranteed a prize. They may choose their game prizes from an array of gifts such as headset radios, games, videos, stuffed animals, tee shirts, sport bags, drink cups, balls, puzzles, children's toys, etc. A wonderful day is promised for all.

Anyone wishing to register a "special guest" must register starting May 17th to June 17th, 2012. To register call Maureen Bennett at 708/301-9773.

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From the Motherland

Sean Farrell



Emmet Larkin Et Al

By the time you read this the latest Irish episode in the ongoing Euro saga will have taken place – the referendum on May 31 on the European Stability Treaty. More about that later.

But first I must acknowledge the sad passing of Emmet Larkin, whose memorial service at the University of Chicago was the day before Ireland voted. With Emmet's death, Chicago, Ireland and Irish America has lost a great character and friend.

Emmet Larkin came to the University of Chicago in 1966, where he was Professor of British and Irish History until his retirement in 2006. Together with his friend Professor Larry McCaffrey, he was a seminal figure in promoting Irish studies in the USA through the American Conference for Irish Studies, which they founded in 1960.

Irish studies in the USA are now booming, due in no small part to the ACIS and its founders and Emmet's role should not be forgotten. It should not be forgotten either that it was the same year, 1960, that the first Irish Catholic was elected U.S. President and that the huge Irish American community took its rightful place in American life.

Emmet's academic speciality was the Catholic Church in 19th Century Ireland of which he had a deep and erudite understanding, expressed in many books. It is interesting, at a time when the Irish Church is embattled, to recall his friend, Larry McCaffrey's summation of Emmet's conclusions on its role and influence in post-Famine Ireland: the Church "provided an impoverished and oppressed people with consolation, hope, discipline, and cultural and national identity. It also has offered them social, medical and educational services when the state was indifferent to their poverty and ignorance." Amen to that.

I recall discussing the Great Famine with him in the context of historical revisionism. One observation he made has stayed with me. "It would not have been allowed to happen in Surrey, or any other part of England." I first met Emmet in 1973, and last saw him, together with my wife, when we were his guests for Thanksgiving 2006. My sincere condolences go to his widow, Dianne, and his

family.

Back to the Referendum. Up to early May the issue and the outcome seemed fairly clear. Rejection

would paint us out of the certainty of being able to avail of cheap loans from an enhanced bailout fund should more borrowing, i.e. a second bailout, become necessary. The quid pro quo was to tie us into future budgetary constraints. Furthermore rejection would not hold up the treaty: we would be left behind the other Euro member states.

As I mentioned in an earlier column, many have seen the whole treaty as little more than a Potemkin exercise designed to allay the fears of German voters and as contributing little to any overall long term solution to the Euro crisis – another example of a political remedy for an economic problem. We seem now to be steaming towards another Potemkin add-on with an attempt by the heavy hitters among Europe's politicians to head off popular dissatisfaction with tough economic measures by tacking on some form of economic stimulus package to the treaty; it is being put together as I write.

The Government made a judgement call, "bravely" in my view, (as Ye Minister would put it) to hold the referendum early rather than late. This despite the flak they were getting over the modest household charge of around \$130 per annum. Registration and payments are currently running at around 57%, indicating massive non-compliance. A near fiasco over the details of the latest planned stealth tax – water charges – did not improve the public mood. A cynic would suggest that, since there is worse to come – the small print of the pending property tax, for example – it was better to try to get the referendum over with early.

The polls up to now show a solid majority in favour of the treaty, less because of the efforts of the Yes side, than because the No side were unable to provide any reasonable suggestion of where the \$400 million a week needed to run the country would come from were Ireland to vote No. Sloganizing from the Left about increased and new taxes on the rich sounded hollow, if only because, even if they worked, the time delay to net an effective yield would involve a serious period of real privation and hardship which the ordinary punters would not stomach. The second No argument – that ultimately "our gallant allies in Europe" would not see us short, while perhaps containing an element of truth,

was not something to bet the house on.

Recent developments elsewhere in Europe have served to muddy the waters to some extent though not, on the face of it, to affect seriously the referendum outcome, at least according to the latest polls. France has elected a Socialist president who has spent the time since his election rowing back on his earlier campaign stances. The last one, in 1983, was forced to abandon the free spending policies which got him elected and implement a sharp "austerity turn". Plus ca change?

The Dutch government has shipped water and a cobbled together temporary coalition is casting around for politically palatable budgetary measures. Even in Germany the latest regional elections have seen reverses for the government. And in Spain, the fourth of the big four Eurozone countries, the banking and unemployment situations are moving to critical.

It's fairly clear that ordinary citizens in Europe are exasperated and frustrated that the decades of rising living standards are over for now at least and virtually every government has taken a pasting at the polls since 2008 (the only exception being Estonia). But at the margin, among the PIGS, the issue of how to manage a fiscal crisis rather than a mere annoyance has immediate relevance. Ireland is in a bail-out situation, and thus far is handling it without fuss or real hardship (belt tightening does not constitute hardship!).

It is hardly surprising therefore that the principle that seems to work with the Irish voter at referendum time, "When in doubt vote No" appears on this occasion to be working in favour of the Yes side. While the treaty is not exactly palatable, rejection without a clear visible alternative seems just too risky. The hard won progress of the last three years is not for discarding easily. Again, the spectacle of Greece continues to concentrate minds. The Greek voters decisively rejected its bail-out deal and the country is currently in political crisis and eyeball-to eyeball with its paymasters in Germany.

While the economic stimulus package proposal has potentially handed the No lobby another weapon by casting doubt on the wisdom of the May vote, of itself it should not suffice to defeat the treaty. A far greater threat would be the perception that the contest was won, with a consequent low turnout on the Yes side. This was what happened at Nice One.

Whatever the vote in Ireland, or the eventual outcome in Greece, the Eurozone is lurching again, hopefully in a forward direction. The pieces may be on the table, but putting the jigsaw together will not be done overnight."



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Lion Symbolism in the Book of Kells

Snakes and Fish and Peacocks and Lions, Oh My! Part 2

In Part 1, examples of snakes and fish were discussed. Now let's will look at another important symbol, the lion.

As I said last month, there are over 2000 jewels of little images scattered throughout the Book of Kells. Many of them are symbols that add meaning to the surrounding text. There are other images of roosters, cats, mice, rats, a few horses, dogs and a rabbit that are just what they seem.

All of these images add to the uniqueness of this magnificent book.

The templates and images used by the scribes came from source books that were supplied to the scriptoriums for many decades. They not only contained the texts to be included, but also examples of the images and animal symbols that could be used to illuminate these texts.

Many of the animal symbols had originated in pre-Christian times and were found to be appropriate for Christian purposes during the prior two hundred plus years.

For example, here is a brief his-

torical review of lion symbology:

- In Egypt lions were the symbol of the war goddess Sekhmet and the model for the body of the Sphinx.
- Greeks believed they were

connected with the gods Artemis, Cybele, Dionysus and Phoebus.

- Rome's goddess, Juno's favorite animal was a lion.
- The lion was the most sacred animal of the Babylonian goddess Ishtar.
- Mesopotamian kings associated themselves with images of lions.
- They appear on the Temple of Shara in Iraq.
- Lions are carved on Sumerian

seals.

Lions have long been associated with the ideas of power, majesty and divinity.

In ancient times, it was also believed that lions had three special characteristics.

1. When lions hunted, they would erase their tracks with their tails as they walked.
2. Lions slept with their eyes open.
3. Lion cubs were born dead and only brought to life on the third day by the roar of their lion-fathers.

The belief in these characteris-



124r Matthew's Gospel refers to Jesus being crucified. Could this be a symbolic image of God the Father roaring to bring his son back to life?

tics were the sources of Christian adaptation of the lion as a symbol of supreme divinity.

Lions erasing their track represented the way Jesus revealed his divinity only to his disciples.

Even while sleeping, lion's eyes are kept open representing God the Father's ever-watching his children.

The lion-father roars and brings his cubs to life three days after they were born, representing the resurrection of Jesus after the crucifixion.

In addition, the lion was the symbol of the Israelite tribe of Judah. Jesus was descended from the tribe of Judah and was referred to in Revelation as the Lion of Judah.

I'm listing the prime example of the lion image as God the Father from the Book of Kells in this column.

More examples will be on line. Go to IrishAmericanNews.com, click on "Arts," click on "Crowley on Kells."

Gaelic Park Hosts GAA Continental Youth Championships July 26-29

Chicago Gaelic Park will be the venue for this year's Continental Youth Championships, better know as the CYC tournament, on July 26th through 29th.

The CYC which made its debut in New York in 2004 has evolved into the biggest Irish sports youth tournament in the world. Hosted by the Chicago Youth Board, this year's event is expected to attract over 2,000 young participants (boys and girls) from all over the US and Canada, competing in underage championships from age 7 to 18. It is anticipated that the following cities will be represented in the various competitions: Boston, Chicago, Detroit, New Haven, New York, Philadelphia, Ottawa, San Francisco and Toronto.

The brainchild of former GAA President Sean Kelly, the CYC was launched as a major new initiative towards the development of Gaelic games overseas. With financial backing from Croke Park through the GAA International Committee, coupled with corporate sponsorship

from O'Neill's, Ireland's premier Sports Company, the tournament has grown in popularity and become a huge success.

In 2004 just under 1,000 young footballers competed in 144 matches in the inaugural event which was held in the campus of the State of New York University in Westchester County NY. In 2007, the last time the tournament was stage at Chicago Gaelic Park, 205 matches were played with 100 teams competing. It is estimated that about 150 teams will be competing at this year's tournament which could result in over 280 games being played. .

Such is the importance of the CYC in the eyes of the top GAA officials in Ireland, the President, Director General, International Committee Chairman and others from Croke Park have attended each tournament. It is expected that most top officials from Croke Park will be attending this year's event at Gaelic Park.



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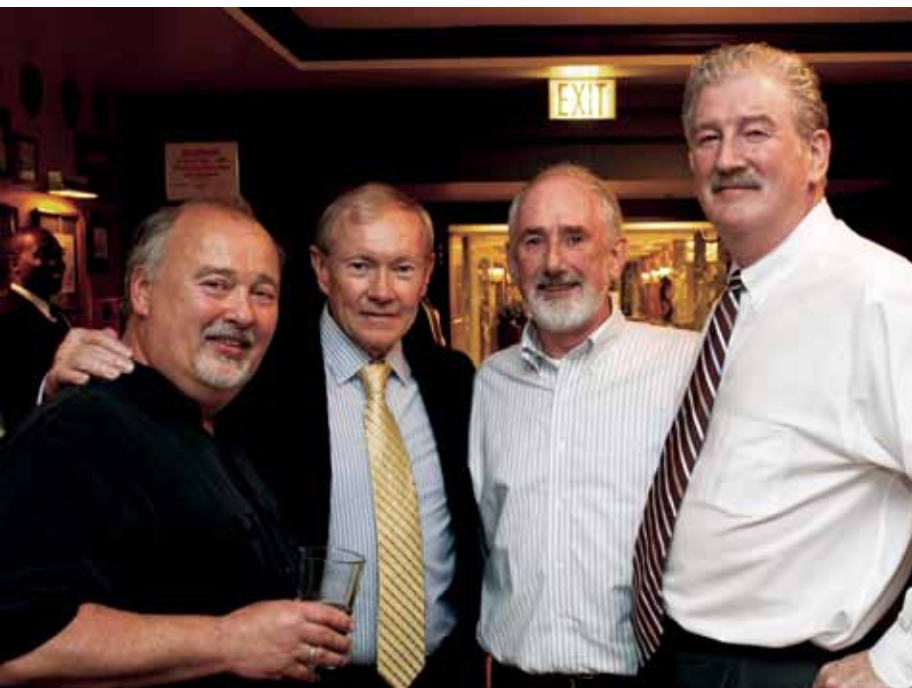
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The 18th Chairman of The Joint Chiefs of Staff 4 Star General Martin E. Dempsey taking a little R&R from the NATO Summit at Kitty O'Shea's at the Chicago Hilton And Towers. Pictured with General Dempsey are entertainers Jim August, Peter Brady, and Eamonn Brady manager of Kitty O'Shea's. General Dempsey sang a few songs with Peter and Jim and had a great time.

Housekeeper/ Family Assistant (live in)

Chicago family (North Shore) with two school age children is seeking a full-time, live in housekeeper to join our team (our nanny of four years and our 2-day-per week housekeeper.) Our amazing housekeeper of five years is retiring. Separate living quarters are available (a suite within the home or a guest cottage on property). Qualified candidates need to have a calm demeanor, good judgment, be child friendly, have significant experience working in fine homes, strong organizational skills and a "can do attitude." Responsibilities include: the daily cleaning and straightening of the home (we have a person who does heavy cleaning two days per week), organizing drawers and closets, playing and interacting with the children when our nanny is not working, maintaining the grocery list, and answering the phone and doors. General schedule is Friday through Tuesday. Salary range of \$60,000 to \$85,000 annually (depending on experience) plus excellent benefits package (health insurance, paid vacation, plenty of time off). We are happy to assist with relocation expenses for the right person. Please email resume to: mahlerprivatestaffing@mahlerent.com or fax: (800)671-6988.

Festivals Here Soon!

- Gaelic Park Irish Fest May 27- 30
- Irish-American Heritage Center Irish Fest July 8- 10
- Cleveland's Irish Cultural Festival July 22- 24
- 2012 Dublin (Ohio) Irish Festival August 3- 5
- Milwaukee August 16 - 19, 2012
- Peoria's Erin Feis August 26
- Fox Valley Irish Fest September 9- 11
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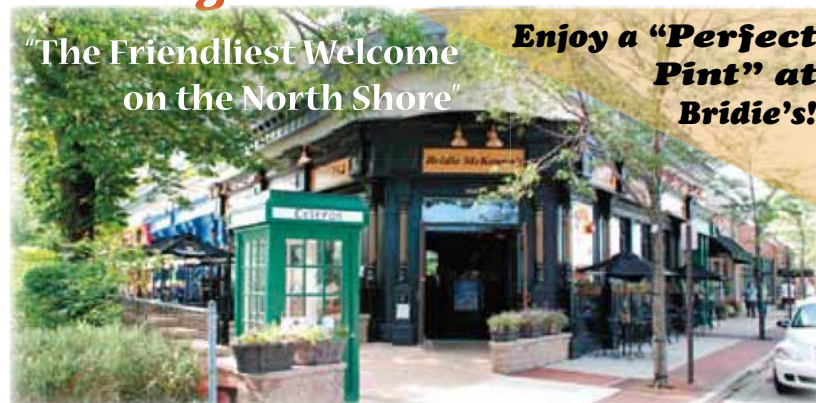
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Hooliganism

Mike Houlihan



I wondered. This was another picture of my dad while in his late seventies sitting with a platinum

sent back photos of himself sitting on a camel wearing a keffiyeh on his head and we started calling him "Abou", and she then talked my old man into buying her a spread in Kentucky, and a Cadillac for her mother, and they moved there and he bought a gun and supposedly took it out one night and began firing shots in the air and she started screaming at him and

We found a big box of old snapshots at our house the other day and my grand daughter Charlotte insisted I sit on the bed with her as she went through them. It was fun showing the two-year-old photos of her daddy and uncle when they were babies.

We came to a shot of my late father sitting in his chair and Charlotte said, "Who's dat?" as she pointed to the ol' boy. That's your great grandfather Charlotte. That's grandpa's daddy.

She asked where he was and I told her he was in heaven. He certainly deserved to be because he was very good at spreading the love around.

As she handed me the next photo

blonde woman who was much younger than himself.

Who's dat?"

Uh oh.

"Who's dat??"

Well Charlotte, that is "Sophie", a nice lady that worked selling tokens on the CTA back when my dad was taking the Ravenswood El to work and one day he slipped her a note with a hundred dollar bill in it and invited her to dinner. They hit it off and the next thing you know he was squiring her all over town and he even married her and I thought it might help my show biz career having a Jewish step-mother and he bought her a condo on Lake Shore Drive and she talked him into taking her to Israel where he



he told her, "The next one is goin' right thru your f&@in' head!" And she called me and said, "Do you know he drinks?" And I laughed and said, "Thanks for the news flash Sophie, are you just figuring that out?" And he called my sister one day from O'Hare and said, "Pick me up, the marriage is over". And I asked him "what the hell did you marry her for?" And my pop said, "Mike, I was in love!" And that was two weeks after the pre-nup expired and she took him for over a hundred grand in the divorce and he figured it was worth it to get rid of her. That's who that is.

But instead of saying that I just tossed the photo on the heap, "Oh just some friend of his."

We continued down memory lane and Charlotte grabbed another one of my dad, this time with another woman posing in front of Aqueduct Park.

"Who's 'dat?"

Well Charlotte that is "Doris", who

worked for my dad for over forty years and then retired and after he split from "Sophie" he was living at The Belmont Hotel by himself and he started going to the track with Doris a lot and I guess they re-kindled something and the next thing you know he moved into her bungalow on the Northwest Side when he was in his eighties and they traveled a lot and went to racetracks all over the country and lived happily ever after until he died when he was 91. God rest his lovely soul.

Instead of saying that I said, "Oh, that's Doris, a friend of his."

Charlotte was now bored with the photos and ran out of the room to discover new adventures. I looked at the photos of my old man. What a guy!

My folks split when I was in my early twenties and we all thought maybe it was for the best since they devoted so much time together hating each other. Dad outlived my mom by several years but when he died we made sure he and mom were together again....in Holy Sepulchre.

It's okay though, because we put my mom's sister Alice between them in the family plot, so there wouldn't be any more fightin'.

Happy Father Day everybody!

Bridie McKenna's Suicide Prevention Meeting June 15

Bridie's invites you to a very Special Event Friday, June 15th at 7 pm to help raise awareness and funding for Suicide Prevention.

Bridie's on Green Bay Road in Highland is proud to host this important fundraiser for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.

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Music Mad Continues at Chief's

Music Mad, a musical drama celebrating the life and times of Chief Francis O'Neill, continues this June at Chief O'Neill's Pub and Restaurant (3471 North Elston, Chicago) in Chicago. Stefan Brun directs.

The show premieres at Chief O'Neill's and is produced by Chicago Treasures in association with the Prop Thtr. The production follows the success of Chicago-centric Prop productions, such as Busted City and Hizzoner, a production recounting the career of Richard J. Daley, which ran for more than 400 performances.

Prop has become a respected incubator for innovative shows about Chicago.

Music Mad combines dramatic content with traditional Irish tunes, song and dance in an exploration of Chief Francis O'Neill's relationship with the music of Ireland. He served as Chicago's venerated Chief

Superintendent of police from 1901 to 1905. He was revered for his bravery in the field and his upstanding character in the office. O'Neill was also a respected Irish historian who dedicated his life to the preservation of traditional Irish music. His publica-



by Adam Whiteman

tion, O'Neill's Music of Ireland is considered one of the leading reference sources on the subject.

Music Mad musicians include Laurence Nugent (Irish flute and whistles), Jim DeWan (guitar), Kathy Cowan (vocals) Farley Masterton (fiddle and whistle), Joe O'Regan (bodhran) and Bill Mort (mandolin).

Actors include Brett Tewell (as Chief O'Neill) who is supported by Mike O'Brien, Kathy Cowan, John Moran, Tim O'Sullivan, Paul Brennan, Katie Mae Cochran and 15 year old Deirdre Kozicki, making her debut as Gracie the Step Dancer.

Mary Lesch, great granddaughter of O'Neill said on opening night,

"The show is amazing. I am so happy we have tickets to see it 4 more times. And I know we will be back in June for more performances. The dialogue is perfect, the music is a real part of the story and your compositions bring tears to my eyes. I love the cast and the director. What more can I say? A perfect 10!"

Music Mad runs through June 28, 2012. Performances are Sundays at 4pm and Thursdays at 7:30pm.

Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased at www.musicmad.net or at the door.



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Like to Run the Chicago Marathon?

Chicago Special Olympics announced today that it still has applications for the Chicago Marathon. The Chicago Marathon has sold out all public entries to the marathon that will take place on Sunday, October 7th. They expect 45,000 runners. Special Olympics is a charity partner of the Chicago Marathon with a limited number of applications remaining. If you are interested in running the



Special Olympics

Chicago Marathon, visit sochi-cago.org or call Skinny Sheahan at (312) 360- 1158.

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Real Ireland



By Rachel Gaffney



Food Festivals

Festivals, it would seem, are a part of our landscape. Whether you be German, Brazilian, Spanish or American, you are sure to find a festival in a location near you.

Cleveland, Ohio is no exception to the rule as they prepare for their 30th annual Irish festival on July 20th for 2 days. Scores of people feverishly working away behind the scenes co-ordinating schedules, entertainers, logistics, menus, accommodations, cultural line ups and vendors.

References to festivals are widely available throughout literature. In ancient Roman Times, people honored their gods by celebrating with elaborate feasts, larger than normal meals. Indeed the word 'fest' is a derivative of the Latin word 'festivus'

(My Secondary school Latin does indeed come in handy!)

Today, communities are still coming together in celebration, whether it be the beginning of a season, end of harvest, or simply celebrating the community they live in. There really isn't a festival that I know of to date without food. For it is this 'feast' that always brings us together. Food is a celebration of life.

Although there have been quite a few food festivals in Ireland for quite some time, never has there been as many as there are now. It's almost incredulous really. An island the size of Ireland, surrounded by water, with a temperate climate that provides the ideal

conditions for grazing cattle. As a result we have some of the finest ingredients in the world.

I know what you are thinking. You are thinking about the time someone you both knew and loved cooked for you and served you car-

Irish Seafood Chowder
3 lbs assorted seafood (mussels, clams, salmon etc)
5/6 large potatoes, peeled and chopped
1 pt vegetable stock
2 large yellow onions peeled and diced
2 cups heavy cream (or half & half)
2 tablespoons vegetable oil
1/2 cup chopped celery
1 clove crushed garlic
1 cup sweet white corn
1 tablespoons freshly chopped thyme
1 tablespoons freshly chopped parsley
1 tablespoons freshly chopped chives
Salt & Pepper

rots that had been boiled until they were devoid of color! When that carrot came out of the ground, it was perfect. It was the person that cooked it for you that was at fault! In other words we have all been an unwilling recipient terrible food from a terrible cook. You cannot blame the ingredients.

September 28th-30th 2012 sees the 57th annual 'Galway International Oyster and Seafood Festival'. It is hard to believe that this festival started with fewer than 30 people and now boasts an attendance of 10,000 people.

If you will be in Ireland there are many more food festivals planned for the remainder of 2012.

- Dunmore East Food Festival 22-24 June

Kenmare Food Carnival 13-15 July
Valentia Island King Scallop Festival 14-15 July
Cork Food Festival 19-22 July
Carlingford Oyster Festival 11-12 Aug

For a full listing of Irish Food Festivals and places to stay, visit:

<http://www.discoverireland.com/us/>

Follow me on Twitter: @Rachelgaffney

Web Site: www.Rachelgaffneys.com

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Seafood Chowder:

Heat a large saucepan over medium heat and add oil. Add onions, garlic and celery.

Saute until onion is softened, about 5 minutes. Season with salt and pepper.

Add potatoes, corn and stock. Bring to a boil, then turning the heat down, allow to simmer for 15 minutes. Stir in fresh herbs, seafood and cream. Allow to simmer for a further 5-6 minutes.

Ladle into soup bowls and garnish with fresh herbs. Serve with a nice hearty slice of brown soda bread.

If you have an iPhone and a Quick Response Code Reader App, just scan the code below to go directly to the Irish American News website!



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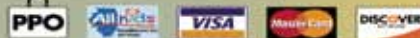
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Careers

By James F. Fitzgerald, CPA



So, Who's Responsible?

Readers of my column know that I occasionally ask for ideas for future columns. A dear friend and long-time mentor of mine, Dick Cappon, Cappon Associates, Toronto suggested MATURITY.

His suggestion really touched a nerve with me. There are a lot of aspects to an understanding of maturity. The one aspect that stands out to me is accepting RESPONSIBILITY for one's action.

Have we allowed ourselves to fall into the habit of blaming someone else? For example: If my boss had recognized my true potential, I wouldn't have been fired from my comfortable job. If the culture of the company was more forgiving, I would still be employed. If my superior had made his/her instructions more specific, I wouldn't have made some ridiculous mistakes. If that car ahead of me hadn't stopped

so quickly, I would not have lost control of my car. Or ad infinitum, the weather, the economy, my favorite teams, etc are all at fault.

When public figures make apologies for insensitive or thoughtless comments, they frequently hedge their apology by saying something like, "if I offended anyone, I apologize." They seem to ignore the fact that they are apologizing because clearly they have offended people.

Even major business leaders fall into the same trap. Some of the auto manufacturers blamed "changing preferences of the American car buyers" for their decline in sales. Shouldn't they have demonstrated some responsibility and asked themselves why didn't they do a better job of reading their marketing data regarding preferences of the buying public?

We Americans are a very forgiving people. Maybe we forgive too much. In the face of a tragic shooting, people will give verbal comfort to the accused, because s/he had a tough life. It is as though no one is responsible for their actions; rather we are expected to judge the predator in light of the person's disadvantages. I wonder if we would quote Patrick Henry's "Give me liberty or give me death" if he had said "I would prefer liberty or at least don't make my life any more difficult than it is now". We seem to have become a nation of equivocation rather than of honor and decency.

At what point do we become responsible for our actions. People say, if you do the crime, be prepared to do the time. Aren't you getting tired of pro football players complaining about concussions and the effect of same? What did they expect when some mammoth person is fixated on driving their heads into the ground? Does a pro QB really believe that he is paid millions of dollars simply because he can throw a football 40-50 yards with accuracy? No, he is paid an extraordinary multiple of the

average wage earner's salary because the other team's defensive players are trying to destroy him. It's a violent game; injuries are integral to the game. A responsible person needs to consider the real possibility of serious and permanent injury.

Deciding to play or not play pro football is not an everyday occurrence, but deciding whether we are going to strive to be successful in our chosen field of medicine, finance, or teaching might be. We need to take responsibility and accept the consequences for our decisions. Do you find that many individuals blame everything else, rather than accepting their own complicity and decision making as a real part of their troublesome circumstances?

Our society is rife with the fall out of irresponsible decision making. A friend of mine told me recently that his bright son has decided to go to a first rate, albeit expensive, university. The father seemed pleased, but I wondered if he had shared the financial realities of the \$200,000 of debt resulting from that decision that will burden his son for years. That \$200,000 "nut" can be reduced by outstanding performance on ACT's, AP classes and other financial incentive programs, but will it be sharply curtailed by these factors? Was attendance at a quality community college for basic courses considered? Did the student do any real research into available scholarships? I am told that many scholarships go unused year after year. Whose responsibility is it in this case? Should the student be expected to do the research? Should his parents or school advisors be responsible?

Do we as adults have a responsibility to teach our youngsters the "rules of the road" when our society ignores those same rules? Our news sources have decried the mess in Social Security funding for at least the last 50 years. Yet Congress votes to allow taxpayers to pay significantly less than the mandated portion of the employee contribution for the second year in a row. What message does that send to our young people? Does it sound like "don't do what I do but do what I say?"

The media says that the maturity level of a current twenty

something is more likely to be that of a teen-ager that we knew 20-30 years ago. So don't expect the typical 26 year old to make responsible decisions. In the opening episode of HBO's new show, The Girls, the 23 year old college graduate who has been working an unpaid internship for two years complains when her parents decide to end their financial support. She is horrified that her parents don't understand that the economy is in lousy shape and she has a lot of bills. Can you even imagine this discussion happening 30-40 years ago?

When the opportunity presents itself in your personal or professional life to help a younger person understand that s/he is responsible for their behavior share your wisdom. We will all be better off because of it. Thanks to Dick Cappon for his sage advice. Carpe Diem.

James F. Fitzgerald is the president of James F. Fitzgerald & Associates, an Oak Brook, IL based senior executive coaching and career transition firm. Email:jamesffitz37@hotmail.com Web-site: jamesffitzgeraldassociates.com. Phone: 630-684-2204



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Chicago Gaelic Park

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A Chairde:

We have a family movie event planned for Thursday June 21st at Gaelic Park with the movie *War of the Buttons* being screened in the Tara Room South at 7pm. This Irish movie is a real family treat, humorous, full of mischief and with some life lessons incorporated. I should warn the more sensitive that while rated PG, there are some bare bottoms and brief mild language. The Tara Room South is adjacent to the patio and waterfall and Gaelic Park will be serving food from our new pub menu starting at 5:30pm, reservations are advisable. A family can come, enjoy the sights and sounds of the waterfall while eating, take a romp in the adjacent playground and

finish off the evening watching a free showing of *War of the Buttons*. Oscar-winning *Chariots of Fire* screenwriter, Colin Welland, says this movie "is not an adult's view of childhood at all, but a child's view of adulthood"! That sounds like a great way to kick off the summer when you can enjoy the sights and sounds of Ireland in Gaelic Park's backyard. The GAA season will commence in June and all are welcome to Gaelic Park on Sunday afternoons to watch football and hurling and renew acquaintances with friends old and new. On behalf of Gaelic Park, I want to wish all IAN readers a safe and happy summer.
John Devitt, President

GAA League Matches Begin on June 10

Chicago's GAA will take to the fields at Gaelic Park for the first league match in 2012 on Sunday, June 10. This summer promises to draw an even bigger crowd on Sundays with more Senior & Junior teams coming out to join the competition. The return of the Cuchulainns Hurling Club and the expansion of St. Jarlath's Club into Junior C men's football, mark the continuing growth of Gaelic sports

again in Chicago. The regular season for 2012 will be June 10th - August 19th, and even if you can't make it out to Gaelic Park every Sunday, Chicagogaelicssports.com will have live updates about the games including video clips every hour during Sunday games. For more information on teams playing this summer or to see game results, go to the web site of www.chicagogaelicssports.com.

St. Jarlath's Youth

is getting ready for another great season. Anyone interested in playing Gaelic Football and/or hurling, please visit our website at www.chicagostjarlaths.com. We are now registering boys and girls, ages 5-18 as of January 1, 2012. The cost is \$75 per child with a family max of \$150. Any new



families that join this season will not be charged. This is for both sports, Gaelic Football and Hurling. All equipment is provided. Gaelic Football training is on Monday and Wednesday, and Hurling is held on Friday, from 6:30 to 8:00pm at Chicago Gaelic Park.

Tuesday Night Traveling Bean Bag League

The Carraig Pub will sponsor a bean bag team to play in a Tuesday night league. We are looking for players! Teams can consist of a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 10 people. Depending on how many are interested, we hope to have one or more teams. Games begin on Tuesday, June 5 and run for 10 weeks. There is a small player's fee. All fees will be

returned as prize money. This league has been ongoing for several years, is very well run and promises to be a lot of fun for all involved. So form your own team or join a team today. If you are interested in playing, please contact me as soon as possible! Yvonne Byrne, Carraig Bar Manager, 708.687.9323 or email ybyrne@chicagogaelicpark.org.



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Live Music in the Pub

Fri Jun 1	Joe Cullen	7:30pm
Sat Jun 2	Sean & Charlie	8:00pm
Fri Jun 8	Ray Gavin	7:30pm
Sat Jun 9	Myles McVeigh	8:00pm
Wed Jun 13	Frank Rossi	6:30pm
Fri Jun 15	Gerard Haughey	7:30pm
Sat Jun 16	Mulligan Stew	8:00pm
Fri Jun 22	Joe McShane	7:30pm
Sat Jun 23	Johnny & Coax	8:00pm
Fri Jun 29	Bernie Glim & Country Roads	7:30pm
Sat Jun 30	John Dillon	8:00pm

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Check Website for Full Schedule

New expanded pub food and appetizer menu!

CGP Monthly Events

6/06	Monthly Musical Luncheons Entertainment by Joe McShane (NO July luncheon - will resume August 1)	NOON
6/14	Teen Party on the Patio	7:30pm
6/21	Family Movie Night	7:00pm
6/24	Clare Association Special Sunday	
8/20	Lady of Knock Dedication	

Monthly Musical Luncheons Plan an outing with friends, family, neighbors... come out and meet new people. Enjoy relaxing on our beautiful patio and take a stroll around our grounds. Have a delicious lunch and enjoy the musical entertainment... all for the low admission price of just \$13 per person! Doors open at NOON and lunch (which includes soup, salad, hot entrée, dessert and tea/coffee) is served at 1pm. Reservations required! Call 708-687-9323.

Monday Evenings	<i>Set Dancing (continues through summer)</i>
Tuesday Evenings	<i>Ceili Dancing</i>
	<i>Pub Quiz Night (ends in May)</i>
Thursday Evenings	<i>Irish Sessions in the Pub</i>

These evenings begin at 7:30pm

Sunday Afternoons

GAA Games (LIVE) here at Gaelic Park every Sunday 12 Noon
GAA Telecast broadcast live by Setanta Sports from Ireland every Sunday.
Admission to telecast is \$20.00

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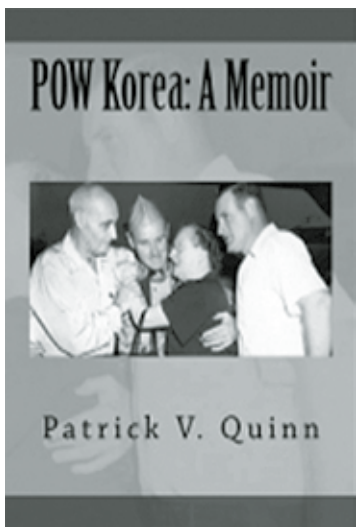
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POW Korea: A Memoir

Authored by Patrick V. Quinn

In this small volume former Korean Prisoner of War Patrick V. Quinn shares his personal stories of his time in North Korean/Chinese prison camps between 1951-1953. **A Peek Inside:** "All our talk was about food or escape. We were always evaluating our situation. There was no medical care. It was now the survival of the luckiest. All we could do was hope and pray we would be able to survive the half cooked beans and cracked corn



which seemed like it was tearing apart our intestines. We were burying at least one and sometimes up to four or five guys every day. We buried all our dead on what we called Boot Hill. What with the frozen and rocky ground we were lucky to dig the graves to a depth of 18 inches. With constant strafing and rocket attacks it was a living hell." This book is available through AmazonCreateSpace.com/3795364.

About the Author:

Pat Quinn is well known and respected here at Chicago Gaelic Park. He is a former Director on the Board and has continued as a loyal volunteer at the Park for over 20 years. He is a past President of the County Down Association of Chicago. Pat was born in County Down and came to the US in 1947 with his brother John. Anyone coming on a permanent



camp about 130 came home. The power of prayer and the rosary he was able to hide as a POW brought him home safely. There are only a few beads of the rosary left but they are always in a pouch in his pocket, all day every day. There were 28 Irish men who died in Korea but were not citizens. Thanks to John Leahy from Co. Kerry, now residing in Florida, they

were finally awarded posthumous citizenship in 2003. Pat was a union carpenter in Chicago until his retirement in 1990. He and his wife Ann are parents to Tom and Maureen (who put this book together after much prodding) and have six grandchildren. Pat Quinn is always there to help and never a bitter word is spoken.

Family Movie Night

War of the Buttons

Date: Thursday, June 21

Time: 7pm

Food & Drinks will be available for purchase on the patio & in the Tara South beginning at 5:30m! *War of the Buttons* is a 1994 Irish film directed by John Roberts, about two rival kid groups in Ireland, the Ballys (poor), and the Carricks (rich). The setting is County Cork, where it was filmed on location. Rating is PG.



Teen "Party on the Patio"

Date: Thursday, June 14th

Time: 7-10:30 pm



All teens, ages 14-20, come join the party on Gaelic Park's patio for a night under the stars with DJ music and dancing! Admit tickets are \$3.00 and will be available at the door.

No drink, no drugs, no nonsense!! Check the Gaelic Park web site and Facebook for more details or call the office at 708.687.9323.

The County Connection



The Clare Association Special Sunday will be held on June 24. To register, contact Maureen Bennett at 708-301-9773. The Annual Picnic will be July 1 and the Annual Golf Outing on August 25.

Calling all CGP County Associations! Please share all your news, upcoming events and announcements! Send special dates at least one month prior to the event to make the deadline for publication. Email to cmfreidy5@comcast.net.

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Swimming Upstream

By Charles Brady



Become Ordained and Lose All Sense of Morality

I would imagine that most of them were actually decent enough people before they joined up. You know, they probably genuinely felt that they had this mysterious calling that they give the name 'vocation' to. Most of them probably believed that they were going to take the teachings of the Christ to a whole new generation. Who knows? They may even have believed in God. At least the ones who didn't have a whole career plan mapped out, that is. People

like Cardinal Sean Brady.

They were probably reasonable, hopeful men (no women allowed, of course). Then they went and became ordained; and that was the end of that pipe dream. They came up against a hierarchy that cannot change, that does not want to change and which works from a position of power that the Elders make sure is hermetically sealed.

There's a scene in that great movie "The Shawshank Redemption" where Andy Dufresne says:

'You know, on the outside I was an honest man, straight as an arrow. It took coming to jail to make me into a crook.'

Sometimes it seems to me that it takes being ordained to make you lose all sense of what is wrong and what is right.

Listening to all the moaning this past month about Cardinal Sean Brady and his lack of guts in doing what was the moral thing to do back in 1975, I just remain baffled that people are surprised when the Catholic Church acts in a way that is immoral and completely against the way that any law-abiding citizen would behave.

Why are Catholics surprised that men in dog collars gathered in a cowardly group in order to intimidate a young boy who was reporting child abuse? Why are Catholics surprised that they kept the boy's parents from attending that awful meeting whilst leaning on him very heavily? Why are they surprised that the priest—Brendan Smith-- that was named by this brave kid was simply allowed to go on and on abusing and raping and torturing for years afterwards?

Why are they surprised that a creature like Cardinal Sean Brady now says that he 'was only taking notes'. Sure, we've heard that excuse many times throughout history. The Nuremberg Trials is the obvious one that comes to mind. 'I was only taking notes, I was only following orders.'

He didn't go to the cops and report it when he knew that sexual abuse was taking place. That's all that I need to know about him. And this guy lectures the peasants on morality? This guy?

I'm not surprised at all. I'm not even surprised that for some reason the police aren't getting involved in this incident where very serious crimes have been committed. It's not much different to last month's comments in this column, except that dealt with politicians and this one deals with the clergy.

Good Christians here in Ireland are giving out yards about the lack of human decency that Sean Brady has shown. Certainly he has no intention of falling on his sword. And why should he? The Usual Suspects will complain and mumble to each other about how outdated and out of touch

the Church is; and then they will be pushing their way to the front pews of their local Church in order to do their 'duty' on Sunday and make sure that the priest notes them by their presence as usual: more brownie points when they arrive at the Pearly Gates, don't you know? They'll still drop their hard earned euros into the collection plates of a group of men who hate, despise, loath and fear 50% of the population. Well, unless they're the ones who are doing the menial tasks around the holy presence of the males of the species.

Didn't Enda Kenny tear into Cardinal Brady something fierce, just the same? He pulled no punches as he said that the Cardinal should take some time to 'reflect'.

Wow, I'll bet that had the arrogant popinjay shivering in his lavish gowns! After that hard line attitude it can only be a matter of time before we see his resignation.

Reflect? Are you jesting with me?

Having let these opinions be known, it was pointed out to me by some of the 'faithful' that there was a very successful grassroots conference in Dublin in the first week of May organised by the Association of Catholic Priests. Looked at a little more closely though I didn't see what the big deal was about. Once again we heard that the Church is in 'the process of a new birth'. How the hell can it be called that when the Vatican is just going on doing what it has always done and ignoring the wishes of its subjects?

Anyway, I've been hearing that old chestnut since Vatican II. Remember? It was that series of sensible changes that John Paul II rode roughshod over as soon as he had his fundamentalist hand on the whip. I also winced when the phrase 'Catholic Spring' was trotted out, especially when I'm not all that impressed with the Arab one. [I can't stand Moslems, pure and simple. They won't be happy until they have the whole world bowing to their insane version of a God; but that's another day's work.]

A word about this very important conference, this landmark birth of a new Church: despite the invitations that were sent out

to senior Church officials and Bishops asking them to attend, take a wild guess as to how many thought it important enough to show up? If you said 'None whatsoever' you win a remaindered collection of the thoughts of Chairman Benedict.

Not a one of them attended. Maybe you wonder as to how I get to be so angry whenever I hear the Catholic Church mentioned. Well, it's because my father believed in it. He had a faith that, if it had been taken from him, I don't think he would have survived so long. He believed; he really believed; and so do a lot of other decent people.

For people like my dad, their faith is what made it great to get up in the morning. So when I see people like Cardinal Brady and his cronies, who have become so far removed from the folks that they should represent, then I just feel a burning hatred for them. They have let so many people down. I'm glad that the Old Man isn't here to see what the Church has become...or perhaps always was. It's just yet another big corporation guarding with the utmost jealousy its own interests. People like my late Dad and those who have a genuine faith deserve something a lot better than the elitist drivel that is being shoved down their throats on a daily basis.

With these people it always comes down to money.

Hell, I know well that there are decent priests out there that are on a hiding to nothing at the moment. It's not their God that's letting them down; it's their masters in that giant anachronistic city-state, the Vatican. There is no arguing with them. And again, why should they change? They've never pretended to be democratic in any way, so anyone trying to change their rotten system is wasting their time.

The latest thing to vex them is the people who shake tins outside of the Church grounds as people leave mass. Well, I can think of one reason why they now want to put a stop to that. If you're holding back a few shekels for the tin-botherers then that's a few shekels less for the collection plate.

And we do know how much the Catholic Church needs more money, don't we?

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Mick

Mike Morley



makes the political, as well as the actual world go round.

Take Bill Clinton. After the Monica Lewinsky story broke, the President told Jim

Lehrer of PBS, "There is no improper relationship." Later, he told the grand jury: "It depends on what the meaning of the word 'is' is". If he'd been pressed to answer whether there ever "was" an improper relationship, he would have been left with less wiggle room to put "english" on the ball. Willie had no doubt benefitted from his English education as a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford, where he surely refined his ability to coolly converse in omissions and half-truths. Britain has honed this ability to an art over centuries of rule, nowhere more perfected than in dealings with Ireland.

On May 8, 1973 the British held a referendum in Northern Ireland on whether the 6 counties should remain British or be reunited to the Republic. The Unionist parties supported the 'UK' option, along with the Labour and Alliance parties. The SDLP asked members "to ignore completely the referendum", and less than 1% of the Catholic population turned out to vote. Naturally it passed overwhelmingly and Britain trumpeted the victory of "the will of the people".

That day in London, a bomb exploded at the Old Bailey courthouse. Marian Price and her sister Delours, along with Gerry Kelly and others, was later convicted of the bombing. They were released under the Good Friday Agreement. Kelly is now a Sinn Fein member in the Northern Ireland Assembly.

Northern Ireland Secretary of State Owen Paterson revoked the release of Marian Price last year for attending a 2011 Easter commemoration at Derry City Cemetery. At the ceremony Marian held up a sheet of paper, containing a statement from The 32 County Sovereignty Movement, while an unidentified person read it aloud. The

statement was not written or prepared by Marian- she simply held the paper steady so it could be read on a windblown day.

Price, a 57-year-old mother of two, was arrested, detained and charged with promoting terrorism for addressing a meeting encouraging support for a proscribed organization- the IRA. Said Patterson: "The government will not hesitate to use all the powers at its disposal under the law to counter the residual terrorist threat."

Since then Price has been held, without charge, in a secure area of an all-male prison-virtual solitary confinement.

On May 10, 2012 the terrorist charges were dismissed against Price and three Republican co-defendants, including Marvin Canning, a brother-in-law of Deputy First Minister Martin McGuinness.

Judge Barney McElholm was told that after an entire year, the prosecution still did not have any evidence ready, so he released Marian's three co-accused, saying everyone was entitled to a fair trial within a reasonable period of time and that he had seen cases involving complicated forensics which had taken far less time.

But Marian remains in jail at Paterson's will in what many see as a blatant abuse of process. Defense lawyers wrote to the Northern Ireland Office seeking a copy of the actual pardon from the Queen that was conferred in 1981. Marian's lawyer, Peter Corrigan told the court: "To this date the NIO still have not served that important document on us, and it is central to us making an abuse of process application."

Corrigan contends the Royal pardon covered all of the offences for which Price was convicted in 1974 and that Paterson had no power to revoke it.

He has asked several times for the pardon to be produced but the State maintains that no copy can be found. At one point, he was told, incredibly, that the pardon must either have been "lost" or somehow "shredded".

SDLP party justice spokesman Alban Maginness has accused the secretary of state of subjecting Marian Price to internment without trial, saying Price has not been allowed due process: "We do not support putting people away in prison because of intelligence or because of some political point of view... She doesn't even have her own counsel to represent her in relation to the intelligence report. They appoint a counsel, an outside barrister, to represent her on that - her own defense counsel can't even look at the intelligence report. How is that due process."

We pray that by the time you read this, Marian will be reunited with her family. E-mail: IRISHTV@att.net Watch: IRISH JOURNAL TELEVISION NOW ON THE INTERNET - IRISHTV.US Chicago cable- CAN-TV, Channel 19:

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Boyle the Kettle

We'll Have A Sup Of Tea

Tom Boyle



Political expediency?

Is President Obama okay with same sex marriage because of a Hollywood fund-raiser which netted him \$15 million, at \$40,000 a plate? The moral majority is reeling. President Obama has already been accused of pandering to the gay and lesbian Hollywood crowd. It appears the liberal Democrats will go along with anything if it

means more votes. However this one could backfire. While courting the Hispanic vote with an aggressive immigration agenda, have they overlooked that the overwhelming Catholic Hispanics will be repulsed by this move? Attorney General Eric Holder's lawsuit against Sheriff, Joe Arpaio, in Maricopa County, Arizona because he has been enforcing the immigration laws, and they are accusing him of racial profiling. How can it be called racial profiling when the majority of the citizens in the state of Arizona are Hispanic.

Whatever trips your trigger? Sexual preference got its start in the 60's, but faded when AIDS surfaced. Cardinal George has spoken out against same sex marriage, and civil unions. Nobody seems to care about the Churches position on the issue, especially not the Democrats. Former New York Mayor, Rudy Giuliani, nailed it when he said, "When President Obama ran for the Illinois Senate, he was for same sex marriage. When he ran for president, he was against same sex marriage. Mayor, Richard J. Daley, is probably rolling over in his grave. Mayor Daley attended Mass and received communion daily. Wait a minute... now some conservative Republicans are saying whatever your sexual persuasion is you should be able to get married. Now it's a matter of civil rights, a constitutional right, "the pursuit of happiness."

For those of you who had a Catholic education this might go against the grain. What would Sigmund Freud say? If a bisexual man was a bigamist this could mean one spouse could be a man, and the other spouse could be a woman. How will the liberals handle that? Legalize bigamy? Absurd? Of course!

Will any of this rhetoric improve the job market? Maybe they will have to add a couple of lanes

at the drive-thru wedding chapel in Las Vegas. Just worry about the fact that you are getting less than one percent interest on your savings.

Illinois Politics

The coal tender on the gravy train is empty, and the pension benefits express won't get up a head of steam again soon. Let's sing another chorus of "happy days are here again." Now the full coverage health insurance retirement benefit is off the tracks, derailed by the Democratic House of Representatives.

Jesse Jr.

He must not be worried about the House Ethics Committee. He had his "ceremonial groundbreaking ceremony" for the Peotone Airport. "It's just one runway and five gates that we are building, but one runway and five gates means non-stop access from the Southland to the global economy so we can help some of these farmers get their products to market."

One picket was holding a sign that said, "go home! No Senate seat for sale here!" Another sign said, "make food, not pollution."

Let's think about what Jesse said. "Help some of these farmers get their product to market." Their principle crops are corn and soybeans, Jesse, which are usually moved by truck, train or barge to the Port of Chicago's storage facilities on Lake Calumet which hold 14 million bushels of grain that gets shipped all over the world by ship.

Rockford International Airport is just as close as Peotone, and happens to be the second largest UPS air cargo facility in the United States. And, let's not forget Gary/Chicago International Airport is even closer.

Wade in Hot Water

Thanks for the five bucks. Please send another Twenty-five. That will cover a taxi to O'Hare! Those of you who are satisfied with corrupt politicians deserve them.

Clergy Abuse Trial

Perhaps the most explosive abuse trial is shaping up in Philadelphia, where Monsignor, William Lynn, is charged with conspiracy, and child endangerment. A grand jury was impaneled to investigate the serial abuse of minors by archdiocesan clergy

and employees

There was a grand jury in 2003 that uncovered the whole sordid past of sexual abuse in the Philadelphia archdiocese, but the Cardinal covered it up long enough for the statute of limitations to kick in.

The grand jury reports in very graphic detail, the abuse of Billy and Mark, two of the victims. In the case of Billy, he was "passed around" to other priests and a lay teacher who all sexually abused him.

Monsignor Lynn was fully aware of what the offenders had done. He sent one priest to a sexual offenders program run by the archdiocese, they kept it inhouse. Then he lied to the parishioners about this priests absence. Adding insult to injury, the priest was assigned to a parish with a school, St. Jerome's, where he raped another boy. Monsignor Lynn never told the school he sent them a child abuser. Then the archdiocese allowed this priest to adopt six young Hmong children.

There was plenty of evidence that Cardinal Bevilacqua facilitated the behavior of the priests and he would have been indicted but for his health. He had cancer, and dementia, and died at the age of 88. Too bad. He should have paid for his sins. Is this man now sitting at the right hand of the Father? Thirty-seven priests with questionable backgrounds have been kept in assignments which exposed them to children. Twenty-one priests have been suspended. Monsignor Lynn served as Secretary for Clergy from 1992 to 2004. Pray that he rots in jail for the rest of his life. The grand jury stated in the indictment, There is no other class of crimes where we expect victims to rely on their assailants for a resolution. That was the attitude

in the past in relation to domestic abuse, but the criminal justice system has worked to change that mindset. The same should be true in relation to clergy abuse. We think the wall of silence may be cracking.

A final word. In light of the Archdiocese's reaction to the last grand jury report, we expect that some may accuse us of anti-Catholic bias for speaking of these painful matters. We are not church-haters. Many of us are church-goers. We did not come looking for "scandal," but we cannot close our eyes to the powerful evidence we heard. We call the church to task, to fix what needs fixing.

Irish American Hall of Fame

The Hall of Fame dinner on Saturday, April 28th, was a night to remember. The stars came out. Perhaps the most memorable point in the evening was when the grand-daughter of Albert Sullivan, one of the Fighting Sullivans who perished with four of his brothers at the battle of Guadalcanal during World War II, when their ship the USS Juneau was torpedoed. The United States Navy sent an Honor Guard, and as they announced the names of the Sullivan Brothers, a ships' bell was rung two times. When Kelly Sullivan Loughren accepted the award she stated how proud the Sullivans were of their Irish heritage and what a great honor it was to be inducted into the Irish American Hall of Fame. While doing so, she shed her tears, and embraced a member of the Navy Honor Guard who had just returned from serving on the USS Sullivan, the second ship in the Navy fleet to be named for the Sullivan Brothers, which she herself had christened. Each year on Veteran's Day, Kelly Sullivan-Loughren show the movie, The Fighting Sullivan's, to her third grade class.



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A Gift from the Heart of Ireland

An Immigrant's Musings

Fr. Michael Leonard



A Summer Of Discontent

I am often asked the question; what are the chances of getting an immigration bill passed this year? If you take the conventional answer to that question, the response would most likely be in the negative. I see very little hope in departing from this line of thinking, for the following reasons.

I know that this is the same old point that commentators make in every election year. However, history supports the position that, it is almost impossible to pass a comprehensive immigration bill in an election year.

That said; there are still bits and pieces of action taking place in DC, which are a sign that the subject is not off the table. One thing that we look forward to eagerly this month will be the decision of the Supreme Court on Arizona's controversial immigration law, SB 1070. The law requires police officers to check the immigration status of the people they stop and whom they suspect as being illegally in the country. A federal ruling upholding the Arizona law would give the state the ability to make warrantless arrests of suspects whom law enforcement personnel reasonably suspect are removable. The legal arguments are about federal preemption of state law, but the state's

political arguments lay the blame on Congress and the Obama administration. Arizona's governor, Jan Brewer, complains that her state has suffered more than most from the national problem of illegal immigration because the federal government has failed to address the problem.

Senator Marco Rubio, Florida, has been testing the waters with a new version of the Dream Act. His proposals would give legal status to students brought to the country illegally by their parents. It would not however, grant them an automatic path to citizenship. The cynics may say that this is part of the Republican strategy to soften the anti-immigration talk coming from hardliners in the party.

Also in the Senate, Senator Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, is proposing a high-tech immigration bill that would tighten up the H-1B temporary visa program and change the per-country numbers of employment based green cards. Senator Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., is hoping to add an E 3 visa provisions for Irish people and is said working with Grassley on the H-1B changes. That partnership has the potential to produce compromise legislation to ease some of the concerns about high-tech

foreign workers.

So as always, there is no guarantee that we will see any real progress this summer. Our hope is that the work behind the scenes will not be discarded and perhaps it can be fruit in the next congress.

Elephant Rope

As a man was passing the elephants, he suddenly stopped, confused by the fact that these huge creatures were being held by only a small rope tied to their front leg. No chains, no cages. It was obvious that the elephants could, at anytime, break away from their bonds but for some reason, they did not.

He saw a trainer nearby and asked why these animals just stood there and made no attempt to get away. "Well," trainer said, "when they are very young and much smaller we use the same size rope to tie them and, at that age, it's enough to hold them. As

they grow up, they are conditioned to believe they cannot break away. They believe the rope can still hold them, so they never try to break free."

The man was amazed. These animals could at any time break free from their bonds but because they believed they couldn't, they were stuck right where they were.

Like the elephants, how

many of us go through life hanging onto a belief that we cannot do something, simply because we failed at it once before?

Failure is part of learning; we should never give up the struggle in life.

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

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Irish Books and Plays in Review

Frank West



These books are distributed in the US by Dufour Editions. More information about them is at info@dufoureditions.com

Red is the Rose: A Book of Irish Love Poems



Edited by Jonathan Rossey, O'Brien Press and Dufour Editions. This collection has the perfect balance of classic and modern styles. It contains poems from ancient times but most are from the twentieth century.



The O'Brien Book of Irish Fairy Tales and Legends

Retold by Una Leavy O'Brien Press and Dufour Editions

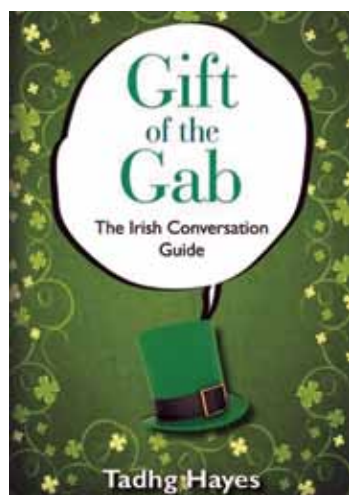
Ten traditional stories from Celtic and pre-Celtic Ireland are presented here. The illustrations are colorful. helpful letters are a pronunciation guide for Gaelic words and historical notes about each story.



Sally Go Round the Stars: Favorite Rhymes from an Irish Childhood

Compiled by Sarah Webb and Claire Rawson

There are many international favorites and many specifically Irish rhymes. Rhymes give children their very first experience of fiction and poetry. I'm amazed how many of the 70 rhymes I remember hearing when I was a child.



Gift of Gab: The Irish Conversation Guide

by Tadhg Hayes O'Brien Press and Dufour Editions

The aim of this book "is to get you talking...for the pure pleasure of it. Talk is...a great form of entertainment and by far the best way of getting to know the Irish."

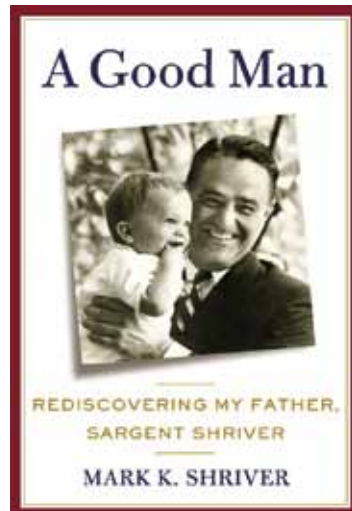
Mark Shriver's A Good Man Book Signing 6-18

Monday, June 18, go to The Shrine of Our Lady of Pompeii for a Book Signing event with Mark Kennedy Shriver, author of "A GOOD MAN"

Mark will be discussing this inspiring book about his father, Sargent Shriver, founder of the Peace Corps. He will talk about his struggle to deal with the gradual disappearance of a beloved father through the progressive stages of Alzheimers.

"This is a deeply touching story of a famous family and the private joys and trials that came with it. Mark's love letter to his Dad is one we can all learn from."

-TOM BROKAW



\$55.00* Paid Reservation appreciated by Friday, June 15.

(\$65.00* at the door)

Senior Discount: \$40.00*

All Paid Attendees receive a copy of "A GOOD MAN".

Following the lecture, there will be a reception and book signing.

*A percentage of the proceeds will be donated to the Alzheimer's Association.

Doors open at 7 p.m. Program at 7:30 p.m. Call 312.421.3757 to make your reservation.

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Piping It In

Jack Baker

Happy June everyone! Before I get to the new music, there are a few people I must mention. My sincere thanks to Dr Derek Kelly and Dr Kavita Singh and all the staff at Swedish Covenant Hospital who again helped me thru a difficult time. At Swedish they treat you like family, sometimes better than family, ease your fears, make you comfortable and take care of the problem. God Bless them.

On April 18th the pipe band community in Chicago lost an icon with the death of Jim Enright Sr. Jim was always a larger than life figure, a grand man in all ways and he will be sorely missed.

Congratulations to Mount Prospect on their very successful Irish festival held 21 April, it was a grand party and I look forward to being there again next year. The following week saw Hoffman Estates first Celtic Festival and it too was a success, nice and dry and warm in the Sears Centre Arena. A lovely spot to really hear and enjoy a pipe band competition. I hope it too comes back next year.

New music has been popping up in my mail box like mushrooms after a Spring rain making for lovely listening days in the store. Let me tell you about some of them.

First off is The Fretless Band's first recording, "Waterbound". Had this for awhile but kept running out of room to talk about it. The Fretless Band consists of Trent Freeman, violin & viola, Ivonne Hernandez, violin & viola, Karmnel Sawitsky, violin & viola and Eric Wright on cello. Lots of strings but no frets, hence the name. The other thing they have, besides breathtaking talent, is a new and different sound. People who've heard their CD playing in the shop have grabbed it up. You really need to give them



heard. A unique gem.

Speaking of gems, Irish flute wizard Kevin Crawford has created another exquisite collection of his flute wizardry. "Carrying the Tune" is his latest and it's his usual, simply great. Backed by John Doyle (is there a better guitar player?) this collection is honey poured on a quiet day to send your thoughts to a better place...or just one of the finest collections of flute music you can find, your choice.

Kevin's wife Tracy Crawford turned me on to the next CD, "Going Places" by the Mairtin O'Connor Band and what a good turn she did for me. The band consists of Mairtin O'Connor blazing away on accordion, Cathal Hayden handling fiddle, banjo and viola expertly and Seamie O'Dowd doing his usual lovely job on vocals, guitar, keyboard and bass. I love a band that makes your feet hop of their own accord and these guys can do that. Their music flows and reminds me just why I love Irish music. A beautifully done album.

Coming South from Quebec is the latest from Le Vent du Nord, "Tromper le temps". I'm so happy these guys hooked up with Borealis Records because we get to hear their new releases when they're new. With instrumentation that many bands don't have, like hurdy-gurdy, bombarde

a listen, I don't know anybody who's got a sound quite like this Canadian band but I can say it ain't like any string quartet you've ever

and such, Le Vent du Nord cooks up French tunes that are beautiful and intriguing, more so when, like me, you don't speak French. Still great stuff to listen to and always fun.

John Bottomley has added another great piping CD to his growing catalog. This one is called "Welcome to the Club" and is aimed at the beginning competition bagpiper. It contains a bunch of good tunes for the grade 5 & 4 competing pipers to use in their starting competitions. A lot of nice stuff played with John's usual grace and flair. Pipers just starting competition will get a lot of good ideas from this. Those of us who can't play a note but love the pipes will enjoy it as well.

Congratulations to my very own daughter, Catriona, on her graduation last month from York HS. Now it's time to start a new chapter in your already full life!

We will have a booth at the 25th Annual Scottish Festival & Highland Games on the 17th & 18th of June at Hamilton Lakes in Itasca, Illinois. Hope everyone who can, will join us there to hear

some fine pipe bands and sample the other treats lined up there. I understand that the whiskey tasting is one of the best there is, not that I...See ya there!

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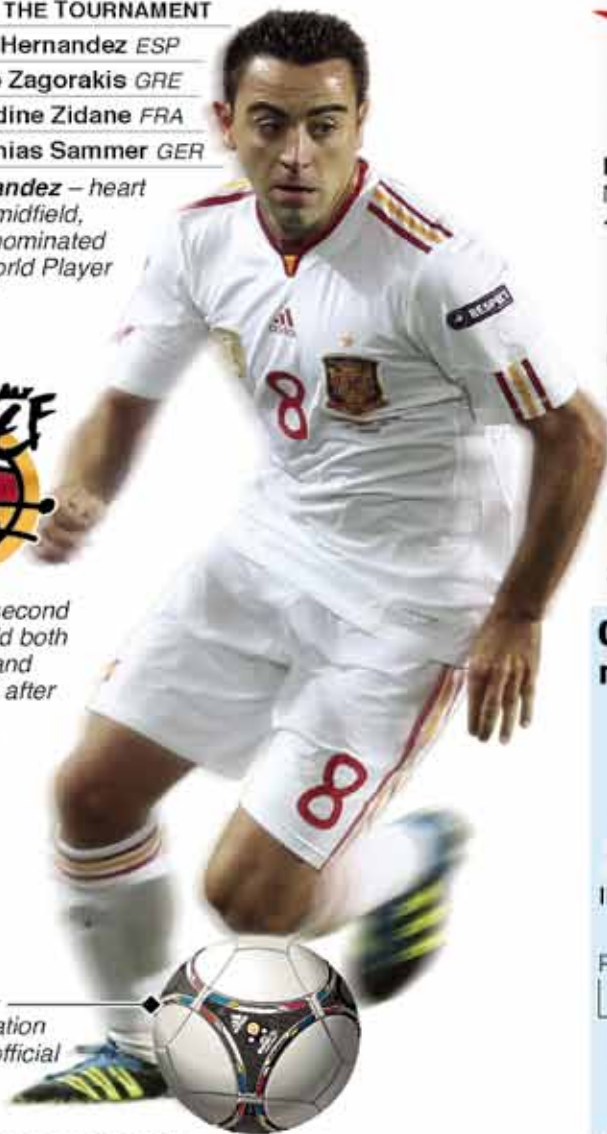
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- 2000 Zinedine Zidane *FRA*
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A	8	Poland	Greece	Warsaw
		Russia	Czech Rep	Wroclaw
	12	Greece	Czech Rep	Wroclaw
		Poland	Russia	Warsaw
B	9	Netherlands	Denmark	Kharkiv
		Germany	Portugal	Lviv
	13	Denmark	Portugal	Lviv
		Netherlands	Germany	Kharkiv
C	10	Spain	Italy	Gdansk
		Ireland	Croatia	Poznan
	14	Italy	Croatia	Poznan
		Spain	Ireland	Gdansk
D	11	France	England	Donetsk
		Ukraine	Sweden	Kyiv
	15	Ukraine	France	Donetsk
		Sweden	England	Kyiv

Quarter-finals

June 21, 20:45 Warsaw

A1	
B2	

Semi-final

June 27, 20:45 Donetsk

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Final

July 1, 20:45 Olympic Stadium Kyiv

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Semi-final

June 28, 20:45 Warsaw

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Quarter-finals

June 22, 20:45 Gdansk

B1	
A2	

June 24, 20:45 Kyiv

D1	
C2	

June 23, 20:45 Donetsk

C1	
D2	

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Original Painting by Thomas Joyce
All Prints signed by the Artist

image area 12.5 h x 25 w



The Cast: (l to r): Flann O'Brien, Gabriel Byrne, Brendan Behan, Liam Neeson, Seamus Heaney, Edna O'Brien, WB Yeats, Oscar Wilde (painting), John Phelan, Samuel Beckett, James Cagney, James Joyce, Thomas Moore (statue), Maureen O'Hara. Copy of paintings within by Sean Keating, Paul Henry & John Lavery.

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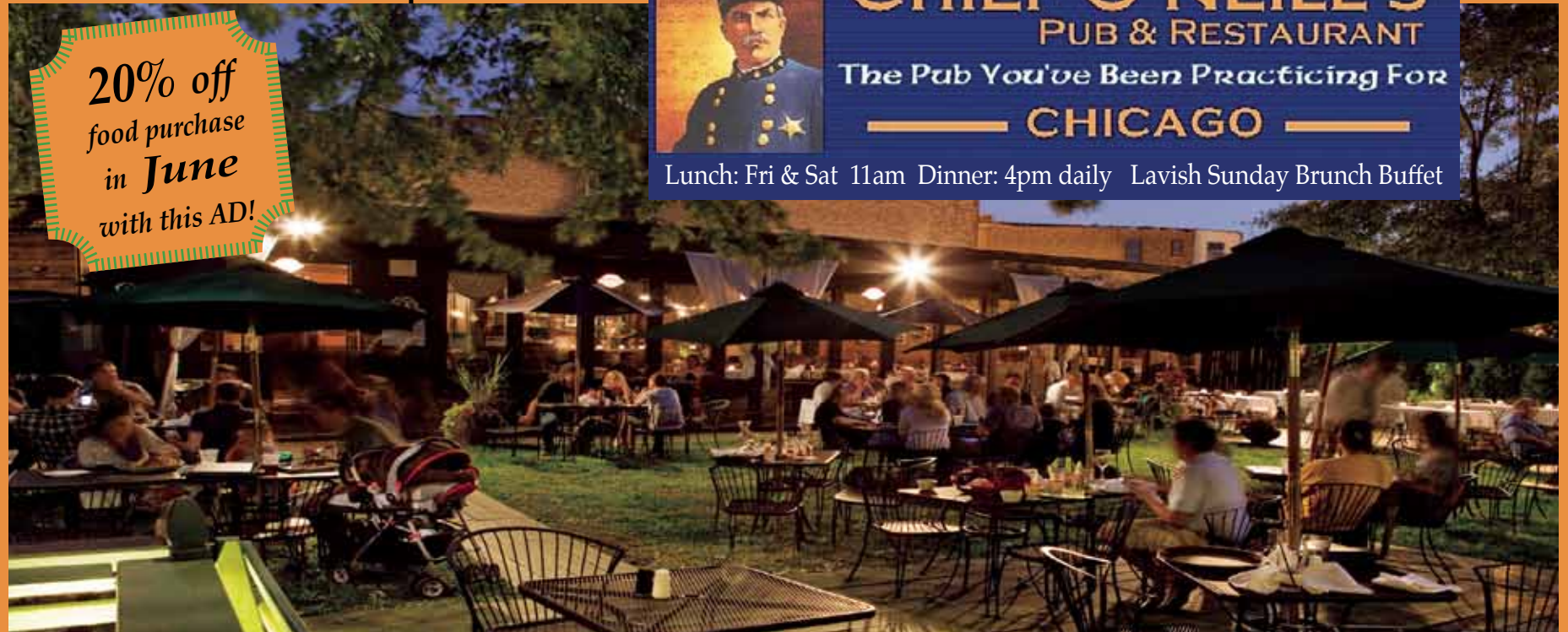
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Tommy's Take: Euro 2012 Preview

By Brian Donovan

Originally from Co. Louth, Tommy Smyth has been with ESPN for twenty years offering coverage on almost all soccer events. He contributes extensively to ESPN's SoccerNet's Press Pass, provides commentary for Italian Serie A matches, and will be featured throughout ESPN's upcoming Euro 2012 coverage. He can be found on Twitter at @TommySmythESPN

With no major tournament experience since they punched above their weight at the 2002 World Cup in Japan and Korea, Ireland arrives at the European Championships in Poland and Ukraine without the same amount of fanfare and expectation as Group C opponents Spain, Italy, and Croatia. Yet the Boys in

Green have enjoyed a surprisingly steady qualification campaign, losing only once and finishing just two points behind group-winners Russia. Here with his analysis of the Irish team, as well as the whole tournament, is ESPN commentator and Co. Louth native, Tommy Smyth.

Going into the tournament, what are your expectations for how Poland and Ukraine will be able to handle it?

This question comes up before almost every tournament. Sure, Poland and Ukraine don't have the same amenities as a Germany or Portugal, but they have enough experience with big football

matches to pull it off. All of the matches will be on ESPN so I hope the journalists and reporters will be able to make it easily around the country!

European Championship winners



1960 Soviet Union Host: France	2-1 Yugoslavia After extra time	1988 Netherlands Host: West Germany	2-0 Soviet Union
1964 Spain Spain	2-1 Soviet Union	1992 Denmark Sweden	2-0 Germany
1968 Italy Italy	1-1 Yugoslavia AET, replay 2-0	1996 Germany England	2-1 Czech Rep. AET, golden goal
1972 W. Germany Belgium	3-0 Soviet Union	2000 France Belgium/N'lands	2-1 Italy AET, golden goal
1976 Cze'slovakia Yugoslavia	2-2 W. Germany AET, pens 5-3	2004 Greece Portugal	1-0 Portugal
1980 W. Germany Italy	2-1 Belgium	2008 Spain Austria/Switzerland	1-0 Germany
1984 France France	2-0 Spain		

Picture: Getty Images
Source: UEFA © GRAPHIC NEWS

Let's move on to the matches. Group A, with Poland, the Czech Republic, Greece, and Russia, is clearly one of the weakest groups in recent championship memory. Can any of the two teams who emerge out of this group make a broader impact on the tournament?

While in every tournament there is a "Group of Death", I've dubbed this one the "Group of Life". I can honestly see any of these teams making it into the next round. Some people are giving the Russians some credit, but personally I can't see any of these teams making any inroads into the tournament. Then again, nobody saw Greece making it far when

they won the whole thing in 2004.

Tommy's Take: *With a weak group of teams that barely made it into the tournament, Poland and Russia should probably get through, almost by default.*

Speaking of which, Group B been dubbed the aforementioned "Group of Death." Perennial powerhouses Germany and Netherlands are drawn against a flashy Portugal side and a consistent Denmark squad. Do you see Portugal or Denmark stealing a spot from the superteams?

When you look at how the teams qualified, the Dutch and the Germans, they really stand out. They have a level of familiarity with each other, with, I think, something like seven members of the team playing on Bayern Munich together. Their knowledge of each others game will stand to Germany's ability. Meanwhile, the Dutch are their own worst enemy. They always come in as one of the favorites, yet it's been a long

while since they've lifted any hardware. Eventually you've got to wonder if there's something in their psyche that keeps them from winning.

Tommy's Take: *With the World Cup looming in Brazil, you get the feeling the Germans are going to want to collect a trophy at this tournament.*

What about Cristiano Ronaldo and Portugal?

The thing with the Portuguese is that this tournament is an incredible chance for Cristiano Ronaldo to stamp himself on the world game. He'll be able to have a break out tournament where all of the attention is on him. In any other

age, Ronaldo would be far and away the greatest football player in the world, but with Lionel Messi around, Ronaldo will want to use this tournament to break away from Messi's shadow.

We'll get to Ireland's group, Group C, in a minute, but let's talk about some of the intriguing matches in Group D. France and England are both coming off disappointing World Cup runs, while Sweden and Ukraine will definitely be tough outs. Is there any hope of moving out of the group stage for either the host nation or the Swedes?

England and France are the big favorites in that group – even with Rooney out for the first three games. Personally, I think that England are simply going to be a very average team. With Rooney serving the suspension, they won't have a star to come in and take the game over, in the way a Ronaldo or a Schweinsteiger would. With Sweden, you have a player in Ibrahimovic who has the

potential to carry his team. The thing with this tournament is that, if one player gets hot, he can bring everyone else with him.

Tommy's Take: *I'm certain that France are going to come out strong. This group of players has something to prove, and they know that have a chance to make amends for the calamity in South Africa.*

Ireland was unlucky with their draw and are forced to try and dethrone reigning champions Spain, while holding off tough competition from Italy and Croatia. Do you see much opportunity for Ireland to make it into the second round?

It's a very difficult group to come out of, but Irish teams play well when they're confident. After their road through qualification, they definitely sound confident. The key to the group is the first game against Croatia. To get a result there will be incredibly important, especially with Spain and Italy battling it out on the same day. Trapattoni will have the group ready to go for their final match against Italy, but it could be a meaningless one unless we pull something off against Croatia.

Thing is, players use the European Championships as a type of shop window. With Modric potentially on the transfer market from Tottenham, he will be trying to showcase his skills to buyers. If Modric cuts himself loose, I don't know too many players who are more talented.

Meanwhile, I don't see view this Spanish side as the Spanish team that everyone

keeps telling me they are. Defensive stalwart Carles Puyol is out, offensive juggernaut David Villa is out, and trusty defender Gerard Pique has fallen off his game. With all of those guys out or struggling, and playmakers Xavi and Andres Iniesta worn out from a long season, Spanish coach Vicente del Bosque is going to have a rough time picking a squad.

Tommy's Take: *This is a Spanish team that clearly relies on style and flair, much like Barcelona did in the Champions League. For me, there's no reason a defensive-minded Irish team can't be the Chelsea of this tournament by stifling Spain's attacks for a long time and eventually seizing their chances.*

How about the play of all-time leading scorer Robbie Keane? How do you see him motivating those around him?

The big thing for Ireland is that Robbie Keane has to be on his game. His recent form with the LA Galaxy hasn't been promising, which is making fans nervous. We can hope that we don't have to bank on Keane's performance, but at the same time as he goes, so will we.

Apart from Keane, I feel this is a huge tournament for Damien Duff and Aiden McGeady. If they can get balls in with a little bit more accuracy, we can cause huge problems for a lot of teams in the tournament. Richard Dunne at the back will be wildly important. If we lose our defensive shape, this team simply doesn't have the speed to be able to recover. If they lose their shape then they're in real trouble.

They more or less need to play errorless football.

The one thing about Trapattoni is that his managing style is very cautious. From a manager's perspective, it doesn't mean a pinch of salt how you go about winning, as long as you get the result. They aren't looking for entertainment, they just want to win. If Ireland won the Euros with six men standing in front of the goal, I'm pretty sure the country wouldn't mind that at all.

What's the potential for this Irish team?

With a win in the first game win, the sky is the limit. A first game loss and forget about it. All we can do is go out and play for the three points wherever we can find them.

For the tournament as a whole, do you have any players for us to look out for?

Young Italian Sebastian Giavincio scored 15 goals this year for Parma and could have one heck of a tournament. Russian star Andrei Arshavin should use the tournament as a chance to showcase

himself. When he came up, he was meant to be the next Marco van Basten yet never lived up to it. I could see him coming out and making a big impact.

So who do you see coming out of each group and, at the end of three weeks, who do you think will be crowned Champions of Europe?

From Group A I'll go with Poland and Russia. Group B has so much firepower but I'll stick with Germany and the Netherlands. For a shocker, I'm going to go with Italy and Ireland to come from

Group C, and from Group D, I'll bet on France and England. At the end of the day though, I can definitely see Germany putting together a brilliant run and winning the whole thing.

Tommy Smyth will continue to offer insight into Euro 2012 to Irish Central readers throughout the tournament. You can follow him on Twitter at @TommySmythESPN.



ESPN Commentator Tommy Smyth

European Championship participation

Germany top the table with 11 berths since the tournament began in 1960, while current World and European champions Spain, who beat Germany in the 2008 final, notch up their ninth appearance with this year's contest

APPEARANCES IN EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS, 1960-2012

- Austria, Latvia, Norway, Slovenia, Ukraine 1
- Bulgaria, Hungary, Ireland, Poland, Scotland 2
- Switz., Turkey 3
- Belgium, Romania, Croatia, Greece 4
- Germany* 11
- Russia** 10
- Netherlands 9
- Spain 9
- Czech Rep.*** 8
- Denmark 8
- Italy 8
- France 8
- England 8
- Sweden 5
- Serbia**** 5
- Portugal 6

Most titles:
Germany – 3
1972, 1980,
1996



TEAMS INVOLVED	
Tournaments	14
1960-1976	4
1980-1992	8
1996-2012	16

* Inc. West Germany, ** Inc. Soviet Union/CIS
*** Inc. Czechoslovakia, **** Inc. Yugoslavia
Source: UEFA © GRAPHIC NEWS

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MATCH IN POLAND

National Stadium, Warsaw (NS) Municipal Stadium, Wroclaw (MS)
 8 June 12pm Poland v Greece NS
8 June 2:45pm Russia v Czech Republic MS
 12 June 12pm Greece v Czech Republic MS
12 June 2:45pm Poland v Russia NS
 16 June 2:45pm Czech Republic v Poland MS
16 June 2:45pm Greece v Russia NS

GROUP A

MATCH IN UKRAINE

Metalist Stadium, Kharkiv (MS) Arena Lviv, Lviv (AL)
 9 June 12pm Netherlands v Denmark MS
9 June 2:45pm Germany v Portugal AL
 13 June 12pm Denmark v Portugal AL
13 June 2:45pm Netherlands v Germany MS
 17 June 2:45pm Portugal v Netherlands MS
17 June 2:45pm Denmark v Germany AL

GROUP B

MATCH IN POLAND

Arena Gdansk, Gdansk (AG) Municipal Stadium, Poznan (MS)
 10 June 12pm Spain v Italy AG
10 June 2:45pm Republic of Ireland v Croatia MS
 14 June 12pm Italy v Croatia MS
14 June 2:45pm Spain v Republic of Ireland AG
 18 June 2:45pm Croatia v Spain AG
18 June 2:45pm Italy v Republic of Ireland MS

GROUP C

MATCH IN UKRAINE

Donbass Arena, Donetsk (DA) Olympic Stadium, Kyiv (OS)
 11 June 12pm France v England DA
11 June 2:45pm Ukraine v Sweden OS
 15 June 12pm Ukraine v France DA
15 June 2:45pm Sweden v England OS
 19 June 2:45pm England v Ukraine DA
19 June 2:45pm Sweden v France OS

GROUP D

MATCH IN POLAND

National Stadium, Warsaw
 21 June 2:45pm

Winner Group A

vs

Runner-up Group B

Quarter-Final 1

Quarter-Final 2

MATCH IN POLAND

Arena Gdansk, Gdansk
 22 June 2:45pm

Winner Group B

vs

Runner-up Group A

Quarter-Final 3

Quarter-Final 4

MATCH IN UKRAINE

Donbass Arena, Donetsk
 23 June 2:45pm

Winner Group C

vs

Runner-up Group D

Olympic Stadium, Kyiv
 24 June 2:45pm

Winner Group D

vs

Runner-up Group C

MATCH IN UKRAINE

Donbass Arena, Donetsk
 27 June 2:45pm

Winner Quarter-Final 1

vs

Winner Quarter-Final 3

Semi-Final 1

Semi-Final 2

MATCH IN POLAND

National Stadium, Warsaw
 28 June 2:45pm

Winner Quarter-Final 2

vs

Winner Quarter-Final 4

All match times Eastern European Time and will air live on ESPN



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MATCH IN UKRAINE
Olympic Stadium, Kyiv
1 July 2:45pm
Winner Semi-Final 1
vs
Winner Semi-Final 2

Final Match

Standard Time (EST)
ESPN 2



Trap not going to make too many changes

No tinkering with settled team

By Cian O'Connell

Giovanni Trapattoni has a tried and trusted method, so don't be expecting too many changes to happen with the Republic of Ireland squad ahead of the European Championships.

When qualification was secured, 10 of the 11 starting places were more or less guaranteed and, barring injury, the only item of real discussion remains who will partner skipper Robbie Keane in attack.

Shane Long, Kevin Doyle, and Jon Walters are all in the reckoning for that elusive spot in a side that must make a positive start against a tough Croatian side.

Shay Given will mind the house behind a defence that is likely to be comprised of John O'Shea, Richard Dunne, Sean St Ledger, and Stephen Ward.

In the centre of the park Keith Andrews and Glenn Whelan will provide the midfield with some energy, while Aiden McGeady and Damien Duff will be patrolling the flanks.

This stubborn yet effective coaching style is a trademark of Trapattoni's way. Though injuries disturbed Ireland for Saturday's friendly with Bosnia and Herzegovina, the upcoming contest with Hungary should feature the vast majority of the expected first choice team.

James McClean's inclusion in the squad is a definite positive following a smashing second half to the season with Sunderland.

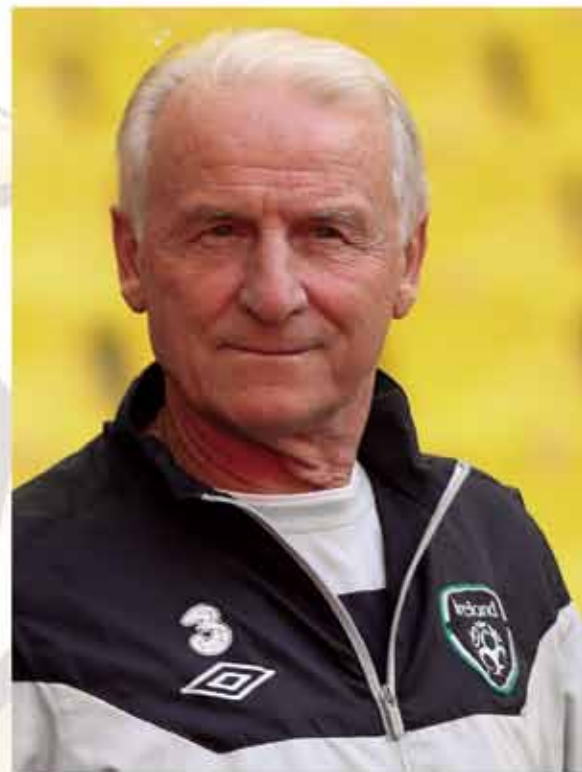
McClean flared to prominence in a Derry City shirt before signing for the Black Cats, and he has maintained his development in the north east of England.

Trapattoni is also an admirer of Darron Gibson, who made improvements with Everton, having rarely seen action in a Manchester United shirt.

Stephen Hunt, Keith Fahey, and Walters are others who have contributed off the bench for Ireland previously, so they are aware that they could be given chances to shine when it really matters in Poland.

Ireland's group is packed with quality passing outfits like Croatia, Spain, and Italy, who will all be quietly confident of advancing to the quarterfinals of the tournament.

There is no disguising the significance of the opener with Croatia, a team that gave Ireland a lesson in how to retain the ball at the Aviva Stadium last August, so plenty of defiance must be shown by the Boys in Green.



Irish coach Giovanni Trapattoni

Ireland - team profile

By Cian O'Connell

FIFA Ranking: 18

Euro History: The Republic of Ireland have only qualified for this tournament once before, and it was back in 1988. Though they registered a famous win over England, courtesy of a Ray Houghton goal, Ireland didn't advance from a tough group featuring England, USSR, and the Netherlands.

How they qualified: Ireland finished runners up to Russia in the group, but cruised to a convincing first leg play off success over Estonia in Tallinn. The second leg at the Aviva Stadium was simply a qualification party.

Group information and schedule: Ireland are in Group C with Croatia, Spain, and Italy, and will play their matches in Poland.

- June 9 v Croatia in Poznan
- June 14 v Spain in Gdansk
- June 18 v Italy in Poznan

The players and squad thoughts: Giovanni Trapattoni has surprised few with his squad selection, but there are a number of defensive injury concerns ahead of the tournament. The only real loser was Everton's Seamus Coleman, with the exciting, James Mc-



Clean included.

Goalkeepers: Shay Given (Aston Villa), Kieren Westwood (Sunderland), David Forde (Millwall).

This followed expected lines. Given is first choice, Westwood is second in command, while Galway native Forde is third in the mix.

Defenders: John O'Shea (Sunderland), Richard Dunne (Aston Villa), Stephen Ward (Wolverhampton Wanderers), Sean St Ledger (Leicester City), Darren O'Dea (Glasgow Celtic), Stephen Kelly (Fulham), Kevin Foley (Wolverhampton Wanderers).

Injuries have disrupted Ireland's preparations, so Paul McShane has been placed on standby and could be involved if some of the more established stars problems don't clear up. With a full bill of health, Trapattoni will opt for John O'Shea, Richard Dunne, Sean St Ledger, and Stephen Ward as his back four. They have served him effectively on the journey to Poland with Dunne's heroic display in Moscow the highlight of the campaign to date.

Midfielders: Glenn Whelan (Stoke City), Keith Andrews (West Bromwich Albion), Aiden McGeady (Spartak Moscow), Darron Gibson (Everton), Keith Fahey (Birmingham City), Damien Duff (Fulham), Stephen Hunt (Wolverhampton Wanderers), James McClean (Sunderland). This is similar to the defen-

sive situation in that Trapattoni has a system and that is what usually happens with his four man midfield too. Damien Duff and Aiden McGeady should be on the flanks with Glenn Whelan partnered by Keith Andrews inside. James McClean and Stephen Hunt are certainly options out wide from the bench, while Darron Gibson would slot into a central role if Whelan or Andrews aren't available.

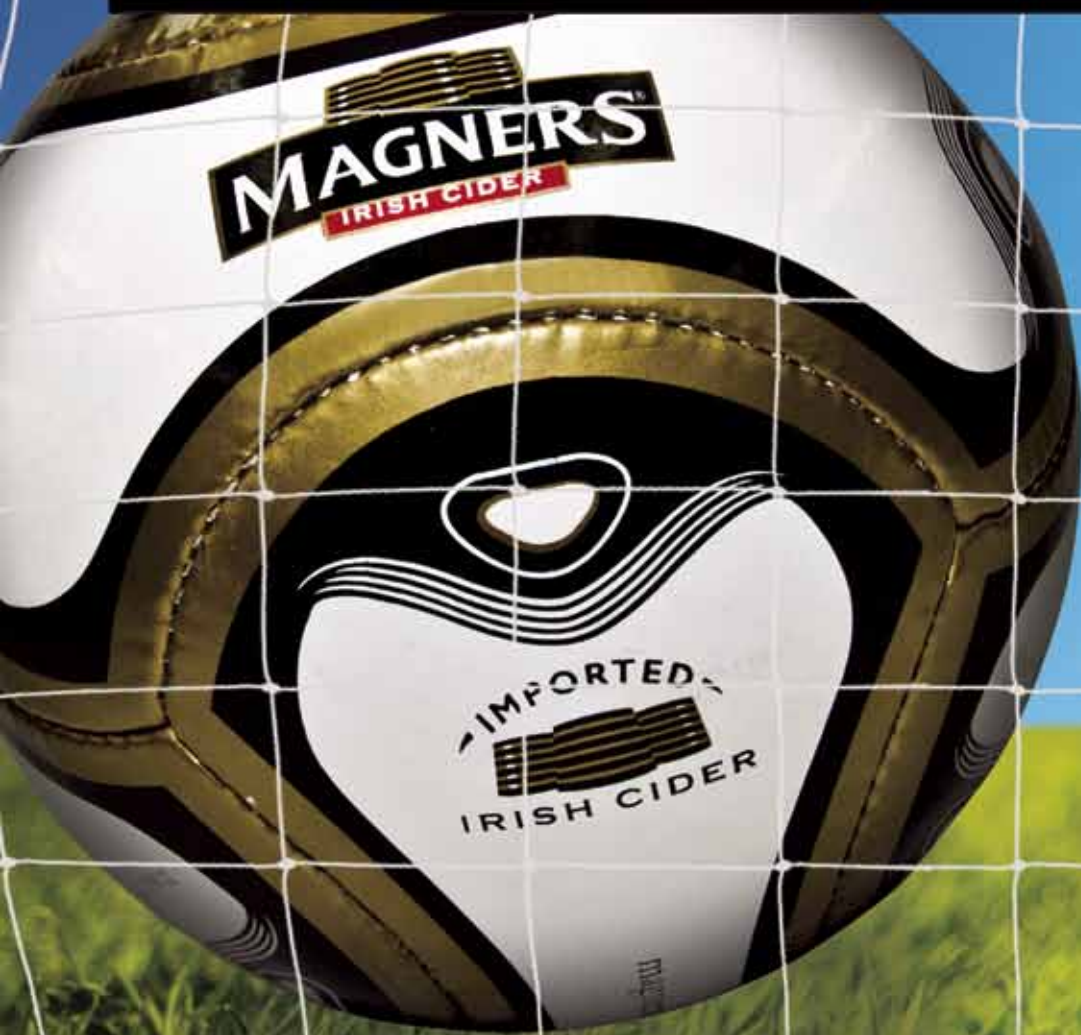
Forwards: Robbie Keane (LA Galaxy), Kevin Doyle (Wolverhampton Wanderers), Shane Long (West Bromwich Albion), Jonathan Walters (Stoke City), Simon Cox (West Bromwich Albion).

The main talking point surrounds who will partner Robbie Keane up front with Shane Long, Kevin Doyle, and Jon Walters all pushing for selection. Skipper Keane, Ireland's record goalscorer, contributed impressively in the 2002 World Cup and will be hoping to make a similar impact in this tournament. Doyle is his likely accomplice, but Long and Walters have ability too.

How they will do: This will be a demanding group for Ireland, who were efficient and effective in qualifying. That owed a lot to their solid defensive set up with Sean St Ledger and Richard Dunne offering Shay Given plenty of cover. They will need to be at their best to frustrate nifty opponents from Croatia, Spain, and Italy. Ireland's midfield will continue to work diligently, but whatever chances that are carved for skipper Robbie Keane must be taken. The opener with Croatia carries a deep importance.

LA Galaxy and Republic of Ireland striker Robbie Keane

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For The Republic



Chris Fogarty



Why the US led the sell-out of the Six Counties to Britain was covered here last month. "The head of the Britain desk at the State Dept explained: 'Well, you know the Provisional IRA don't have Buccaneer bombers, they don't have aircraft carriers, and we need to help sew up the British exchequer so that we can take on the next big battle in the world.' And we all looked him, and he said 'Islamic Fundamentalism.' That was November, 1994, and I (David Irvine, head of the terrorist UVF) was not alone, there are witnesses." Thus as early as 1994 elements within our gov't were planning that war.

"U.S. at war with Islam" is now officially denied and a Pentagon purge of training material is underway. According to Reuters, the purge was prompted by a soldier who complained after completing a course at the Joint Forces Staff College in Norfolk, Virginia. The course included an assertion that "the United States is at war with Islam and we ought to just recognize that fact" according to Pentagon spokesman Captain John Kirby. This raises a historic question: the planned war against Islamic Fundamentalism was the State Department's reason for arranging the transfer of Ireland's Six-Counties to Britain. Now that that war is officially denied, does that denial cancel the transfer of Irish territory?

A sell-out, really? You be the judge: Adams/McGuinness now claim to be leading a campaign to reunite Ireland. Let them first explain how unification was advanced by their Good Friday Agreement that signed-over the Six-Counties to Britain. World maps have been changed to reflect the sell-out. British M.P.s only recently ceased congratulating themselves and each other about their victory over the Irish. Adams did, and McGuinness still does, enforce British rule in Ireland while working in Stormont under the Union Jack. Derry is once again "Londonderry" and is advertised

as "2012 U.K. City of Culture" with some traditional Irish musicians and dancers willing to celebrate the loss of Irish territory. British jailers are again torturing Irish patriots, separation walls have doubled, British soldiers are back on Northern streets, named British murderers remain unprosecuted while more than ninety Irish patriots are imprisoned, and treated so vilely they have readopted the dirty protest not seen since the 1980/1981 Hunger-Strikes. Imprisoned Irish patriots must number about one hundred, as my Mary mailed Christmas cards (signed by dozens of Irish-Chicagoans) to eighty-nine of them. Britain's current abuses of Marian Price, Gerry McGeough and others, cry to heaven and to people of conscience everywhere. A priest in Burtonport, Donegal once explained. To my question as to why the 26-Counties people care so little about British crimes against the Occupied Irish he replied; "The people in the Republic care only about condoms and the Lotto." But where is Irish-America? Let us do what all people of conscience must do; work to stop official crime.

Ireland's government has responded to my www.irishholocaust.org and the annual November 3rd Irish Holocaust Commemoration Day. We commemorate two historic events that occurred on that date in 1845 in the Dublin office of Lord Heytesbury, Britain's Viceroy in Ireland. The key event was the official beginning of that 1845-1850 Holocaust when the Lord ignored frantic pleas from a 22-man delegation of Irishmen that he cease Britain's at-gunpoint removal of Ireland's abundant foods. The Lord's sole response was to read from a prepared paper about one crop only - potatoes, thus officially beginning the Potato Famine Big Lie. Thus for the past two decades the Irish everywhere solemnly commemorate on Nov. 3, a) the 1845-1850 Holocaust, and b) the "potato famine" lie

promoted to cover up that Holocaust.

Competition is underway. Ireland's gov't has responded to widespread commemorations on November 3rd by setting up a competing date in May to "commemorate" the "potato famine." They are trying to resurrect the "famine" lie that was already defeated by the truth, the truth that that Holocaust was perpetrated by more than half of Britain's then-empire army. That army was comprised of 137 regiments; of which 69 removed Ireland's food at gunpoint to the ports for export. One might expect that the perpetrating nation would keep it covered up; but why is Ireland's gov't doing it? Be wary of yet another lie, that "It was the rich Irish that starved the poor Irish." The reality is that British landlords "owned" 95% of Ireland's land; but Britain repatriated them in 1900.

Irish president O'Higgins was in Boston a few days ago promoting "potato famine." Let us hope there were plenty of people with integrity there to bear true witness against him and for the murdered millions. A similar cover-up "ceremony" was held recently in Drogheda. It was fronted by Britain's main Irish asset: Occupied Ireland Deputy First Minister Martin McGuinness and his like. Worse; Taoiseach Enda Kenny attended. The "potato famine" lie was driven home by the following "proofs": a potato, a soup kitchen ration card, a boat ticket to Liverpool and a section of a thatched roof. Clerics aplenty proved willing to participate in the mass false witnessing to genocide.

What other nation covers up genocide of its people? Are Ireland's leaders uniquely depraved? Who has ever heard a Jew denying the Shoah, or a Native American denying the genocide that left so few of them? I can understand (without condoning) Marist Brother Enda's tragic admission that he had falsified Irish history his entire career; when he said regarding the 1845-1850 Holocaust; "I had no choice. I had to teach the curriculum as provided to me by the government." It would have required rare courage to tell the truth of it while both government and hierarchy were covering it up.

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The Irish Rover

By James McClure



There Still Are Giants

Last year this column chronicled the historic 1952 story of tiny Hebron High becoming the smallest school to ever win the Illinois state basketball championship. Led by a leprechaun of a coach clad in green tie and socks, "Duke" Ahern, it was and is a timeless story of how the biggest of things can come from the smallest of places.

In this case, a McHenry County Illinois-Wisconsin border town of less than a thousand with a student body of less than a hundred, and just a handful of boys on the court and on the bench to carry the championship fight to every corner of the state.

The e-mail reaction was swift from IAN publisher and editor Cliff Carlson-- "are any of them still alive?"

I soon got that answer with an e-mail that leapt out of the past and into my computer. It was from Jim Bergin, the handsome smiling guard in jersey #10 standing behind Coach Ahern in the official championship team photo you see when you Google "Hebron 1952 State Champs."

Sure, the trophy still shines in the same small school building a couple miles south of Illinois 173 on Illinois Highway 47. And those timeless clean cut boy-athletes are visible in black and white in nearly every store and business in town beneath the giant water tower painted like a basketball. My eyes bulged before the computer screen with the dream of meeting one of these legends come to life. I always wanted to leap into one of the pictures and feel a part of 1952. Here it was on my desktop.

Received your welcome article on the '52 Hebron Green Giants from an older sister who resides in Oak Forest, AND, from a 1st cousin, Mary Bergin Moore, a northsider. As you state, the population of the Hebron area was mostly Swedish, German, Dutch. There were however,

a few Irish Catholics, who attended church at St. Joseph's in Richmond. Most of the team, but for Bill Schulz & myself, were town-boys.

Many of the Hebronites, I think always thought Bergin was either Scandinavian, or, German - NOT Irish. As you probably well know it is a very old original Irish name, meaning of "noble birth". I must admit I had

Phil coached at Zion-Benton till retirement several years ago.

Thanks so much for your so beautifully worded write-up. I've no doubt many enjoyed it recounting their memories of those firsts you mention associated with that event.

Sincerely, Jim Bergin, No. 10.

A 'write-up'! Even the eloquent phrases of Bergin took me back to the time.

risked falling into the pit where fans sat.

Later Ken Spooner, the shoemaker companion to the run-and-gun fast break twins would humbly thank a crowd of hundreds that filled the 60th anniversary celebration in the new gym. "You don't know how much this means to us, and how thankful we are that you remember and want to be here today." Oh they remember. Especially Spooner sinking five shots in one playoff that would have been three-pointers, had such a thing existed at the time.

Bergin gave me a tour of his family farm, and showed me where his father would flag down the train for Chicago at a crossing and carry chickens in to sell after his commute to a city job.

The entire town remembers and reveres the Green Giants, gentlemen all as trained end-lessly by the taskmaster Ahern. Practice ended when you took 50 shots.

The Last Basketball Counts

Even Bergin would get his moment of greatness. "Just remembered something as I looked at that North basket—it's where I scored my last point."

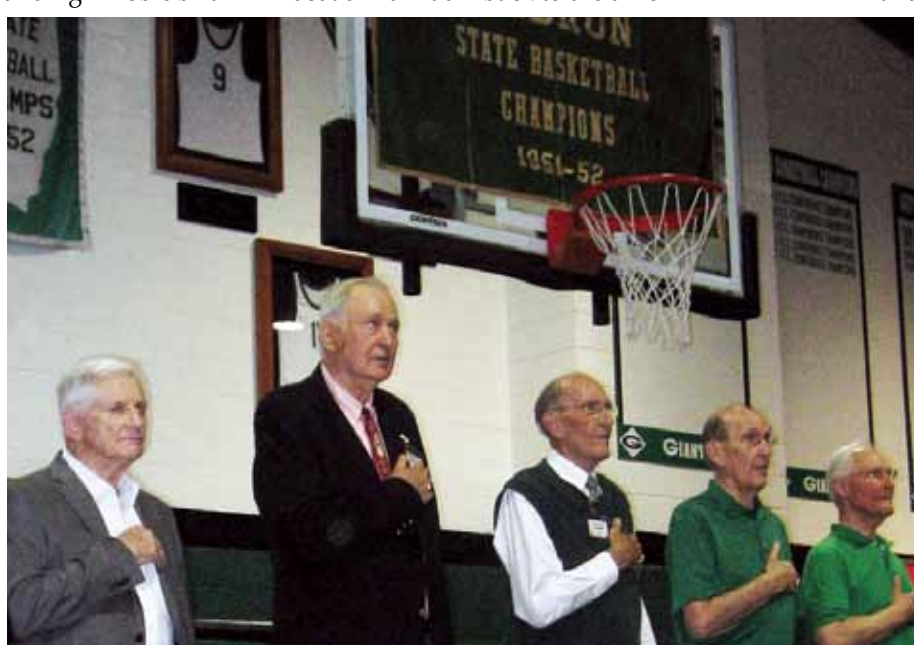
Following the championship year Bergin was in the last home game against tough St. Edward's of Elgin. With 15 seconds left the basketball thumped off the backboard and straight into Bergin's hands. "Had just enough time to put it up!"

It had to go in for them to win. It had to make time, even the slower time of 1953, stand still. The black seams and orange-brown pebbles of the ball whirled in slow motion on reflex from Number 10's hands.

A game winner? "Swished without touching the net as I recall." Bergin smiled that 50's teen crooked smile and walked into the corridor of the old school, stopped only by a present-day fan requesting an autograph on a basketball.

Are any of them still alive? Are they ever!

IrishRoverJim@aol.com



(left to right): Jim Bergin, Bill Schulz, Paul Judson, Phil Judson, and Ken Spooner together again

my doubts despite my parents' assertions, and my Mother's insistence that we wear the Green on Paddy's Day. It wasn't until July of '87 while seeking lodging on our 1st nite in Eire, that I was blown away when the sweet girl at the checkin desk, proclaimed: "That's MY name. She was Charlotte Bergin from Horse & Jockey, in Tipperary.

Anyway, Coach Ahern & I were the only 2 Irishmen connected with the team. It seemed nice to have a Catholic teacher/coach, AND, an Irishman as well. For some reason it seemed to me that Coach Ahern held me to a higher standard, perhaps so as to not elicit the criticism of appearing to favor another Irish Catholic.

So good of you to revisit this historic story of Illinois prep basketball. As you probably know also, Paul & Phil Judson played for U of I, Paul MVP & Olympian of '56; Bill Schulz, a 1st String Center at Northwestern for several years as I recall.

Over the past year I've come to know and meet Bergin and his Irish American wife. As he mentioned he and towering 6 foot 10 and a half center Bill Schultz were the only true "farm boys" of the team everyone assumed came straight from milking cows to sinking baskets.

Bergin was a reserve player on the championship team, no small role said the tower Schulz as Bergin and four remaining team members marked the 60th anniversary a few weeks back.

"Without the reserves we would have had no one to practice against!" said Schulz. Just five starters and four or five reserves brought the title home in the first televised state championship.

"Hi, I'm " Swish" said Phil Judson as he introduced himself, one of two twin sensations. His brother imitated a hook shot for me as his younger self did the same on a giant film screen in the old gym, a shortened non-regulation arena where players

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THE HERITAGE LINE

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

Chicago, Illinois



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GET YOUR IRISH ON at the IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL

July 13, 14 and 15

Tickets are now on sale for the 27th annual Irish American Heritage Festival.

Irish Fest is July 13, 14 and 15, 2012 and showcases the finest in local and international Irish and American music, dance and family activities. It features more than 100 performers for 3 days on 6 stages.

The Festival is held on the grounds of the Center and is our biggest fundraiser.

Confirmed performers include:

the Tossers, the Young Dubliners, Dublin City Ramblers, Derek Warfield and the Young Wolfe Tones, Girsá, the Kreellers, the Mickey Finns, the Great Whiskey Project, the Dooley Brothers, the Larkin and Moran Brothers, Kennedy's Kitchen, the Sandcarvers, the Chancey Brothers, Kevin Flynn and the

Avondale Ramblers, Paddy Homan and Friends, Bagpipes and Drums of the Emerald Society, In Spite of Ourselves, Finbarr Fagan, Irish Heritage Singers, Shannon Rovers, Fionnghlas, Ceili Mor with Ceoltoiri Chicago, Piob agus fídlí with Patrick and Karen Cannady, the Matt Stedman Band, Rant Maggie Rant, Nineteen Pints, Dyed in the

Wool, the Misericordia Heartbreakers and Heartzingers, D.J. Cal, the O'Hare School of Irish Dance, the Mulhern School of Irish Dance, Students of the Irish Music School of Chicago, Joe McShane and the SilverBridge Band, Sheila Tully Academy of Irish Dance, the City of Chicago Pipe Band, Tooromeen School of Irish Dance, Fast

Eddie McAteer and Billy O'Donoghue and more!

Fest activities include music and dance performances, demonstrations and lessons, children's activities, cultural exhibits, a raffle, one-act plays, vendors selling Irish themed gifts, the Mashed Potato Eating Contest for kids and adults, the ShamROCK

Stars singing contest for kids and the Hooley Hook-Up for singles on Friday night.

Children's activities are on Saturday and Sunday from Noon-6pm. Children's activities feature facepainting, sand art and a moon walk.

The Chicago F.I.R.E. Express will be on site with inflatable games and their mascot. There will be a Gaelic Football demo on Sunday. Bring the kids for arts and crafts and carnival games. For \$3, kids can play all day.

Hours are 6pm to midnight on July 13, noon to midnight on July 14 and noon to 11pm on July 15.

Tickets are \$7 for seniors, \$8 in advance for adults (until the end of business on July 11) and \$15 at the door. Children 12 and under are free. Purchase tickets at www.irishfestchicago.com or call 773-282-7035.



The Tossers



The Mickey Finns



The Young Dubliners



Lend a Hand at the Fest

Want to join us as a Fest volunteer this summer? We seek help for all three days at the fest, as this large festival needs many volunteers.

- We need volunteers for:
- Box office and ticket sales
 - Raffle Sales
 - Helping our Kitchen

Staff serve meals for the volunteer team

- Our Kids' Area
- Assisting in Managing our Back stage area



- Hanging posters and promotional materials before the fest
- Selling ads in our Ad Book

Want to join our Irish Fest Committee or volunteer for the weekend? Contact Volunteer Coordinator, Carmel O'Kane at cokane@irishahc.org or call 773-282-7035, ext. 10.

Celebrate Bloomsday With the Center

Celebrate the life and works of writer James Joyce with the Center's annual Bloomsday Celebration, Rattlin' of the Joists this June. Josephine Craven directs.

The annual event includes performances with readings, music and song, presented by notables from Chicago's theatre and music community, including Brad Armacost, Brendan Gregg, Vera Kelly, Brigid Duffy Gerace, Kevin Cassidy and

Mark Piekarz.

On June 16, 1904, writer James Joyce met his future wife, Nora Barnacle and immortalized the date in his monumental epic, Ulysses. Modern Joyce aficionados have denoted June 16 "Bloomsday"; a day set aside throughout the world to honor the great man and his controversial and thought-provoking works.



The 14th annual Rattlin' of the Joists is Saturday, June 16 at 8pm at the IAHC and is a benefit for the IAHC. Donations are accepted. For more information, call the Center at 773-282-7035.



**IRISH AMERICAN
HERITAGE CENTER** Chicago, Illinois



WWW.IRISH-AMERICAN.ORG

President's Message

There is so much going on... hope you agree. And it's good for the Center and our members and guests.

- Our annual board nomination meeting was held and very well attended.

The financial progress we have made was shared with all. Membership is increasing, incremental revenue streams are being pursued, costs are being reviewed, justified and evaluated. A Purchase Order system has been put in place. I can assure you we are taking every step possible to strengthen our financial present and future.

- I would like to thank the outgoing board members for their service. I would also like to thank those who have agreed to be nominated for the four positions we will fill in the June election. Please take some time to meet the candidates and plan on voting in the upcoming election.

- We recently held our second Committee Chair and department leader meeting. At that meeting, Committee Chairs had a chance to meet and discuss opportunities with their fellow chairs. The meeting was extremely well attended. We shared our financial performance, upcoming programs and also discussed the 2012 budget and Master

Plan. Everyone is on board for an exciting and successful 2012.

- A Master Plan, mentioned above, is now in progress. We are developing a plan to address the short and longer term needs and dreams for the building and grounds. As a part of this process, the committee chairs and department leaders were asked to submit their ideas of how the building can best address the needs of their particular group. We want major input on this project.



- We recently held another Town Hall Meeting. I am committed to these meetings as a method of sharing information with all members. I believe in transparency and these meetings help to display that commitment.

- The Irish American Hall of Fame weekend was in April and great events were held over the course of the weekend. Many well-known and important guests joined us. Governor Quinn even delivered a well-received and on target message at the well-attended gala dinner. Congratulations to the committee, staff, members and volunteers who helped make this event a success.

- National Volunteer Week was celebrated at the Center. Our volunteers are so important to us. Whether it be in the trades or in the office or on committees, our volunteers keep the Center going and going and going. A special thanks to

our volunteer coordinator, Carmel O'Kane, for her efforts in continuing to place new volunteers.

- The Development Committee is moving forward with plans to help create new and incremental funding for the Center.

- The "Walk of Names" brick project is set to break ground. First, we will replace the steps at the main entrance of the east side. Once this is completed, the bricks will be installed. This will be Phase 1 of the brick project and all who purchased a brick before May 18 will have their bricks placed. It has been a long time coming and thank you for your patience.

- The Heritage Singers have been hard at work volunteering their talents and helping spread the good will of the Center as they have performed across the Chicagoland area. These performances help the image and branding of the Center. And, they help the Center financially. Thank you. Also, please join me in welcoming the Heritage Singers new Director Paul Matijevic.

- Irish Fest is coming. The committee has been meeting and the entertainment has been booked. Some new ideas are being pursued and enthusiasm is building. We hope to see you at a committee meeting. All ideas are welcome.

- Preliminary plans are also underway for our popular McToberfest event and we are starting to plan a Halfway to St. Patrick's Day event, which will both take place this fall.

- The Cultural Committee has been busy lining

up interesting and exciting events, including the annual iBAM! Celebration. Check the website and these pages for more news.

- The first annual IAHC Genealogy Fest is in the works. Want to be part of a totally new and exciting event? Contact us.

- I recently attended the Trinity Irish Dance celebration dinner. Congratulations to all at Trinity and thank you for being a partner with the Center.

- The Kids' Club has some new events planned that include painting rain barrels and a fun day trip.

- The accounting is in and St. Patrick's Day at the Center was a huge success and a huge financial success. Thanks to all the volunteers.

- Finally, I would like to thank our radio show partners who help deliver the message and vision of the Center to so many. The shows and their hosts are important as we continue to brand the Center as the home for Irish culture.

Unfortunately, time and print space prevents me from addressing all the exciting things going on at the Center and I apologize to all I have missed, but rest assured you are not forgotten. But, I am allowed one more line...

Thank you!

John Gorski, President, IAHC

Get Out the Vote!

The election for new members of the IAHC Board of Directors is Friday, June 15 at 7:30pm.



Candidates will be elected to serve from 2012-2016. The candidates are Kathy Dunat, Paddy Homan, Kathy Kelly, Ann Murphy, Terry Sweeney, Tom Spence and Tim Taylor. If your membership has lapsed, call the IAHC Office and renew your membership so you can vote in this important election.

If you are unable to attend, you can also call us for an absentee ballot at 773-282-7035, ext. 10.

VISIT THE GIFT SHOP

Hours:

Mondays through Thursdays
4pm to 8pm
Friday 4pm to 10pm
Saturday 11am to 10pm
Sunday-Closed

The IAHC Gift Shop has partnered with Uptown Soda Bread Company and the Galway Bakers to bring you fresh-baked soda bread and baked goods each Friday and Saturday.

Delivered direct from their ovens every Friday morning, these breads are ready-to-eat and free samples are available.

Stock up on Irish bangers, bacon, sausage rolls and puddings. We carry Diamond, Harrington and Winston's meats.

Stop in for all your Irish import needs or call 773-282-7035.



Don't miss the Grand Opening Open House

June 9, 1 to 4pm

Bring the Family to celebrate the IAHC Gift Shop Grand Opening!

Food and drink will be provided. Fun for all ages!

WISH LIST

In June, we wish you would:

- Attend the Election on June 15 and get out the vote!
- Start rounding up family and friends to attend Irish Fest in July
- Wish a Dad in your life a Happy Father's Day
- Visit the Gift Shop's Open House on June 9
- Attend our Bloomsday Celebration

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



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Kids Go Green at June Earth Month Event

Parents, your kids can go green at the Shamrock Kids Club Earth Month event this June.

The Center will team up with Chicago Irish Immigrant Support, the Office of Illinois Governor Patrick Quinn, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) and Seedsavers.org for a fun way for kids to teach conservation. Children ages 6-12 years old will paint rain barrels with Celtic designs and plant seeds in the Center South Lot.

The MWRD of Greater Chicago has recently launched a green infrastructure initiative using rain gardens, native landscaping, storm water trees, green roofs, greenways, wetlands and porous pavement to achieve its mission to manage storm water and reduce pollution. The MWRD donated the rain barrels that will be painted.

Seed Savers is a program that has built a network of gardens around the world that fight hunger, build



community and teach children and adults the virtues of homegrown food.

The Shamrock Kids Club Earth Month event is Saturday, June 2 from 11am to 1pm. The cost is \$4 per child for Center Members and \$5 for non-members.

To register your children, email Mary Gorski at shamrockkidsclub@irishahc.org or call 773- 282-7035.

Meet Eugene O'Neill's Women This Spring

Beth Wynstra, a scholar and professor at Babson College will present a lecture on Eugene O'Neill at the Center this spring. Eugene O'Neill and His Women features a staged reading of *Always, Gene*, a one-act play, written by Wynstra.

Eugene O'Neill was one of the most acclaimed playwrights of the 20th century. A four-time Pulitzer Prize winner, he is also the only American dramatist to date to win the Nobel Prize for literature. Three of his Pulitzer prizes came in the 1920's, *Beyond the Horizon*, *Anna Christie* and *Strange Interlude*. His fourth was awarded posthumously in 1957, for his harrowing autobiographical masterpiece, *Long Day's Journey into Night*.



Always, Gene depicts a meeting among five women pivotal in Eugene O'Neill's life. They compare notes, joke and argue with, and about one another, as they reflect upon, and defend their roles in their relationship with the playwright. It was produced at the 2002 and 2009 Eugene O'Neill Festival in Danville, California. Wynstra serves on the board of the Eugene O'Neill International Society.

The one-act features Vera Kelly, Cathy McDonagh, Aileen O'Grady, Laurie Lister, Leslie Singel and Artistic Director, Joanna Trotter. All are Chicago actors or Irish studies scholars.

Eugene O'Neill and His Women is Sunday, June 3 at 2pm. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the door.

Choir has New Music Director

The Irish Heritage Singers welcome Paul Matijevec as the new Director of the the choir. In addition to his new role, Matijevec continues to serve as music director at St. Thomas Becket Parish in Mount Prospect and as a chorus member with the William Ferris Chorale.

Matijevec has been active in music in Chicago for many years having served as music director for St. Timothy Parish in Rogers Park from 1988 to 2005 and as a chorus member with Chicago Symphony, Bella Voce and Chicago Choral Artists.

He holds degrees in piano performance from De Paul University. He served as a piano instructor and choral accompanist at St.

Xavier University and as orchestral keyboardist for the Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra as well as the Civic Orchestra of Chicago. Matijevec is a current member of the American Choral Directors Association, the American Guild of Musical Artists, Chorus America and the National Association of Pastoral Musicians.



Paul Matijevec

Culture Corner

Visit the

IAHC Library

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

Library open:

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



Genealogy Club

- for monthly meetings on finding your roots

Genealogy Monthly Meetings

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

Art Gallery

- for lectures and art classes and special exhibits throughout the year

Museum

- for our collection and special exhibits call our office for a docent-led 45 minute tour.

Don't miss our cultural activities at Irish Fest! Visit the library, theatre, art gallery, and museum for special fest exhibits and programs.



IRISH AMERICAN
HERITAGE CENTER Chicago, Illinois



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June 2012

June 1	Francis O'Neill Ceili Dance	Fifth Province	8pm
June 2	Shamrock Kids' Club Earth Month Event	Building Grounds	11am
June 3	Eugene O'Neill and his Women	Sham Am Room	2pm
June 6	TIR NA NOG Seniors meeting	Room 109	11am
June 7	CIIS Tara Club Event	Room 304	10am
June 9	Gift Shop Open House	Gift Shop	1pm
	St. Patrick's Fathers Social	Erin Room	8pm
June 15	Election Meeting	Room 109	7:30pm
June 16	Bloomsday Celebration	Fifth Province	8pm
June 19	Celtic Women Monthly Meeting	Room 304	7pm
June 21	CIIS Tara Club Event	Room 304	10am
June 24	Genealogy Meeting	Library	1pm

Regularly Scheduled Events

Tues., Thurs., Fri., & Sat.	Golden Diners Senior Lunches	Kitchen	12:30pm-2pm
Tuesday	Memoir Writing Class	Sham Am Room	7pm
Thursday	Memoir Writing Class	Sham Am Room	7pm
Tuesdays	Celtic Art Class	Room 304	7pm

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!



the fifth province

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

UPCOMING ENTERTAINMENT

June 2012

All Shows Start
After 9pm

- 6/1 Ceili Mor
- 6/2 Gerry Haughey
- 6/8 The Boils
- 6/9 Seamus O'Kane and Jimmy Moore
- 6/15 Tommy Tuesday
- 6/16 Baal Tinne
- 6/22 Dennis Florine Band
- 6/23 Dooley Brothers
- 6/29 Joe McShane
- 6/30 Larry Nugent and Billy O'Donoghue



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

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Free Parking

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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

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Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Credit Card # _____

Exp _____ 3 Digit code on card's back: _____

Annual Dues Individual Membership

\$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



Our Mission

The mission of the Irish American Heritage Center is to nurture and strengthen Irish culture and heritage through programs emphasizing Irish music, literature, drama, traditional dancing, fine arts, and the constructive contributions of the Irish and Irish-Americans to the United States of America. The Irish American Heritage Center supports this mission by maintaining its resources, including the

• MUSEUM • IRISH SCHOOL • ARCHIVES • CHOIR •
ART GALLERY • AUDITORIUM • LIBRARY • THEATRE GROUP

and other related programs and partnerships, while providing a gathering place for the Irish American community and those interested in Irish culture.



Find us on
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Follow the IAHC on
Facebook & Twitter



For updates on upcoming events and ticket giveaways

The Heritage Line Staff

Kathleen O'Neill, Editor

Contributors: Theresa Choske, John Gorski, Mary Gorski, Mary Griffin,
Judith Loevy, Mary Morris, Sheila Murphy

Social Services

By Paul Dowling



Senior groups take place at 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

Wednesday, 13th June 2012

Join us for our 3rd annual 'Day on the Lake' where we enjoy a delightful luncheon cruise on Lake Michigan and take in the breathtaking views of the downtown Chicago skyline. Details will be available closer to the day.

Wednesday, 27th June 2012

Alas, our senior group programming draws to a close for another year. We celebrate the ending of a busy and successful season with a special mass with Fr. Michael Leonard. Have a safe and healthy summer and we look forward to more great times together in the autumn.

IAHC

Thursday, 21st June 2012

Let's all go to the movies! This week we get a chance to check out some modern Irish short films. Perhaps through the medium of film we can gain some insight into the many ways that Irish society had changed in recent times

A healthier you—step by step

Many health organizations, including the American Heart Association, say that walking is a great excise for maintaining overall health. Numerous recent studies have shown that walking as few as 10,000 steps per day leads to better health, with benefits like lower blood pressure, weight loss and better heart rates. Regular walking has also been shown to improve memory and prevent diabetes. As walking is a gentle exercise it is ideal for older adults that have other health conditions and for those who may not have been very active

over recent years. Now that the summer is upon us we strongly encourage the seniors in our community to get out there and start walking. Here are some helpful tips to get you off to a great start.

- Before beginning a new walking exercise program, it's a good idea to visit your primary care physician for a check-up for information about your health and/or any problems that need to be addressed. The physical will also provide a baseline for measurement of the health benefits of your walking program, such as heart rate, weight, blood pressure, etc.

- Your physical therapist (PT) may also be an important person to see as part of the evaluation process. The PT will provide a musculoskeletal evaluation and information related to your strength, flexibility, range of motion and postural alignment. If you're experiencing back, hip, knee, foot and/or ankle pain, those problems may need to be treated prior to the initiation of a walking program.

- Pedometers count the number of steps you take. Every time you take a step, the pedometer will record it and track the number of steps you take. Some have functions that count calories, measure heart rate and record exercise time. Also, pedometers are fun and will provide information that will allow you to set goals and then track and measure progress toward your health and walking targets. Women should take approximately 15,000 steps a day, and men approximately 18,000.

- Bring a friend! A walking partner or group makes walking more fun and will help the time pass more quickly.

- Exercise is easiest when you can get into a routine. Find times that work best for you and stick with it and you'll be pleasantly surprised with the results. Happy stepping!



Daly Investor

By John P. Daly



Long Term Care Insurance

Here is a reprint of an interview I did for a financial publication a couple of months ago. I thought it would be beneficial to share since it is an important topic.

Statistics say the majority of people will need long-term care at some point in their lives. What are some of the basics in considering whether to buy it or not?

Those with a net worth of at least \$3 million may be able to self-insure, or pay outright for any medical coverage they need when the time arises. One advantage of self-insuring is that if you never need the benefit, you haven't spent thousands in premiums.

To get an idea of how much it could cost to self-insure, investigate the costs and services of different nursing homes and assisted living residences in the area where you plan to retire. The facility that charges \$50,000 a year may be far less amenable to you than the one that charges \$80,000 a year. Of course, coverage in a major city will also be more expensive. Care in Chicago will cost more than care in Biloxi. Those who can self-insure usually can also afford LTCI as well, and may sleep better for having it. Like any insurance the premiums are lost if you don't use it, but you don't have to worry if you do.

Policies will offer a certain benefit per month -- say \$4,000 to \$6,000 -- up to a certain maximum of about \$200,000 to \$400,000 for perhaps three to five years. Someone in decent health at age 60 might pay \$300 a month in LTCI premiums. That's a payout of \$72,000 after 20 years, which would cover about 15 months of benefits had you paid outright. Therefore any care that lasts longer than 15 months is definitely worth your while. Remember the average stay in a nursing home is three years. Whenever you investigate buying LTCI, it's important to look at costs in your area as well as national average costs of care.

When should you buy? For

those who can't afford to self-insure, rates range from \$200 a month for a 40-year-old to up to \$500 a month at age 70. The younger you are when you purchase a policy, the cheaper it will be. But the best time to purchase LTCI is in your 50s because the added years of paying premiums for a policy purchased in your 40s may not be worth the bump-up in cost for coverage in your 50s.

Compare insurance companies. Make sure the company you buy your policy from has strong financials, and based on its history, is not likely to raise your premiums. Be aware that just because a company's policy is expensive does not mean it has the best financials. In fact, a company with a cheaper policy may be in better fiscal condition.

Understand the policy. You need to understand all the ins and outs of the various policies. Some companies, such as Genworth and Mutual of Omaha, offer steep discounts for married couples. For example, one healthy couple living in Arizona with a blended age of 55 (one was 59, the other 52) got a discount of 40% each, resulting in a premium of \$186 total a month for a benefit of \$4,000 a month. Es-

entially this couple would have paid close to \$4,800 a year without the discount instead will pay half of that with the discount. Couples with more expensive policies may want to consider switching to a policy that offers this discount.

Get an inflation rider. There are dozens of optional riders you can add to most LTCI policies. Consumers have to evaluate which ones are really valuable to them and which aren't. One rider that is an absolute must is the cost-of-living adjuster, which increases your benefit by up to 5% a year. Since health-care costs are on track to double in the next 10 years, and are growing about 7% per year, this feature provides critical inflation protection. Without it, you can have LTCI and still wind up paying a lot out of pocket.

Another rider that may be available allows unused benefit to pass over to one's spouse. If a husband dies before the wife without using any of his LTCI, the coverage added onto the wife's four-year benefit, for a total of eight years' coverage.

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. Phone: 312-239-1317 Email: john@dalyinvestment.com Readers are encouraged to call or email John with questions regarding Investments or Financial Planning.



Proud Irishman, Conan O'Brien, filmed the Trinity Irish Dancers May 30, at the Irish American Heritage Center for The Conan O'Brien Show's "Chicago Week," airing June 11-14 on TBS.

It Starts With A Song

By Joe McShane
and Margo O'Donnell

Margo -

Hi everybody, since I last put pen to paper, I can't believe a month has passed. I've been on holiday to Florida and had a wonderful time, so with my batteries recharged its nice to be able to fill you in on what's been happening over here. On the 6th of May, I was invited as a special guest to Ardara in Co Donegal, for a night called "Raking The Ashes". The event was hosted by a local lady, who calls herself "Breezy Willow". It took us back to the days in Ireland long ago, when people would gather in some ones home, having fun, telling stories and singing songs, and believe me, we had a wonderful evening.

My brother Daniel opened up his visitors centre in Dungloe, Co Donegal. It hosts a history of his life in music and a little of his life in general. While I looked through the songwriters section, who was looking back at me but Joe McShane, I thought there's no getting away from this guy Ha! Ha! Joe wrote a song called "My Side Of The Road" which was on Dan-

iel's first album, called "The Boy From Donegal" and of course he co wrote "Erin Tennessee" with Forrest Lee Jr and Daniel. As I am writing this, Joe is putting the finishing touches to my new C.D. Which was recorded last October/November, when I visited Chicago. I am looking forward to releasing it, and we will have it on my next concert in the Irish American Heritage Center in October.

A wee joke -

Did you ever hear the one about An old elderly gentleman was dozing in his chair one afternoon, when he was awakened by a knock on the door. He shuffled to the door to find a gorgeous young lady standing there. "I'm sorry" she said, "I'm at the wrong house" He said "sweetheart you're at the right



house, but you're 35 years late"

Until the next time - God Bless you all. Love always, Margo

Joe -

Thank you Margo. Well lots going on in Chicago, we even had a real Spring here this year. Congratulations to a lovely young lady, Margaret Rose Keating, who is Chicago's Rose Of Tralee this year. Margaret works at the Curragh, Edison Park, where I have been performing every Sunday evening for the last 3 and a half years, so Sean Ginnelly told me last week. I've known Margaret's parents Eileen and Jim Bob for a long time and I've visited Co Offaly, where Jim Bob comes from. Which leads me to this months song, about a pub in a place called Ballyboy, Co Offaly, not far from the Keatings home. I was lucky enough to have spent some very happy hours

ago. It was a big hit for him on the radio stations all over Ireland. He is coming to visit Chicago this month and will be performing also, so look out for him. I listened to Pío McCann's show on Highland radio, a few weeks ago, I knew Margo was going on for an interview, so I set my alarm for 6:00 AM on a Saturday morning. She came on the air and spoke about a tape she had recieved from 3 young people in Scotland. On the tape was a song that the 3 young ones had recorded and it was a song that their father had written when he left his home in Carndonagh, Co Donegal, to go to work in Scotland, where he stayed and raised his family. They told Margo how they would love if she would listen to the song and, of course, she didn't do like a lot of people unfortunately do in the music business, by throwing it away. She listened to it and read the note inside, about their father being terminally ill. So she got in touch with them and said she would record it but in the mean time, if they didn't mind, she would go on the radio and play the tape. She spoke on



in this pub, it's called Dan and Molly's. I was telling Margo and Jim Thacker, (our co writing buddy from Nashville) about the bar, so we sat down and wrote the song "Dan and Molly's" There's a bit of history with the bar, you can find it on the web. Its the only thatched pub in the whole county. No TV just good craic and a singalong. It was almost burned to the ground a year or so back, but its up and looking as good as ever again now. You take our best wishes with you Margaret Rose Keating !!!

We've written a couple of songs with Gerry Carney, a very talented songwriter and performer from Co Mayo. Gerry wrote that great song titled -P.A.D.D.Y. Dedicated to his uncle, who was killed while working in England many years

the radio about how loving these kids were with there Dad. While back in Scotland, around a sick bed, father and children listened to the interview. That man died last week and he died a very proud Father. He already had the love of his children, he also experienced the love and friendship of another dear friend Margo O'Donnell. The song is titled "Fly Me West" and it really is a beautiful song about leaving home. The man didn't live long enough to hear Margo sing it but he lived long enough to hear his children sing it on the radio and to know that Margo will be singing it. I didn't tell Margo I was going to write this. Some stories just need to be told. Be good to one another
Till next time God Bless
Joe McShane

Dan And Molly's

Written By Joe McShane, Margo O'Donnell and James Thacker

Well have you ever been down to Dan and Molly's Singin' and dancin' and the night so jolly
You'll never forget such a wonderful night of joy
Oh! cead mile failte from the folks around here
Ceol agus craic and a creamy bear
In that wonderful magical village of Ballyboy

Its a place you'll never find a frown
A smile is served up with every round
If your hearts been broke, this place will help it mend
Everyone here makes you feel at home
There's no one left sittin' on their own
There's no one left sittin' on their own

Its the pride of Co Offaly
With the rattle of the spoons upon me knee
Fun and laughter ringing round the walls
Beside the mountains of Slieve Bloom
Its there you'll hear the sweetest tune
In Dan and Molly's, down in Ballyboys

Its been there since the sound of the horses hoof
stands on the corner with an old thatch roof
A million lovely airs were sung inside
What a dear old couple hearts of gold
Though the years pass by and we all grow old
Dan and Molly's is forever in my mind

Beautiful People

A film celebrating New York City's longest
running traditional Irish seisiún
at Dempsey's Pub

It looks, and sounds, like the best pub party you could ever experience.
-Mark Bell, *Film Threat*

Beautiful People is an enjoyable and enlightening documentary ... full of interesting, articulate characters who share a passion for their art. More power to their elbow.
-Lee Henry, *Culture Northern Ireland*

The film does a fantastic job of putting across the warm and welcoming atmosphere of this weekly gathering, and the enthusiasm of the musicians interviewed throughout is infectious.
-Mark Higgins, *The Irish World*

(An) antidote to the solipsism of the metropolis of New York.
-Mark Sinclair, *Sunday Times, Ireland*

www.beautifulpeopledocfilm.com





A Slice of Ireland

By Cathy Cooney-Millar

A big one thousand welcomes is what you receive when you walk in the door at Paddy O' Fegan's. The Irish pride is evident by the family pictures from the "Old Country" covering the wall, the white brick fireplace and traditional Irish music being played by Paddy Homan and his band. Cathy and Patrick O' Fegan are quickly approaching their one year anniversary of the opening of their restaurant. Chef Jack who has been there from the beginning has put together delicious fare. Some of the neighborhood favorites start with Ye Ole Sea Hags Seafood Salad where the fish arrives fresh, daily from the

local fish market. The Tall Grass Beef Burger is topped with Kerry Gold aged cheddar, smoked mushrooms, Canadian bacon, romaine lettuce and tomato. The beef comes directly from Tall Grass Beef Company which is owned by Chicago's Bill Kurtis. The menu offers the delicious Banger's and Mash which is Irish sausages grilled, served with a heaping of mashed potatoes. One of the house favorites is The Cottage Pie which consists of ground beef sautéed with carrots, peas, onions and herbs, simmered in brown gravy. This is topped with mashed potatoes and cheese browned to perfection. Their Wed night special

is Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner with amazingly tender corned beef. Anytime on the weekends, come in and savor the flavors of the Traditional Irish fry!

You can catch all the Gaelic sports on one of their big TVs or listen to live music every Thursday night! Check out Charlie's Corner, the table by the fireplace which is dedicated to Local 134 and all the union trades who helped build the restaurant.

Patrick is proud to support USA Cares for families with financial and advocacy support in their time of need. Assistance is provided to all branches of service, all components, all ranks while protecting the privacy and dignity of those military families and veterans who request help. www.usacares.org Keep a look out for a summer event supporting USA Care.



Patrick and Cathy O'Fegan are ready to celebrate being open for one year!

Paddy O' Fegan's is filled with warmth and a homey atmosphere. When you see Patrick, don't forget to ask him to share one of his many jokes!

The May beer of the month is Goose Island and Green Lime

Pale Ale for only \$5.00. Avg prices range \$8.00 - \$12.00 I'm looking forward to seeing your smiling face at 204 North Halsted St (corner of Lake & Halsted) Chicago, IL 60661 312-997-3100 info@paddyofegans.com

Arlington Heights Irish Fest July 27 - 28

Folk music duo of Jacquie Manning and Rich Prezioso are Small Potatoes, performing on Friday, July 27 at 6:00 p.m.

The Kreellers is a five piece powerhouse of a band of unstoppable high energy music steeped in traditional Irish sound, with a mix of rock, funk and even punk elements, performing, Friday, July 27 at 8:30 p.m.

The Dooleys have been entertaining Chicagoland for over 30 years with their delightful banter and wide musical repertoire including Irish, swing, jazz and calypso. Performing Saturday, July 28, at 4:30 p.m.

Bella Cain is a newly formed, young, high-energy 6-Piece Top 40 Country Group that delivers a non-stop and explosive performance for every show!

With a "Big" guitar sound, they also bring 5 part harmonies, fiddle, steel guitar, piano, banjo, a solid rhythm section and both male/ female vocals to the stage delivering a full and dramatic sound unmatched regionally. Performing Saturday, July 28, at 8:30 p.m.

john plunkett

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Refresh

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Release Marian Price

Talk of the much-heralded "Peace Process" in Ireland belies the fact that today, gravely ill 58-year old female activist Marian Price has spent one year imprisoned in solitary confinement in the North of Ireland, under conditions of extreme physical and emotional neglect. Chronically ill when she was arrested, Marian's condition has progressively worsened to the point that she cannot open her hands, cannot walk to and from family visits; and is too weak to attend court hearings.

Prison doctors have stated that she is too ill to remain in prison and should be transferred immediately to hospital or home care.

Arrested in London in 1973, Marian Price and her sister Dolores were charged with bombing the Old Bailey courthouse. Sinn Fein's Gerry Kelly, a frequent guest of the White House, was also charged. In 1980 Marian and her sister were granted compassionate release when they were both officially pardoned, near death after barely surviving over 200 days' force-feeding in Brixton Prison, England. The document containing this official pardon

has now inexplicably gone missing from London archives-- hence the North of Ireland Secretary of State Owen Patterson maintains that Marian is to resume her 1973 life sentence, as there is no proof she was ever pardoned.

Several attempts have been made to link Marian to paramilitary operations against British troops in Ireland, yet no evidence of any of this has ever been demonstrated. On May 10th 2012, the charge for which she was arrested one year ago was thrown out of court. Yet today Marian Price remains cruelly isolated and imprisoned seemingly on the sole wishes of one man; North of Ireland Secretary of State Owen Patterson.

Marian Price is a victim of selective internment, torture, and gross inhumanity. We call on Owen Patterson and the British government to release this innocent woman now, before the world watches as another senseless tragedy takes place in a British prison.

Deirdre Fennessy
The Irish Freedom Committee
Chicago, IL

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Tradition In Review

Bill Margeson



This month we have another five gems for you. Are you keeping up?

1. Freewheel is just out, ink on the CD cover is still wet. It features the ubiquitous and musically peripatetic youth, Fergal Scahill on guitar, fiddle, and bodhran, joined by The Full Set's Sean McCarthy on uilleann pipes and low whistles and David Howley bringing along some lovely vocals to join his guitar and banjo work. Except for the song, Dublin Blues, this is deeply traditional stuff. Ranging from classics like The Corner House to Micho Russell's, the group hits a lot of treasures, most notably our favorite, Mayor Harrison's Fedora, as the second in a set of three reels on the closing cut of the album. You can also be looking for David Howley as a part of Enda Scahill's new group, We Banjo Three. This album is highly, highly recommended. With all three of these young musicians as busy as they are, we can all be pleased that they found the time to record this tasty treat. A winner, front to back.

2. Outside Track has just this very second released their winner of a new album, Flash Company. You know Outside Track features this year's winner of Female Vocalist of the Year, Norah Rendell, and their last album won Vocal/Instrumental Album of the Year. We find Outside Track totally modern and deeply traditional at the same time. That is real artistry. We have had them on our Chicago radio program twice, live in-studio. They are as sensational in live performance as they are in-studio. We have a lot of favorites from the 11 cuts of Flash Company. Perhaps, the biggie is Mountain Road. It turns out that they have cut this and brought it out separately through all the digital download sites as a fundraiser for two important charities. Harpist Ailie Robertson is leading the support for Scottish Mountain Rescue. The other charity being supported is an Irish-based group fighting child abuse. Find the cut,

Mountain Road on all the widely known digital download sites such as iTunes, but better yet, just visit the group's website and make your purchase there. It is only 99 cents on its own. Every penny is going to the charities. You and the charities can bank on it. This is another top album from one of the music's elite and top groups, Outside Track.

3. Next up is Rachel Hair with the Rachel Hair Trio and their album, No More Wings. The album includes Rachel herself on harp, Jenn Butterworth on guitar and



vocals, joined by Euan Burton on double bass. Keeping it simple, they are joined by some guest musicians on a few tracks, playing tenor saxophone, percussion and accordion. While this fills out the style and sound nicely, it is not fulfilling for the real trad fan. A bit avant-garde. But on the traditional tunes, and trad stylings on the album, the results are wonderful and mark both Rachel and this group as ones to watch in the future. There will probably be as many who like the modern stuff even more than the trad, but we suspect not. It is a lovely album, nevertheless, and definitely recommended. It is always fab to see great new talent arriving on the scene.

4. Speaking of that, here's Dan Gurney, a lovely button box player with a new album, self-titled. He is joined by pianist Brian McGrath. Dan was born in upstate New York and is 23 years old. He has had incredible teachers like Father Charlie Coen, Mick Conneely, Sr., and Joe Derrane. This has led to

his musicianship exceeding the confines of this album. The album itself is a must-have for those of you who like to keep up with new and important musicians entering the scene. Here comes Dan Gurney. The album is a bit repetitive with an identical instrumentation and ambience on each of the 15 selections. It all begins to blend a bit too much. Nevertheless, he is a musician of real promise and depth for one so young. Get up, ya'boyo!

5. Finally, and perhaps best of all, (tied with Flash Company) is Fool's Dream featuring Pat Crowley and Johnny McCarthy. This album is not new. We are unbelievably late to it, embarrassedly so. Nevertheless, our mission is to let you know about fantastic stuff we have not discussed before. This album is one of those. It features Pat on piano and Johnny on fiddle. Then Johnny plays piano, and Pat plays accordion. You get the drift. They change off instruments here and are masters of each. Produced by Steve Cooney, this stuff is magic. Johnny is father of one of our local piano heroes, Cormack McCarthy. This shows that Daddy has many tricks up his sleeve and even this many years later, Cormack can still pick up a move or two. The 12 cuts on this album showed these two musicians at the top of their form and enshrined them forever in a cocoon of musical perfection. Master work.

Do you know that our Chicago radio show producer, Imelda Bhroga and I have a weekly radio program on each week at noon on Sundays for LiveIreland? That's right. It is all directed out of Dublin, Ireland—live to the world. The live program on Sundays is repeated three or four times each week and we are told that the audience is rapidly approaching 40,000 each week. This makes it one of the network's most popular shows. Why? Because we play all trad, all the time. Imelda's outrageous chat in the show's live chat room with listeners from around the world does not hurt, either. Be it Sergio in Italy or Paz in Israel, joined by Grant in Indianapolis and John in Holland, it is ALL GOOD. The Humble King and Magic Man check in each week also. You can, too. Just go to LiveIreland.com and you will hear great music and great craic, every Sunday at noon!



(l to r): Desmond Crawford (c) with Daniel O'Donnell, and Danny Diguan.

Desmond Crawford Passes

The popular Desmond Crawford died at the age of 76, April 22nd at the Rainbow Hospice in Park Ridge, IL after a long illness.

Desmond was a native of Dublin, Ireland and the husband of Maire Kenny. He was a popular Irish musician who played the accordion. He organized the choir for the Gaelic Mass at St Walter's in Roselle, and was a member of the Accordion Club in Elmhurst, IL.

He was a painter at the Bismark Hotel and was one of two people used to restore the legendary Walnut Room to its original grandeur. He volunteered at Mather Senior Center and was a member of local #147 Painters Union. He was an initial member and volunteer painter at the Irish American Heritage Center.

His siblings include, Joan and Phyllis. His children include Ann Farrington, Sandra Crawford, Mark Crawford, and his grandchildren are Orna,

Fiona, Leanne, Alan, Sorcha, Meghan, Julianne, Michael, Andrew, Matthew, Sean and Caroline. Orna was selected the Dubai Rose of Tralee the night before he passed.

Burial at Maryhill Cemetery.

Memorials to: Rainbow Hospice, 1550 Bishop Ct., Mt. Prospect, IL 60056.



Desmond Crawford's granddaughter, Orna Theboul.

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Chicago Wins Hockey Title

Joey Keane is the son of Joe Keane, a native of Drumshanbo, County Leitrim. Joey Keane, #9, has played defense for the Chicago Mission AAA hockey team for the last four years. Keane was recently recognized for his stellar defensive play when he took home a medal as the top defense man in one of the oldest and most regarded tournaments, Silver Sticks, played in Port Huron, Michigan. Although he is only twelve years old, Keane has played hockey in 5 countries over 3 continents. He has been selected by the Bauer Select team the last four years who also recently won and maintained their first place status in the Chi-Town Shuffle Tournament with Bauer at Seven Bridges Ice Arena in local Woodridge. This Chicago Mission Pee-Wee Major 1999 team, earned the National Championship title on April 1st in Buffalo New York. The team headed to Nationals ranked as #1 in the USA and maintained their status at the end of the weekend. The Mission played six games, losing only to the New Jersey Colonials in a shootout during the second game of the series. When the two teams met again in the Championship game the Mission finished on the winning side in sudden death overtime. Two well matched

teams battled their way through three periods ending in a score of 1-1. Chicago Mission's Nikki Nardella put the puck in the net just five minutes into overtime to win the game. Sean Dhooghe, another 4 year member of the team, finished the National Series in the #1 position as the leading scorer with 10 goals and 10 assists. The last three years most of the players have remained the same with only a few changes.

This Mission team only last year, made history as the only team in AAA hockey at any level to go undefeated in regular season games. Together they have won countless tournaments in the US and Canada, including the coveted Championship title in the Toronto Marlies Tournament in Canada. Joey is the second oldest of the four Keane brothers, Thomas, Gerard and Jack. All of the boys play travel hockey. They have a common goal to one day play hockey representing Ireland in the Olympics. Joey said he plays hockey because he loves it and he plans to play in the NHL. In addition to hockey, Joey plays Gaelic football and hurling with the Chicago St. Jarleths and enjoys a round of golf. Best of luck and congratulations to Joey and the Chicago Mission hockey club.



Top Row: Coach Gino, Graham Slaggert, Tommy Altounian, Bryce Murphy, Joey Keane, Hunter Lellig, Coach Jeff, Gavin Gulash, Cole Coskey, and Coach Bob. **Second Row:** Thomas Farrel, Graham Lillibridge, Matteo Menotti, Jackson Decker, Nick Nardella, and Sean Dhooghe. **Bottom Row:** John Lakhani, Jeremy Forman, Quinn Green and Shane Brancato.

James Joyce Bloomsday Celebrations Saturday June 16

O'Rourke's Office

Community residents are invited to participate in a celebration of Irish Culture and the Literature of James Joyce on Saturday, June 16, 2012, at O'Rourke's Office, 11064 S. Western Ave. The event will begin at 6:30 PM and will extend into the evening, depending on the attendees thirst for the poetry and prose of the venerated Irish writer, James Joyce.

"Bloomsday" is a worldwide literary event celebrated each year on June 16th. Its origin harkens back to the day James Joyce chose for the setting of his novel, *Ulysses*, which is one of the most important works of literature in the English language. *Ulysses* follows the journey and exploits of Leopold Bloom over a single day, June 16, 1904, in Dublin, Ireland.

Cities around the world host events on this day to commemorate the life and work of James Joyce and his contribution to the arts. The most common venue for this gathering is a "public house" or pub.

This will be the third Bloomsday event hosted in Beverly-Morgan Park. It is open to the public and fans of Joyce are invited to bring their favorite passage from *Ulysses* or any other Joyce composition to share from the podium. Fashioned like

an open stage for Irish literature, anyone who brings a reading will have an opportunity to participate. The evening will also feature traditional Irish music performed by Chicago session players. The Sons of Ireland Blues Band will complete the evening's entertainment.

For info call, Jim White at 773-322-2518 or the Reverend Rod Reinhart at 708-528-9862. "Cead Mile Failte"

Irish American Heritage Center

Celebrate the life and works of writer James Joyce with the Center's annual Bloomsday Celebration, *Rattlin' of the Joists* this June. Josephine Craven directs.

The annual event includes

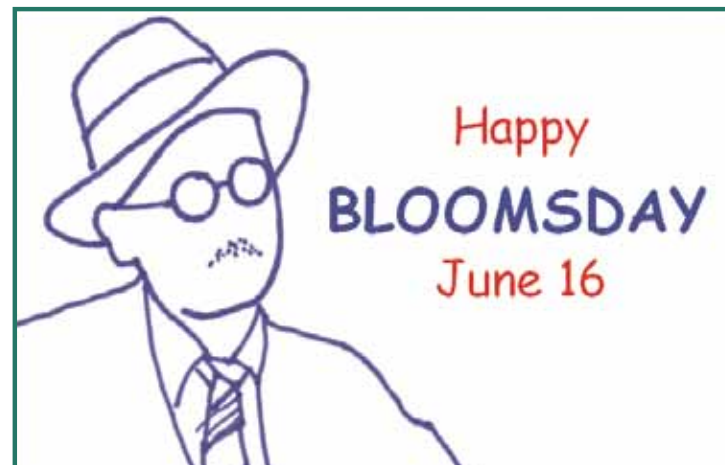
versial and thought-provoking works.

The 14th annual *Rattlin' of the Joists* is Saturday, June 16 at 8pm at the IAHC and is a benefit for the IAHC. Donations are accepted. For more information call the Center at 773-282-7035.

Galway Arms Hosts Puddin'head Press Bloomsday Reading

From 7pm. to 9pm. on June 16th the Galway Arms, 2442 N. Clark Street, Chicago, IL will host an annual reading from James Joyce's *Ulysses* sponsored by Puddin'head Press.

Presenting fifteen excerpts from the book that the Modern Library ranked first on its list of the 100 best English-language novels of the 20th century, the



performances with readings, music and song, presented by notables from Chicago's theatre and music community, including Brad Armacost, Brendan Gregg, Vera Kelly, Brigid Duffy Gerace, Kevin Cassidy and Mark Piekarz. Ail

On June 16, 1904, writer James Joyce met his future wife, Nora Barnacle and immortalized the date in his monumental epic, *Ulysses*. Modern Joyce aficionados have denoted June 16 "Bloomsday"; a day set aside throughout the world to honor the great man and his contro-

two-hour presentation will encapsulate the events of 16, June 1904 as experienced by Stephen Dedalus, Leopold and Molly Bloom, and a host of other characters from James Joyce's *Dublin*.

As in previous years, the emcee for the evening will be Chicago playwright and novelist Jeff Helgeson, and the readings will feature a number of local actors, as well as authors whose works have been published by Puddin'head Press.

Voted "Best Irish Pub" in 2010 by City's Best Chicago, the Galway Arms is the ideal setting for the 7th annual Bloomsday reading.

The event will be held on the 2nd floor. A \$5 donation at the door. Galway Arms, 2442 N. Clark St., Chicago IL 60614 773-472-5555. www.galwayarms.com www.puddinheadpress.com



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FRI	All You Can Eat Beer Battered Fish N' Chips \$9.95, or Tilapia with Mixed Vegetables & Wild Rice in a Lemon Butter Sauce \$10.95, Hot Drinks \$5
SAT	Catch the EPL, Seria A and La Liga Games Live or Tape Delay, Brunch Till 2pm with \$6 Zing Zang Bloody Marys & \$6 Mimosas, Guinness Beef Stew - \$11.95, Lagunitas Bottles \$4.50
SUN	Catch the EPL, Seria A and La Liga Games Live or Tape Delay Brunch Till 2pm w/\$6 Zing Zang Bloody Marys & \$6 Mimosas, Sunday Roast, Prime Roast Beef w/Roast Potatoes, Mashed Carrots & Parsnips w/Homemade Yorkshire Pudding w/Gravy \$13.95, Two Brothers Bottles \$4.50

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Reel Jiggy

Deirdre Kozicki



So some of you may know that I recently started to perform a play called Music Mad and it has been one of the best experiences of my life! I always liked to act but I never got to do anything this serious until now. It has been a blast so far from my first table read to the practices to opening night, it has been so enjoyable. I play the Irish dancer Gracie which is very fun because I get to dance and act which are two of my favorite things. I have seen the show a few times and it is actually very good. In fact, it's great. My favorite part of the whole play is when I do my encore at the end because the mood in the room is very energetic. The whole room is clapping while the musicians are playing a very upbeat reel and I get to do one of my favorite dances, the treble reel. Everyone in the audience has a smile on their face which is the best part. My fellow cast mates and I entertained people that evening and everyone enjoyed it. I hope to do more theater shows in high school because I love the rush you get. I think the coolest part about this whole experience is getting to see what goes on backstage. I know what goes on stage but I don't know much about the behind the scenes part. I thought it would be more hectic honestly but once you get your costume on and you're all settled, you just sit and wait until you are told to take your places. It really is a learning experience. The show runs until the end of June so make sure to grab some tickets at musicmad.net.

Well it finally happened. After 8 years of dancing, I finally got my first dance injury. It was nothing serious but it kept me off the dance floor for a few days. I was dancing at practice just like any normal Wednesday. I was in the middle of my reel when I did a 180-spin. I had landed on my ankle funny which I do now and then but this time was different. I had heard a huge crack. I think the sound scared me more

ful. (I was limping for a few days.) Each day it would get slightly better, though. I returned to dance in a few days. I hated every minute of it. I hated the feeling of not being able to dance and it was only for a few days. I would hate to actually break my ankle! I hope this was my last dance injury (Probably not though). I could still say the lines in the play but my sister Maeve had to dance for me. She did a great job. Now I am back in action.

I hope all dads had a great Father's Day and I am looking forward to graduation. I will tell you all about it next month.

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By Maurice

Fitzpatrick



The Church, the State, the Super-state

The Irish Catholic church has been receiving a lot of criticism over the past month. This reminded me of an article entitled 'Erin Go Bonkers' printed on July 29th last year in the National Review in which George Weigel argued that the Irish Catholic church needs its hierarchy to be replaced by clergymen who have not been besmirched by church scandals; in short, that a Californian clergy should be parachuted into clean house. The daft suggestion shows quite how removed from the reality in Ireland Weigel is because he inadvertently instanced one of the most radical members of the Irish Catholic church today—one who definitely should not be replaced, by a Californian or anyone else. His name is Diarmuid Martin, the Archbishop of Dublin.

What prompted Weigel's ire was a speech by Edna Kenny denouncing the Vatican for covering up the sexual abuse of children. The subtext of the speech strongly implied the secularisation of the Irish constitution. Ireland is going through a process of disentanglement between the Church and State, the joining of which has done such damage to both entities. Searing films such as Song for a Raggy Boy and The Magdalene Sisters now get made in Ireland and they are welcome forms of expression for victims who long since needed it.

Since Kenny's speech the government has closed its embassy to the Vatican City. Kenny and his colleagues did not envisage that this populist ruling would result in a heave of public opinion against them. When things got heavy, the government's sleight of hand in reclassifying the closure as an 'economic consideration' was squirmy to watch.

So where does Archbishop Diarmuid Martin fit in with all this? An erstwhile Vatican diplomat,

Martin has seen how the Catholic church in Ireland has been crippled—both through its own wrongdoing and through criminal groups using it as a cover for their pernicious activities. It is sometimes said: 'a diplomat is someone who thinks twice before saying nothing'. This does not apply to Martin. He is a truly independent voice who seeks a genuine audit of the church's affairs while also putting forward justified defences of the Catholic church's work in Ireland. The 50th International Eucharistic Congress takes place in Ireland in June and Martin will be a key participant. Undoubtedly there is much to talk about at such meetings but I hope that Martin goes public about an issue that has dismayed many in Ireland in recent weeks.

A priest named Brian D'Arcy—who runs a column in the Sunday World—has been brought to heel by his superiors for displaying liberal attitudes in what he writes. What these attitudes were and are is a tad unclear. It seems that Fr. D'Arcy mouthed off once too often about contraception, and he may have piped up about the handling of sexual abuse scandals as well.

Both the state and the church are floundering. The state is unsure of the role that Irish people want the church to inhabit. The church thinks that it can rein in a priest, who has been trying to reach people, over imagined offences to Catholicism and somehow come out the better for it. The relationship between church and state in Ireland has been long and complex. Both houses have been fumbling to formulate good policy, acceptable in Ireland today. It will take people like Diarmuid Martin, skilled in diplomacy and full of compassion, to oversee the restoration of proper relations—he deserves a fair hearing.

Expertise is also much called for yet glaringly absent among the plutocrats who run the eurozone. For four years now swinging cuts have rained down upon us, deflating national economies. While banks were guaranteed and repaid above even their own grandiose expectations, hospitals have closed and private enterprises have gone bust. The result of these psychopathic policies is that countries like Spain and Greece have over 50% unemployment in the 15-25 year old bracket. Ireland's rate is not much better. So when will governments wake up and change policy? As from early May, governments' conservatism may not matter so much as it did: the people have used their deadliest weapon, the vote, to tilt the sacred cow of austerity.

The electorates of France and Greece, strange bedfellows until a few weeks ago, have emerged as leaders in repulsing austerity in Europe. France has returned Francois Holland, who has vowed to tackle the markets' grip on France, as president. Greece has, at time of writing, failed to form a coalition that will satisfy the European mandarins who hold her purse strings.

All around Europe people are breathing easier. All because of an exercise in straightforward politics. The tactics were these. Come out in force at election time to elect to office someone who speaks sense about growth rather than cuts—as Gene Kerrigan succinctly put it, 'when you hit an ice patch, don't slam on the brakes'. Make it clear that the existence of the euro is neither here nor there compared with the prosperity of the people it putatively serves. Force the euro bullies who thought that the forthcoming referendums (May 31st in Ireland) were a shoo-in to ditch austerity in favour of growth.

But it could be all too late for the currency, especially when we remember who is in charge. In January of this year, Europe's Commissioner for Economic and Monetary Affairs, Olli Rehn, was asked by the BBC if, come next year, there would still be seventeen nations in the eurozone. His reply was yes—because there would be no new entrants. And

he right. It would hard to push Somalia to join the euro ranks now. We can take solace from the thought that the dear old Commissioner can get a chuckle out of all this.

www.mauricefitzpatrick.org
Maurice Fitzpatrick is an Irish writer and film producer. His film, *The Boys of St. Columb's*, tells the story of the first generation of Derry children to

receive free secondary education as a result of the groundbreaking 1947 Education Act in Northern Ireland. This film tells the story of how the political and historical conditions of Northern Ireland altered as a result of the mass education of its population, culminating in the Civil Rights Movement of the late 1960s which drew its inspiration from the USA.

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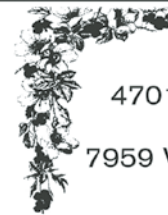
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Milwaukee Irish Fest will host the first-ever Music at the Marina, a benefit for the Ward Irish Music Archives. The event takes place Friday, July 20th from 5 to 8 p.m. at McKinley Marina's Overlook Pavilion, located at 1600 N. Lincoln Memorial Drive on Milwaukee's lakefront.

"We can't think of a better way to spend a summer evening while helping out with a good cause," said Barry Stapleton, director of the Archives. "Guests will enjoy a group of Milwaukee Irish musicians while overlooking Lake Michigan."

The event not only provides an exclusive opportunity to enjoy Irish music in an intimate setting, but proceeds will support the Milwaukee-based Ward Irish Music Archives - home to the largest public collection of Irish and Irish American music in America.

In addition to live music, guests will enjoy light food, beverages and a silent auction. Tickets are \$40 (\$15 is tax deductible). Space is limited to the first 40 guests and reservations are required. RSVP by calling (414) 476-3378.



About Milwaukee Irish Fest

Milwaukee Irish Fest is North America's largest celebration of Irish music and culture. The four-day festival showcases more than 100 entertainment acts on 16-stages at Henry W. Maier Festival Park on Milwaukee's lakefront. The annual festival occurs every third weekend in August. The 2012 festival takes place August 16 to 19.

More than just a festival, the Milwaukee Irish Fest organization is passionately committed to igniting a love of Irish culture in all people. Milwaukee Irish Fest teaches Ireland's music, dance, drama, sports, culture, children's activities and genealogy through year-round programming. For more information, visit www.irishfest.com.

Roving Irish Musician Takes Group Back In Time

The craic was mighty in Romeoville, Illinois, when people "went back in time" and gathered to hear a traveling Cork man share his music. Mairtin de Cogain was booked to entertain at Gaelic Park's Irish Fest Sunday and Monday of Memorial Day Weekend. Then he had a creative brainstorm, and floated an idea to anyone who wanted to host an "Irish Music House Concert" Saturday night, May 26.

Carolyn Jonassen (CJ), a Lake Park High School teacher, accepted the challenge. That meant in addition to giving and grading final exams, processing report cards and wrapping up her school year, she prepared her house for one of its biggest gatherings ever, and spread the word to invite people to the area's first House Concert.

It came to be that Mairtin, who has re-located to Rochester, Minnesota, drove up to CJ's house just in time for a hearty pot luck. He introduced his wife Mitra, who set a huge red bucket of chocolate goodies on the table. Diane Reddington of Arlington Heights, IL, said, "Mitra is charming, has adorable dimples and understands the need for chocolate. Indeed she is a Renaissance Woman."

After the meal, all were invited to gather on the back deck. It was a di-



Mairtin de Cogain

verse group of 16 that included 8-year-old twins Kyrie and Rose O'Mahoney, Sister Julie Stapleton from Loretto Convent, and a visitor from Washington state, Sheila Herron.

As the sun began to set, Mairtin sang, told stories of charm, laughter, Irish history, movies or economy, and some stories covered all of these topics and more. He played the bodhran and described the map of Ireland as a teddy bear lying on its side. After that, he explained the birthplace of each song as coming from "...just behind the bear's calf." or "... from the top of the bear's right paw."

The weather was perfection, and as the sun slipped out of sight, a silver sliver of a baby moon rose. String lights started to sparkle and candles appeared giving CJ's deck a look of fairy folk visiting.

At our table, before the music started we discussed that on an Irish Festival Cruise, Paddy Reilly was overheard raving about Mairtin and predicting "That kid is going to the top in the Irish music world. Just you watch." As the evening rolled on, we all agreed that years from now, we will remember this night and that "We knew him when."

While the light dimmed, Kathleen Bremer from Carol Stream brought out her flute and played a few numbers including a fast jig as Mairtin brought a roar from the crowd when he jumped into the wickedly wild Broom Dance.

When the evening wound to a close, Mary Evers, of Orland Park, said, "A few years ago the last of the sean-chais I knew in Dingle passed away. Never did I dream the evenings my friends and I spent with him would be recreated. Then I met Mairtin." Everyone agreed it was an extraordinary night. And the general feeling was that no one will ever forget this glorious evening of going back in time when Mairtin de Cogain brought his music to Illinois and the craic was mighty in Romeoville.

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A Word With Monsignor Boland

The Voice of Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Chicago

Rev. Monsignor Michael M. Boland

Administrator, President and CEO



The Voice of Catholic Charities Rev. Msgr. Michael M. Boland Administrator, President and CEO Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago

Happy Father's Day!

Fathers' Day is a big occasion for families. On June 17, Dads and Granddads will become the center of attention and gratitude, celebrations and gifts, showered on them by their loving spouses and children. Children and grandchildren will be better behaved and present carefully selected gifts to their "Grandpa (Abuelo), Daddy (Papa), or Uncle (Tio)!"

In most families in the United States, Father's Day is also a day for visiting or calling elderly friends and neighbors who may be alone, showing them how much we value them with our love and friendship.

I'm happy to say that, at Catholic Charities, every day is "Father's Day!"—and has been for the 95 years of our existence!

In fact, Terri Denny, Catholic Charities' Senior Director of Lake County and Regional Services, reminds us that Catholic Charities serves fathers across all of our 157 programs – all year long! Whether on a daily basis, with specialized services such as parenting, home health care or counseling, or with emergency assistance that provides the basic necessities of life: food, clothing or shelter, Catholic Charities is there. We are proud to serve Dads and men of all ages in meeting an immediate crisis or in need of long-term social services for themselves and their families.

Here is just a sampling of our programs that assist men of all ages in our various regions and programs throughout Cook and Lake Counties, many of which offer volunteer opportunities to assist Catholic Charities staff and clients:

- Supervised day care and recreation activities for frail elders are offered regularly at our Catholic Charities' Accolade Adult Day Care Center Program in Oak Park. These services keep senior men and women healthy and alert with activities and interaction with their friends.

This year's Father's Day Celebration is sure to be thoroughly enjoyed by the senior men at the center as they test their creative skills and share a lot of laughs during the "Tee-Shirt Tye-Dye."

- Volunteers play a highly important role in serving our seniors and clients of all ages. The dedicated members of our all-volunteer West Regional Advisory Board regularly make up Gift Bags containing toiletries for the men at our Bishop Goedert Senior Residence located in Hines.

- Father's Day is every day when fathers teach their sons by example to love and care for their neighbors in need. One Catholic Charities board member brings his now five-year-old son with him when he volunteers annually at the St. Frances of Rome Health Fair in Cicero. Wonderful things happen when fathers

teach their children—by example—to help others.

- Many fathers—and grandfathers—are our guests at Catholic Charities' evening suppers for low-income families and individuals in Chicago and throughout our suburban Cook and Lake

County regions; they and their spouses and children visit our food pantries; they use our counseling services.

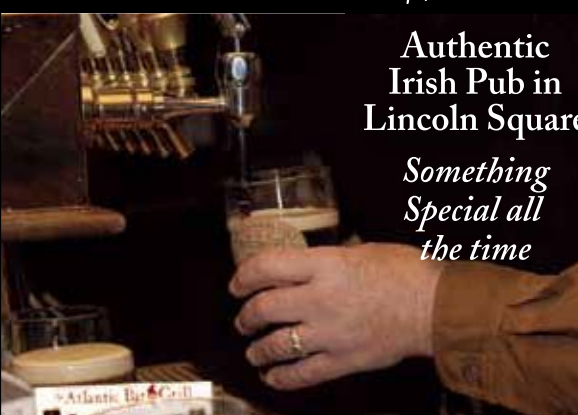
- There are single parent fathers striving for self-sufficiency, struggling to build a future for their families and break the cycle of poverty. One dad reflects on being a single parent. He is working with Catholic Charities to pursue employment options and expand his education. Families in poverty experience many barriers in life, making it difficult to move forward. This young father said, "With the support of Catholic Charities, I have learned from my past mistakes and that's what makes me the father I am today."

In fact, all of Catholic Charities programs serve fathers and their families! And many fathers and grandfathers alike take advantage of volunteer opportunities to serve others. For example, some bring their grandchildren with them to deliver our Meals on Wheels to homebound neighbors in Lake County. What a legacy of charity they pass on to the younger generations!

Heartwarming stories abound among the volunteers: "The seniors' faces just light up when they see us – but especially when they see the children!" "It made my nine-year-old granddaughter aware of others." This granddaughter said, "Grandpa, that little man doesn't have anyone to visit him, and that's sad." These young lives are as touched and changed as their elders.

I think that spiritually, our Meals on Wheels Programs in Cook and Lake Counties closely resemble our true mission to those who are hungry. By our loving presence and our food, we feed not only the body, but the spirit and the soul of those we serve - and of ourselves. In the giving and receiving, the elderly man, the little girl and her father know they are loved, and that loving others is the purpose of life. For that, we are all grateful!

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Safe Home

by Heather Begley



is an instinctive response that looks more like the person is in an upright position, with their heads under water, arms up and their palms

on the surface of the water. The response is noiseless and it may not appear that the person is actually in distress. By this point, the person is not capable of asking for help. Keep in mind that a well-fitting life jacket will assist in preventing drowning.

A few other issues to consider to keep you and your loved ones safe include: (1) Never dive in shallow water; (2) Follow food safety guidelines at picnics; (3) Never leave a child alone in the car; (4) Make sure your child knows what to do if he or she gets lost in a crowd; (5) Be vigilant with children at the pool or beach; (6) Make sure the gate to the pool is locked and that any pool chemicals are stored out of children's reach; (7) Make sure that the slide at the playground is not too hot for your little ones; (8) Remember that a screen will not protect your child from falling out of a window so remove any furniture that would allow the children access to leaning on the window; (9) Always wear a helmet when riding a bike, scooter or rollerblading and (10) Consider taking a CPR class. Have a great summer!

Summer Safety

Put the summer of 2012 on the map as one to remember, for the right reasons. Plan a trip. Plant a garden. Head to the beach. Gather family and friends for a barbecue fête. Take a long walk. Shut off the smart phone and iPad and reconnect with your loved ones. You don't have to spend a ton of money to make some wonderful memories.

In addition to planning wonderful activities, take steps to ensure your summer is safe and healthy. You know the basics of staying hydrated, wearing waterproof sunscreen and wearing your seatbelt. One lesson learned by my family last year was to always wear shoes outside! My barefoot daughter stepped on a bee and was stung at a neighbor's lake house. Fortunately, she was on the mend in no time.

There are other hazards to consider during the summer. I recently learned that drowning does not look like drowning. I pictured the act of drowning to look like a person flailing their arms around, shouting and thrashing in the water. Instead, it

Golf for A Cause or Just for Fun

CIIS GOLF OUTING

Golf season is upon us, which means it's time to participate in the Chicago Irish Immigrant Support's Annual Golf Outing! This year promises to be a great day out with friends and supporters of Chicago Irish Immigrant Support.

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HANLY BROTHERS

Saturday, June 23, 2012 a golf outing will be held at Gleneagles Country Club to raise money for the Hanly Brothers and to fight Becker's Muscular Dystrophy.

In February 2011, 15-year old Michael Hanly and his 12-year old brother James the sons of Rita McInerney Hanly and Luke Hanly of Manhattan, Illinois were diagnosed with Becker Muscular Dystrophy. Becker MD is a genetic disorder for which there is no cure.

Shotgun start at 12:30 pm. \$125 per golfer. For more go to www.helpinghandsforthehanlybrothers.org or call Tom at 708-878-9054, Mike at 630-669-6110, or Enda at 708-732-5087.

CHICAGO STREET PUB

will be holding their 7th annual outing at Inwood Golf Course, Saturday, August 25th 2012. The reservations for foursomes will be first come first serve. Once the outing is filled, the spots will only be saved with cash deposits. Get ahold of Triz and Kathy as early as possible at miketrizna@yahoo.com to reserve a spot in the outing.

2012 Concern Worldwide Golf Outing

Concern Worldwide U.S. will hold its 10th Annual Chicago Golf Outing, presented by Collins Engineers and The McShane Companies, on Wednesday, June 27, 2012 at Harborside International Golf Center in Chicago. The program format is a shotgun start at 12:30 p.m. and includes lunch, dinner and an awards program. Robert M. Fitzgerald is this year's Honorary Chairman. Funds generated from the event will benefit Concern's emergency relief and long-term development programs in the areas of nutrition, health, livelihoods and HIV and AIDS. To register for the golf outing and learn about sponsorship opportunities, please contact Lisa Jacobus at lisa.jacobus@concern.net / 312.431.8400 or visit www.concernusa.org.

Concern Worldwide is a non-governmental, international humanitarian organization committed to the relief, assistance and advancement of the most vulnerable people in the least developed countries in the world. Founded in Ireland in 1968, Concern has more than 3,200 people working in 25 countries around the world including Africa, Asia and the Caribbean.



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Consul General Aidan Cronin interviews with the Irish American News

By Katie Hamilton

Aidan Cronin arrived in Chicago last August. Nine months later, the newest Consul General is hard at work at the new office in the heart of the Loop.

"The welcome from the Irish community has been extraordinary," said Aidan, citing the Irish American Heritage Center, Irish Immigrant Support, Gaelic Park, Gaelic Athletic Association, and the Ireland Net-

work among the organizations which have formed an "open, cohesive community."

A graduate of University College Cork, Aidan is a lawyer by trade. His prestigious career has taken him across the world, from Dublin to Australia, Iran, China, and now, the United States. "No two postings are ever the same," said Aidan. "But Chicago is undoubtedly the best so far."

Irish Consulates operate out of New

York, Boston, Atlanta, and San Francisco. Based in Chicago, Aidan serves as the official representative of Ireland to 15 U.S. states – 14 across the Midwest plus Texas - and reports to the Irish Embassy in Washington D.C. "We're very busy," he said.

His office processes passports, visas, and applications for citizenship, and provides general support and assistance for the Irish community.

Aidan spends much of his time promoting Ireland and the Irish economy to different stakeholders. He is constantly networking with local newspapers, chambers of commerce, economic development offices, and various civic leaders, delivering the message that "Ireland is a good place to do business, invest, and visit."

The nature of the Consul General's focus changes according to Ireland's national priorities. "20 years ago, we were talking

Continued to next page

Out and About Chicagoland



John Griffin, Maedhbh and Aidan Cronin, Toni Preckwinkle, and Billy Lawless at the CIIS Annual Gala.

Below: Paul Dowling, Catherine Brady, Rev. Michael Leonard, Sinead Gallagher, Lt. Thomas Maloney, Caroleann Gallagher, Paul Treacy, Breandán Magee, Cyril Regan, Therese O'Sullivan



Chicago Irish Immigrant Support

Chicago Irish Immigrant Support hosted its Annual Gala Awards Dinner at Gaelic Park on Saturday, March 31. This year's Honoree was Lt. Thomas Maloney of the Chicago Fire Department, a 9/11 first responder and local hero. Lt. Maloney rushed to Ground Zero the day after the attacks and assisted with the rescue efforts. He also established an annual motorcycle ride from Chicago to New York City, now in its tenth year with the American Firefighters Motorcycle Club. He has raised thousands of dollars for the victims' families and kept the memory of those who died alive.

Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle and Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr. joined the event and echoed Consul General Aidan Cronin's remarks honoring the contribution of Irish immigrants to Chicago. An award was also given to Nancy Kenny, the wife of the late Mike Kenny of Co. Kerry. Kenny was a renowned community organizer in Chicago who raised a lot of money for worthy causes.



The Irish American Labor Council honored James Sweeney and Bill Gainer on May 9, 2012 during their 18th annual James Connolly Dinner. Jim and Bill will also be honored when their names are inscribed on the James Connolly Statue in Union Square. (l to r) James and Marilyn Sweeney, and Gerry and Bill Gainer.



Maureen O'Looney, Mary Gorski and Vincent Casey enjoying the evening at the Irish American Heritage Center, commemorating the 1916 Easter Rising.



Meehall Recalls

By Michael Carroll



South Side Tupelo

It rained, it rained, both night and day. My poor parents were worried; had nothing to keep the water away. Before Deep Tunnel safely drained excess runoff into its cavernous depths, the water had nowhere else to go but into the 1930s-era sewer beneath our curb. Dripping wet, I sat out in the garage doorway, hunkering down so as to get a better view of the lightning while avoiding a possible strike on my person.

"Michael! Get back in here, this instant! You're going to get yourself killed!"

"But I can't see anything from there!"

"Get back. in here...NOW," she hissed past gritted teeth.

Whenever our mother used her slow-burn voice, we all knew we'd come close to death, so I reluctantly splashed my way to the back door.

"Run down and see if we have any water coming up in the basement," my mother ordered as I stood shaking rainwater out of my hair. I hiked downstairs and peered over the railing. Hmm. Nothing yet...no water on the floor or leaks around the windows. To be sure, our sump pump was laboring to hold back the deluge, and had been running almost continuously all day. The sewer grate could not be seen under the mound of grimy kids' clothes, so I made a more thorough inspection. Kicking aside the laundry, to my horror I smelled ... That Smell.

"MOM!!!" I yelled upstairs. "It's coming up out of the sewer, fast!"

"Not again!" My mother rushed down the stairs and gasped, from both the aroma and sight of the ever-widening pool of nastiness.

"Quick, Michael, start moving everything up higher!"

Having heard our shouts, my brothers and sisters now arrived, standing safely atop the bottom step and peering through the slats of the banister.

"P, U.," exclaimed my youngest brother Jimmy.

"Are those my clothes, all yucky?" moaned my little sister.

"Don't worry about those, Mary Ellen, just grab the clean ones and bring them upstairs! Hurry, it's coming up fast!" She scooped up armfuls of clothes and dumped them into a basket. By now the black water had slithered halfway across the tiles and lapped up against the washing machine. The dryer and furnace would be next.

"Michael, open the fridge and move all the food up to the top shelf. Packy, grab your father's tools on the floor and move them up, too. Denise, take this last load of laundry upstairs...hurry up, or we'll lose everything! No, Jimmy, not one more step! I don't want you getting sick from all this sewer water. Here, you can take this box upstairs for me."

My youngest brother, six, stopped in his tracks with one foot poised in the air over the bottom step. He looked chagrined for a moment; then shrugged, grinned and tramped back upstairs, struggling with the heavy cardboard box. What a great adventure, this flood business. My brother Patrick, in rubber boots, slogged his way to the deepest end to save what he could from Dad's toolbox. Hearing a loud gurgling, he waded back to investigate.

"Aaaagh! MOM! It's coming up out of the toilet now!" He retreated from the vile onslaught, closing the bathroom door to keep anything from floating our way.

"Why does this always have to happen when your father's at work?" Mom sighed, regarding the black waves lapping at her feet.

"He's just lucky that way," quipped Packy. "I wish I was."

"He won't think he's lucky when he gets home and sees this, and no dinner ready," said Mom. "Denise! Quick, grab those shirts hanging there and take them upstairs, before they all smell. Mary Ellen, move those baskets over by the stairs for Jimmy to take up."

It was getting hard to breathe. That Smell had become That Stench.

At this point, even Ed Norton of the Honeymooners would have strapped on his oxygen mask. Our sump pump had been completely overwhelmed, so I unplugged it before the water reached its wiring. Forming a fireman's chain, we passed boxes and possessions from hand to hand. With the sump pump off, the black water surged another foot higher, forcing Jimmy up to the fourth step. My mother's boots had been topped, now filled to overflowing. She stood in the middle of the stygian pool, took one last look and called her troops to beat a hasty retreat.

"All right everybody, that's it. Let's go! Every one of you, upstairs. Now."

"But Mom, we still have to get all these boxes up higher...what if it fills the whole basement, up to the ceiling!" I shouted, grabbing another armful of books.

"Michael, that's it. We can't stay down here another minute. We'll all get asphyxiated by the fumes! Upstairs, all of you!" She began to herd us through the thick black soup towards the stairway. We left our muddy boots there, and shut the upstairs door behind us so as to keep That Smell confined to the nether regions. Not long after, we heard Dad burst through the back door, sopping wet and fumbling with his briefcase, keys, and half-folded travel umbrella. Two seconds later came a loud bump and then a stream of curses with which I shall not despoil the reader's delicate ear. Eventually, he found words of more than one syllable and sputtered,

"Mary! Who left all these boots here, right up against the @#%-damned door?" Then, he smelled That Smell.

"Oh, no...No, no, no, NO!!!" He bent low at the waist, shook his head back and forth and stamped his foot, making the floorboards shake. "Jesus H. Collemial Q. Christ...! Not again!" Then Dad sighed, put down his briefcase, and peeling off his overcoat and rubber galoshes, took charge of the situation. He rolled up his shirtsleeves and tramped down to survey the disaster area, but had to stop short, only three steps below the back door landing. The floodwaters had filled the basement to within inches of the electrical outlets, which my dad had installed

Irish Consul General Aidan Cronin

Continued from previous page about Northern Ireland," said Aidan. "Today, we're talking about trade and the economy."

"Ireland's been through a difficult time, but we are on the road to recovery," he said. Even so, he referred to the 14 percent - and rising - unemployment rate in the Republic. "It's a hardship for a lot of people. But our challenge as the administration is to get people back to work. We need to grow the economy, attract foreign direct investment, continue to invest in education, continue to invest in research, and re-skill people."

Aidan noted that the government is only a year old - something the Irish should keep in mind. "It's refreshing - Chicagoans have a really positive attitude towards Ireland, more than the Irish themselves."

Indeed, the Irish community in Chicago is strong as ever. Aidan hosted Taoiseach Enda Kenny's visit to Chicago in March. "The Taoiseach and Mayer Rahm Emanuel really struck it off," he said. "They had a good conversation about government and business. The Taoiseach was very impressed with his ideas, energy, and international knowledge of Ireland."

Aidan was especially pleased with the Mayer's presence over the St. Patrick's Day weekend, particular his attendance at Old St. Patrick's Church and the parade with his family. "It was a real nod from the Mayor to the Irish com-

five feet up the walls against occasions such as this.

Crowded behind him on the last few stairs left above water, we all bent down to peer over the banister at the surface of the still, black pool before us. Nothing could be seen upon the dark waters but a pale reflection of the single yellow light bulb burning only a few feet above. Back in the corner, we could hear the gurgling of fresh sewage. The washer and dryer and old 1950s Westinghouse icebox where Dad kept his Strohs beer and we kids our cheap Canfield's pop...all were now submerged beneath the ooze or poking their heads up like forlorn icebergs. But real icebergs had it better, that's for sure.

munity in Chicago," said Aidan. He added that Mayor Emanuel has plans to cycle around Ireland with the Taoiseach.

The Consulate recently moved from its longtime home in the Wrigley Building to 1 East Wacker Drive. The new office is more modern and spacious and offers a space to host functions. But come this fall, the Consulate will be emptier - Vice Consul Tim Reilly returns to Dublin for Ireland's turn of the European Union presidency in 2013. As a result, Aidan will be without his right hand man. "The transition from Ireland to Chicago was much easier for me. I am lucky to have Tim."



Consul General Aidan Cronin

Nevertheless, Aidan is looking forward to the rest of his tenure here. He currently resides in Lakeview with his wife Maedhbh and two children, Caoimhe, 7, and Cadhla, 5. "We've very happy here," he said. "Chicago is a great Irish city. And it's a great city to be the Irish Consul General in."

Like to hold a function at the Irish Consulate? Call 312-337-1868.

"Well," Dad said, clapping his two hands together as he stood up, "there's nothing more we can do tonight. We'll just have to wait for the water to go down. If it does, cleanup duty begins tomorrow morning at 0:900 hours." We all groaned, having been there and done that. Many, many times before.

"Mary, we have no dinner, and it's fit for man nor beast out there. I say, let's order pizza."

"Yaaay, for the flood!" we kids cheered.

These stories are excerpted from Celtic artist Michael Carroll's books "Meehall" and "The Trouble With Meehall," available at www.lulu.com. Michael's artwork may be viewed at www.mccelti.com

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