

Keeping The Faith!

*Father Jack Wall of Catholic Extension Helping
America's Catholic Churches Survive and Thrive . . 21*



The Irish American Society of
County Will official newsletter . . 27

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La Fhéile Pádraig Shona Duit!

Happy St. Patrick's Day!



*Front Row: Martin Healy, Jr., John Scanlon, David Huber, Kevin Veugeler
Back Row: Terence Geoghegan, Jack Cannon, Matthew Healy, Terry Sullivan,
Patrick Anderson, Jill Fowler, Matthew Gannon, Dennis Lynch.*

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From the Motherland

By Sean Farrell



Windows on the Past

I wrote last time about Europe and the impact four decades of EU membership has had.

Three things recently have demonstrated just how much Ireland has changed. The first is the newly released report on the Magdalen Laundries. The other two relate to books I was asked to review, one fiction, one non-fiction.

The Magdalen Laundries were run by several Orders of Nuns throughout Ireland for most of the Twentieth Century, the last closing only in 1997. Their heyday was up to the 1970s. The laundry workers were exclusively women and girls who were housed on the premises, were unpaid and subject to a strict regime including

long silences and much prayer. Originally they were intended for "fallen women", i.e. prostitutes or single women who became pregnant at a time when single parenting was frowned upon and many of the women ostracised, even by their own families.

Later, girls from broken homes or who were judged to be disruptive were lodged in the laundries. Considerable numbers of minors or adolescents were sent to the homes by their families. Myths abounded, particularly against the background of revelations of widespread sexual abuse by Catholic religious which surfaced in the 1980s, culminating in several reports which detailed

the dreadful physical, sexual and emotional abuse meted out to children in state financed institutions and orphanages.

The Government commissioned a working group of civil servants to ascertain the level of state involvement in the laundries, including whether the state had sent girls in its care into what were in effect workhouses. Its report, still being digested as I write, though less awful than had been anticipated, exposed yet another sad aspect of Irish society in the last century.

Some (8%) had certainly been committed by the state, quite often in the belief that the laundries were a better alternative to prison, but, for most inmates, entry had been "voluntary", prompted by family, friends, or do gooders, and they had, in theory been free to leave at any time. The problem was that no one appears to have made this clear to the women involved, and while typically the period spent at what was in effect hard labour was around seven months, many women spent years incarcerated, some becoming institutionalised, and many more emotionally scarred and unprepared for life outside.

The report is there to be read. The point to register is that the laundries could never happen in today's Ireland. They represent yet another example of the failure of the Irish state for most of the last century, by commission or omission, to look out for some of its most vulnerable charges. Ireland was not a place for the marginalised to find state support. And, arguably, official policy (or lack of it) reflected the popular view; out of sight, out of mind—someone else's problem.

An interesting portrait of the background to that vanished Ireland can be found in the recently released atmospheric thriller, "City of Shadows" by Michael Russell. Set in the Dublin of the 1930s, the story opens with John McCormack singing at the 1932 Eucharistic Congress Mass in the Phoenix Park in 1932, an event widely regarded as the high point of resurgent Catholicism in 20th Century Ireland. There are particularly evocative scenes of the

Dublin of the time.

The book offers fascinating insights into Irish society and the politics of the newly independent state at a time when the institutions of state were still bedding down and democracy was under threat. De Valera, Eoin O'Duffy and the Blue Shirts, the Broy Harriers, are all there, with constant reminders that the civil war was in the very recent past and that violence still lurked just below the surface.

The powerful and all pervasive influence of the Catholic Church, exercised through devices such as the Ne Temere decree and supported by the activities of its right wing civilian supporters, dominated the scene, while under the surface there was another Ireland, with a covert gay scene and cupboard skeletons of many, epitomised in an abortion clinic, fashionably located, for the rich and powerful. The book even has a visit to a Magdalen laundry.

A no less revealing screenshot of that Ireland is to be found in a very different new book, "Suddenly, While Abroad," which traces the misfortunes of a group of Irish merchant seamen, captured by the Nazis during the early part of the Second World War when the British vessels they were sailing on were sunk. Sub-titled "Hitler's Irish Slaves" the book narrates how and why the 32 seamen were segregated out from thousands of captive civilian sailors to be pressurised into working for the Nazis. When they stubbornly refused they were eventually handed over to the SS and sent to a concentration/labour camp near Bremen in North Germany, to be worked as slaves until the war ended.

The book does not make for easy reading. Over 50% of the 100,000 sent to the Neuengamme camps died there and the atrocities committed against the Russian, Jewish and Polish inmates, including some children sent by Mengele for experiments, are stomach churning and beggar belief. Five of the Irish died—four from typhus. The other, William Hutchinson Knox, from Dun Laoghaire, aged 59, a relative of the author, died in the Farge con-

centration camp in March 1945 after five years in captivity, following an operation, performed without anaesthetic, with four of his Irish comrades holding him down.

The War was a titanic struggle which saw the German war machine eventually overcome, at enormous human cost, by a coalition of most of the world powers. We know the imperfect world that emerged from it. This book, with its nightmarish accounts, offers a glimpse of what might have been had the Nazis won.

Ireland managed to stay neutral in the conflict, ultimately because she was peripheral to the war aims and interests of the combatants. This neutrality, while it definitely had a pro-allied bias, with tens of thousands of Irish serving in the British army, is now presented as the ultimate affirmation of Irish sovereignty and independence.

But one facet of it was a stultifying censorship regime, which kept most Irish in ignorance of what was happening. Post war, there were many holocaust deniers to be heard. The official line regarding army deserters, many of whom joined the British army, was to prosecute, punish financially and blacklist from future state employment many thousands under the "Starvation Order."

Irish neutrality may not have helped the merchant seamen's plight. It certainly led to them being singled out as a group; some Nazis believed that many Irish were anti-British and arguably took it out on the sailors when they refused to serve. They were denied consular access for a long time and efforts to repatriate them—as happened with some other "neutral" seamen—came to nothing. When the survivors returned to Ireland they were ignored and remain unrecognised. While the book is critical of Irish government inaction, there were probably practical limits to what could be achieved in dealing with a criminal regime in the throes of collapse. But again, like the Magdalens, this took place in the past—another country. It would not happen today.

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Irish Books and Plays in Review

Frank West



This is a brief summary of the history of the Scots Irish. I used two highly praised books and a DVD about these amazing people.

Born Fighting by James Webb, former Secretary of the Navy and now Senator from Virginia. This book reads well and points to his experience as a novelist and filmmaker.

A World of Dreams: Scots Irish Short Stories and Poems by Gardiner Weir.

The author grew up in Ulster, or Northern Ireland in the "late 30's, 40's, and 50's." He learned the art of storytelling before TV ended it.

Using "the wings of memory" he repeatedly captures the emotions of living in Ulster and emigrating from there.

DVD: How the Scots Irish Shared America by James Webb. This is a lively, fast paced history of the Scots Irish and their enormous impact on the United States.

They are such an accomplished people that I soon asked myself:

Where do I begin to write about them? And where do I end?

These vigorous people can be proud of their profound influences on our constitutional rights our political system and our culture.

Seventeen presidents have been Scots Irish. They are as varied as Presidents Bill Clinton, Harry Truman and Andrew Jackson.

Some other Scots Irish notables are Thomas Edison, Elvis Presley, Arnold Palmer, John Wayne, Reese Witherspoon, Patrick Henry, Edgar Allen Poe, Mark Twain, Johnny Carson, Jackson Pollack, Dolly Parton, and Robert Redford.

Did you know that the first person in space was Scot Irish, or that the first man on the moon was too?

The Scots Irish have a long history. About 1,500 years ago a powerful Irish tribe called Scotti by the Romans, established a kingdom in what is now Scotland. They defeated the armies Rome sent to crush them. Scotland developed an identity different from that of England to their South. Roman emperor Hadrian even built a huge wall to separate Scotland from England.

During the Middle Ages, the Catholic

and half of Scotland's wealth! However, it was spiritually bankrupt.

The Reformation came in 1559 in the form of a famous sermon preached by Hohn Knox. He stated that people could relate directly to God and that intermediaries, like priests and bishops, were not needed. Knox said anyone could read the Bible. He believed that people were equal before God and that they were responsible for their actions. These were radically new ideas and resulted in the wide acceptance of Presbyterianism.

Each Presbyterian congregation controlled its own church property and finances. Leaders were elected and the congregation voted on the tenure of the Minister. As author James Webb says: the Scots developed "A stern populism that refused to bend a knee, or bow a head, to anyone but God."

The Northern Irish province of Ulster was often in revolt against English rule. Because of this the English kings and queens in the 1500's and 1600's, seized the land of the Irish and forced them to flee. People from Scotland, as poor and abused as the Irish, were settled by wealthy landowners on the "vacant" land. The newcomers were Protestant and the Irish were Catholic. This began the religious hatred that would plague Ireland for the next four centuries.

This religious hostility benefitted the nobles, wealthy landowners and Church leaders of both religions.

It was one of the basic causes of the recent "Troubles" in the North.

Readers are aware of how the Penal Laws were applied to Catholics. But not as widely known is that they also were harshly applied to the Dissenters, as the Presbyterians and Methodists were called. A Dissenter was anyone who was not a member of the Church of England. That person was treated as a second class person.

Dissenters could not hold public office; had to pay a tax to the Church; and their

Church in Scotland was very powerful. By the mid 1500's it owned a third

of all the land and half of Scotland's wealth! However, it was spiritually bankrupt. The result of this was that about 200,000 Scots Irish left Ireland in the 1700's to come to America.

They had to be strongly motivated because the sea voyage took three months. They were jammed into ships that would later be called "coffin ships."

The total population of the colonies in America at the time of the revolution was about three million. But the comparatively small number of the Scots Irish immigrants had a huge effect on our constitution, political system and culture.

The Scots Irish had a visceral dislike of the English and had not forgotten the harsh treatment of them by English officials and the established church bishops.

Their emphasis on the dignity of the individual and the right to disagree with their government meant that they strongly supported independence for the American colonies.

The Scots Irish so supported George Washington that his army was 40 to 50% Scots Irish!

During the winter of 1777-1778 Washington wintered his poorly clothed and equipped soldiers at Valley Forge. This was only 25 miles from Philadelphia where the British Army was quartered.

Washington realized that a British attack on his forces would end the revolution. If that happened, he planned to retreat along the Shenandoah Valley (to what is now West Virginia). "For the last stand I will plant my flag there among the Scots Irish. They will never surrender while one of them is alive to pull a trigger."

The founders of our country realized the wisdom of the Democratic ideals of the Scots Irish and included in our Constitution checks and balances:

- the President has to ask Congress for money to run the government. This was to prevent a President becoming a King or Dictator.

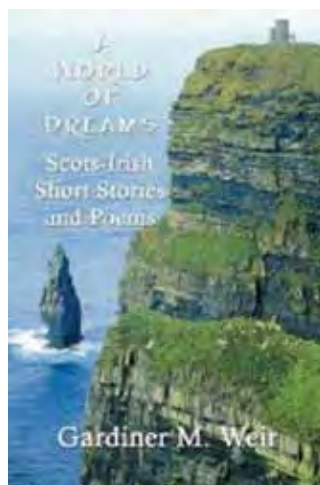
- Separation of Church and State. This was to prevent the establishment of any church.

- Freedom of speech and the right to dissent and resist oppression.

- Personal liberty should be a right, not a privilege.

James Webb says that the power of the Scots Irish culture is "It's insistence on the dignity of the individual... regardless of one's place or rank is society."

We are lucky that the Scots Irish came to America!



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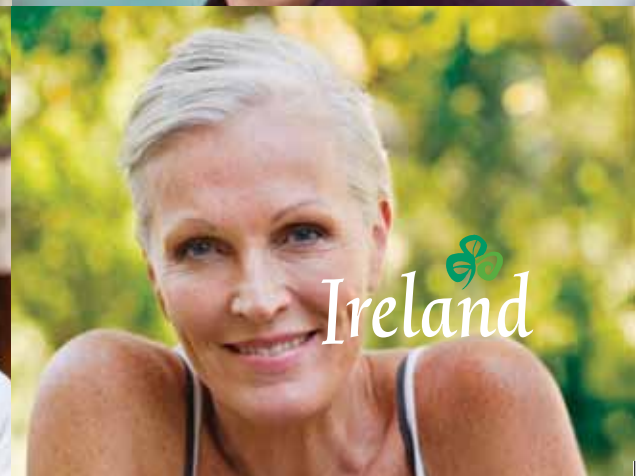
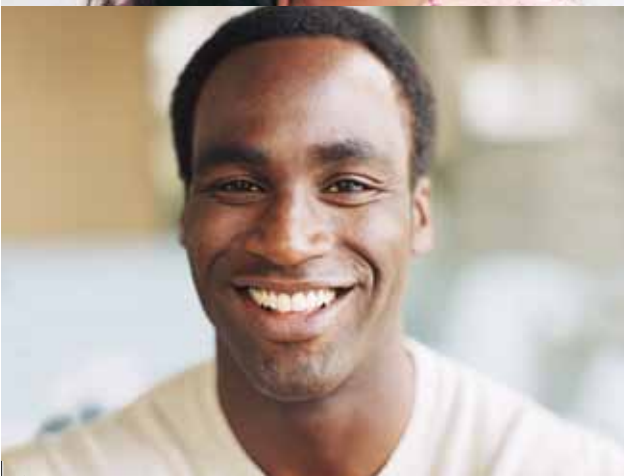
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The Emerald City, No I Do Not Mean Oz: An Interview with Chicago's very own The Tossers

By: Meghan P. Johnson

Boston may have Dropkick Murphy's and Los Angeles has Flogging Molly, but Chicago has the band that preceded both of these Celtic punk rock ensembles and they go by the name of The Tossers. The Tossers originally began playing folk music in Irish bars on Chicago's South Side. Little did the band know that they would still be making music 20 years later and become one of the most highly respected Celtic punk rock bands to date.

2013 marks the band's twentieth anniversary, and their 9th full-length album, *The Emerald City*, is set to be released March 5th. I had the pleasure to conduct an interview with the bands lead vocalist, Tony Duggins.

IAN: So it is obvious that you have punk rock influences in your music and being from Chicago you had the fortune to experience an incredible punk rock movement.

Can you name some of the most influential punk rock bands to attribute to your own music?

Tony: There are a bunch. I would have



to say the Sex Pistols, The Ramones, Dead Kennedys, The Subhumans, Murphy's Law, Naked Raygun, Stiff Little Fingers and as much as I resisted because of my allegiance to the Sex Pistols, eventually The Clash.

IAN: Can you describe your favorite and most memorable live performance?

Tony: Absolutely, in 2007 we got to open

Continued to page 31

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The Michael Cusack Hurling Club is recruiting for the 2013 season. The Club is looking for men and women aged 17 and over to participate in the sport of hurling. No experience or equipment are required. Beginner sessions will be held:

Sunday, April 7th, 2pm-Caldwell Woods Picnic Area Milwaukee Ave. & Devon Ave.

Sunday April 14th, 2pm-Gaelic Park 6119 147th Street, Oak Forest
 Sunday April 21st, 2pm-Diversey Harbor 141 W. Diversey Parkway

A beginner tournament will be held the week after the final beginner session for all newcomers. Practices and

games will be held during the summer at Gaelic Park. Opportunities to travel to tournaments are available for those interested. Games will be arranged to ensure fair competitions at the appropriate skill level. The Michael Cusack Hurling Club was founded in 2008 as an All American hurling club in the Chicago area. In the past five years, the club has won many tournaments and titles including, National All-American Champions and National "Junior C" Champions. For more information, stop by our beginners sessions or contact the club at cusackhurling@gmail.com, on Facebook, or Matt at 765-491-6016.




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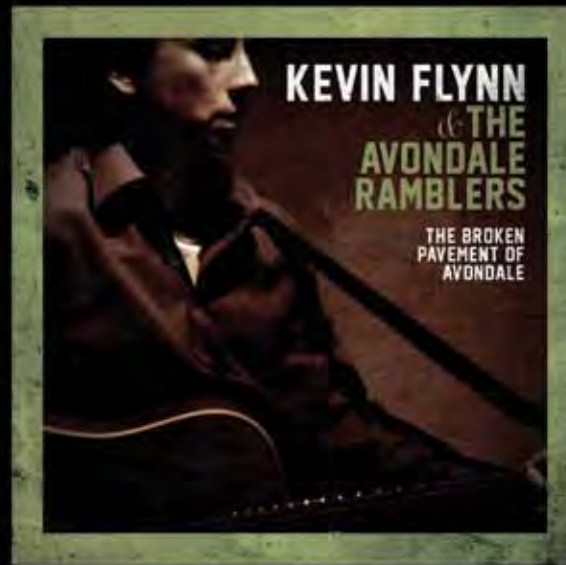
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Believe it or not, some people don't like St. Patrick's Day. Jewish New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg had to apologize a few years back for making some wise cracks about

Hooliganism

Mike Houlihan



"drunken Irish" on the holy day. And who can forget the late Princess Margaret's comment back in 1979 when she told Chicago Mayor Jane Byrne, "the Irish are pigs", right after the IRA had blasted

Lord Mountbatten's ass to kingdom come. But other than a few malcontents, we Irish are universally loved all over the world.

How can we not be? We're the most brilliant, handsome, and joyful race on earth.

Everybody wants to be Irish; including a certain half-black, Hawaiian who claims roots in Moneygall, County Offaly, known to many as BO. Well who can blame him? Being Irish is hip, especially this month. This is when the Irish Diaspora flexes her muscles and shows the world how ethnic pride is done. Those

poofs in the "Gay Pride" parade got nothing on us and we don't have to take off our clothes and simulate sodomy with the fire hydrants either. Here in Chicago we celebrate our pride in being Irish all year round. It's why you're reading this story right now you gorgeous people! And our St. Patrick's Day festivities began this year exactly two months before the holy day when a thousand rosy faces toasted new Local 130 Business Manager Jim Coyne at the annual Plumbers Hall St. Patrick's Day Parade corned beef and cabbage fundraiser dinner.

Coyne has lined up Notre Dame Football Coach Brian Kelly as Grand Marshall of the Parade, kicking off on Columbus Drive on Saturday March 16th. There are also rumors that Fighting Irish football legend Manti Te'o's girlfriend might make an appearance at the parade, so keep an eye on those Irish Faeries on the floats. Chicago's love affair with the Irish continued in February, once again at Plumber's Hall, when 30 judges crowned Bridget Fitzgerald Queen of the 2013 St. Patrick's Day Parade. Her coronation was preceded by a magnificent speech by outgoing Queen Sara Marie Collins as she bid her subjects adieu.

As one of those judges I can attest to the validity of the election. In spite of Cook County's reputation and the many text messages, emails, and jokes about bribes being flung my way, nobody was on the take.

How can we be so sure the election

was legit? Because Skinny Sheahan was in Florida that day folks.

While Skinny was sun bathing his name was dragged through the mud by many at the fundraiser on Feb. 15th for the Southside Irish St. Patrick's Day Parade. Bourbon Street was packed with revelers but everybody kept asking me the whereabouts of my radio co-host from The Skinny & Houli Show. "Don't worry", I told them, "He'll be back just in time to dunk his skinny little arse into Lake Michigan for the Special Olympics Polar Plunge!" That's Sunday March 3rd so come on out to North Avenue Beach to watch him shiver for a great cause. March Madness won't be complete of course without the Southside Irish Parade on Sunday March 10th, which triumphantly returned last year after much hard work by Skinny and the SSIP Committee. Everybody is anticipating a very sober and family oriented celebration once again, especially since 19th Ward Alderman Matt O'Shea's issued his shoot-to-kill edict for anyone seen practicing hooliganism in the public way.

If you're looking for even more culture this month check out "The Women of Ireland" at The Rialto Square Theatre in Joliet on Thursday March 7th and my favorite Irish band, The Saw Doctors, at The Vic on March 22nd. Very proud to be associated with both shows. And on Wednesday March 13th at 8:15PM, The European Union Film Festival will present the world premiere of OUR IRISH COUSINS at the Gene Siskel Film Center, 164 North State Street in Chicago. It could be the most significant Irish film of all time, so you ain't gonna want to miss that! Still starved for Irish culture? Check out FREECRAIC.COM, and sate your desire for entertainment, gossip, and giggles this month and every month as we break the stories nobody else will talk about, but everybody wants to know. Happy St. Patrick's Day and God Bless all you gorgeous people!

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Lincoln Square
2156 W. Montrose Avenue
Chicago, IL 60618



Tradition In Review

Bill Margeson



Before we go any further, we urge you this month to tune into Maryann Keifer's and my Monday night Irish music program, Ireland Tonight at 7pm, March 18. It is on WDCB, 90.9fm, and wdcb.org. We will be on live, for two hours in the annual fundraiser where we beg you to support the station. We will have all kinds of wonderful thank-you gifts of music for your pledges. We'll also have a ball! Do tune in. We beg. We grovel. We supplicate ourselves to the public. For the right donation, I will wash your car in the spring and Maryann will vacuum your living room and cook. Believe me, you want her to cook. If you love a program of real Irish music, you need to help now! Like everybody else in the country, WDCB and Irish music need your support, more now than ever. Give until it hurts. If it hurts at \$5, thank you. If it hurts at the \$2000 level, get ready for a clean car and some fabulous food!

The roof has caved in. I've whined for years that I'm falling so far behind that soon I will be buried under 18 feet of cd's and unable to find my way to the surface. It has happened. Therefore, this is a cop-out column. It will be filled with little short, proclamations with no backup or analysis of anything. By the end of it, however, you'll know about some terrific new albums!

O Raghallaigh on concertina. Both albums are signposts of real music and true talent. Like Maryann and me, Danny hosts an all-traditional Irish music fest, every Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock, Central Time. The show is called "A Trip to the Cottage." It is on the net at radio-kerry.ie. No crapola, ballad groups



screaming in pubs, or so-called, "celt-rock." Like us, Danny is addicted to real Irish music. Great show, great music, great musician.

We have just received a couple of wonderful cd's from a group out of Northern Ireland called Craobh



Rua. The title of the cd's are "Soh It Is" and "If Ida Been Here, Ida Been There." A very talented quartet. Very. Pipes, flutes, guitars, vocals, banjos, and fiddles produce a percussive, textured sound we love. Get up, ya boyos!

Next, another brand new piece of loveliness. Mick McAuley, Winnie Horan, and Colm O Caoimh in "Sailing Back to You." It's a wonderful album and the vocals are ok, too. Mick and Winnie shine best when not involved with the group, Solas. And here they are



There are two cd's from a fabulous button box player we need to make you aware of. He is Danny O'Mahony. The cd's are "In Retrospect" and "As It Happened", also starring the brilliant, Micheal

bright stars, indeed. Great tunes and especially two lovely waltzes.

One of our favorite singer/songwriters in the world is Nova Scotia's Dave Gunning. His newest album is "No More Pennies." He is magic. We play him on our program all the time and if you have heard him, you know what we are talking about. This is great music from a great artist.

Realta is a trio, also out of Northern Ireland. Two uilleann pipers, guitars, and a lot of other instruments make for a surprisingly well-rounded sound. We like this group. A lot. The vocals are ok, and when the group is cooking, they sound almost like an orchestra. These are very accomplished young musicians.

Runa is a terrific group, and there are five. You have to like any group that quotes America's Robert Frost in their cd notes. The name of their album is "Somewhere Along the Road" which is performed by the quintet beautifully. There are several influences at work in this group, simultaneously. And it is another modern, yet totally trad sound on the scene, with one of the best album covers in years. We love Runa, and we hope they are set for a long run.

Kathleen Conneely lives in England, and is the sister of Chicago's pride and joy, Pauline Conneely. She is a terrific tin whistle player and is one of the featured players in the best female group in the world, The London Lasses. Let's be upfront: An entire cd of 14 tin whistle tunes can be hard to take, but Kathleen pulls it off brilliantly. She and the album are both jewels on the trad scene. Her new album is "The Coming of Spring." If you love whistle, you will love this. If you don't love whistle, (many of us don't), you will still love this. She is a highly accomplished musician. This is a highly accomplished album. *Ta!



Emerald Society of Illinois

Irish American Police Association

Annual St. Patrick's Day March and Celebration
Saturday, March 16th

Held at Local 399's Hall (Operating Engineers Hall)
2260 South Grove Street Chicago 60616
Located 1 Block NW of Archer Ave and Canal St
Marchers will gather at the 399 Hall by 10:30am to begin boarding buses provided to the Parade.
Parade steps off at noon

Saluting the Armed Forces

Dress uniform -The Buses will return marchers to the Hall (Hall offers accommodations to change after the Parade).



Entertainment

Pipes and Drums of the Emerald Society/Chicago Police Department

Music by Finbarr Fagan and the Paddy Go Easy band

Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner

with all the trimmings and adult beverages

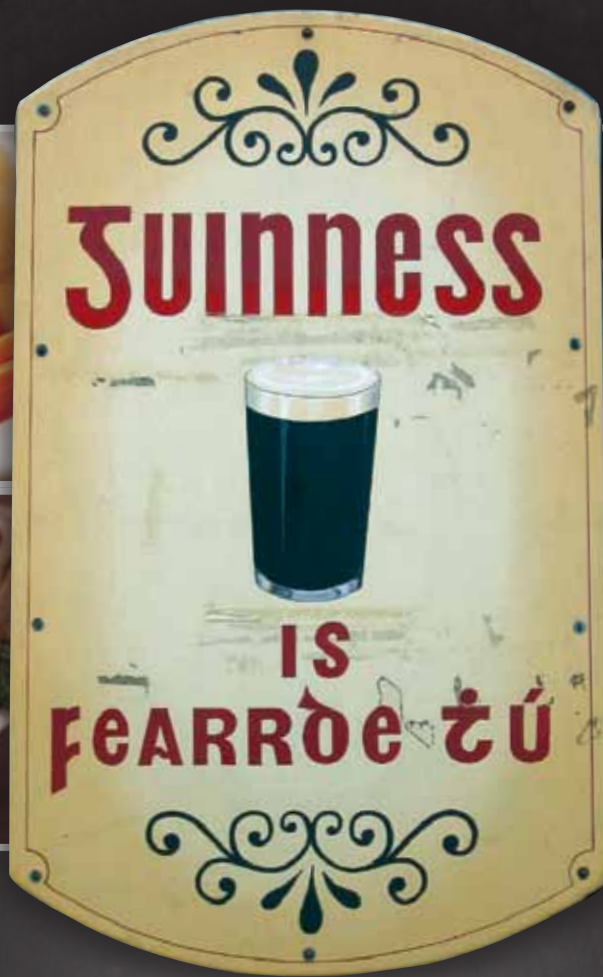
Celebration begins when the first busload of marchers returns to the Hall from the Parade Route and continues until 6pm.

Taxi cabs will be available at the Hall.

The Holiday Inn Mart Plaza is offering a discounted room rate.

Just mention the Emerald Society of Illinois when you are making your reservation, (312) 836-5000.

Additional Information and Map can be obtained at www.emeraldsocietyofillinois.org



happy ST. PATRICK'S SEASON



SATURDAY MARCH 16TH
PARADE DAY

SUNDAY MARCH 17TH
ST. PATRICK'S DAY

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SATURDAY, MARCH 9
 at **7:00** and **9:00** PM
 and **FRIDAY, MARCH 15** at 7:30 PM



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the Celtic Knot PUBLIC HOUSE

Sat. March 9
 9:30pm -12:30am ~ Tim O'Shea & Friends

Fri. March 15
 9:30pm -12:30am ~ Baale Tinne

Sat. March 16
 12pm - 3pm ~ Dancers from the Sheila Tully Academy
 6pm -9pm ~ Tim O'Shea & Friends
 9:30pm -12:30am ~ Mad Bread

Sun. March 17
 12pm - 3pm ~ Dancers from the Sheila Tully Academy
 4pm - 6pm ~ The Public House Band
 6:30pm - 8:30pm ~ The Holy Hour House Band
 9pm -12am ~ One of the Girls

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Chicago Gaelic Park

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



A Chairde:

The Gaelic Park Annual Convention was held at The Park in February, and we were very pleased to announce positive financial numbers for 2012 in this challenging economic environment. We thank the Gaelic Park membership and IAN readers for their continued support of all that we do at the Park. We are also thankful that we had six new people step forward to run for positions on our Board of Directors; this is a healthy sign as we believe new blood is invigorating for the well-being of any organization. March is here again when our Irish culture is celebrated around the world and nowhere more so than at Gaelic Park. The impact of such a small country worldwide is phenomenal, and I ascribe it to the Irish sense of humor and joie de vivre which makes most Irish men and women easy company

for their fellow man. "Laugh and the world laughs with you" is a wonderful way to attack life's setbacks and Irish people can even laugh at themselves if there is no one else to laugh at. Make plans to join us at Ireland on Parade between March 8 and 17 or join us as we march in the parades, Oak Forest on March 9, the Southside or Tinley Park Parades on March 10. We are also participating in the Downtown Parade on March 16. Gaelic Park's monthly mass will be celebrated on St. Patrick's Day Sunday March 17 at the Park which will be followed by Irish breakfast and a full day of entertainment. Make plans to join us at this or many of the other celebrations at The Park this month and laugh away those winter blues.

John Devitt, President

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

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- Daily Drink and Food Specials
- Expanded Pub Food and Appetizer Menu - Available Daily
- Pub Trivia every Tuesday, October-May starting at 7:30pm
- Traditional Irish Music Session Hosted by Members of The Irish Musicians of Chicago and their Students every Thursday at 7:30pm

the CARRAIG IRISH PUB

Live Music in the Pub

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|------------|------------------------|--------|
| Fri Mar 1 | Gerard Haughey | 7:30pm |
| Sat Mar 2 | Mulligan Stew | 8:00pm |
| Fri Mar 8 | Sean & Charlie | 9:00pm |
| Sat Mar 9 | Larry Nugent & Friends | 4:00pm |
| | Coyote Riot | 8:00pm |
| Fri Mar 15 | Joe McShane | 7:30pm |
| Sat Mar 16 | The Ploughboys | 8:00pm |
| Fri Mar 22 | Chris Heroldt | 7:30pm |
| Sat Mar 23 | John McDonagh | 7:30pm |
| Fri Mar 29 | The Lads of Tallymoore | 7:30pm |
| Sat Mar 30 | Peter & Katie | 7:30pm |

Chicago Gaelic Park

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

Weds March 13 Gerry Dignan will do Irish Story Telling in the Celtic Room - \$10 admission



The County Connection

County Galway Fellowship Dinner Dance will be held on April 6. Raffle tickets are available and only 200 will be sold at \$100 each. The Grand Prize \$10,000 - 2nd-\$1,000 - 3 prizes of \$500 each!

County Down Association will hold a meeting on March 22.

County Clare Association Dinner Dance will be held on September 21... more details to follow.

Antrim Armagh Carlow Cavan Clare Cork Derry Donegal Down Dublin Fermanagh Galway Kerry Kildare Kilkenny Laois Leitrim Limerick Longford Louth Mayo Meath Monaghan Offaly Roscommon Sligo Tipperary Tyrone Waterford Westmeath Wexford Wicklow

CGP TOUR OF IRELAND FOR THE GATHERING



Please join us for our 2nd meeting with CIE Tours and Gadabout Travel on Thursday, March 7 at 6:30pm. We had a great turnout for the February meeting - so don't miss this night of additional information on dates, itinerary and prices for a trip of a lifetime! For any questions please contact:

- Pam Carroll gadabouttravel@hotmail.com
708.974.1300
- Yvonne ybyrne@chicagogaelicpark.org
708.687.9323
- Tadgh tadgh4@sbcbglobal.net 815.545.5144



Celebrating St. Patrick

MARCH 8-17 IRELAND on PARADE

| | | |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|---------|
| 3/6 & 4/3 | Monthly Musical Luncheon | NOON |
| 3/7 | Tour of Ireland Meeting | 6:30pm |
| 3/16 | St. Patrick's Musical Luncheon | NOON |
| | Annual St. Patrick's Concert | 7:30pm |
| 3/17 | Sunday Mass/Irish Breakfast | 10:00am |
| 3/23 | Easter Egg Hunt | |

Weekends in April (5-7, 12-14, 19-21)

The Gaelic Park Players Spring Play A Wake in the West

Sunday Celtic Supper Entertainment:

| | | |
|------|--------------------|--|
| 3/3 | John Dillon; | |
| 3/24 | Joe McShane; and | |
| 3/31 | Kara & Jerry Eadie | |

Reservations are required - \$16 Adults / \$9 Children

Pub Trivia Tuesday evenings 7:30pm
Quizmaster Tim Tobin challenges your knowledge of everything! \$5 per person - max of 5 to a team.

Musical Luncheon Doors Open at NOON, Lunch at 1pm \$13
For group reservations 708-687-9323.

| | | |
|-------------------|---|--------|
| Monday Evenings | Set Dancing | 7:30pm |
| Tuesday Evenings | Ceili Dancing Lessons 7pm/Ceili | 7:30pm |
| Thursday Evenings | Family Music Sessions in the Pub | 7:30pm |

Sunday Evening CGP Radio Live WCEV 1450 AM 7-8pm



CLIP & POST



CGP Office 708.687.9323

www.chicagogaelicpark.org



Chicago Gaelic Park

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CGP EVENT UPDATES

Bridal Boutique It was a fantastic event with nearly 500 guests in attendance. The CGP staff looked amazing and the crowd enjoyed every minute of the fashion show. Great job to Marian, Jody & Jan and all the staff and directors who made this day a huge success!

Festival Queen Contest & Celtic Supper The new Irish Festival Queen and her Court will be chosen at our Celtic Supper on Sunday, March 3. Each of the contestants will be introduced and the winners will be announced. The candidate chosen as the new Irish Festival 2013 Queen shall reign as Queen for one full year and with the runner up participate in all activities and events held at CGP and receive gifts and prizes.



Our thanks to Gadabout Travel and Aer Lingus who are the sponsors for the new Queen's gift of a round trip ticket to Ireland!

Scholarship Essay Contest Individual winners will be announced at Gaelic Park on Sunday, March 17 following the 10am Mass. Awards will be presented to the winners on Sunday, March 24, at the Sunday Celtic Supper.

All Ireland Trivia Quiz Winners A great night of trivia fun at Gaelic Park on February 15 with 22 teams, representing 15 counties. There were four Mayo teams who all scored well with The Mayo-Wannabes scoring prominently, they were really Roscommon men in sheep's clothing. The official Roscommon Team won with defending champions Cork and perennial bridesmaids Down just one point behind in a very tight finish. The photo shows winning team Roscommon with quiz masters John Devitt and Mick Kenna. Down were official runners-up by virtue of a higher last round score. Cork defended their title bravely after a slow start and were gracious in defeat. It was a fun social night with great banter among the teams.



GPP Spring Play in April

A Wake In The West Written by Michael Joe Ginnelly, directed by Larry Coughlin; this rollicking comedy will be on stage the weekends of April 5-7, 12-14 and 19-21.

SPECIAL: A Dinner-Theatre Combination (\$20) will be offered each Friday and Saturday, in The Carraig Pub, prior to the show. Show time is 8pm and dinner reservations suggested for no later than 6:30pm.

As always, our Celtic Supper-Theatre Combination (\$25) will be offered on each Sunday, following the 3pm show. Reservations are required by calling 708-687-9323

Acting Irish International Theatre Festival

Chicago Gaelic Park Players are very excited and proud to announce that we will be hosting the Acting Irish International Theatre Festival 2013. This annual event that alternates between a Canadian, Ireland and U.S. host city every year, celebrates the traditions of the Irish stage as Irish community theatre groups present the best in Irish drama and comedy, both classic and contemporary. This year, as the Festival celebrates its 20th anniversary, the Gaelic Park Players are proud to bring this unique event to Chicago.

Performed consecutively, afternoons and evenings from Tuesday May 21 to Saturday May 25, the eight plays entered in this year's Festival will be adjudicated by a team of theatre professionals.

Audiences and participants alike will have the opportunity to listen to the judges' critiques, offered from the stage at the end of each performance. Through this process the Acting Irish International Theatre Festival promotes a greater appreciation for the plays seen and encourages the refinement of the performers' theatrical craft. While serving to inspire new levels of achievement, the competition among the members of The Acting Irish International Theatre Festival is a friendly one. The adjudication process is intended to help each group grow and to improve their performance skill.

Without doubt, it is a unique honor to take home an award from the Festival, but every group that enters a show can be proud of the gift they bring to their local audiences at home as well as to the audiences at this year's Festival in Chicago. By participating in the Acting Irish International Festival, each group helps to shine a spotlight on two significant realms within the broad world of theatre: Irish theatre and community theatre.

This will be held in conjunction with Chicago Irish Fest at Chicago Gaelic Park over Memorial Day Weekend which enriches this festival which promises to be a fantastic festival event, celebrating the best of Irish Culture. We bid you all welcome and invite you to join us as we come together to celebrate the 20th Annual 2013 Acting Irish International Theatre Festival. Look for more information over the next few months!!!



Gaelic Park can be found on
FACEBOOK AND TWITTER!
TAKE A MOMENT AND "LIKE" US!





Chicago Gaelic Park

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



ST. BALDRICK'S FUNDRAISER



The Carraig Pub will host their annual St. Baldrick's Foundation fundraiser on Saturday March 9 starting at 3pm. All donations will benefit the fight against children's cancer. St. Baldrick's volunteers, sponsored by donations from friends and family, shave their heads in solidarity for children with cancer. Last year the shavees contributed over \$10,000 to the St. Baldrick's Foundation. There will be a cash bar and a hot food buffet available. St. Baldrick's is the world's largest volunteer driven fundraising event to fight childhood cancer. More information on the foundation can be found on their website at www.stbaldricks.org. The Carraig Pub will open at 11 00a.m. and will serve food starting at 11.30am. Please call Gaelic Park at (708) 687-9323 or visit our website at www.chicagogaelpark.org.



The Gift of CGP Membership

The best gift you can give to family or friends on St. Patrick's Day? Chicago Gaelic Park Membership! Purchase a membership from now through March 14, 2013, and Gaelic Park will send a special St. Patrick's Day card in your name, along with a new membership card, valid until May, 2014! The gift will also let them know that as part of the gift of membership, they will also receive a monthly issue of the *Irish American News*, two tickets for Friday night of Irish Fest (2013 & 2014), complimentary dinner for two at the annual convention and many other benefits through the year (a total value of over \$100). Single Membership is \$30 and Couple Membership is \$50.

FILL OUT THE FORM BELOW, ATTACH YOUR CHECK and DROP OFF OR MAIL TO:

Chicago Gaelic Park Membership
6119 147th Street
Oak Forest, IL 60452

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In addition your gift will support Gaelic Park and its mission of promoting and perpetuating Irish Culture and Heritage. All in all, it is a great way to share and celebrate this St. Patrick's Season.

**WIN A TRIP TO IRELAND
with YOUR GAELIC PARK MEMBERSHIP**



Great Care. Great Fare.

Become a member of Chicago Gaelic Park... or renew your present membership today through Memorial Fest Weekend and your name will be entered in a drawing to win a ticket to Ireland! Winner will be announced on stage at our Annual Irish Fest held in May over Memorial Day Weekend! **Thanks to AER LINGUS AIRLINES who is the sponsor of this fabulous giveaway to our membership!**



March 8, 12, 13, 14, and 15

Doors open nightly 5:30pm Free Admission

Hot Food Buffet available for purchase

*Celebrate with Irish Music, Song, Step Dancing,
Ceili & Set Dancing in the Emerald Room*

Martin Fahey M.C. with Music by The Irish Musicians & Sean O'Donnell

Friday, March 8

6:30pm Garrity Music School

7:00pm Trinity Irish Dancers

7:30pm Lavin Cassidy School of Irish
Dancing

Tuesday, March 12

6:30pm Gaelic Park Ceili Dancers

7:00pm McNamara School of Irish
Dancing

7:30pm Sullivan School of Irish Dance

8:00pm Mullane, Healy, Godley School of
Irish Dance

Wednesday, March 13

7:00pm Weber School of Dancing

7:30pm Geraldine Foy School of Irish Dance

8:00pm McCormack/Fay School of Irish
Dancing

Thursday, March 14

6:30pm Gaelic Park Set Dancers

7:00pm Blackbird School of Irish Dance

7:30pm Tooromeen School of Irish Dancing

8:00pm Irish Music Session with
Pat Finnegan & Friends

Friday, March 15

7:00pm Mulhern School of Irish Dancing

7:30pm Cross Keys School of Irish Dancing



Chicago Gaelic Park

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



GET YOUR IRISH ON.. It's the Month of March!



celebrate the st. patrick's
season at gaelic park
Get Your Irish On!

saturday march 16, 2013

St. Patrick's Concert

St. Patrick's Luncheon

Featuring Corned Beef and Cabbage

Musical Entertainment provided by

3 Men in Kilts

and a Dance Performance by

Cross Keys Irish Dancers

Tickets \$25.00

Doors open at 11am - Lunch served at NOON



Tickets \$15

Doors open 6:30pm / Concert at 7:30pm

Tickets for these great events are available now!

Call 708-687-9323

Chicago Gaelic Park

6119 W. 147th Street Oak Forest, IL / www.chicagogaelicpark.org

Sunday March 17

10am

Mass & Irish Breakfast



Carraig Pub Entertainment

1:00pm-5:00pm

Teresa Shine and Friends

5:00pm-9:00pm

Gerry Haughey

Tara Room Entertainment

12:30-3:30pm

Children's Entertainment

3:30-6:30pm

The Ploughboys

6:30-7:00pm

Lavin Cassidy

Irish Dancers

7:00pm - 10:30pm

Rico Quinn

Come Join in the Craic!

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Saturday March 9 Oak Forest Fleadh Parade

Step off is 11am at 151st
& Cicero Avenue

St. Baldrick's Head
Shaving 3pm
in the Tara Room

Entertainment in Carraig
Pub starting at 4pm

South Side Irish

Sunday March 10

DOORS OPEN 1pm

Admission:
\$5 Adults
\$3 Kids

Carraig Pub Entertainment

John Dillon 1pm-5pm

Billy O'Donoghue
5:30-9:30pm

Emerald Room Entertainment

Larkin and Moran Bros.
1:30pm

Arranmore 5:15pm

Dennehy School of Irish
Dancing 7:30pm

Tara Room Entertainment

Mulligan Stew 1pm-5pm

3 Men in Kilts 5pm-9pm

Celtic Room Children's Stage

1:30pm-5pm

Father Jack Wall: Keeping the Faith

Having transformed Chicago's Old St. Patrick's Church from a parish with four members into a vibrant, soul-charging hub of Catholicism in the city, wise leaders of the Church who recognized Father Jack Wall's abilities asked him to lead Catholic Extension. Catholic Extension is a national charity committed to

heroes – the people I looked up to. I was one of 320 freshmen who entered Quigley High School Seminary. More than 50 of us were ordained. I had wonderful parents who were involved in the Church and gave all of their children a great experience of church. I am the oldest of four, and the only one in my extended

Father Wall: My first assignment as a deacon was on the south side of Chicago at St. Clotilde in Chatham, an African-American community. My first assignment as a priest was at St. Ita on the north side in Edgewater. Then, I was assigned to the college seminary. Later, I became vocations director for the Archdiocese of Chicago, working with young adult men who were discerning the priesthood. I was assigned to Old St. Pat's in 1983.

IAN: When I went to your church, I was impressed at how fun it was. It was bright and cheerful. It wasn't Gothic! Has it always been that way?

Father Wall: Well, it hasn't. In 1911, the pastor of Old St. Pat's was Father William McNamee. He was born in Ireland. It was the time of the Celtic Renaissance, so there was an intense rediscovery of all things Irish. Ireland had brought some great Irish treasures to the Columbian Exposition here in Chicago in 1893 – the Cross of Cong, the Ardagh Chalice and the Tara Brooch. These were brilliant early Irish artifacts, and they captured the imagination of a lot of people.

One of those was a man named Thomas O'Shaughnessy, an Irish-American who went to study in Ireland. Legend says that he was one of the last people to hand study the Book of Kells, which as many Irish descendants know is an illuminated manuscript of the four Gospels written in Latin and transcribed by Celtic monks around the year 800.

O'Shaughnessy came back to Chicago and worked with Father McNamee, who decided he wanted to give the Irish immigrants a deep and true experience of the beauty of their Irish heritage. So, after hundreds of years of worshipping in dark and damp places, many of which didn't even have windows, McNamee wanted to reconnect them to their Celtic Christian heritage. He used miniature illuminations that were found in the Book of Kells, and he blew them up into a brilliant architec-

tural experience. O'Shaughnessy was basically "the Irish Michelangelo," the man who took the blank spaces of the walls of Old St. Pat's and created this jewel of Celtic art, all of which was inspired by the Book of Kells. The unfortunate story is that in the 1940s, one of the pastors came along and painted over everything. By the time I came to Old St. Pat's, it had been painted over six times. With luck, I found an old black-and-white photograph of the church's interior and ultimately, with the great Chicago architect, Larry Booth, we had the pleasure of restoring Thomas O'Shaughnessy's vision of Old St. Pat's for its 150th anniversary. A woman walking into the church once described the experience as walking inside an

will. The Cardinal suggested I do some discerning to see if it would be a good fit.

Catholic Extension dates back to 1905, when the Archbishop of Chicago welcomed Father Francis Clement Kelley, who was from Canada, but working in Western Michigan. He was pastor in a very poor, rural community, and he had to go out and beg for money for his own church. As he went around the country, he realized he wasn't the only person in the country who was in this situation. Father Kelley came up with the idea of creating the Catholic Church Extension Society to connect more established churches in the United States with those just forming. Large urban dioceses in the Northeast were flourishing at the turn of the century, while the rest of the United States was 'mission territory.'

When people think of missions, they think of foreign missions, but there are missions here in the States. There are 194 dioceses in the United States, and 91 of them are considered mission dioceses.

It's a huge challenge. Historically, priests and sisters from Ireland had a huge impact on those communities. Many priests and religious emigrated from Ireland to some of the poorest communities in the United States. You can walk into a diocese in Arkansas and still hear an Irish brogue! The Irish community had a huge impact on the life of those dioceses.

IAN: What shape was Catholic Extension in when you took over?

Father Wall: First of all, we have a wonderful legacy. Catholic Extension has a great tradition of very loyal donors, but we moved from a time in which everyone who was Catholic knew about Catholic Extension, to a time when not enough Catholics were aware of us.

At one time, Catholic Extension had a monthly magazine with more than 600,000 subscribers! Even after 100 years, Extension magazine is still being published today, and it is sent to

Continued to page 53



Julie Turley, Fr. Wall, and Joe Boland

building up and strengthening poor Catholic mission dioceses across the United States. It provides funding and resources to dioceses and parishes through programs and services investing in people, ministries, and infrastructure. In other words, it helps poor parishes across the U.S. to survive and thrive. Father Wall accepted the challenge in 2007 at the start of the recession. Despite the struggling economy, he has doubled donations to the cause in a short five years!

In an exclusive interview with Father Wall, we learned more about the man and his mission.

Roots

IAN: I understand you were born and raised in Chicago. Tell me about your youth and what made you decide to become a priest?

Father Wall: When I grew up on the south side of Chicago, it was not uncommon for many young men to aspire to be priests. I was always very engaged in church life and priests were my

family who is ordained. But, all of my siblings are involved Catholics.

IAN: We've seen you at a lot of functions with your mom. You are obviously very close to her. How's she doing?

Father Wall: She's doing very well. She's 94 and going strong. Her mind is brilliant. She has a great ability to rise to any occasion.

Cliff: Do you have an Irish background?

Father Wall: My roots are totally Irish on both sides of the family. All of my great-grandparents came from Ireland around the turn of the century in the 1900s. They're part of that generation that never really talked about the past, so I don't have a good sense of their story. But, my youngest sister is working on our family tree.

Old St. Patrick's Church

IAN: Where did the Church first place you when you became a priest?



Easter egg!

So now, the church is a unique and total expression of Celtic art and architecture. It's a great treasure, and it was a great privilege in my life to help restore it. It really is the shrine of Irish Catholicism in the United States.

Catholic Extension

IAN: Let's talk about Catholic Extension. When they asked you to lead Catholic Extension, were you pleased?

Father Wall: I was very open to a new adventure in my life. One of the important things to me was to ensure a seamless succession plan at Old St. Pat's, and Father Tom Hurley came in, and the church never missed a beat. The second one was to stretch myself. I was a Chicago kid, "Downtown Jack," if you



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Directed by J.R. Sullivan

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"The Quiet Man" Returns

The popular "pub version" of Maurice Walsh's THE QUIET MAN returns to the Chicago area just in time for St. Patrick's Day. Last year, this one-hour staged reading version of the acclaimed play, written by Frank Mahon, was produced in Chicago, New York City, and Wheeling, West Virginia. The play was also honored by being presented in full production for the John Wayne Birthday Celebration in Winterset, Iowa, over the 2012 Memorial Day weekend, produced by The Winterset Stage theatre company.

This year, The Quiet Man returns to Ballydoyle Pub in Downers Grove and Chief O'Neill's Pub, in Chicago. And, for the first time, The Quiet Man comes to the Beverly area (on St. Patrick's Day).

The staged readings will feature Will Clinger, Lise "Kat" Evans, Robert Kaercher, Julia

Kessler, John Leen, and Joseph Wycoff, and will be directed by award-winning actor/director Si Osborne. Following the readings, cast member Lise "Kat" Evans will introduce a song from a new musical based on the play. Music by L.E. McCullough and lyrics by Frank Mahon.

A full production of The Quiet Man is also being presented by the Civic Players of Logansport, IN, while the pub version tours Chicago, marking the first time the play will be seen in two different states at the same time. In May, The Quiet Man will be produced in County Kerry, Ireland, for the Listowel Writers' Week, Ireland's internationally acclaimed literary festival. Maurice Walsh is being honored this year as one of Listowel's greatest local writers. The events that inspired the original story are said to have taken place in Listowel's Market Square, next to St. John's Theatre,

where the play will be presented. Members of the Walsh family are expected to attend. 2013 marks the 80th anniversary of the first publishing of Maurice Walsh's most famous short story in The Saturday Evening Post on February 11, 1933.

March schedule Chicagoland:
Ballydoyle Pub
5157 Main St., Downers Grove, IL 60515 (630.969.0600)

March 9th @ 2 pm.
Chief O'Neill's Pub
(Just voted one of the Top Ten Irish Pubs in the World - Ireland of the Welcomes)

3471 N. Elston, Chicago, IL 60618 (773.583.3066)

March 10th @ 4 pm.
Church of the Holy Nativity (Baker Hall)

9300 S. Pleasant, Chicago (Beverly)

March 17th @ 2 pm. For details call: 773.445.4427

Go to TicketDerby.com . for tickets to all 3 readings, and type in "Maurice Walsh."

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- 3-17 Sun - Gaelic Park - 7:30pm until?
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Careers

By James F. Fitzgerald, CPA



How Often Do You Say Thank-You??

This column came about because my daughter, Julie, recently sent me a blog, "Why Appreciation Matters So Much." This blog was on the Harvard Business Review site. It raised a number of basic questions for me. How often do we commonly thank people who assist us in our daily tasks, even if they work for us? Do you offer thanks genuinely or are they simply stated as a matter of fact? Perhaps our expression of thanks

is just a reflex action. It seems to me that many of us are very reluctant to show appreciation to others, even family members.

Maybe it is time for a gut check. Do you commonly thank people even if strangers when they help you in any way? Ideally you look directly at them when you voice your appreciation. I will let Miss Manners or other writers of social commentary drill down in our national psyche as to why we don't express our thanks more regularly. I would prefer to address the inherent value of showing gratitude to others whether associates, subordinates, family, friends, neighbors or total strangers. It's pretty simple; we all like to be appreciated by others. Even when you watch some celebrated athlete being complimented by some interviewer about their performance, you can see the smile on their face. Accomplished actors often say they "love" the applause, the louder the better. It helps to validate their performance.

You sometimes hear people say that they don't need to actually say the words, thank you; the person knows s/he is appreciated by the recipient of their service or kindness. I don't buy that argument. We all like to be thanked (aka appreciated) by others, even if it seems less than genuine. Doesn't it somehow make you feel better about your role and yourself? I recall reading an article about one of the major law firms in New York City that had prepared a video on common courtesies. Senior members of management were expected to watch the video as a reminder to them

that they should show gratitude to their new and inexperienced associates for the tasks they had accomplished. The firm had come to realize that these young associates wanted to be recognized for their contribution to the solution of a client problem.. The firm also had realized that associates were leaving because their superiors took them for granted and showed them little or no respect, even when they had been quite helpful. This story ran only a couple of years ago, so these associates fresh out of prestigious law schools were being paid around \$150,000 or thereabouts. Yet, because the superior almost never showed any sense of appreciation for their work, they were ready to leave the firm and go to another firm where they could feel valued for their contribution to the firm's efforts.

A supervisor's unwillingness to give a subordinate a pat on the back or a kind word is sometimes the nudge that leads a person to consider a different employer. Whenever the employee quits prematurely, it costs the company money, including recruiting costs associated with the replacement, additional training costs, and lost productivity due to the need to acclimate the new employee to the methods and procedures of the firm. The desired outcome of a well-mannered and friendly company is a more contented work force, whether they are on the production floor or in the executive offices. Too often companies are so focused on results that they lose the human touch which includes the little courtesies and niceties. If you

are a visitor, don't you feel more welcome if the receptionist offers you a cup of coffee or a glass of water or a newspaper? While typing this column I received a phone call from a person very dear to me and we briefly discussed this column. He said he is quite appreciative when his boss returns a report to him with just a brief notation, such as "Excellent report" or "Good job." He says he feels that his work is valued and by extension so is he. Many of us cannot recall when we last congratulated one of our workmates or friends on some accomplishment. Can you conjure up how you felt when you got your book report back from your high school teacher with some kudos in the margins? I bet it gave you a mental lift.

Somebody reading this column could say it's all about that warm and fuzzy stuff. I beg to differ with that point of view. It seems to me work places that reflect a certain level of civility and warmth are at least as productive as other environments if not in fact more productive. Remember, even the Seven Dwarfs are always portrayed as singing while enjoying their work. Think about it, don't you prefer being in a pleasant and courteous environment rather than one in which everyone seems to be harried, cranky and disrespectful towards you and others?

In other words, it makes good business sense to encourage and support a positive work environment. It allows people time to think of new innovations rather than worrying why the boss is so crabby and unpleasant today, or this week or this month. Take a little time to humanize your surroundings, Carpe Diem

For Your CONSIDERATION: If you are kind, people will accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives. Be kind anyway. Attributed to Mother Teresa.

James F. Fitzgerald is the president of James F. Fitzgerald & Associates, Inc., an Oak Brook, IL-based senior executive coaching and career transition firm. www.linkedin.com/pub/jamesfitzgerald/22/668/10b. Web-site: Jamesffitzgerald.com. Email: jamesffitz37@hotmail.com. Phone: 630-684-2204

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Thomas Ward



The "Shams" Rock As League Champions with 5-0-1 Season

by Ryan Stoddard

Head Coach The IASCW Shamrocks RFC ended a successful fall 2012 campaign as League Champions with a record of five wins, zero losses and one draw. Because of this accomplishment, the Shamrocks made the post-season for the second time in the club's 15-year history. With a core of both young, talented players as well as seasoned veterans, the Shamrocks showed the rugby community that they are a force to be reckoned with. Winning the league meant hosting the first round of the Midwest Rugby Union playoffs which took place on November 4th at Central Park in Manhattan. The opponents were the Cincinnati Wolfhounds. The visitors were a

The Award Banquet will take place at the Renaissance Center, 214 N. Ottawa Street, Joliet. Cocktails & Irish Music at 5 p.m. Irish Dancing at 6 p.m. Dinner & Presentation of Awards 6:30 p.m. Dinner includes Irish lamb stew, corned beef, cabbage, fried chicken, colcannon, boiled red potatoes, tossed salad, Irish soda bread, and bread pudding with bourbon sauce. Cash bar.

Members are \$45, non-members are \$60. Make checks payable to IASCW and mail to Sheila Corrigan, 2411 Suffolk, Joliet, IL 60433. To sponsor an ad in our commemorative program, call Sheila Corrigan at 815-727-0994 or email sheilacorrigan@sbcglobal.net.



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IASCW Announces Partnership with IAN

The Irish American Society of County Will has partnered with Chicagoland's Irish American News. Starting in March, every paid membership will include a complimentary subscription to IAN.

To renew or join, click to www.CountyWillIrish.net in order to pay online securely through Paypal. If you have any questions about your membership, contact Mike McHugh at Mike@McHughInsurance.com or 815-478-3772.

well-travelled group of veteran players. The Shamrocks put up a valiant effort, with hard tackling and excellent phase play. The 'Rocks never gave up, fighting hard for the entire 80 minutes of the match. Unfortunately, it was not enough. The Shamrocks, with their first taste of playoff rugby in quite a while, fell to Cincinnati 25-8.

Although the result of the match was hard to swallow, the progress the club made in a short period of time is extraordinary. The Shamrocks had several players with little to no rugby experience playing this season and the promise they shown will pave the way in the seasons to come. Expect more exciting rugby from the IASCW Shamrocks in the future!

The Shamrocks would like to thank the IASCW for their constant support of the club (and for those gorgeous new goalposts!). Many IASCW members were in attendance at home matches throughout the season and it was nice to see so many come out and support the 'Rocks. May it continue for many years to come!

For more information about the IASCW Shamrock RFC, check out the club website: www.shamrockrfc.com.

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Formed in 1988, Irish rock band, The Saw Doctors, have achieved eighteen Top Thirty singles and three Number One hits in Ireland. The Saw Doctors have made over 100 trips to the US over the past twenty years with the New York Times reviewing, "The Saw Doctors sing earnest folk-rocking anthems of small town life". Celebrating twenty five years in the music business, The Saw Doctors will embark on a seventeen date North American Tour on February 28 with headline concerts in major

St. Patrick's Celebrations at Beverly Arts Center Tributosaurus

Chicago's favorite tribute band – sells out whenever they play at the Beverly Arts Center, but the tickets fairly fly when they perform the music of iconic Belfast-born singer/songwriter Van Morrison, which they will do on Friday, March 15, 8 p.m. Tickets are \$36 and available at www.beverlyartcenter.org under Main Stage.

For fans who will never have a chance to see bands like The Beatles, Allman Brothers, The Who, Pink Floyd, Prince, Queen and a bunch more, this is THE ticket.

Tickets to see Tributosaurus as Van Morrison at the Beverly Arts Center, 2407 W. 111th St., are \$36. Buy online at www.beverlyartcenter.org or 773-445-3838.

Paddy Homan

The lyric sounds of Paddy Homan will resonate on St. Patrick's Day, Sunday, March 17, 2 p.m., when he provides a lively program of traditional Irish songs and story, and hosts a variety of musicians and dancers



markets including Chicago, New York, and Boston, as well as debut performances in Buffalo NY and Indianapolis IN.

Ahead of their US and Canada Tour this February and March, The Saw Doctors will release a 'Best Of' Album called '2525' which traces the Galway band's career from their ground-breaking debut single 'N17' (produced by

Mike Scott of The Waterboys) through to last year's chart topping hit, 'Downtown' featuring the legendary Petula Clark and filmed on the streets of Galway.

The Saw Doctors new album '2525' features twenty five songs including the bands infamous hit 'I Useta Lover' – recently voted Ireland's Favorite Number 1 in 50 years of chart history.

in a celebration of all things Irish.

"I'm looking forward to returning to the Beverly Arts Center and joining some of my old friends there for this St. Pat's



Paddy Homan

celebration," Homan said. "It will be a homecoming and a renewal of friendships which have been so important to me since I arrived in Chicago nearly a decade ago." Homan has many friends in the Southland parishes of St. Cajetan, Queen of Martyrs

and St. Christina.

He was voted Male Vocalist of the Year and Male Vocal Album of the Year 2010 by liveireland.com.

Those accolades are among many. Bill Margeson of *Irish American News* wrote, "Chicago's Paddy Homan is probably the best male Irish singer I've ever heard. This is the real voice of Ireland." *Irish Music Magazine* wrote, "The range is stunning. The interpretation is perfect. Homan is the whole complete deal wrapped up in one voice, one talent."

Homan's St. Pat's celebration will feature songs from his new CD, "The Hard Way Home," set to be released in April. It is his 3rd CD and is produced by noted Chicago based musician and recording artist, Denis Cahill.

Tickets to see Paddy Homan at the Beverly Arts Center on Sunday, March 17, 2pm. are \$18 (\$16 Beverly Arts Center members) in advance online at www.beverlyartcenter.org, by phone at 773-445-3838, and \$20 at the door. Learn more about Homan at www.paddyhoman.com



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This is the next of a series of columns on how the law can impact your life. Each month we will focus on various aspects of the law relating to personal injuries, those that happen both on-the-job and otherwise, including mishaps which occur in driving vehicles, using products and receiving medical care. The column will also respond to legal questions relating to personal injury that are sent to us.

The Healy Law Firm is comprised of eight trial attorneys, two of whom are from Ireland. We are located downtown at 111 West Washington Street, Suite 1425, Chicago, Illinois 60602 (800-922-4500 or 312-977-0100). www.HealyLawFirm.com. The firm concentrates in the representation of injured victims of all types of accidents.

Tire Aging: Recent Focus on an Old Problem

As we begin to think about warmer weather, some begin to plan our spring or summer trips in our cars, vans, trucks and motor homes. With some, these vehicles for many reasons, including difficult economic times, tend to be a bit older. Whether in the context of older vehicles or those not used on a regular basis, there has been a recent increased focus on a problem relating to vehicle tires: their age.

Past Tire Problems: Firestone and Ford

There was considerable national attention given to tire problems, including premature aging, a little over ten years ago, when the Firestone tires on Ford Explorers and similar sports utility vehicles were front and center in the news media. Evidence showed that those tires prematurely wore out, causing tread separation and resulting, in some cases, in a rollover of the vehicle. Concerned about accidents from heat exposed, overinflated, prematurely aged tires, Ford, as a short term solution, recommended in its owner's manual that the tires be inflated to only 26 pounds per square inch (psi), despite the fact that the stamping on the tire wall indicated a maximum inflation of 35 psi. While most of the Ford Explorer/Firestone tragedy is behind us, the tire aging problem is still with us.

What Is Tire Aging?

The aging occurs when certain aspects of the rubber compound in the tire decompose. Safety experts have compared old tires to an old rubber band – if you stretch an old rubber band out you will see cracks. Like a rubber band, over time, cracks in the tire rubber develop, either on the surface of the tire

or inside the tire. The cracking eventually causes the steel belts in the tread to separate from the rest of the tire. Warmer climates, exposure to the elements, and improper maintenance all compound the problem. As an additional concern, a tire damaged by aging may look visually fine, despite its dangerous propensities.

When Do Problems Occur?

In July, 2012, a National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA) report indicated that during the 2005-07 period, tire aging caused, or played a significant role annually in 90 deaths and 3,200 injuries on our roadways.

For many drivers, tire aging will not be a significant issue. A typical driver drives 12,000 to 15,000 a year. At this rate, the tire treads will generally wear down before tire aging will take its toll. However, certain situations more readily lend themselves to tire aging problems: infrequently used tires, spare tires, used tires, and, abused tires.

While the last two categories may be obvious, the first two certainly are not. Infrequently used tires, such as tires on motor homes, vans or seasonal cars can be damaged not from "wear

and tear," but simply the effect of time on the rubber components of the tire. Spare tires are susceptible to problems for this same reason, but more so because of how they are stored. Most spares are stored in the trunk, where, according to an industry analyst, they may as well be "baking in a miniature oven."

This is certainly not to suggest that heavily used tires are not prone to problems with tire aging. While usually these tires will first show tread depth reduction, attention must be paid to aging even before the tread

wears out.

How Long Is Too Long?

According to Sean Kane, an automobile safety consultant with Safety Research & Strategies (SRS), the tire industry has been studying oxidation and heat problems with tires since the 1930s.

Multiple studies and industry recommendations have pointed to six years as being the safe, useful life of a tire. Mercedes-Benz, Ford, Chrysler and Nissan all suggest, but do not require, that tires be replaced after 6 years. Bridgestone/Firestone, however, mandates that tires

be checked after 5 years and replaced after 10.

Another tire aging problem exists because some service technicians are not trained to identify tires which are potentially defective. In one recent report, an investigative journalist brought an 11 year old tire to many large tire retailers complaining that the tire was "under-inflated." Only 1 retailer questioned the tires age, or was even able to read the Tire Identification Number on the sidewall.

Used Tires

A large area of concern for tire aging comes with used tires. The tight economy has created a large market for cheaper, used tires. Because the owner has no knowledge of the history of the tire, many experts recommend that purchasing of used tires should be approached with extreme caution, or simply be avoided if possible. Equally important is to remember that simply because a tire is not worn does not mean that it is relatively new.

Possible Solutions

Since vehicle manufacturers recommend that tires be replaced every six-years, use that timeframe as the outer limit. As discussed above, potentially dangerous tires often appear fine to the human eye. However, one safety organization is encouraging large tire retailers to use machines that examine the inside of a tire much like an MRI examines the human body. According to the manufacturer, a tire problem can be discovered at a very low cost.

Be cautious in purchasing used tires without knowledge of the use history of tires. There are many things that can go wrong with vehicles, but from a safety perspective, steering, braking and tires are among the most important, and should be dealt with very carefully.

By: Martin Healy, Jr.
Dennis M. Lynch (r)



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Tossers

Continued from page 6

for The Pogues, who are my heroes, in Manhattan, New York on Saint Patrick's Day at the Rose-land Ballroom. Knowing that we were opening for such a famous band we were worried the crowd wouldn't like us, but we were shortly proven wrong. The crowd was off-their-rockers. The vibe was insane and it was an amazing experience.

IAN: Having toured for quite some time you've experienced Saint Patrick's Day in other cities. Can you tell us why Chicago does Saint Patrick's Day the best?

Tony: Well, there is no other city that does the parade like the South Side. We would always go to Mt. Greenwood where everyone's backyards would be full of friends and family. Everyone would be having a great time. There was always such a great tradition of Irish pride and an outstanding example of celebration of Irish heritage. There are so many memories that I have when thinking about St. Patrick's Day in Chicago compared to other cities. Other cities can do and have done St. Patrick's Day well, but Chicago does the most justice in my opinion. St. Patrick's is a sacred holiday and Chicago shows that.

IAN: Can you tell us what venue has been your favorite to play at in Chicago and explain why?

Tony: The Metro. We as a band have grown and changed at the Metro. We grew up in that venue. When we first started as a band that was one of the bigger venues we played at. We have been playing the Metro for at least 15 years.

IAN: A good amount of your songs are about drinking pints and whiskey. Can you tell us your beer and whiskey of choice?

Tony: I used to just drink Budweiser and any whiskey, but now that I'm older and a bit better off I'll go for Guinness and Jameson. Although, I still do like Budweiser.

IAN: Can you tell us what sets your new album apart from your others?

Tony: The name of the album and titled track is named after

Chicago and that is exactly what the entire album is about. We really have always wanted to make a record about Chicago and although initially that is not how the record started out, that was the theme we ended up with. This album is unlike our other

albums because a majority of the lyrics were written historically and are mostly about friends, family members and memories. We have never wanted to be a corny band that just plays drinking songs and this album shows that lyrically we are just

ourselves.

The Tossers kick off their 2013 tour on the same day the album drops, March 5th, in New York. They will be making their way across the United States and have a scheduled stop in Chicago on March 16th at low and behold,

their favorite local venue, The Metro. It's the night before Saint Patrick's Day, it's the Metro and it's the fantastic band, The Tossers. You better believe I will be at that show with a Guinness in my hand singing along to the songs about my hometown.

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Daly Investor

By John P. Daly



Leaving Money In An Old 401k

One of the most common questions I get from investors is "what should I do with my 401k after I leave a company?" My immediate response when fielded with that question is "to roll that money into a Rollover IRA!" When you are working for a company, you have no choice but to leave that money in the 401k plan – however when you leave that company – you should take that money with you. Here is why.

Many people are unaware of their options when they leave a company. In fact, studies show that an estimated 32% of people leave their retirement savings in a former employer's 401k plan. There are basically 4 options you have when deciding what to do with your old 401k once you

leave a company. You can leave the money in the plan, if you are switching jobs you can move that money into your new employer's 401k Plan, you can always cash the 401k out and pocket the money, or you can "roll" your 401k account into a Rollover IRA. Let's take a look at these options.

Leave your money in the old plan: 401k Plans were created to help employees save for retirement. With fewer and fewer companies offering their employees pensions, 401k Plans have been a crucial tool to help individuals finance retirement needs. From a 10,000 foot view – 401k Plans are great. They allow you to put in pretax dollars and your contributions grow tax deferred until you take funds out. The downside of 401k Plans come up when you start looking at the fees and investment options that

make up that plan. Most 401k Plans are put together by the plan administrator. That person decides what the plan looks like and what funds are available to the plan participants. The problem is many of the funds in 401k Plans actually lag their respective index benchmarks when it comes to performance, in short they underperform.

Another issue is the high fees within 401k Plans. Many 401k Plans have hidden layers of fees – investors may not easily see the actual cost they are paying to participate in the plan because the fees are hidden. Some of those costs are high expense ratio mutual funds, administration fees, and recording keeping fees for the plan. Add those fees on top of the underperformance and your money probably is not earning what it could.

Move your money to your new companies 401k Plan: The reasons against this option go back to the idea of keeping your money at your old plan; high fees and poor investment options. Now this does not mean you should not

invest in your companies 401k Plan. The tax advantages of a 401k Plan and the potential for a corporate matching contribution make 401ks a better alternative than doing nothing.

Cashing the funds out: This is an option, however it is definitely not something I would recommend. You will have to pay taxes and a potential penalty if you are under age 59 1/2. This should only be used for absolute emergency situations. Cashing money out of a 401k Plan prematurely will significantly hurt your retirement savings.

Roll your money into a Rollover IRA: With a Rollover IRA, you are able to do a qualified – tax free transfer from your 401k into a Rollover IRA. The big advantage of this comes with the increased access to investment options. Within a Rollover IRA you can invest in mutual funds, ETFs, individual stocks, bonds, CDs, or money market accounts. All of this while avoiding the potentially high administrative costs of a 401k. You can also choose to work with an investment advisor to help you manage your Rollover IRA. Even if your old 401k Plan

is a low cost plan with low cost investment options (I have seen very few of those out there) – I still recommend my clients to move that money out of the plan into a Rollover IRA. They will be able to buy the same funds within the Rollover IRA, avoid any additional administrative costs associated with the 401k, and they will have many other investment options available to them if they want to change things down the road.

If you have an old 401k out there you are still not sure of what to do, give me a call or send me an email. I'd be happy to run a complimentary cost and performance analysis of what your current plan is vs. what you could do in a Rollover IRA. Have a Happy St. Patrick's Day!

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.

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In just a few years, the Balsons are one step closer to achieving their goal of making quality English and Irish meats accessible in the U.S. Until St. Patrick's Day, RJ Balson's award-winning, All-Natural "Authentic Irish Style Banger" will be available at a number of COSTCO Warehouse locations.

Oliver Balson, President of RJ Balson USA, writes, "We are absolutely thrilled with the COSTCO placements, and we continue to work hard to bring this product into mainstream outlets. This presents a huge opportunity for shoppers to show that there is, indeed, a demand for authentic English and Irish items like bangers and back bacon. We are humbled and grateful for the support we have received from the Ex-Pat community here in the States and we continue to work with major retail buyers to make these items more accessible."

The Traditional Bangers will be available until St Patrick's Day or while supplies last. The item will be sold in a 2 lb. pack and can be frozen for up to 6 months. The following COSTCO Club Regions are stocking Balson Bangers by Feb. 8th: NORTHEAST COSTCO – VA, PA, NJ, DE, MD, NY, RI, CT, MA, VT and NH. The following clubs will stock by Feb. 25th: MIDWEST COSTCO – KS, NE, MO, IA, WI, MI, MN, IL, IN, OH, and KY).

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Irish Memories

As each year passes my passion for all things Irish remains strong. My mind is crowded with memories of my many visits to Ireland. Each of those visits marked by some special occasion or unexpected experience. I am blessed with a very large extended family in Ireland. Each one of them are very special to me.

When I saw Mike Houlihan's film, "My Irish Cousins," it carried me back to my first visit to Ireland and kissing the ground at Shannon Airport. I was another crazy Yank!

Waiting for us on the observation deck at Shannon, was my Uncle, Patrick Boyle, his wife Maggie, and my Aunt, Margaret, who was known as "Bob's" nee Boyle. We loaded five people, my sister's luggage and mine into a Volkswagen Beetle, and off we went for Kerry by way of Limerick City and then on to the coast road along the Shannon river. When we got to Foynes we broke the journey for a pint. Then it was on to Newcastle West and John Michael Boyle's house. His house was known as the White House as he kept it freshly whitewashed. We were invited in for tea and sandwiches. John Michael and his wife Ellie had one child, Mary Jo who was married to Charlie Coughlan who had the drapery shop in town.

We journeyed on and after many more visits we finally reached the Boyle farm. It was time for bed.

In the years to come, while passing through immigration, the agent looked at me and said, "How long will you be home

Tom?" I knew then I belonged there. From the Nenagh Castle to the cattle market in Tralee, from Bally Bur Castle in Cuffes Grange, Co. Kilkenny, to the

Convent of Mercy in Naas, Co. Kildare, the Boyle farm in Causeway, Co. Kerry, the ring fort at Bob Murphy's farm and the double ring fort at the O'Boyle's in Gullane, Ballybunnion. From Waterford City, Reginald's Tower to the Presentation Convent in Mooncoin, Co. Kilkenny, number 5 Thornhill Road, Kilbarrack, Co. Dublin.

My Uncle Joe Cooney training horses in Nenagh, and Pat McCarthy milking cows in Lixnaw, Hannah O'Connor at the Greyhound Bar in Tralee, where I first met my cousin Patrick Cantillon, the 85-year-old blacksmith from Bally Heige. My grand-Aunts, Mary Carroll, 93 when I first met her, from Bally Clemensigh, and Kate Godly, 91 from Dromature.

We traveled to Church Road, (St. Flannans Street) in Nenagh, Co. Tipperary, the magic of the first visit continued. I rented a Fiat 850 which barely held four people. My Aunt, Molly O'Connell was wild with excitement and kept on raving about, "baby Jo", my mother, Johanna, who over the years when times were very hard managed to send Molly a few dollars, and it time my mother paid to get indoor plumbing for her, so much for the lace curtains! My first cousin Michael was a carpenter and rode his bike from Nenagh to Roscrea to work, 27 miles each way every day!

We stayed at O'Meara's Hotel who were related to us although they didn't go out of their way to let us know. My sister, Jeanne invited Aunt Molly to spend a night with her at the hotel, and she screamed like a teenage girl at a slumber party all night long. She had never spent a night away from home before.

We met the neighbors along the street,

childhood friends of my mother. Mrs. Hassett, and her son, Philly, who was on the dole. With a raspy voice he sang a mournful rendition of The Rose of Tralee. I had never heard that song before. Then we met Mrs. Shinnners and her daughter Sally, a stunning young woman with raven hair and blue eyes you just couldn't stop looking into, and sadly enough, her fiance was with her.

Mrs Shinnners gave us each a beautiful Wade Irish Porcelain mug with a jaunting car on it as a keepsake from our visit.

Down the street was my Uncle, Joe Cooney's house, the house where my mother was born. It was very small and everybody slept in a loft over the living room. We never did get to see the loft. We met Joe's wife, Eileen, and our cousins, Margaret, and Eileen. Uncle Joe gave us each a 5 punt note.

At the end of the street was Andy Burke's pub. Aunt Molly painted him as the local villian as he was trying to buy some land that would eliminate some vacant property on the street. Across from the house where my mother was born stood the water pump at the juncture of Church Road and O'Rahilly Street where most of the people got their drinking water. Molly had two large white porcelain pails they would carry down to the pump everyday and fill them up. Molly was a black pot cook, and cooked over a grate built in to the hearth. All of this taking place in the shadow of St. Mary's of the Rosary Church, and the Nenagh Castle.

My Uncle, Joe Cooney, rented the land around the Castle adjacent to the church where he kept horses that he was working with, trust me, he was the first "horse whisperer."

The iron gate on the Castle was locked. Nobody had been inside the castle in eighteen years. It was padlocked when a young boy climbing inside the Castle fell and was killed. Joe got a hacksaw and cut the padlock off the door. We roamed around inside the Castle and the

stairways were inside the walls. Once in the stairwells you would find yourself shoulders brushing both sides against the walls. The passages were very narrow. We lit candles in the church for my mother.

On another day we took my mother's friend, Mrs. Hassett, to the "lookout" in Dromineer where the Nenagh River empties into Lough Derg. Next stop Naas in County Kildare and the Convent of Mercy where my Aunt, Sister Joseph Boyle, was the Reverend Mother. We were treated like royalty. We stayed at a guest house near the town which was called the "Ardenode." There was a well to do British couple staying there, and while sitting in the parlor that evening trying to make polite conversation, the British gentleman let us know that we were beneath his station in life, and for whatever reason he suggested that I was worthy of a good thumping. I told him there was nobody for miles around capable of doing that. The British gentleman and his wife retired to their room.

Next stop, Dublin City. The traffic was amazing. Horses and wagons, jaunting carts, bicycles, taxi's, double-decker buses and thousands of people along the streets with two way traffic on both sides of the Quay. The city was vibrant. O'Connell Street, the GPO, Kilmainham Jail, Houston Station, the Abbey Theatre, everything was soon etched in my memory. The second night we stayed at the Barry's Hotel in Dublin. It was a no star hotel. The bath was down the hall and you needed a chisel to get the ring out of the tub! I met up with three lovely young ladies who worked at Clery's Department Store. They invited me to go to a dance in Dublin. We danced and had fun. At the end of the night the band played, "The Soldier's Song," which I had never heard before. Following the dance we all took a taxi back to the hotel, and they insisted on paying the taxi. Finally I plunked a 5 punt note into the back seat and quickly closed the door. The front door of the hotel was locked. Thank God for the night porter.

Most of our relatives from the West of Ireland had never even been to Dublin City. We decided to eat at a Chinese restaurant only to find out months later the health department busted them for selling kit-kat meat! I'm sure Sister Joseph broke her eyes laughing.

Soon we were at Dublin Airport heading for London to meet three more of my mother's sisters, Bessie, Nora, and Peggy. I noted that the Aer Lingus plane we were boarding was named St. Bridgid. . . We'll break the journey here! Happy St. Patrick's Day. Remember to celebrate with dignity.

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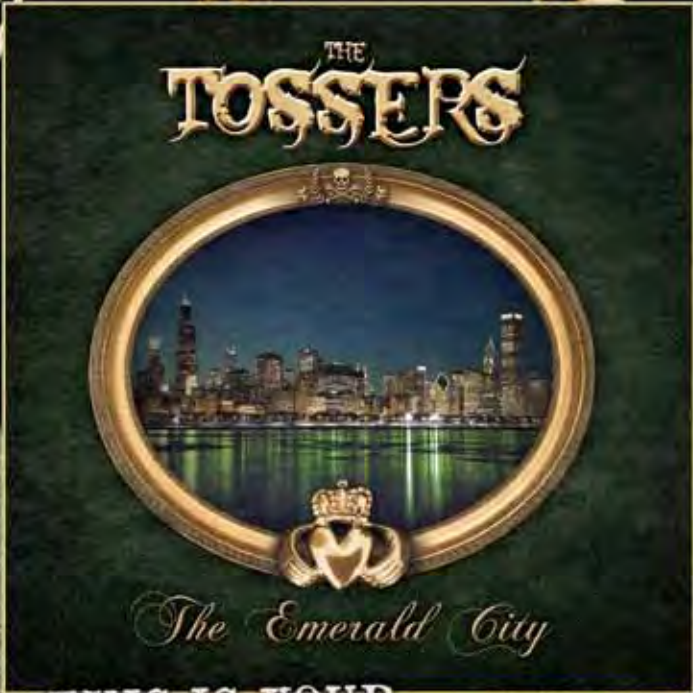
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The IAHC continues its tradition of hosting some of Chicago's largest St. Patrick's Day Celebrations this March.



Look Behind You!

A Father and Son's Impressions of 'The Troubles' in Northern Ireland (Photos/Songs)

Saturday, March 2 • 7:30pm \$15

Look Behind You! is a multi-media performance and lecture that details how a father and son have negotiated the personal and political landscapes of Northern Ireland. A melding of image and voice, anecdote and memory, it showcases Bobbie Hanvey's prize-winning photojournalism along with radio-edits of his interviews with some of Northern Ireland's best-known figures. These are complemented and contextualized by Steafán Hanvey's storytelling, which comes in the form of critically-acclaimed songwriting, and a trained academic's gift for presenting complex issues in an engaging manner.

Wearing of the Green Dinner Dance

Sunday, March 3 • 5 to 10pm \$40

Festivities include dancing and music by Joe McShane and the SilverBridge Band, a sit-down dinner, catered by Harrington's Catering, spot prizes and a raffle. The menu includes corned beef and cabbage, chicken entrees and more.

There will be a cash bar available.



Irish Chamber Choir Concert

Saturday, March 23 • 7:30pm \$10-15

The National University of Ireland Chamber choir, of twenty four singers under the musical direction of conductor Michael Dawson, will perform an imaginative and exciting program of Irish, European and American choral music.

The performance also includes works with traditional fiddle and Uilleann pipes along with Séan Nós singing.



Revolutionary Irish Women Series

Saturday, March 23 • 2pm to 4pm \$10

Celtic Women International presents the annual Revolutionary Irish Women Series. Lady Gregory and the Imagination of the Republic is a multimedia program that features lectures, poetry and music.

Lady Augusta Gregory, known for her role in the Celtic Revival, was also a major force in the nationalist movement. She traveled the Irish countryside, collecting ballads, stories and myths to build a large body of the Celtic past. She also used her love of folklore to write plays of her own. Her work incorporated Irish mythology into the country's struggle under British control. Lady Gregory founded the Irish Literary Theatre and the Abbey Theater with William Butler Yeats.

St. Patrick's Festival

Saturday, March 16 • 1pm to midnight

Tickets are \$15 for adults,
or \$12 for advance purchase if bought by the end of the day on March 14.

Children 12 and under are free.

The Center holds its St. Patrick's Festival following the downtown Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade. This large-scale, family-oriented annual event includes traditional and contemporary Irish music, dance, food, children's activities and an Arts and Craft fair, with vendors selling Irish gifts.



Performers include:

- ❖ Tim O'Shea and Phillip Crickard
- ❖ Shannon Rovers
- ❖ Dooley Brothers
- ❖ Patrick and Karen Cannady and Friends
- ❖ Irish Heritage Singers
- ❖ Larry Nugent and Bill O'Donoghue
- ❖ In Spite of Ourselves
- ❖ Sullivan Brothers
- ❖ Mulligan Stew
- ❖ Identity Irish Dance Company
- ❖ Rebecca McCarthy School of Irish Dance
- ❖ O'Hare School of Irish Dance
- ❖ Trinity Academy of Irish Dance
- ❖ Mullane Healy Godley School of Irish Dance
- ❖ Mulhern School of Irish Dance
- ❖ Academy of Irish Music
- ❖ Ceili Mor
- ❖ Wiggleworms

St. Patrick's Day Celebration

Sunday, March 17 • Noon to Midnight,
Mass at 11:30am

\$10 at the door. Children 12 and under are free.

Continue the holiday fun with the St. Patrick's Day Celebration on Sunday, March 17. The day-long celebration in the Pub includes music, dance and face painting for children.

Performers include:

- ❖ Tim O'Shea and Phillip Crickard
- ❖ Chicago Reel
- ❖ Chancey Brothers
- ❖ O'Hare School of Irish Dance
- ❖ Sheila Tully School of Irish Dance





Mick

Mike Morley



Juvie Movie

A week ago I went with some family members to see the latest Quentin Tarentino mayhem movie, "Django Unchained". This adult carnage cartoon features Jamie Fox as a slave who is such a bright pupil in the arts of mounted gun slinging that not only can he dispatch legions of evil white southerners (and one "uncle Tom") with lightning blood-spattered efficiency, he can strut his horse in displays of precision dressage. Media is a huge business, and any suggestion of curbing graphic violence generates professionally crafted howls against censorship of "art" and First Amendment speech rights. My question following the credits was: "What do you think of the argument linking Hollywood to gun violence".

I was reminded of one day I walked down Brooklyn's Nosstrand Avenue with Georgie G. and he steered me into a shop vestibule saying "Looka this". From his coat pocket came a worn paperback, "The Amboy Dukes". I'd heard about rumors of clashes between city gangs wafted through our neighborhood from time to time like the yeasty odor of Schafer's Brewery down by the harbor. Across the avenue, a step up the side street, a fading green shamrock painted on the brick side of a building bore the bold motto: "Irish Dukes". I often wondered about the guys who painted it; there was no such group in 1947 that we knew of. Had the war taken them? At the end of the building was a doorway and stairs leading down. There was no sign to indicate what was down there, but standing by the entry you could hear "big guy's" chatter and the unmistakable click and rumble of pool balls on felted slate. Kids our age (7 or 8) were strongly uninvited.

I reached for the book: "Lemme see". Instead, George jammed it back in his pocket. "Wait, let's go over here". Around the next corner another doorway revealed a stairway leading up. I hesitated. Saying, "C'mon, nobody's gonna bother us"- George led the way into his secret reading blind. We sat on the landing as he thumbed eagerly to a favorite dog-eared page. Reading with relish in the light from a grimy landing window, he held the book in a tight stranglehold, thumbs pressed down on the pages. I was not to "see" this prize with my hands- he'd stay in charge of the lesson. "Amboy Dukes" was forbidden fruit, possession of which parents rated between a "hot book" (or "Tijuana Bible") and the "Communist Manifesto". I don't recall any of the passages read that day.



That paperback edition actually toned down descriptions of the violent exploits of wayward Brooklyn youth portrayed in the hardcover edition such as: "They pushed onto the bus, and Frank watched Black Kenny and Mike get a nice-looking broad between them and give her a rub. Mike and Kenny hemmed the girl between them, skillfully pocketing her to prevent her escape. In her eyes there was loathing and fear of the two hoodlums, who did not look at her but

nevertheless pressed against her lasciviously, pinioning her against their rigid hot bodies. Mike pushed against the girl's buttocks, thighs, and legs, while Kenny pressed against her stomach and breasts. The girl wanted to scream, to cry out, but she was afraid...." Buttocks, thighs? At the time, 'brassiere', 'prostitute' and even 'pregnant' were frowned on in polite intercourse (another baddie) and verboten in the media. At the time, the Red Scare was just heating up, and Eisenhower's presidency was half a decade in the future.

Next year came the film, "City Across the River". Brooklyn born Irving Shulman, who had written the book, co-wrote the film's screenplay. For us it was a must-see. Most of the movie was a bit disappointing; the shocking scenes described in the 'Amboy Dukes' pulp version were muted even more. The Dukes were portrayed as cliché characters reminiscent of "The East Side Kids". But unlike Muggsy McGinnis and crew, they were not just hoodlums with hearts of gold. In the most memorable scene the Dukes rebel against their teacher and form a conga line, chanting and dancing 'round the classroom. Most shocking was when they tussled with their teacher and shot him dead with a zip gun made in shop class. That was also most interesting- a zip gun. The film didn't show how to make one or how it functioned, but it wasn't long before Eddy, the Cuban kid across the street, got the skinny.

One necessary part was the barrel, which could be fashioned from a car's aerial. And any car on our street was game because, with the sole exception of Mr. Mooney, a taxi driver who kept his cab at home, no one with kids owned a car. I made mine with a long barrel, designing for accuracy over concealment. A few common items and a raid on my dad's shipyard tools completed the weapon. Someone came up with a handful of .22 longs and a group of us arranged to meet on a roof one Saturday morning to put our new creations to the test. Before the ritual, cautionary legends were spoken: a guy in some other neighborhood had lost an eye when the barrel of his piece shattered. Best to take aim, then turn your face away. Safety trumped accuracy. But our targets the big windows of the high school across the street (life unconsciously mirroring art) didn't require dead-eye shots- miss one pane and you'd likely hit the one beside it. I often wondered what went on Monday mornings when holes were discovered in windows; spent slugs found embedded in blackboards.

Incidentally, "The Three Musketeers" came out around the same time, prompting all of us to dash out in a hunt for dowel rods to fashion into swords. Everyone wanted to be d'Artagnan (Gene Kelly) during "sword season".

Before we were forced by "ethnic migration" to opt for the "better" neighborhood (with less "freedom") a few blocks away, I ditched my home-made side-arm, mothballed since "zip-gun season", lest it be uncovered in the move.

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View From Ireland

By Maurice Fitzpatrick



paigned over his role in IRA atrocities and his foot-dragging in giving up information. During one such encounter, when he was confronted by David

Kelly, McGuinness got a taste of what a truth commission would feel like. David Kelly is the son of Private Patrick Kelly, an Irish soldier killed by the IRA. Kelly collared McGuinness in full view of television cameras and said: 'I want justice for my father. I believe you know the names of the killers of my father and I want you to tell me who they are. He was loyal to the Irish Republic and I'm loyal to him as a son, and I'm going to get justice for him. I want the truth today'. McGuinness countered that he was sympathetic but knew nothing.

Where the Truth Lies

The Taoiseach Enda Kenny has asked leader of Sinn Féin, Gerry Adams, to give up the truth about the murder of innocents during the Troubles. Kenny also said that Adams 'should have the decency' to help the Smithwick Tribunal with their investigation into IRA atrocities. This came after Adams' hedged apology to Jerry McCabe's family, just a few years after he refused to condemn the killing and indeed campaigned for the killers' release. Kenny thought this apology ironic and mooted that he would welcome a truth commission. Adams he has often enthused over the establishment of a truth and reconciliation commission in the North. Yet a truth commission is not at all in Adams' interests.

'What is truth? said jesting Pilate, and would not stay for an answer'. Adam's relationship to the truth has been at best fleeting down the years and Kenny was right to characterise Adams' apology as ironic. Any suggestion that a rash of transparency has suddenly come over him is more ironic still. Adams, when canvassing and dealing with the media in yesteryear, was not averse to threatening people who pressed him about his past or who denigrated the bona fides of Sinn Féin. The leadership of Sinn Féin today, by contrast, has adopted the tack of blithe denial of past actions.

Martin McGuinness, when faced in a television debate in 2011 with the charge that he had been the leader of the IRA into the 1980s and 1990s—and a pile of books stacked before him wherein that claim was substantiated—did not waver from his position that he left the IRA in 1974. McGuinness was challenged several times by citizens during his Irish presidential cam-

A truth commission would inevitably stir the hens in the chicken coop up. But will it happen? The peace process is too beloved by its authors, beneficiaries and implementers ever to be seriously jeopardised. The presiding honchos in the negotiation of the Good Friday Agreement, Tony Blair and Bertie Ahern, both had their eyes fixed firmly on their legacies and were anxious to paper over certain cracks; truth about the past being one of the cracks. So while it suits Enda Kenny to taunt Adams about his shadowy past at the hustings and during party political tussles, it is unlikely that he would wish to harm the shaky peace that has been achieved in the North.

The appetite for a methodical examination of the past certainly exists among some of the families of victims. To other victims' families, bumping into convicted killers in the supermarket, knowing that they got early release because of the amnesty, is all the truth they need. There is also a perception in the North that ex-paramilitaries will come forward and spill their guts (recently deceased Dolores Price is an example) and that gradually the deniers will look even more ridiculous than they do already. Maybe that outcome is preferable to the

spurious crusades of over-paid lawyers and the goose-stepping of politicians and their fixers?

The truth continues to bubble to the surface in legal tribunals, newspaper interviews—even scholarly archives of which the current wrangle over the Boston College tapes is an example. BC's archive is a political football: the Police Service of Northern Ireland, who are using their charmed position within the UK, and its Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty with the US, to gain access to protected testimonies of paramilitaries; contesting this rather disastrous move is a confederacy of Irish-American lawyers. I do not know what the PSNI would do with the information if they get it, but it is almost certain that Adams and his colleagues at Sinn Féin would be implicated by the disclosure.

Politics is the art of compromise. Art, on the other hand, brooks no compromise. Unsurprisingly, then, some of the best work on truth-seeking in the North has come from writers and film-makers. Consider Oliver Hirschbiegel's film *Five Minutes of Heaven*, in which Liam Neeson plays a loyalist terrorist who is haunted well into adult life for having assassinated a Catholic. The film pivots on an encounter between Neeson and the murdered man's brother, played by James Nesbitt. The film manages to penetrate under the skin of gentle tones of reconciliation and exposes the repulsion felt by victims toward perpetrators of crime

against innocents. In the film, the callow celebrants at the ritual of the encounter between perpetrator and victim hunger for tears, sorrow and forgiveness, but the viewer knows that Nesbitt is carrying a knife—will he use it? The uncertainty strain of the film holds admirably well throughout. David Park's novel *The Truth* Commissioner is another subtle look at the beneficiaries of the Northern settlement and how they coast along, unaccountable for their past wrongs.

As Hannah Arendt rightly observed, total oblivion is not possible; some trace of victim testimony remains and any attempt by a state to make opposition 'disappear in silent anonymity' will fail. Adams and company can kick the can down the road but they cannot kick it into oblivion. Sooner or later, the truth will out.

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Irish Marching Society Rockford

The Irish Marching Society has been hosting a parade and party celebrating St. Patrick and the Irish culture in the city of Rockford, Illinois for the past 36 years. They are a nonprofit organization that gives back the proceeds to local charities. They March, they party, they give back! www.irishmarchingsociety.com

Saturday, March 16th:

2:00 pm: Line up for the Parade is at the Harris Bank Corporate Office parking lot on 7th Street. 3:00 pm start, 4:30 pm Doors open at Clock Tower Resort.

Celebrate the Irish Spirit with the 36th Annual St. Patrick's Day Party in the Wallingford Ballroom of the Best Western Clock Tower. Enjoy a delicious Irish entrees including Irish Lamb Stew, Corned



Beef and Cabbage, and Chocolate Whiskey Cake. Kids meals will also be available. Plus enjoy entertainment from the City of Rockford Pipe Band, Irish and Scottish Dancers, A Celtic Voice with Mary and Cate Cichock, Gaelic Fury Irish Pub Music and



Rockabilly Band Dirty Fishnet Stockings. A special children's area will be open from 5-7pm with games and crafts. Admission is included with an IMS membership or \$10 at the door. Children under 14 are FREE!

To sponsor, march in parade or for more information contact Parade Coordinator Joseph Goral at josephgoral@gmail.com or call him 815-293-7563.

McDonough and O'Halloran 3-16

Come celebrate St. Patrick's Day with two Irish-American women from Chicago in "Pot of Gold: Irish Stories and Songs from Two of Chicago's Own — Megon McDonough and Susan O'Halloran" on Saturday, March 16 at 7:30 p.m. at the Bodhi Spiritual Center in Chicago.

Singer Megon McDonough (aka Mary Megon Margaret McDonough), was the seventh child of nine born to an Irish-American family from Crystal Lake, Ill. Story artist Susan O'Halloran (aka Susan Eileen Mary O'Halloran) was born to an Irish-American family in Chicago.

Together, Megon and Susan will delight audiences as they weave together stories and songs about the pleasures and pitfalls of being raised Irish American. The concert will include classics such as "Danny Boy" and original and humorous tunes like "The Mary Gig," as well as stories about searching for connection in the "old country" and the unique Irish way of dealing with "enemies."

You don't have to be Irish to enjoy this evening that will celebrate everybody's heritages and look at what is universal for us all: family, sacrifice and, always, joy and laughter in the face of life's challenges!

TICKETS:

Performance at the Bodhi Spiritual Center - 2746 N. Magnolia, Chicago, IL 60614 Phone: 773.248.5683 E-mail: office@bodhispiritualcenter.org

General admission: \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. To purchase tickets, go to: BodhiSpiritualCenter.org

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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



Our nation is deeply indebted to members of our military. They have made America the land of the free. But we must remember that freedom is not “free.” Many of our veterans pay a high price for their brave service to our country, and it is our duty to serve and protect them, as they have served and protected us. We know that an inadequate response to returning soldiers after military conflicts can impact veterans for decades afterwards. At Catholic Charities, we see this first-hand in the thousands of former soldiers who come to us for assistance. Whether it’s a hot meal, a warm place to sleep, counseling and substance abuse treatment, employment and job training, medical care, or a combination of all these services together, Catholic Charities is privileged to serve courageous

veterans who have made extraordinary personal sacrifices for the good of our nation.

Catholic Charities recognizes that serving veterans in the future will require a two-pronged approach: while we must enhance services for aging veterans, we must also design and expand services for the thousands of “new” veterans arriving home from the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Developing a comprehensive and effective response to this group of heroes takes on new urgency as hundreds of thousands of new veterans will make their way back to U.S. soil over the next several years. There are already 76,000 new veterans in Illinois alone, and that number will grow as more return home. This “new” group of veterans has a vastly different set of needs than their older

counterparts. They are younger, have less civilian work experience, and are much more likely to have been exposed to combat and have multiple deployments than previous generations of veterans. There are also more female veterans than ever before.

New veterans are returning home to an economy with few decent paying jobs, a shortage of affordable housing, systems of care that have grown accustomed to serving older and predominately male veterans, and complicated and confusing veteran benefit programs that are often backlogged and overburdened. These systemic problems are exacerbated by soldiers’ physical and psychological wounds that can contribute to substance abuse, post-traumatic stress disorder and other mental health issues.

Considering these challenges, it is remarkable that the majority of veterans return home and make a successful transition to civilian life without additional help. However, far too many end up jobless, homeless, hungry, and living in poverty.

It is for this group of soldiers that we must do better. The Veteran’s Administration, while paramount in veteran services, cannot alone bear the responsibility of struggling military, whose problems are too complex and needs far too great. We must have the partnership of government agencies, veteran’s organizations, educational institutions, employers, philanthropic and community groups, religious organizations, churches and volunteers. Over the past 10 years, Catholic Charities has been a leader in bringing these diverse groups together to create collaborative programs that get veterans the help they need to lead healthy and productive civilian lives.

I would like to personally invite you to join us at Catholic Charities’ Veterans In Need Dinner on April 26, 2013 where you can learn more about the innovative and effective ways

Catholic Charities is serving both aging and new veterans, and recognize how you—as an employer, parishioner, donor, or volunteer—can get involved in this effort. We, as a community and nation, must help veterans find their peace and prosperity, as they so bravely fought for ours. To purchase dinner or raffle tickets to support the Veterans In Need Dinner, please visit www.catholiccharities.net, or call (312) 655-7907.

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A Slice of Ireland

By Cathy Cooney-Millar

Casey's Foods

Growing up behind the meat counter taught Owner Dan Casey all he needed to know about pleasing customers. His father was a butcher by trade and in addition to making sure his sons learned all about the meat business, he also instilled in them a strong work ethic. Since opening his store in 1991 in Naperville, Dan Casey has done just that. As one of the area's last remaining independent grocery retailers, he commits himself and his staff to serving the customer's needs each and every day. Exceptional customer service is what makes Casey's a cut above all other area stores.

Speaking of cuts, only the finest cuts of meats are found in Casey's meat department, and all meat is cut or packaged to order. Additionally, only the freshest fruits and highest quality vegetables make it into the produce department. Within its 22,000 square feet, customers can also shop for groceries, unique gourmet food items, fresh baked goods, and a variety of ready-to-serve items in Casey's deli department.

Dan's parents met at the Irish American Club in Elmhurst after arriving from Ireland. Mike, Dan's father is from County Kerry and his mom, Kelly is from County Galway. His father and Uncle Mike came from Ireland as established meat cutters. Dan remembers as a small child helping out at the family business. Dan and his 5 sisters and 2 brothers grew up in Downers Grove.

Their first location in 1969 was in Villa Park and is still there as Mike's Meat Market. The second location was Casey's Foods in Western Springs and third location is Casey's Foods in Naperville. Dan's brother David owns the locations in Villa Park and Western Springs. The family has been in the meat business for over fifty years. Dan says that there are

three things that make them successful and they are price, service and quality. I can say as a regular customer Casey's Foods have those three goals accomplished! When you shop at Casey's Foods the shopping experience is exceptional. They are the most helpful, friendly employees you will meet!

The fruit and vegetables are brought in daily from the local market and nothing but the extreme, highest quality is sold. They have an array of choices and organic too. If you have a question on a recipe or an ingredient you will notice the most friendliest staff there to assist you. Just ask for Frank! Chef Corrie creates masterful recipes that customers taste around the store and you can purchase in different quantities. Chef Corrie also oversees all catering orders no matter if it's small or large. They will deliver catering orders to your home too!

The deli offers Boars Head lunch meat and has a variety of freshly made recipes including but not limited to a variety of chicken dishes, meatloaf, salads, twice baked potatoes and desserts. Their most popular deli cheeses are Boars Head Yellow American cheese and Boars Head Gold Label Swiss cheese. They bake bread fresh daily and many bakery items are made from scratch.

At Casey's Foods the meat is where it's at! Where do I start? It is not a good meat department it is a great meat department, and I'm just repeating what all the customers say! Be sure to visit their famed sixty foot full service meat counter! Staffed by sixteen meat cutters who are true craftsmen, you will receive a level of customer service unlike you've ever experienced.

Their butchers give you their full attention and are happy to educate you on the different cuts of meat available, cooking instructions, food preparation tips, or any other meat-related question you may have.

With over 180 items to choose from, all the beef is USDA Choice



and aged corn fed. The domestic lamb, veal and pork are also

USDA Choice cut and grass fed beef. In addition, Casey's receives daily deliveries of a full line of the freshest seafood and poultry. Chicken and seafood is all fresh never frozen. All labels have instructions on how to cook and the trained butchers will gladly give you fabulous recipe ideas!

As an added benefit for their valued customers, they also offer a large variety of prepared meat products, such as stuffed chicken breast, mouth-watering marinated meats, and homemade meatloaf, delicious shish-ka-bobs and all made in-house by Casey's meat department staff. With St. Patrick's Day around the corner, and being where to purchase your

corned beef dinner, you now have the destination. Casey's Corned

Beef is slowly cured in house with delicious spices for 90 days. They will make full meals to purchase such as the hearty Irish Stew and the full Corned Beef Dinner with cabbage, potatoes, parsnips and carrots. You can also purchase your Irish breakfast sausages, bacon and black and white pudding. The meat department alone draws regular customers from Indiana and Wisconsin.

Dan says the key to the success of Casey's Foods is his staff. Kevin his store manager has been working there for 21 years and along with many other long term team members, their goal is to please every customer!

Casey's Foods will be a regular destination for you so don't wait to check it out! Take time to say hello to Dan! Casey's Foods 124 W. Gardner Rd. Naperville, IL 60540 Store Hours: Monday through Friday 8am to 8pm Saturday 8am to 7pm Sunday 9am to 6pm (630) 369-1686. freshnews@caseysfoods.com

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Swimming Upstream

By Charles Brady



Metaphorical Blood on the Way.

It's been a pretty bad month here, both on the personal scene and on a general 'state-of-the-country' level. So I hope that you'll allow me to have a wry smile or two at the reaction of some people to the news that Pope Benedict has decided this week (as I write) to call it a day. You know, the fact that he's packed it in and is off to a nunnery and all that. Good choice of destination, I would have thought, for the head of a group who have no time for women. Just get them to wait hand and foot on you for the rest of your days. All they're good for, really. You couldn't have them handling any of the important stuff, that's for sure.

I don't take much interest in

religion of any sort, really. Whether it's the ghastly Muslims, the mad Catholics, Scientologists, Jews; it makes no difference to me. I mean, I must say that I enjoy a really good horror/fantasy novel or film; I do have a weakness for them, always did have. But as far as real life is concerned I never gave much thought to superstition. That's why the reaction of a lot of people I know—I mean, people who go to Mass of a Sunday—has been very instructional, to say the least.

The main thing seems to have been: "Well, what do you think the real story is then?" This is done almost with a wink and a nudge. On answering that I was under the illusion that he was just retiring

because he was in ill health the general come-back has been that you don't just retire when you're Pope. Indeed, a lot took the side of that Polish cardinal who said that you don't get down off the cross. "You take the job, you're there for life. You didn't see Jesus letting himself down off the cross. You didn't see John Paul II running for the hills after his assassination attempt. No, just got on with it, he did."

This was all very fascinating to me, not to mention seeming a bit on the harsh side. Then again, observing Christians down through the years I've never found them all that Christian. It got me thinking, though. If the Church's credibility has sunk so low that even believers are immediately suspicious of Pope Benedict announcing his retirement, then why on earth are they staying in the Club? You hear all this old rubbish about 1.2 billion Catholics couldn't be wrong, but is that the real figure? It's always been my understanding that you

actually have to abide by the rules, daft and medieval as they seem to sinners like me. Didn't the aforementioned John Paul II emphasise that it wasn't a democracy he was running (I had kind of guessed that anyway) so if you're going to acknowledge him as the best pope ever, as so many seem to, then why don't you abide by his rules? In theory at least he is speaking for the Christ.

This would mean that you do not have sex, under any circumstances, outside of marriage. Also, you agree that homosexuality is an abomination in the sight of this supposedly loving God. Mind you, you are allowed to love the 'sinner', hate the 'sin', which is very understanding and progressive. There are dozens of these kind of rules that hardly anyone ever sticks to. It's my understanding, and correct me if I'm wrong, but these people call themselves 'a la carte' Catholics. I didn't think that, strictly speaking, that was allowed. (Last month I also heard the delicious term 'Cappuccino Catholics'. I'd love to see that one catch on.) So if all you are is an 'a la carte' one—which is hard enough anyway—then does that mean that you don't belong in the Club at all? If we were to start strictly enforcing absolutely everything...I mean for example if you were to say that you would have to think about how you would vote on abortion... would that thrown-around figure be closer to a half billion? Less, maybe?

Also, why are you still in the Members' Area if you are immediately suspicious of behind-the-scenes goings on? Do you think that there is a power struggle taking place concerning how badly the whole scandal of pedophile priests has been handled? And let's be honest, it has been handled

absolutely appallingly. Even the most confirmed (no pun intended) of God-botherers would have to admit that. A regular and very entertaining correspondent emailed me yesterday to suggest: "As Pope and a head of state Benedict is immune from civil and criminal prosecution, but once retired that immunity should go away. If I was an abuse victim, on March 1st I'd be in my lawyer's office demanding some justice."

I guess that the key word there is 'should', Mr. Hayes. Although I'm also guessing that like me you're not interested in turning the other cheek I wouldn't hold my breath there.

As to that power struggle idea, by heavens, some of these would-be candidates don't lack in the ambition department, do they? I know that the day of the Borgias is theoretically past but I would say that there's going to be a fierce amount of metaphorical blood on the papal frocks before this little to-do is over. Pity we won't get to hear much of it, what with just being the peasants and all.

The week's news has also gotten the inevitable jokes going the rounds. On the report of Benedict having had a secret heart procedure one wag commented: "What? The head of the Catholic Church has a heart?" Needless to say I was shocked. One that I thought carried a more serious undertone however was: "If he's as sick as all that, why doesn't he go to Lourdes?"

Indeed. I think that I had best refrain from comment on that one. In fact, I'm rather glad that I'm not interested in religion at all. Commenting on this little lot could get a man into a great deal of trouble! You can email abuse to me at www.chasbrady7@eircom.net or see my blog at www.charleybrady.com

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Our Irish Cousins at E U Film Fest

The Comic documentary, "Our Irish Cousins" is to be shown on Wednesday, March 13 at the Annual European Film Festival.

The film was produced by Chicago's own Mike Houlihan. Mike is a columnist for Irish American News and a radio host on the "Skinny and Houli Show" which airs every Saturday at 3pm

on 1450 AM radio.

Tickets are \$11, and you are invited to a reception prior to the screening from 6:30pm. to 8pm.

Discounted parking is available at the Inter Park Self Park at 20 E Randolph St. Get a parking rebate ticket at the Box Office, 312-846-2800 and 312-846-2600 or www.siskelfilmcenter.org.



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Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with Two Parties this March

Parties are Among Chicago's Largest!



Join us as we host some of Chicago's largest St. Patrick's Day celebrations this March at the IAHC. This year, we expect more than 10,000 attendees to visit us in March.

What makes our celebrations different than the many that Chicago holds is that the live music, dance, food and activities all take place under one roof.

On Saturday, March 16, the Center holds its St. Patrick's Festival following the downtown Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade. This large-scale, family-oriented annual event includes traditional and contemporary Irish music, dance, food, children's activities and an Arts and Craft Fair, with vendors selling Irish gifts. Our vendors, including Nimble Thimbles, Because I Like It, Galway Bakers, Rampant Lion, Kats by Kelly, Images Of Ireland and Flynn Designs will be on hand with their wares, books, CD's, artwork, jewelry, family crests and more from 1pm to 6:30pm in Room 111.

The festivities begin at 1pm and end at midnight with live entertainment by Chicago Irish music groups as well as performers on tour from Ireland. Our Kids Room in the Erin Room is open with games and activities from 1pm to 6pm.

In an effort to go green, this year we will use re-useable mugs for the St. Patrick's Festival. This will save us from using more than 10,000 cups we would usually throw into landfills and will provide a nice souvenir for our many guests. Your entry wristband and \$2 buys you a mug at the front gate and can be used all day. Note: If you lose a mug, you can buy another one for \$2. There will be no plastic used unless we run out of mugs.

V.I.P. parking will be available this year in

the south lot for \$5. Spaces are limited and will be on a first come-first served basis. We will also continue to run free shuttle buses to our remote parking lot and Wilson and Lamon, beginning at 2pm until midnight.

The schedule is as follows:

Fifth Province

- 1pm Tim O'Shea and Phillip Crickard
- 3pm Shannon Rovers
- 3:30pm Dooley Brothers
- 6pm Sullivan Brothers
- 9pm Mulligan Stew



Auditorium

- 1pm Irish Heritage Singers
- 2pm Identity Irish Dancers
- 3pm Rebecca McCarthy School of Irish Dance
- 4pm O'Hare School of Irish Dance
- 5pm Trinity Academy of Irish Dance
- 6pm Mullane Healy Godley School of Irish Dance
- 7pm Mulhern School of Irish Dance

Erin Room

- 2-2:45pm Wiggleworms
- 3:15-4pm Wiggleworms
- 5pm Larry Nugent and Bill O'Donoghue
- 7:30pm In Spite of Ourselves
- 9:30pm Ceili Mor



Room 310

- 2-2:30pm Academy of Irish Music
- 4pm Patrick & Karen Cannady & friends



Tickets are \$15 for adults, or \$12 for advance purchase if bought by the end of the day on March 14. Children 12 and under are free.

Come back for more fun with the St. Patrick's Day Celebration on Sunday, March 17. The day-long celebration in the Pub includes music, dance and face painting for children. The party is from noon to midnight and tickets are \$10 at the door. Children 12 and under are free. There will be a mass at 11:30am.

The schedule is as follows:

- 1pm Tim O'Shea and Phillip Crickard
- 3:15pm O'Hare School of Irish Dance
- 4pm Chancey Brothers
- 6:15pm Sheila Tully School of Irish Dance
- 7pm Chicago Reel



Tickets can be purchased for 3/16 by visiting www.irish-american.org or calling the IAHC at 773-282-7035. Tickets for 3/17 can be purchased at the door only.

V.I.P. parking will be available this year in the south lot for \$5. Spaces close to the building are limited and will be on a first come-first served basis. We will also continue to run free shuttle buses to our remote parking lot and Wilson and Lamon, beginning at 2pm until midnight. North lot parking will be free to members and those who have special needs.



Chicago Reel

Three Parades!



Join us as we participate in 3 parades this March.

Sunday-March 10: The Southside Parade-The IAHC float is staged along Western Avenue near 103rd street. Adults and children are invited to join us and should be at the staging area by 11:30am. The parade kicks off at Noon. There is limited seating on the float. Marchers, strollers and wagons are welcome to march with us on what is usually a beautiful day and a great crowd.

Saturday, March 16: Downtown Chicago Parade-This float is already full and no more spots are open. The downtown parade steps off at noon and our float will be staged near Balbo on Columbus Drive. Marchers should gather no later than 11:30 am on Columbus Drive near Balbo.

Sunday, March 17: The Northwest Side Irish Parade. Join us for this shorter family-friendly parade. There is limited seating available on this float. Marchers, strollers, wagons are welcome. Look for us at Onahan School at 6634 West Raven Street on the west side of the school by 11:30 am.

If you and your children plan to join one of more of the parades, email IAHCparades@aol.com with your family name, which parade, and how many people are joining us.



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President's Message

As we march into one of our busiest months of the year, I thought I would share with you some of the exciting events held in February at the Center.

- The Center is in need of a complete roof replacement. This grand building that shelters us needs some help and we are determined to provide that help. The "Raise the Roof" Fundraiser was held February 17. A big thank you to all who donated their time to make the event a big success and a big thank you to all who attended. We are well on our way to achieving our goal but we are not there quite yet. Any help you can offer would be appreciated.
- Our Membership Committee was, and is, busy opening envelopes with membership renewals. We are a membership-driven organization. If you are a member, thank you and if you are not, please join us. We need you.
- We held another in our series of Town Hall Meetings. We shared the Center's financials with all and talked about where we were, where we are, and where we are going, as it relates to our building, financial foundation, cultural program efforts, volunteer efforts, risk management efforts and our membership efforts.

- Our ever popular Friday Fish Frys has returned and will continue through Lent.
- We held our Annual Volunteer Dinner and filled the Erin Room with hundreds of volunteers. This is a great event for great people. The volunteers are absolutely critical to the functioning and continued success of the Center. Thank you for coming and thank you for all you do. For those who were unable to make it, we offer you a heartfelt thanks as well. A special thank you to Harrington's who catered the event and helped make it a success.
- The Library and Museum continued to attract many visitors.

- Our staff did a great job of making numerous rentals and pub nights big successes.



- We held a great Super Bowl Party and watched the game on our 3 new 60" HD TV's in the Fifth Province and enjoyed the fine Harrington's food.
- Thanks to the Membership Committee and Volunteer Committee, we welcomed a number of new volunteers to the Center.
- The Ardal O'Hanlon comedy show was a success, bringing out a huge number of *Father Ted* fans.
- The Annual Rummage Sale brought out great crowds and some very interesting items for sale.
- The Art Gallery featured an outstanding murals exhibit with art by our iBAM! 2012 muralists.
- The Tea series continued and was enjoyed by a good crowd.

We have a big March planned at the Center...

- Our Wearing of the Green dinner on March 3 will once again be sold out.
- Our St. Patrick's Day weekend celebration is ready to go and we are confident it will be bigger and better than ever. Join us after the parade on Saturday, March 16 and again on Sunday for mass, food, music and fun.
- New Gift Shop merchandise is arriving in time for the season.
- We kick off Phase Three of the Walk of Names brick walkway project. Phase One and Two have been installed and the entrance area looks great. Add your brick to the front. Phase Three bricks are now on sale in the office or online.
- Irish Fest July 2013 is in the planning stages. Look for new and exciting things at this year's fest. Please join the committee and help make 2013 Fest a big success.

I am sure I have missed some items and for that I apologize but, as you can see, the Center continues to thrive and buzz with crowds attracted to see and hear all the good things at the center. Stay abreast of all that is happening on our website at www.irish-american.org.

John Crowley Gorski
President, IAHC

Saturday Morning Tea



Saturday morning teas continue at the Center and the March tea will be filled with music and song.

Relax with an eclectic afternoon tea, with sandwiches and scones, while you enjoy a performance by It's So All About You Entertainment. This trio performed during the Christmas Tea in the Pub in December

2012. The group will entertain with do-wop, sixties classics and jazzy renditions of your favorite songs.

The March Saturday Morning Tea is Saturday, March 30 from 11am to 1pm and the cost is \$25. Reservations must be made by March 25. To purchase tickets, call 773-282-7035, ext. 10.

Celebrate Revolutionary Women

Celtic Women International and the IAHC Cultural Committee present the Annual Revolutionary Irish Women Series this March.

Lady Gregory and the Imagination of the Republic is a multimedia program that features lectures, poetry and music.

Lady Augusta Gregory, known for her role in the Celtic Revival, was also a major force in the nationalist movement. She traveled the Irish countryside, collecting ballads, stories and myths to build a large body of

the Celtic past. She also used her love of folklore to write plays of her own. Her work incorporated Irish mythology into the country's struggle under British control. Lady Gregory founded the Irish Literary Theatre and the Abbey Theater with William Butler



Yeats.

Lady Gregory and the Imagination of the Republic is Saturday, March 23 from 2pm to 4pm. Tickets are \$10 at the door.

For more information, e-mail Maureen Smith at editor@celtic-women.org.



Annual Palm Sunday Mass and Irish Breakfast

Join The Irish American Heritage Center for its Annual Palm Sunday Mass and Irish Breakfast, Sunday, March 24, 2013.

Join us for Mass at 10:30 a.m. with music by the Irish Heritage Singers, followed by breakfast in the Fifth Province.

Tickets are Adults . . . \$8.00
Children . . . \$4.00

Reservations must be made by March 20. The form below can be used to mail in checks. For more information, call 773-282-7035.

Annual Palm Sunday Mass and Irish Breakfast March 24, 2013

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____ Number of Tickets: _____
Adults: _____ Children: _____





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National University of Ireland Maynooth Choir Concert



The Chamber Choir of the National University of Ireland Maynooth will wrap up its first ever US tour at the Center. This choir of twenty four singers, under the musical direction of conductor Michael

Dawson, will perform an imaginative and exciting program of Irish, European and American choral music. It also includes works with traditional fiddle, the Uilleann pipes, along with Séan Nós singing.

The repertoire includes pieces in the Irish language and pieces by Hanlon, Mc Glynn, Gorecki, Dove, Fintan O'Carroll, Stroope and Stanford.

The Chamber Choir of the National University of Ireland Maynooth was founded in 1986. The choir has gained recognition as one of the leading university choirs in Ireland and the tour to the United States this year is to further enrich the students' learning and cultural opportunities.

The concert is Saturday, March 23 at 7:30pm. Tickets are \$10 for IAHC members and \$15 for general admission and are available at the door or by calling the Center office at 773-282-7035, ext. 10.

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Save the Date for the 28th Irish American Heritage Festival



July 12, 13 and 14, 2013

Featuring 3 days of music, dance and family fun.

Tickets go on sale on April 1. For more information, visit www.irish-american.org or call 773-282-7035, ext. 10.

Annual Appeal

The IAHC Annual Appeal has wrapped up for the year. Below are names who donated from January 17 through February 12, 2013. This year, the Appeal campaign made \$47,174.

Contributions have been enhanced once again by the matching program offered by Pat and Peggy Burke. We thank Pat and Peggy for their continued generosity. You can give to the Appeal any time during the year and we thank you for your support.

To donate, call 773-282-7035.
Center Champion (\$1000-\$2499)
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Arthur Johns
Susan and John McGrath
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Bridget Viglione

Friend (\$1-\$99)

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Mary Nee
Dorothy Nelson and William Cowhey
Robert O'Leary

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25-year membership
without annual dues
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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 • 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.

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March 2013

| | | | |
|----------|---|----------------|----------------|
| March 1 | Francis O'Neill Club Ceili Mor | Fifth Province | 8pm |
| March 2 | Steafán Harvey Concert | Art Gallery | 7:30pm |
| | Piobairí | Fifth Province | 5pm |
| | Shamrock American Club Social | Sham AmRoom | 8pm |
| March 3 | Wearing of the Green Dance | Erin Room | 5pm |
| March 6 | Tir Na Nog | Kichen | 11am |
| March 9 | St. Patrick's Fathers Social | Fifth Province | 8pm |
| March 14 | CIIS Tara Club Meeting | Room 304 | 10am |
| March 16 | St. Patrick's Festival | Whole Bldg | 1pm |
| March 17 | St. Patrick's Day Celebration | Fifth Province | Noon |
| March 22 | Quiz Night | Room 109 | 8pm |
| March 23 | Revolutionary Irish Women Series: <i>Lady Gregory and the Imagination of the Republic</i> | Sham AmRoom | 2pm |
| | Maynooth Choir | Auditorium | 7:30pm |
| March 24 | Palm Sunday Mass | Auditorium | 10:30am |
| | Palm Sunday Breakfast | Fifth Province | following Mass |
| March 28 | CIIS Tara Club Meeting | Room 304 | 10am |
| March 30 | Tea with Emily Dickinson | Fifth Province | 11am |
| March 31 | Clan Na Gael Mass | Erin Room | 8:30am |

Regularly Scheduled Events

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Tues | Set Dancing | Room 111 | 7:30-9:30pm |
| Tues | Nimble Thimbles | Room 208 | 9am-Noon |
| Tues., Thurs., Fri., & Sat. | Golden Diners Senior Lunches | Kitchen | 12:30pm-2pm |
| Wed | Nimble Thimbles | Room 208 | 7-10am |
| Thurs | Irish Heritage Singers Rehearsals | Room 304 | 7:30pm |
| Thurs thru 3/14 | Memoir Class | Library | 7pm |
| Fri | Lenten Fish Fry | Fifth Province | 6pm |
| Fri | Francis O'Neill Club Ceili | Room 111 | 8pm |

Friday Night Lenten Fish Fry



The Center continues its Lenten Fish Fry this March. The Fish Fry runs through Friday, March 29, from 6:30pm-9pm in the Fifth Province.

The cost is \$11 for adult IAHC members and \$7 for children who are members.

For non members, the cost is and \$12 for adults and \$8 for children. Patrons pay at the door.

Live music begins at 9pm. The dinner consists of fried cod, fries and a vegetable.



March McMadness

Join us for March McMadness in the Pub for all your NCAA Final Four action.

The Pub will show most games after 11am on the following dates:

- March 19-20
- March 21-24
- March 28-31
- April 6 and April 8

Come by for \$2 domestic drafts and a limited bar menu. Check the website in mid-March for the final schedule. www.irish-american.org

No Cover

Free Parking



the fifth province

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

MARCH ENTERTAINMENT

- 3/1 Ceili Mor
- 3/2 Baal Tinne
- 3/8 Finbarr Fagan's Band
- 3/9 Johnny Gleeson and Ted Healy
- 3/15 Rico Quinn
- 3/16 St. Patrick's Festival 1pm to Midnight
- 3/22 Celtic Aires
- 3/23 Tripe and Drisheen
- 3/29 Gerry Haughey
- 3/30 Seamus O'Kane

All Shows Start After 9pm

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



Don't Miss...

March Drink Special

\$4 Batch 19 Drafts

March Food Special

\$6 Burger

Valid for the month of March 2013 only, except 3/16 or 3/17. Original coupon only.

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For updates on upcoming events and ticket giveaways

The Heritage Line Staff Kathleen O'Neill, Editor

Contributors: Shelby Baron, Theresa Choske, Frank Crowley, John Gorski, Frank Gleeson, Mary Griffin, Deirdre McNulty, Mary Morris, Sheila Murphy



pH Factor

By Pat Hickey



Peter Doyle and the Rosary – They're Back at Leo High School

My Dad once told me, "Everything comes back but spats." The old man knew what he was stalking about whether it was buying tools, jazz records, or clothing – buy to last and skip the trendy. His advice served me well, I love real jazz and eschew the Kenny G varietal elevator music, wear essentially the same public statement with my cloths and hair style (unaltered since 1966- urban prep/greaser) and I demand that the skilled craftsmen that I hire to improve or repair my home use only the best tools.

There are reasons why some things never change; they are classic, and why though out of sight and mind for whatever reason are always welcomed back. You can not say that of the Mullet-hair statement, the Nehru Jacket, or the Leisure suit.

That same can and should be said about wonderful persons and practices.

Pete Doyle is back at Leo. The former Irish Christian Brother who began his long teaching career at Leo High School in 1967, returned three years ago. Mr. Doyle is remembered as Bro Doyle by hundreds of Alumni who pay homage to the man who exemplifies the Spirit of the Lion.

Back in the day, Leo Pep Rallies were often punctuated by bleachers and balcony seats of Leo Men chanting "Handsome, Willie! Handsome Willie!!!!" Handsome was the appellation of student affection for a teacher or coach. The Irish Christian Brothers referred to one another not by their given names, but by their Christening names; thus, Brother Peter William Doyle CCF was called Willie – Handsome Willie.

Pete "Handsome Willie" Doyle teaches religion and coaches track and serves as this school's campus minister. Leo High School is and shall always remain

Catholic. No one exemplifies Leo's Catholic culture better than Handsome Willie Doyle. Students learn exactly why Leo's Catholic identity is the key to their success. There is much that goes into the tale and worship is a huge part of the glory that is Leo Alumni support and the continuation of the eighty seven year mission on 79th Street.

Pete Doyle and a group of teachers and students instituted the Leo Men Pray program that



takes place immediately after school and before athletic practices. Out this program and Mr. Doyle's religion classes emerged interest in a uniquely Catholic form of prayer. African American evangelical and a few Muslim students indicated great interest in a very particular devotion to Our Lady.

The Rosary is back at Leo High School – the school named for the Rosary Pope –Leo XIII. The Rosary focused and dedicated to Our Lady, became one of great Catholic devotions.

Remember devotions? You know 'external, public practices of piety?' Piety? That's a toughie these days. Piety is equated to hypocrisy, or at the very least rather pinched in the sphincter. Piety is merely means 'respect' drawn from a very complex sense of Roman virtue. The Romans and subsequently the Catholic Church took virtue to mean the steps to good living – a gradus. At the most basic was pietas

–recognition and reverence for ancestors. Piety came to mean doing a public act that reflected one's faith and core beliefs. As Catholics dissolved into mere Americans, breast beating, signs of the cross, counting of beads, genuflection and finally living up to the faith became silly things performed by the unevolved. I took three Leo students out for lunch and said grace with the sign of the cross sandwiching the prayer and you should have seen the looks I got from tables of hep and hip.

I have had a rosary in pocket, as well as my keys, some folding money, a toothpick a hankie and those great tasting Listerine pads for years. I pray through the day with the beads tucked away. No need to publicly pronounce my pities unless invited or commanded to do so. The Rosary is a great help to me and it keeps me aware of my vanities and impulses. Don't hurt none.

I asked Mr. Doyle about the interest our young men, mostly non-Catholic, have shown in this most Catholic of devotions. I began by asking, "You have been a long-time influence on generations of Leo Men (1967-Present). How do you see the young men of today?"

"You know, Pat, they are much the same: some take to studies, some to sports and all need to be loved and encouraged Like the young guys when I first came here to teach, they show a great interest in spiritual things. There seems to be a greater hunger for more sacred rituals and devotions along with their hunger for God and grasping some sense in this life."

Pete Doyle was born in Los Angeles, CA and returned to teach there in the 1980's after leaving the Irish Christian Brothers. Aside from that brief teaching hiatus and short stint with St. Gregory High School on the north side, Peter Doyle has stayed close to Leo.

Leo's Mr. Chips explained the development of interest in the Rosary as a devotion, "Today's Leo student has a much more spontaneous response to prayer. They are at ease with a personal

relation to Jesus. As teens they love to do things in groups which seems to lend itself to a more formalized devotion and the rosary fills that need. Since we began the Leo Men Pray program traditional prayers have had a powerful effect from group prayer. The public nature of bearing witness to Christ through His Mother seems to have hit a chord with the guys. It is active prayer."

The tangible benefits of holding onto the rosary during the Rosary itself seems to have added to the current interest by students,

most of whom are non-Catholic. Doyle went on, "Holding onto a sacred object while publicly or privately praying, meditating and fingering the beads appeal to the young men. They like medals, medallions, charms and the like. The Church has always used the material to our own ascent to the spiritual."

Pete Doyle is back and now the Rosary is Back. Get this. Pete Doyle wants to have a May Crowning here on 79th in the Leo courtyard at the Statue of Our Lady.




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CCX by Jim Lynch: Rivendell Theatre

By Terence Boyle

Corruption in the Chicago Police force is not exactly news. Reports of bent cops indulging in drug scandals, prostitute visitations etc. are equally met with claims of brutality and racial profiling. The cynicism that surrounds the city's law enforcement is bravely faced in Lynch's new play CCX. He does not back down from these accusations of bad behavior, but acknowledges them as only part of the larger picture.

A lawyer himself, Lynch captures the limitations of the legal system to enforce true justice. Caught between the constitutional rights of the individual and the

need to prosecute, officer Hennigan and Rollins run the gamut of intriguing forays into vigilantism. Pairing two Black characters with two white characters, the playwright demonstrates a common flawed humanity.

The criminal suspects, Rita and Lacroix equally match their uniformed counterparts, and as such they manipulate, exploit with equal vigor. Having staged such gritty realism, does it work to entertain or enlighten?

What I enjoyed most about the play was the stripping back of the layers of human duplicity as way of exploring motivation and causation. Rollins, played by Henri

Watkins, best illustrated these contradictions of human nature, whereas Rita seemed to push the



boundaries of probability a little too far. Her eloquent language and obvious involvement in criminal activity is a demanding role, which did not reach the heights or depths it could have. Watkins took to the role with passion, and delivered a fine performance.

Overall, CCX is an insider's look at a side of life we never see. The twists and turns, and layering of the characters save them from becoming clichéd. Lynch presents us with a bleak, yet realistic view of life. The small set, within a small theatre, provides an intimacy with the actors that is at times jarring. We are never spared the claustrophobic of being forced, as Rita is, to live with the truth. Rivendell Theater, 5779 N. Ridge Avenue in Chicago. Tickets are \$15-25. Tickets and information about previews and exact showtimes and dates can be found through the website at www.ccxplay.com.

Switchback at Mayne Stage 3-15

Colleen Quirk Step Dancers to join Switchback at A Reel Chicago Saint Patrick's Day Celebration

The Colleen Quirk Step Dancers will be joining Irish Music Association award winner Switchback to perform some of their outstanding traditional Irish step dancing at the Mayne Stage in Chicago on Friday, March 15. The evening features an Irish buffet, two traditional sets of music, and then a dance party. It's like New Year's Eve and St. Patrick's Day rolled into one! Doors

open at 7 PM, music starts at 8 PM. The Mayne Stage is located at 1328 W. Morse Avenue in Rogers Park, Chicago. Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased online at MayneStage.com or at the door.



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It Starts With A Song

By Joe McShane and Margo O'Donnell



Hello everybody,
 Hope all of you have settled into the new year. Things with me have been pretty busy. On January 28th, I was presented with a special "Lifetime Achievement Award" on the world stage. The annual Sunday World Award's were held in Mullingar, Co. Westmeath. A gala of entertainers took to the stage for what was a memorable night for one and all. After I received my "Lifetime Achievement Award", I did a special tribute to the late Larry Cunningham who passed away last year. I sang Larry's big hit, "Lovely Leitrim" and then his wife Beatrice came on stage and presented me with a perpetual "Larry Cunningham Award." It was a very moving time for Beatrice and myself. I am so proud of those special awards.

I start doing my charity concerts this week. The first three are in Co. Donegal and I get such a great thrill doing this for such worthy causes.

Here's a wee joke -
 "Big Shot"

The Pope arrived at JFK. He is met by a limo driver in a bad suit, holding a sign that says, "Pope." After getting all the Pope's luggage loaded in the limo, the driver notices that the Pope is still standing on the curb. "Hey Mr. Pope" says the driver in an accent. "Why have you not seated yourself in the limo?"

"Well to tell you the truth", says the Pope, "They never let me drive at the Vatican and I'd really like to drive."

"That is very much against the rules!" protested the driver, wishing he'd never left Calcutta. "There might be something extra in it for you" said the Pope. Reluctantly the driver got in the back seat as the Pope got in behind the wheel. The driver quickly regretted his decision when the Pope accelerated the limo to 105 mph. "Please be driving not so rapidly Mr. Pope"

pleaded the worried driver, but the Pope kept the pedal to the metal. Then they heard a siren. "Oh! My Gods, now I am surely losing my license" moaned the driver. The Pope pulled over and rolled down his window as the patrolman approached. The cop took one look at him went back to his motorcycle and got on the radio. "I need to talk to the Chief" he said to the dispatch. When the Chief got on the radio the cop told him that he'd stopped a limo going 105 mph. "So bust him" said the Chief.

"I think the guy's a big shot" said the cop. "All the more reason to book him." the chief replied.

"No I mean really a big shot" said the cop. "What'd ya got there, the Mayor ?, the Governor? Someone bigger?" said the Chief, "Who is it?"

"I don't know but he's got the Pope driving him around."

Well St. Patrick's Day is upon us and I would like to wish all of you a very happy one.

Until the next time take care and be kind to each other.

Love always,
 Margo

Over to you Joe.
 Thank you Margo,
 Happy St. Patrick's Day to all from Chicago. Also a very happy Irish Mothers Day to everyone, which will be on March 10th this year. And I can't forget my own patron Saint Joseph on March 19th. I'd better not leave out Easter. So a lot of celebration's happening. At this point I would like to wish my wonderful wife Margaret a very happy birthday which was in February. We did celebrate it on the right date just for the record. "Am I off the hook now?" "Oh! I see a smile" Phew!

Well I've been doing my voice exercises getting ready for the March Musical Marathon as I call it. I really love this time of year, even though it is a LOT of singing. It's exactly what I love to do. So no complaints here and I'm ready for the celebration.

Our song this month is dedicated to all the Moms that are in heaven and also to let the ones here know that they are very loved. I have just recorded this song and I really love singing it. Even though a lot of people like me have lost their Mothers, I feel before they went away they left us with the most precious gift - unconditional love.

Till next time be good to each other.

Wear your green with pride!

"In Gods Care"

Written by Joe McShane and Margo O'Donnell

Verse 1

As I stood that day upon the shore beneath the misty sky
 Pure silence on our doorstep and a tear in every eye
 I believe the birds stop singing for a moment on that day
 A reflective pause was all around when mother passed away

Verse 2

Her worldly life now over and her new life just begun
 An empty space within our home now this sad day has come
 Left here with these memories so blessed to receive
 Mom's watching over us tonight I truly do believe

Chorus

Mom I know you're with the angels singing softly up above
 You're happy there with Dad I know rekindling your sweet love
 I know you will watch over us with a love that's true and rare
 Forever Mom be happy and live softly in Gods care

Verse 3

The time you spent right here on earth was filled with deeds of kindness

Showing us how best to live not one day passed with blindness
 Our path in life we owe to you, you helped us every way
 Now God has brought you to his home where we'll meet someday



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Real Ireland

By Rachel Gaffney



Celeriac, The Ugly Duckling Of Vegetables

Before we bid farewell to March, let's take a moment to honor a vegetable that gets overlooked and neglected. This ugly duckling often sits alone on the grocery store as people walk by, not knowing what to do with it. Others ignore it blatantly because of its rough and ugly exterior. Known to some as celeriac and to others as celery root, Celeriac has many cousins, parsnips, carrots, fennel and celery. All belong to the 'Apiaceae family'. This ugly duckling promises to become a beautiful swan, once you take it home and give it a chance.

They prefer a temperate climate and so are plentiful in most northern European countries. As soon as you begin to cook this vegetable you may detect a slight

anise aroma, I did when I made my soup.

It is best to peel this with a sharp paring knife rather than a peeler. I have used this vegetable in several ways. Most recently I made a celeriac gratin with 'Cashel Blue Cheese'. It can be added to any stew or soup or even sautéed in olive oil and sea salt to make delicious celeriac fries.

Add celeriac, bay leaf and stock. Season with salt and pepper.



Bring this to a boil. I like to keep the cream handy in case I want to add some for more flavor or if I need a different consistency.

Simmer for 20 minutes. Remove the bay leaf. Using a hand blender, puree the soup until smooth. Garnish with a little swirl of cream, some chopped crispy bacon and chives.

CELERIAC SOUP

- 1 tablespoon unsalted butter
- 2 small onions, chopped
- 1 head celeriac, peeled & chopped
- 2 slices of bacon, chopped
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 quart vegetable stock
- 1/2 cup cream
- salt & pepper

GARNISH: cream, chopped chives and bacon SERVES: 4
Melt the butter in a heavy bottomed saucepan. Sauté the onions and bacon approx 3 minutes.

King Family Thank You!

A crowd of family, friends and strangers packed the Thatch during a Bears game last December and raised more than \$34,000 toward research for a rare disease that causes blindness and has struck both sons of Chicagoans Joe and Maureen King. The northwest side couple, natives of Ireland, say they're ever grateful for the generosity and kindness of all who showed up on the rainy Sunday afternoon in support of their family and the search for a cure.

"I was very happy with the results," said Maureen King. "I was stunned actually. It's still very overwhelming."

Sons Kieran, 14, and Declan, 9, each have Choroideremia, a disease that causes blindness and currently has no cure or single rate of progression. The family donated the funds to the Choroideremia Research Foundation (CRF), an international organization that is currently funding four clinical trials to find a cure.

"On behalf of the CRF, I can't thank the King family and their friends enough for this incredible achievement," said Cory MacDonald, operations manager of CRF. "As a rare disease, we are very small and do not attract large corporate gifts or investments from companies towards a cure. It is up to those of us in this small 'CHM Family' to raise the funds ourselves, and this family scored a touchdown on behalf of all of us!"

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Keeping the Faith

Continued from page 21

our donors quarterly. It's a very good way to learn of our work and our mission.

IAN: So you got involved just as the recession hit.

Father Wall: I did. But, we've actually doubled our support in five years. I believe that every Catholic in the United States should be a part of our mission.

We represent the future of the Catholic Church in the

United States, and we are touching the poorest

communities. As Catholics, we always

are at our best when we are reaching out to

the poor. Through Catholic Extension, we as

Catholics can touch the lives of the poor in

very transforming ways. Every Irish Catholic

carries the stories of their ancestors who came

here in poverty. We are who we are today be-

cause when our ancestors arrived, there was

a Catholic Church that said, "We know your

circumstances. But, you're not a victim, and

you're not a problem, no matter how often you

are told that 'No Irish need apply.' Your life is

sacred, your life is of worth, and your children

can make a huge difference in the world." Let

me explain what Catholic Extension means

to a poor community. Today, we are one of

the good news stories about being Catholic.

Whenever you go into the poorest commu-

nities in the United States, you will find the

presence of the Catholic Church. It's amazing.

This is so edifying! People who have nothing

else but their faith, and with that faith they are

encouraging each other, strengthening each

other, and building each other up. They don't

see themselves as victims. They're not going to

be a problem. They're facing tremendous odds,

but their Catholic faith is first in their life and

their faith is fundamental to a transformation of their

lives and their community. I'm so excited for people to

understand the role of the Church in these communities.

It reminds me a little about Old St. Pat's. When I went

there, people said, "You're out of your mind." It was the

backwater of the city. But I was convinced then and now

that faith is a transformative reality expressed in the lives

of people who are living in God's spirit and doing God's

work. Just bring good people together in faith and watch

what happens. Catholic Extension also reaches out and

goes to seemingly God-forsaken places in our country,

helping good people come together in faith. Our Church

grounds these communities in a very positive way – it's

an honor to witness all that they achieve.

IAN: Everybody's heard of Catholic Charities. How

do you plan to bring Catholic Extension to that level of

awareness?

Father Wall: Catholic Charities exists only because

there is a Catholic Church. We don't have Catholic Relief

unless you first have a Catholic Church. Catholic Extension

builds up the Catholic Church all across the United

States, and we strengthen Catholic faith communities in

the poorest places. These are your poor fellow Catholics

who are economically disadvantaged, but rich in faith.

Our challenge is to tell their compelling story to you in

as many creative ways as we can so that you will join

us on this mission. We are helping to build up these transformative Catholic faith communities throughout our country. We are building faith in many ways. One is that we have helped build more than 12,000 Catholic churches in the United States. "If you build it, they will come." There are some states in the U.S. in which every church has been built with the support of Catholic Extension.

IAN: So take me through the process of how I build a church in my town.



Bob McNamara, Julie Turley, Fr. Jack Wall, Angela D'Antonio, Joe Boland in the offices of Catholic Extensions

Father Wall: One beautiful example is Hamburg, a little town in Arkansas. A group of religious sisters went into this community determined to bring people closer to their faith and to the Church. They went door to door introducing themselves. They ultimately rustled up 500 Catholic families, primarily Hispanic, who were not currently connected to the Church. There was a little church building in the woods that Catholic Extension had built 100 years ago, so with the sisters' encouragement, the families started going there. Now, it's bursting at the seams. They have 100 children in their Religious Ed program, and now they need a bigger space. They found an old tire store on the corner not too far from their old church. We're going to help them buy that property and restore it.

The fascinating thing is that the Church is growing in all of these communities. And what we find is that once we begin outreach to a community like Hamburg, the people start taking ownership of it themselves. Building facilities, subsidizing the salaries of women religious and priests until a community can support itself, and training future leaders – these are all ways in which we "build" the Church. We listen very deeply and strategically to the aspirations and hopes of the people in these communities. Then, we try to respond as best as we can to bring resources to help them fulfill their dreams and hopes.

IAN: Do some of the churches turn things around and then help Catholic Extension?

Father Wall: They do. We were very touched by one of the dioceses where the bishop at the dedication of a new church said, "Now that they've helped you, you help another faith community." So, they took up a collection that day, and do it yearly. They themed it "Extension Sunday!"

IAN: Did you have mentors?

Father Wall: Yes, I did. One of my first mentors was Monsignor Dan Cantwell. He was deeply spiritual, brilliant and very courageous in his commitment to social justice. He really had a great sense of the Church as a lay movement, in which we are all being called through our baptism to do God's work in the world through each of our vocations.

I am reminded of him when I see thousands of our donors who become involved in the work of the great lay movement of Catholic Extension.

Another mentor is Father Leo Mahon, who is the former pastor of St. Mary of the Woods in Chicago's Edgebrook neighborhood and who is near the end of his life. At a critical moment of

my own life, he challenged me that the pattern of Christ's life – and therefore our own – is not the

Victorian era's "every day in every way things get better and better." Rather, it's the Paschal

Mystery: from death to resurrection. God is always bringing new life out of death-dealing

situations. God's people must give witness to this new life for the hope of the world. That re-

minds me of one of my favorite stories from the Gospels, the dialogue where Phillip spots Jesus,

and he goes to his friend Nathaniel and says, "I found the Messiah." Nathaniel turns to him and

says, "Oh yeah, where's he from?" Phillip says, "From Nazareth," and Nathaniel says, "What

good could ever come out of Nazareth?" Well, that's the question that I asked myself when I

first visited some of the seemingly insignificant places that Catholic Extension serves. But, going there, I was

honestly blown away by the power of our Catholic faith to transform these communities. You see a future, and it's

a future full of hope for our faith, for our Church and for our country. One of the things that Father McNamee was

trying to say to immigrants a century ago as they arrived in Chicago and entered Old St. Pat's and encountered

its beauty for the first time was, "This is who you are." He gave his poor parishioners a whole different vision

of what it meant to be Irish. This is your glory, this is where you are from, this is who you are. It's the same

with Catholic Extension. The Irish community ought to know the impact it has had on American culture in places

far away from New York or Chicago. The Irish faithful have had a huge impact on the seemingly God-forsaken

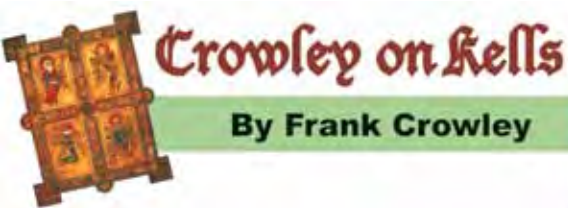
places around the country. Through Catholic Extension, represented by Irish missionaries, the spiritual lives of

many, many people have been nurtured. The dream is still there. My fervent belief is that every Catholic in the

United States, and therefore every Irish Catholic, should be involved in Catholic Extension. We have to be in this

together. It is the glory of the Church that we are never better than when we see the face of Christ in the poor.

For more information on Catholic Extension, go to www.catholicextension.org or call 800-842-7804.



By Frank Crowley



The Angel Motif in Book of Kells

When I started planing the column on angel motifs, I thought it would be straight forward. There are many imaes of angels in the Book and scholars listed the angel's names in references to them. These referenc- es laude to the archangels Michael, Raphael, Gabriel and Uriel. As my research has led me thus far, the Book of Kells has more images of angels in illuminated folios, more then

in any other Insular gospel. The Sisters at St. Mel's on the West Side of Chicago didn't prepare me for what I found.

First of all, I never heard of Uriel. I began to research angels in more depth. They are described as intermediaries between God and humans. They were unseen but had constant spiritual presence on Earth and helped make clear the mysteries of faith. Sight of an angel was afforded only to the "worthy" and for those who were prepared to see them.

This can be interesting, but It's complex. From my research, this is how I understand it. First of all, there are nine orders or choirs, of angels' rank.

Seraphim. These are the highest ranking. Their job is to attend and praise God. They have six wings.

Cherubim. Second in rank. They have two wings and guard God. They are not the chubby, young-looking angels we see in greeting cards.

Thrones. They are pure Humility, Peace and Submission. The lowest order, "angels" need Thrones for access to God.

Dominions. They have leadership positions and inform lower angels of God's commands.

Virtues. They control all nature and over-see miracles.

Powers. They defend all of the cosmos and all humans from evil.

Archangels. These angels are described as the chief or leading angels. They are the most often mentioned in the bible as the messengers of God. They can also be members of other choirs.

Principalities. Here are the angels that are hostile to God and humans, but God still controls them.

Angels. These are the angels that we think of when we think of angels. They deliver prayers to God and deliver His answers. They also have contact with all the other angels and try to help humans as much as they can.

There are thousands of archangels but only seven are identified by name. Three are called Michael, Raphael and Gabriel, but dif-



ferent religions have different names for the other four angels. The archangels Michael, Raphael and Gabriel are canonical in the Catholic church and are also named by the other major religions that recognize angels. Though not canonical, Uriel is referred to in the Old Testament's Book of Enoch and is usually the fourth archangel. These named angels may belong to other Choirs, but have the special status of being an archangel. The seven archangels all have certain duties and their names have special meanings. The four

archangels said to be in the Book of Kells are: "Michael" means "Who is Like Unto God;" "Gabriel" means "Man of God;" "Raphael" means "God's Healing;" "Uriel" means "Fire of God." As with saints, the seven archangels have certain attributes to identify them. For example, Michael holds a spear with a ribbon tied to the tip with a red cross on it. He holds a green palm branch in his left. He also, of course, has two wings. The other archangels have their own objects for identification. Not all Insular Gospels are available for research. Those that are available do not have every folio accessible. So the question of how prevalent angel images are in the Insular Gospels is not known to me at this point. However, in the Book of Kells, there are at least 25 images that are identified as archangels. There are a few more images that are not clearly angels. Of the 25, they are identified as representing Michael, Raphael, Gabriel and Uriel. The angel images do not have identifying attributes attached to them and therefore names are not specified.

Chapter 2. An introduction to St. Columba, Founder of the Abby of Iona

The story of Colum Cille, who later became St. Columba, is a grand mixture of facts and legends. The known facts create a short story. Colum Cille was born in 521 or 522. He was a member of the ruling Ui Neill clan of modern day Co. Donegal. His cousins included Ainmire, son of Setna, King of Tara, Baetan, King of Tara and Aed, another King of Tara. From an early age he was guided to become a priest. His foster father was a priest named Cruithmechan. Starting early in life, Colum Cille studied scripture and became a deacon. He continued his studies under a Bishop Finnian who cannot be identified with certainty. Because of his extended family connections there was complex political involvements. He was somehow connected to the battle of Cul Dreaimhne. Colum Cille's cousin Ainmire of the northern Ui Neill defeated Diarmait of the southern Ui Neill. Two years later colum Cille sailed to a colony that was part of the Irish Dal Riata in Scotland. He first went to an island called at the time Hibna and by 574 went to Iona. It became his center for preaching, conversions and baptisms. New settlements were established in nearby islands and the Scottish mainland.

These are the known facts of Colum Cille's life. Next month I want to describe the far more interesting traditions and legends that grew up around his life. Of special interest is book "Life of St. Columba" written by Adomnan, the 9th Abbot of the Iona monastery. It details St. Columba's miracles and close association with angels that may be the source of the degree of interest in angels in the Book of Kells.

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Most Reverend Timothy Lyne Celebrates 70 Years as Priest

Most Reverend Timothy Lyne, Retired Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago, will celebrate 70 years of priesthood and 30 years of his ordination as Bishop this year. Born in Chicago in 1919, Bishop Lyne attended Resurrection and St. Mel Elementary Schools; Quigley Preparatory Seminary and St. Mary of the Lake Seminary.

Ordained in 1943, he served as Associate Pastor at: St. Mary's Parish in Riverside, Illinois from 1943 to 1962; at St. Edmund Parish, Oak Park, Illinois from 1962 to 1966; and at Holy Name Cathedral from 1966 to 1967. In 1967 Bishop Lyne was named Pastor of Holy Name Cathedral and served in that role until 1990. He was named Auxiliary Bishop in 1983, and the same year became Episcopal Vicar for Vicariate II a role he held until 1990. Bishop Lyne continues as Vicar for Senior Priests, as he has since appointed in 1988.

"I am looking forward to bestowing the Holy Family Caritas Sanctae Famulae (Love of Family) award upon Bishop Lyne for his loving and dedicated service to the people of the Archdiocese of Chicago; particularly the senior clergy he has ministered to for the past 25 years," Catholic Charities Senior Residences

Housing seniors safely is a special calling for Catholic Charities. Along with 18 affordable apartment buildings where seniors live independently, we operate three residential facilities, Bishop Conway Residence, a "supportive living" program; Bishop Lyne Residence for Retired Priests and Holy Family Villa, a "skilled care" program.

Bishop Conway Residence

Bishop Conway Residence (BCR) is named after Bishop Edwin Conway, who served as Administrator for Catholic Charities from 1984 to 1997. Located in a residential community on Chicago's Northwest side, BCR provides "supportive living" for persons at least 65 years old with low income who need assistance with daily activities of living, such as taking medication, preparing meals and self-care.

BCR consists of apartment units, most with two bedrooms joined by a common kitchenette and bathroom. Seniors can enjoy privacy in their unit, while having the option for group activities and meals. A common area on the ground floor includes a dining room, space for games, crafts and visiting; and a wellness center. An outdoor garden is accessible from the common room.

The staff at BCR is committed to quality and recently found that increasing the hours nursing staff spent building relationships with residents resulted in decreased hospitalizations. While occupancy at BCR has nearly reached 100%, staff still wants to spread the word about one of Chicago's best-kept secrets in affordable senior living.

For more information about BCR, please call: (773) 252-9941 or visit:

www.catholiccharities.net/conway.

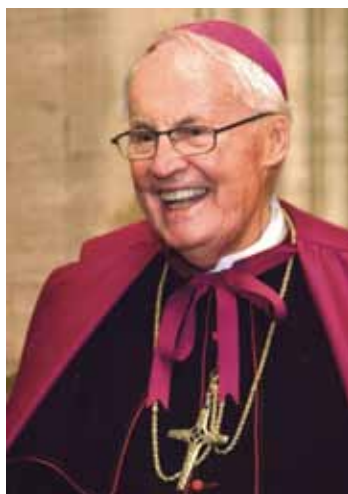
Bishop Timothy J. Lyne Residence Retirement Home For Priests

The Bishop Timothy Lyne Residence, located in Palos Park, opened in 2001 and was named in honor of Bishop Lyne, the Archdioceses' Vicar for Senior Priests and advocate for retired clergy. The facility shares the campus with Holy Family Villa. The 18 unit residential facility provides a communal setting with disability-accessible apartments where the priests can eat, pray and celebrate Mass.

Holy Family Villa

In 1947, Holy Family Villa (HFV) was founded by the Lithuanian Roman Catholic Charities to provide a home for the aged. The Sisters of St. Casimir served as administrators of the home. Today, this Catholic Charities program is expanding the facility it rebuilt ten years ago to meet the increasing demand for quality skilled nursing and rehabilitation care for seniors.

Holy Family Villa is home to 99 residents of all faiths and ethnic backgrounds and is located in Palos Park. HFV is a fully-licensed nursing home with round-the-clock nursing staff. The home offers physical, occupational, and speech therapy; social services, pastoral care and nutritious meals. It has a wide variety of social and recreational activities for each level of care, including overnight visits to a retreat house in the country. The services provided at HFV minister to the needs of the whole person. We like to say that Holy Family is "wholly-family" oriented! Each senior, and their own family, is welcomed into the "family" of HFV residents and staff. Respecting and nurturing the dig-



Most Reverend Timothy Lyne

AN EVENING TO HONOR

Bishop Timothy J. Lyne



Join Catholic Charities, Holy Family Villa and The Bishop Lyne Residence to celebrate Bishop Lyne's 70 years in the priesthood and 30 years as a bishop.

Saturday, April 13, 2013

Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Towers

Proceeds will benefit Catholic Charities' Holy Family Villa Expansion Project

For information on tickets, sponsorships or tribute book, please contact Hillary Fash, Event Coordinator, at (312) 948-6797 or hflash@catholiccharities.net

Tribute book requests must be in by March 20.

nity and self-worth of each resident is the goal of every interaction and activity.

Word has spread about the high quality of care provided at HFV, and at any given time the facility has a wait list of over 100 people.

To meet demand, HFV is expanding with a 30-bed addition and modernization of non-clinical space. The chapel will also be expanded, which is important because Mass is offered daily, and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is offered weekly. The Expansion Program will cost \$11 million. A generous lead gift of \$6 million was received from the Mrs. Marie Quinlan Estate to begin this project. An additional \$5 million dollars needs to be raised to complete the project. Ground breaking occurred in the summer of 2012 and construction is proceeding, with an estimated completion date of March 2014.

Support HFV Expansion Program

The 4th Annual Holy Family Villa Dinner will be a celebration honoring Bishop Timothy Lyne's 70 years and a priest and 30 years as a bishop. Hundreds are expected to attend Saturday, April 13, 2013 at Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Towers. For information on tickets, sponsorships or tribute book opportunities, please contact Hillary Fash, Event Coordinator, at (312) 948-6797 or hflash@catholiccharities.net. Tribute book requests must be in by March 20.

Monsignor Michael M. Boland
Administrator, President and CEO
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago

April Verch Band at ICHC 4-5

Internationally known Canadian fiddler, step dancer and singer-songwriter April Verch and her band will perform a high-energy mix of foot-stomping Irish, Scottish, Appalachian old-time, and bluegrass music at the Irish Cultural and Heritage Center, 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, on Friday, April 5 at 7:30 p.m.

The band is touring in support of their album, *Bright Like Gold*, which will be released April 2.

Headliners at the 2012 Milwaukee Irish Fest, the band has brought their shows filled with boundless energy, humor and energy to North America, Europe, Asia and Australia. They previously performed at the ICHC in 2010.

"April has an amazing ability to touch people's hearts...she brings that explosive joy with her." – Appalachian music legend Dirk Powell

Reserved seat tickets are \$18 in advance, \$23 on concert day and \$10 for students with ID along with discounts for children and groups. For more information and to order tickets, go to www.ichc.net. Tickets may also be ordered by calling (414) 345-8800.





View from Up North

A Milwaukee Broadcaster Reflects on the Chicago Rose of Tralee

By Michele Clarke

I am absolutely delighted to hear that the Chicago Rose of Tralee annual selection is coming up April 27th at the Irish American Heritage Center. The contest based on the ballad of the same name takes straight from the lyrics of the poem to find the Irish woman with the truth in her eyes. Eyes always seem to roll when this time comes around. Since my own days as the Chicago Rose of Tralee I have always read the print articles about the contest with curiosity



Margaret Rose Keating, 2012 Rose of Tralee.

and wonder. The 'hack jobs' I would call them, intent on presenting the tradition as out date and degrading to women. One writer reduced it to a mere "sash and hat" parade. I suppose based on the still images that emerge from Tralee with the winner waving, smiling and that huge crown upon her head you could get the wrong idea. And since the naysayers seem so intent on having their say each year, I thought I would have mine. The Rose of Tralee is the only contest I know of its kind that doesn't require the participants to wear a bathing suit. No three point turn in an evening gown. These are

two of the strongest arguments against any criticism that it objectifies women. I have noticed since my days that the frocks are awfully fancy, but I've seen winners selected in quite simple dresses. It leads me to believe that judging panels are sticking to the guidelines that the fashion, as is the party piece (what Americans call talent) is only to be judged based on how it's an extension of the rose's personality. The contest also refuses to declare tiers of competitors. No first runner up, no finalists. There's a winner and then every other Rose is made to feel as if she were the next in line. That's quite a lovely gesture that I don't think you need to be Irish to appreciate. In keeping with the gathering for the year 2013, the Tralee festival is calling back all roses not just those who won the International title and Mary Kay Marmo of the Chicago Rose Centre always asks all Roses to participate in various public events from the polar plunge for Special Olympics to the St Patrick's Parade, not just the young lady who goes to Ireland to represent the city.

In my mind it's not something to be taken too lightly or too seriously. It's not the end of the world if you don't win but boy if you do what a great vacation. By keeping up this tradition, we are letting those in Ireland know that neither time nor distance can break the ties that bind. Three things forever hold true; love of country, pride in culture and the truth in an Irish woman's eyes.

Naysayers go on and have your say, but to any young woman of Irish descent I sincerely say to you please join us. For more information go to the Rose of Tralee Website: <http://www.chicagoroseoftralee.com/>



From the Vault

By Barry Stapleton

Ward Irish Music Archives, Milwaukee Irish Fest

Daniel Decatur Emmett was born in Mount Vernon, Ohio, on October 29, 1815. Like many others that were to populate the early minstrelsy circuit, Emmett came from an Irish-American family. His grandfather, John Emmett came to America from Ireland sometime before the revolutionary war where he served as a surgeon and chaplain. In 1788 he had a son, Abraham who lived in Virginia with his family until coming to Mount Vernon, Ohio in around 1812 and was among its earliest settlers. Not much is known about Emmett's early childhood except that in his old age he recalled that as a youth "it was a fashion in those days among the young people to try their skill at making verses, and sing them to some popular tune." Most of the tunes which impressed Emmett were of Irish, Scottish or English origin, with some early American Negro minstrel music. At age fifteen he had written and performed his first original composition at an 1830 Fourth of July celebration. This song is still a popular song today called Old Dan Tucker.

At seventeen Emmett left home and joined the U.S. Army, becoming the lead fifer at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri. When the Army found out he lied about his age he was dismissed. The next few years he would sign on with various circus bands and continued to perform in public. In 1842 Emmett joined the



"Original Virginia Minstrels" where he played fiddle. It

was an immediate success and their act was being copied all over the country. They even did a tour in Great Britain. Unfortunately the group soon went there separate ways. Upon returning



to the States he dabbled in acting and managing minstrel shows but he belonged on the stage. His main instrument throughout his years was the banjo. Emmett joined Bryant's Minstrels in New York in 1858 where he stayed and worked until 1867. From 1867 to 1888 he lived in Chicago once again plying his stagecraft of song accompanying himself on the fiddle and the banjo.

In 1859 Emmett wrote the song which would make him famous. Dixie's Land, which was eventually shortened to Dixie, became a smash hit. It was written as a walkaround, which is a section of the show during which each performer walked several times

around the inside of a semi-circle in which his fellow performers were seated and then did his particular specialty in the center of the stage. With the Civil War impending the South picked up Dixie as its unofficial confederate anthem.

Emmett, being a Unionist was not happy about this at all. Even today Dixie can bring up controversy. Schools, plays and States have all been litigated against for usage of this song, claiming its offensive in one form or another. After the war Dixie regained its popularity in the North.

By 1882 Emmett, now in his sixties, was still touring and would sing his famous song Dixie to standing ovations. He toured with the Leavitt Gigantean Minstrels in the 1880's and in 1895, at the age of eighty, he took his last tour with Al Field's troupe, mostly touring through the South. He returned to Mount Vernon in 1888 where he lived the last years of his life. Like most entertainers in those days Emmett retired penniless. He would chop and saw wood for farmers to put a meal on his table. Upon finding out of his situation in 1893 the Actor's Fund of America in New York City granted him a weekly sum of five dollars a week. He lived on this until he died on

June 28, 1904. He was always considered a local celebrity and this small community still honors his life with various events and lectures. A monument has been erected in his honor and his birthplace is now a historic landmark.

Besides Old Dan Tucker and Dixie, other famous songs credited to Emmet are Turkey in the Straw, Old Zip Coon, The Blue Tail Fly, and De Boatman's Dance. In 1943 Bing Crosby played Dan Emmett in the film-story of his life called, of course, "Dixie."

Article by Barry Stapleton of the Ward Irish Music Archives, Milwaukee Irish Fest.



YOU'RE HOME

By John Plunkett



Let's begin these Springtime musings by reminding you that if you have any questions or challenges regarding your home's interior decor, or anything related to it, please feel free to send them on to jplunkett@iannews.com. It would be great to hear from you! We will keep your responses anonymous, and I am sure fellow readers will appreciate hearing decorating questions and discussion about issues similar to theirs.

Now, excuse me if I get personal by asking this question: "What makes you happy?" To get you started... a few possible answers:

- Weekends!
- Time spent with dear friends or loved ones.
- A fine wine.
- A great getaway.
- My family.
- Getting away from my family!
- Time spent reading.
- Just relaxing.
- Taking a walk.
- Driving my car.
- Weekends at the club.
- A friendly round (golf or otherwise) with the girls/guys.
- Physical fitness activities.
- Finishing physical fitness activities!
- A spa experience.
- Dressing attractively.
- Gardening.
- Charitable activities – giving to others.
- Dinner at a favorite restaurant with my spouse and/or good friends.
- My job when things go right.
- Being at home.

The list goes on. Granted, there are as many answers or combinations thereof as there are faces on the planet, each forming your unique Happiness DNA. Here at "You're Home"

– thank you for visiting and being the heartbeat of our new column – there is one particular element that ranks high on our Happiness DNA profile. You guessed it... Home. Yes, we like the spa. We like the club. But we love our homes, or at least potentially do. We love how it looks, how it feels, how it welcomes and comforts us after a dizzying day!

All of this, of course, assumes your home is just how you like it – usually the case either after moving in or after a successful redecorating project. But those moments in the lives of our homes are fleeting. Like us mortals, our homes age, tire, break, wear out, need fixing, rejuvenating, and contents need occasional replacing. All of these issues are where we at "You're Home" can be of assistance. For years we have lived and breathed all things home and much of what it takes to help make it more enjoyable for those like you. Give us a try with any questions you have. We'd like to devote future columns discussing decorating topics relevant to you – about issues you'll enjoy reading about.

Allow me to wrap things up with a short story. Although it is a personal one, it's purpose is more to ring a cord, possibly with feelings you have had about a home in your life.

It was sometime around mid-grammar school – fifth or sixth grade – and I had permission to bring a friend home after

school. We lived several miles out, in the cornfields of Northbrook and my friend lived in town. It was the first time he was coming over and we looked forward to getting home and having some fun. After what always seemed like an endless ride, the bus pulled onto my rural street, slowed, then stopped at the end of our driveway. We got out, crossed the street and as we started up the rocky, unpaved driveway, he looked up and said, "Wow – cool house!"

My folks had bought the lot and built the house a couple years before. And, yeah, it was a nice house – not a mansion or even close by today's standards. But growing up

in the home furnishings business, having a nice home, furnishing it attractively and then sharing it with others was at the heart of what my family was about.

It wasn't until years later that it registered how I felt when my friend paid me his compliment. It felt great. As I finished school and joined our family's business, I knew in my core that that was our purpose and what we were good at: Helping others create a home that was comfortable, attractive, that would make their families proud and would reflect well on them when they shared it with guests.

I look forward to your questions and comments. *John Plunkett*

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General

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- Clean, lubricate, or adjust parts, equipment, or machinery.
- Repair or maintain the operating condition of industrial production or processing machinery or equipment.
- Reassemble equipment after completion of inspections, testing, or repairs.
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- Cut and weld metal to repair broken metal parts, fabricate new parts, or assemble new equipment.
- Record repairs and maintenance performed.
- Study blueprints or manufacturers' manuals to determine correct installation or operation of machinery.
- Analyze test results, machine error messages, or information obtained from operators to diagnose equipment problems.
- Record parts or materials used and order or requisition new parts or materials as necessary.
- Observe and test the operation of machinery or equipment to diagnose malfunctions, using voltmeters or other testing devices.
- Demonstrate equipment functions and features to machine operators.
- Enter codes and instructions to program computer-controlled machinery.
- Communicates constantly with machine operators and Production Managers to ensure all machine problems are addressed timely
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Competencies:

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The Irish Rover

By James McClure



Inside the Vatican

With the resignation of a Pope and the election of a new one the world gets a rare look inside a world that became very real for me back in the earliest days of John Paul II. In late July of 1979 I was on a train heading north to Rome from Gaeta where my

Navy ship was home ported. It was the summer after my Freshman year as a Midshipman in the Naval ROTC program at Notre Dame. The ship's chaplain, Captain Victor Ivers, was a Chicagoan with ties in the Vatican. When Father Ivers learned my parents were visiting during a

tour of Europe, he made a point of giving us a papal tour extraordinary.

It began with a tour he gave us of the Pope's summer residence. The beauty of the castle overlooking the mountains of southern Italy was remarkable. Suffice to say that Pope Benedict will have a restful retirement there before moving into his new digs at a monastery within Vatican City. My mother decided to retire to the beaches of the Mediterranean while my dad and I headed for adventure in the Eternal City. Approaching Rome the train passed under and by a series of arched viaducts that would carry water to the city in ancient times. Ever the curious and fascinated engineer, my father pointed out the construction. "The keystone in the middle is what holds the arch together," he pointed out. "That's why they have survived all these years."

The Southside Chicagoan could marvel at complexity in simple terms and at the same time appreciate simple pleasures. That evening we stayed in a very low-tech inn frequented for decades by traveling priests seeking an audience or education in Rome. It came recommended by the Chaplain and eminently approved by Dad-O. As we ate our simple stew off clayware in the smooth stone dining area and were served water and a bowl of fruit in the near candlelight, Dad remarked how the scene looked like a still life. "This is the way to live, Boy! Forget all the other nonsense and enjoy the simple things God intended!" Dad went to bed musing if he shouldn't have been a simple monk instead a father of five, my intellectually wanderings went merely to wondering why God intended that I shouldn't have a TV to watch Johnny Carson.

The quiet of the Roman city night gave way to the hub-bub of the Roman day. After a satisfying breakfast of fresh baked bread and cheese and fruit we headed out to cross the crowded bustling

streets. The shipboard rumor was true, the only way to get across was to walk without looking at the traffic. Once you dared look, nobody stopped! As we boarded a bus Dad's sharp eye was joined by a sharp remark to me: "Hands on your wallet, Boy! Banditos going for the back pocket!" The back of my palm reached the back pocket of my khakis just as someone tried to get at the contents. As the malefactor skulked away I glanced over to see my Dad with his hand firmly clasp- ing the wrist of one of the local gentry, who shook it and ran away. I guess on the surface a six foot three Marine and his six foot

been provided to me. The Swiss Guards aren't all clothed in bright colors of the rainbow. The ones that mean business wear a similarly tailored uniform but in solid blue with a brown belt and a black beret over a white color.

Still this was in simpler times before the attempt to assassinate John Paul II so we were soon ushered in before the Pope's Number 3 man: a towering archbishop by the name of Paul Marcinkus from Cicero. As he sat down behind an ornate desk and selected a pipe from a stand on the corner or a desk, Marcinkus gave all the impression of a man in charge. He had gone to

Mundelein Seminary as a classmate of my ship's chaplain and it turns out, also of our parish priest back in Northbrook. As he puffed out his pipe's contents the head of the Vatican Bank gruffly said in his Capone-esque manner, "Yeah, well I got a message for your pastor and you can tell him it came straight from me!" Dad and I leaned a little forward to wonder what prized communications we would be transferring from the Holy See. "You tell him that he's a bum and that I said so!" I guess Father Herne hadn't responded to a Christmas card or two.



Archbishop Paul Marcinkus

four Dad looked like the typical American tourists and an easy mark. Not today, boys! "If we can just survive the nuns we're home free!" Dad brightly remarked as we boarded the bus in a series of movements where the nuns always seemed to win out.

Waiting for a bus, standing in line for a tour, stopping for a moment to get souvenirs at a stand in St. Peter's Square, the omnipresent force of pilgrim and native nuns seemed ever-ready to swarm around you and steal your place in line. Finally our connections got us one step ahead of the nuns. We walked down a side alley around the basilica and I presented a letter of introduction that had

Needless to say we thanked the towering Archbishop, who was known as the Pope's Bodyguard for both his closeness and a prior incident where he personally foiled an attempt on Paul VI by a knife-wielding assassin in the Philippines. We enjoyed a tour of the 110 acres of the Vatican City, and the following week, Dad and Mom outboxed the nuns in the Square for a reach toward the Popemobile. Dad lifted up Mom's hand but she was too short. Pope John Paul II's hand brushed my Dad's instead. "Coolest sensation I ever felt," Dad-O later remarked. "You could feel God's presence with the man when you felt his touch." E-mail IrishRoverJim@aol.com

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Terry From Derry

by Terry Boyle



from his imagination and personal experience. When it comes to writing about such

Chasing Shadow

by Chris Sheerin
Published by Mercier Press

I had the pleasure of meeting the author of Chasing Shadows when I was last in Derry. Chris is an intelligent, modest, gentleman who has a passion for writing. Over the course of our conversation we discussed what subjects interested him as an author, and what the reaction was to his work. What piqued my curiosity was the reaction that Chasing Shadows drew from An Phoblacht/Republican News. He gave no particulars about the review, other than it was scathing. I'd decided to postpone my curiosity: re: the review until I'd read the book, and, in hindsight it was the right thing to have done. What I liked most of all about this novel was its almost visceral quality when it comes to describing a city in the midst of conflict. For someone, like me, who grew up in the 70s in Derry, the scenario Sheerin recreates is true to life. I walked through the corridors of my own memories as he narrated the story

a volatile time, especially since it is recent history, there will always be the risk of a backlash. While Derry is struggling to reinvent itself as a city of culture, the dust has not settled fully on those unquiet years.

While the other reviewer thought the story 'full of caricatures', and the colloquial dialogue 'irritating', I found it to be the opposite. It was engaging and the stereotypes depicted were recognizable to me. If they appeared on a lineup I could point them out. Yes, there are structural cracks; sometimes the protagonist is too coy, too idealistic and a little unreachable to the reader, but what seems to compensate for these minor flaws a real powerful sense of place. We are immersed in a city riddled with complexities, ironies, secrets and duplicities. The shades of 'grey' are exposed as Seamus, the protagonist, as moves from childhood to adolescence. His former black and white view of the 'Troubles', are skewered by an awakening reality that people are not what they seem. For any teenager growing up in such political craziness the nightmare becomes

a reality when hatred becomes a conditioned response. They hate you in this place and they don't even know why. Half the people in this country couldn't tell you who the FXXX they're fightin' for. The reader is drawn into a story that does promote the moral that 'violence' is futile and impinges on the most normal of relationships. The story of a young man's gradual awakening to the how the violence, like a disease, races destructively through veins of familial and societal relationships. Is this trite? Is this a plea to accept the 'status quo'? I would think not. One only has to think of Sean O'Casey's anti-violence stance in the Dublin plays to realize that pacifism, or a non-violent approach is never as simple as mere resignation to the way things are. Unfortunately, the Republican reviewer confirms the stereotype of the political propagandist by his reductionism.

This reviewer is perhaps too familiar with the political propagandist approach to notice that the novel takes the perspective of the individual, the man caught between



the larger producers of political rhetoric, British/Republican ideologies. I find it ironic that a reviewer of a political newspaper would say that Sheerin's book lacks subtlety. Lest we forget, and I doubt that we can, how the machinery of political propaganda needs to accentuate, caricature, to the point of being farcical is in fact the moral centre of what the story is all about.

Sheerin's book offers an insight in to a world that is changing. The old world of gerrymandering, and inequalities are being replaced, and the transition is brutal. In the midst of this change, truth does become the first casualty of war. As political positions are established, the fabrications, the near truths become a common currency, and as a result no one is to be trusted. Sheerin's insight into how fixed ideas are tested, and sometimes re-established are echoed through Seamus' maturation. As one who has felt the force of believing the lie, he must wrestle with the fact that life is rarely simple. Hence the irony to his self-depiction as a 'simple bastard'.



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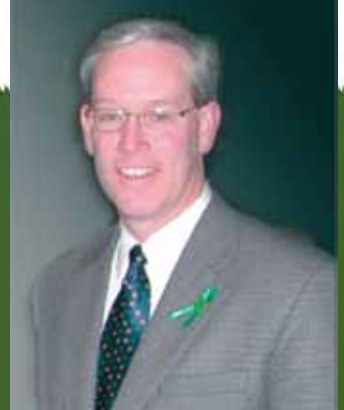


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IRISH REPUBLIC



An Immigrant's Musings

By Fr. Michael Leonard



"I look forward to working with my colleagues on the Judiciary Committee and throughout the Senate on a responsible, bipartisan, and balanced path forward. The opportunity is unique and the moment is urgent. It is my hope that Congress will act this year and enact the long-overdue reforms to our nation's immigration system that it needs to properly welcome the next generation of new Americans." ~Senator Coons

Four Basic Legislative Pillars:

1. Create a tough but fair path to citizenship for unauthorized immigrants currently living in the United States that is contingent upon securing our borders and tracking whether legal immigrants have left the country when required.

- Our legislation will provide a tough, fair, and practical roadmap to address the status of unauthorized immigrants in the United States that is contingent upon our success in securing our borders and addressing visa overstays.

- To fulfill the basic governmental function of securing our borders, we will continue the increased efforts of the Border

Patrol by providing them with the latest technology, infrastructure, and personnel needed to prevent, detect, and apprehend every unauthorized entrant.

- Additionally, our legislation will increase the number of unmanned aerial vehicles and surveillance equipment, improve radio interoperability and increase the number of agents at and between ports of entry. The purpose is to substantially lower the number of successful illegal border crossings while continuing to facilitate commerce.

- We will strengthen prohibitions against racial profiling and inappropriate use of force, enhance the training of border patrol agents, increase oversight, and create a mechanism to ensure a meaningful opportunity for border communities to share input, including critiques.

- Our legislation will require the completion of an entry-exit system that tracks whether all persons entering the United States on temporary visas via airports and seaports have left the country as required by law.

- We recognize that Americans

living along the Southwest border are key to recognizing and understanding when the border is truly secure. Our legislation will create a commission comprised of governors, attorneys general, and community leaders living along the Southwest border to monitor the progress of securing our border and to make a recommendation regarding when the bill's security measures outlined in the legislation are completed.

- While these security measures are being put into place, we will simultaneously require those who came or remained in the United States without our permission to register with the government. This will include passing a background check and settling their debt to society by paying a fine and back taxes, in order to earn probationary legal status, which will allow them to live and work legally in the United States. Individuals with a serious criminal background or others who pose a threat to our national security will be ineligible for legal status and subject to deportation. Illegal immigrants who have committed serious crimes face immediate deportation.

- We will demonstrate our commitment to securing our borders and combating visa overstays by requiring our proposed enforcement measures be complete before any immigrant on probationary status can earn a green card.

- Current restrictions preventing non-immigrants from accessing federal public benefits will also apply to lawful probationary immigrants.

- Once the enforcement measures have been completed, individuals with probationary legal status will be required to go to the back of the

line of prospective immigrants, pass an additional background check, pay taxes, learn English and civics, demonstrate a history of work in the United States, and current employment, among other requirements, in order to earn the opportunity to apply for lawful permanent residency. Those individuals who successfully complete these requirements can eventually earn a green card.

- Individuals who are present without lawful status - not including people within the two categories identified below - will only receive a green card after every individual who is already waiting in line for a green card, at the time this legislation is enacted, has received their green card. Our purpose is to ensure that no one who has violated America's immigration laws will receive preferential treatment as they relate to those individuals who have complied with the law.

- Our legislation also recognizes that the circumstances and the conduct of people without lawful status are not the same, and cannot be addressed identically.

For instance, individuals who entered the United States as minor children did not knowingly choose to violate any immigration laws. Consequently, under our proposal these individuals will not face the same requirements as other individuals in order to earn a path to citizenship.

Similarly, individuals who have been working without legal status in the United States agricultural industry have been performing very important and difficult work to maintain America's food supply while earning subsistence wages. Due to the utmost importance in our nation maintaining the safety

of its food supply, agricultural workers who commit to the long term stability of our nation's agricultural industries will be treated differently than the rest of the undocumented population because of the role they play in ensuring that Americans have safe and secure agricultural products to sell and consume. These individuals will earn a path to citizenship through a different process under our new agricultural worker program.

2. Reform our legal immigration system to better recognize the importance of characteristics that will help build the American economy and strengthen American families.

- The development of a rational legal immigration system is essential to ensuring America's future economic prosperity. Our failure to act is perpetuating a broken system which sadly discourages the world's best and brightest citizens from coming to the United States and remaining in our country to contribute to our economy. This failure makes a legal path to entry in the United States insurmountably difficult for well-meaning immigrants. This unarguably discourages innovation and economic growth. It has also created substantial visa backlogs which force families to live apart, which incentivizes illegal immigration.

- Our new immigration system must be more focused on recognizing the important characteristics which will help build the American economy and strengthen American families. Additionally, we must reduce backlogs in the family and employment visa categories so that future immigrants view our future legal immigration system as the exclusive means for entry into the United States.

- The United States must do a better job of attracting and keeping the world's best and brightest. As such, our immigration proposal will award a green card to immigrants who have received a PhD or Master's degree in science, technology, engineering, or math from an American university. It makes no sense to educate the world's future innovators and entrepreneurs only to ultimately force them to leave our country at the moment they are most able to

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Piping It In

Jack Baker



Here we are, the merry month of "Kiss me, I'm Irish", though the last time I tried to comply with that instruction, it wasn't pretty, but, never the less, we soldier on.

Truly a delightful handful of new CDs to look at this month, so I'll get right to it.

The first one arrived in the Post just as I was finishing last month's column. Kennedy's Kitchen's new release "The Birds Upon the Trees" has been with me a solid month and seldom has a day gone by that I didn't put it on for another listen.

After a string of memorable CDs, this is by far the best they've done and it has something for everyone. A load of finely done instrumental pieces, some powerful vocals, masterful renditions of traditional tunes and some new tunes as well. One bit I particularly enjoyed is a new ballad written by John Kennedy about his Grandfather, Patrick Coyle, who, as a young man, fought in the Easter rising,

I am a fan of rebel songs and it's a thrill to be present at the birth of a new one written with the love and respect that this one so obviously was. It's a joy each year to watch Kennedy's Kitchen perform at local shows.

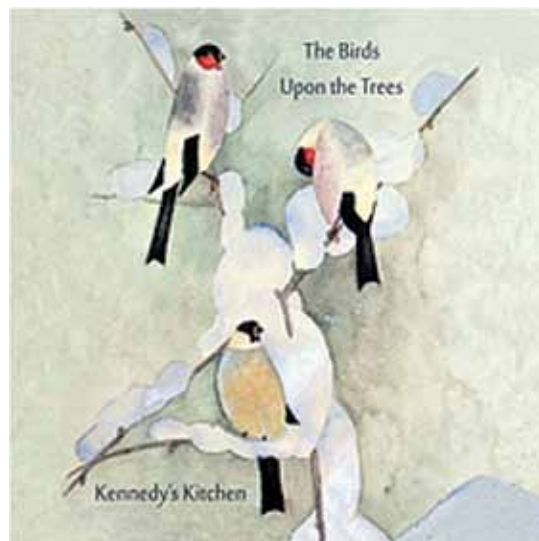
They play it trad and their love for the music is always evident. It's great to know that a local band (Northern Indiana) have developed a style as unique and entertaining as these folks have. They are a delightful bunch of people as well. One last point, this CD takes the prize for beautiful cover art as well.

I owe Maryann Keifer another thank you for turning me on to the next CD. She called to alert me about a band called "Socks in the Frying Pan" and when Maryann mentions a band, I listen. As usual, she was right, and I hope some festival promoters are listening as well and will book these boys from County Clare to dazzle us at local fests this year. The band is made up of brothers, Shane and Fiachra Hayes on accordion, fiddle and

banjo, accompanied by Aodán Coyne on guitar and vocals. These boys add new proof to the argument that the best musicians come from Clare. Personally, I won't weigh in on that issue but I will say that these three certainly know their way around traditional music. Great job on the vocals here, especially on "The

and they've just released another gem from Irish vocalist Heidi Talbot. Having come a long way from her roots in County Kildare, Heidi teams up with her producer/husband John McCusker to release her latest solo recording, "Angels Without Wings". Joined by a who's who list of singers and musicians, Heidi's new CD feels a little country in places, a little bluegrass in others but throughout the entire recording her beautiful soprano voice rings out. Not your traditional Irish CD but damned sure lovely and enjoyable.

Anyone who has ever spoken with me for more than 3 minutes knows that I am not a big fan of Irish/Celtic rock. I am a big fan of Larry Kirwan, of Black 47 fame, and I seriously consider him a musical genius. He's now put together a sampler of rock that covers the genre completely. "Larry Kirwan's Celtic Invasion" is the new release and I have to admit I like it, for the most part. All tracks are "rock" but no two are alike or even similar. He



has sifted out the best of the breed and pulled definitive tracks and the result is interesting. Listening to it I was exposed to bands that admittedly I had previously dismissed out of hand but now I see that I was missing some good stuff. My favorite track is John Spillane's "Buile Mo Chroi", which is just stunning. Rock fans will eat this collection up and others will, if they open their mind to it, find fun they would have normally missed. Nice to find a CD that makes you open your eyes and reconsider your preconceived notions.

I hope everyone has a wonderful and safe Saint Patrick's Day and remembers to honor the teachings of Saint Patrick. Party hardy but let's not make horse's asses of ourselves.

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Kathleen Meany Elected President of MWRD

Congratulations to Commissioner Kathleen Therese Meany, the newly elected President of the Metropolitan Water

Political Science at Harold Washington College.

Her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Education was received from Roosevelt University and Master Degree from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.



of Greater Chicago is the first woman to ever serve in this capacity. President Meany was elected to the Board of Commissioners of the MWRD in 1990 and has served for 22 years. She also served as Vice President of the Board.

Meany is a former Assistant Professor of

Commissioner Barbara McGowan, was re-elected Vice President of the District and Commissioner Mariyana Spyropoulos was elected Chairman of Finance.

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Our 30th annual St. Patrick's Day appearance at FitzGerald's!!!

Tuesday March 20
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Saturday March 31 & Friday April 20
IAHC 4626 N. Knox Chicago
Fifth Province Pub 9:00 p.m.

March Appearances



For more info: www.dooleybrothers.com email: dooleyinfo@dooleybrothers.com
For bookings and guitar lessons phone: 708.366.9458

Immigrant's Musings

Continued from page 61

contribute to our economy.

3. Create an effective employment verification system that will prevent identity theft and end the hiring of future unauthorized workers.

- We recognize that undocumented immigrants come to the United States almost exclusively for jobs. As such, dramatically reducing future illegal immigration can only be achieved by developing a tough, fair, effective and mandatory employment verification system. An employment verification system must hold employers accountable for knowingly hiring undocumented workers and make it more difficult for unauthorized immigrants to falsify documents to obtain employment. Employers who knowingly hire unauthorized workers must face stiff fines and criminal penalties for egregious offenses.

- We believe the federal government must provide U.S. employers with a fast and reliable method to confirm whether new hires are legally authorized to work in the United States. This is essential to ensure the effective enforcement of immigration laws.

- Our proposal will create an effective employment verification system which prevents identity theft and ends the hiring of future unauthorized workers. We

believe requiring prospective workers to demonstrate both legal status and identity, through non-forgeable electronic means prior to obtaining employment, is essential to an employee verification system; and,

- The employee verification system in our proposal will be crafted with procedural safeguards to protect American workers, prevent identity theft, and provide due process protections.

4. Establish an improved process for admitting future workers to serve our nation's workforce needs, while simultaneously protecting all workers.

- The overwhelming majority of the 327,000 illegal entrants apprehended by CBP in FY2011 were seeking employment in the United States. We recognize that to prevent future waves of illegal immigration a humane and effective system needs to be created for these immigrant workers to enter the country and find employment without seeking the aid of human traffickers or drug cartels.

- Our proposal will provide businesses with the ability to hire lower-skilled workers in a timely manner when Americans are unavailable or unwilling to fill those jobs.

Our legislation would:
- Allow employers to hire immigrants if it can be demonstrated that they were unsuccessful in recruiting an American to fill an open position and the hiring of an immigrant will not displace American workers;

Create a workable program to meet the needs of America's agricultural industry, including dairy to find agricultural workers when American workers are not available to fill open positions;

- Allow more lower-skilled immigrants to come here when our economy is creating jobs, and fewer when our economy is not creating jobs;

- Protect workers by ensuring strong labor protections; and,

- Permit workers who have succeeded in the workplace and contributed to their communities over many years to earn green cards.



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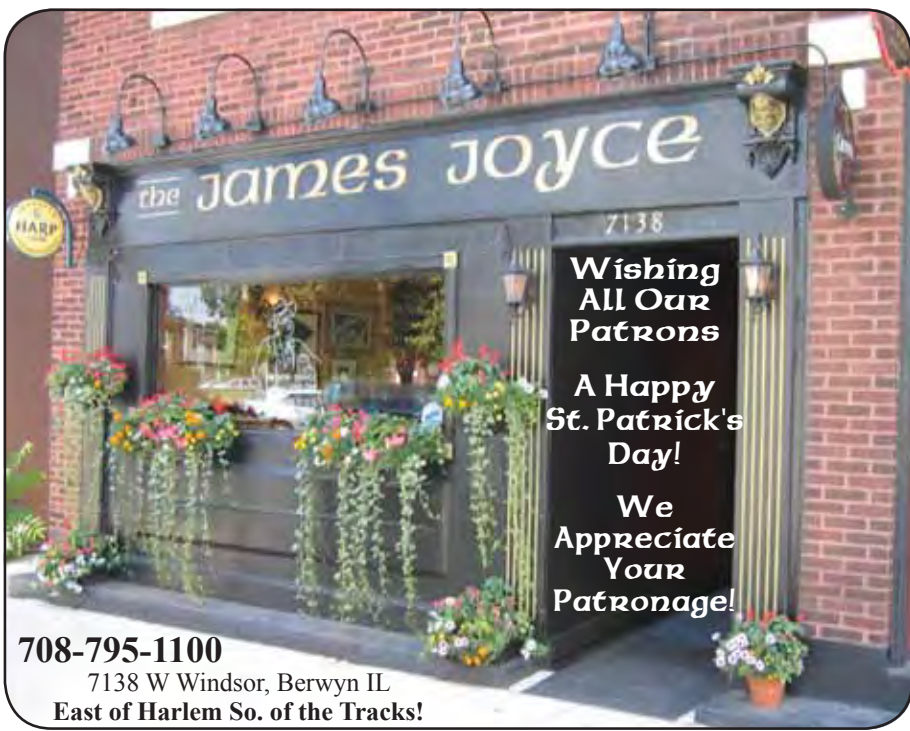
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The Drovers, back in the day. (L to r): Winston Damon, Sean Cleland, Kathleen Keane, Dave Callahan, Jackie Moran, Mike Kirkpatrick.

Drovers' Reunion at Abbey Pub March 15

For more than a decade after they were formed, on St. Patrick's Day 1988, the Drovers were synonymous with Chicago's annual celebration of all things Irish. The group went on a self-imposed hiatus in 2002, but will reunite onstage for one night only at the Abbey Pub, Friday, March 15 to mark the 25th year since they began their unique odyssey.

The Drovers also plan their first music release in over a decade, on iTunes.

The Drovers blended rock and traditional Irish music to stunning effect with their seminal 1992 release, *World of Monsters*, and went on to appear in two major feature films, *Backdraft* and *Blink*.

The four musicians, Keane, Kirkpatrick, Moran and Callahan, will be joined at the Abbey by Irish fiddler Chris Bain,

who first joined the band in 1999.

"This show is something we've been talking about doing for several years, and it's amazing that it's finally going to happen," says Callahan. "I'm tempted to say it'll be a once-in-a-lifetime event, because it probably will be."

The Drovers Early Show!

Fri, March 15, 2013

Doors: 6:00 pm / Show: 7:00 pm (event ends at 9:00 pm)

The Drovers Late Show!

Doors: 9:30 pm / Show: 10:00 pm

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Our Take on 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. All senior group meetings begin at 10am. There is no cost and refreshments will be served. All are very welcome. If you need further information, please call our office on 773-282-8445.

Irish American Heritage Center

Thursday, 14th March 2013 – Mass in Honor of St Patrick

Fr. Michael Leonard leads us in a celebration mass to honor St Patrick.

Thursday, 28th March 2013 – The British Bulldog

Although widely accepted to be one of the greatest war time leaders of all time, Winston Churchill, who became known as the British Bulldog, is also a contentious figure. Today our guest is Daniel Meyers from The Churchill Center here in Chicago. Daniel will share with us the story of this remarkable man and the legacy he left behind him.

Gaelic Park

Wednesday, 6th March 2013 – The British Bulldog

This program is the same as the event of the same name taking place at IAHC on February 28th. Details are outlined above.

Wednesday, 20th March 2013 – Mass in Honor of St Patrick

Fr. Michael Leonard leads us in a celebration mass to honor St Patrick

Helping Former Industrial School Residents Find Family

In 1868 the Industrial Schools (Ireland) Act provided the legislative foundation on which the Industrial school system was built. These institutions were designed to offer accommodations and vocational training to children who had been neglected, orphaned or abandoned. The industrial school system of provision for vulnerable children

endured until the late 1960's when it was gradually phased out. Many of the children who were placed in these schools were born outside of wedlock and their mothers were obliged to surrender their children to the schools. As such a great deal of the children who wound up in their care had little or no knowledge of their families of birth or the situations that led to their placement in the schools.

Barnardos is a charity that has been supporting and protecting children in Ireland since 1962. In 2002 they developed the Origins Information and Tracing Service for individuals who spent all or part of their childhood in an Irish industrial school. The program provides information, advice, and support to these individuals seeking to trace their family of origin. To find out more about this service I spoke with Andrew Walker who is an information counsellor with the Origins Information and Tracing Service (OITS).

The OITS office is based in Dublin and is staffed by case-workers who have relevant backgrounds in psychology, social work, and counseling. There is no charge for using this service and it is funded in its entirety by the Irish Department of Education who would have had authority over the industrial schools. Initially, individuals will file an application asking for any information a new client may know about the person they are trying to trace as well as details of their years in industrial school. Once this application has been completed, preliminary research is done and additional information is collected from relevant sources such as school records, fostering records, or birth registrations. According to Mr Walker, once this initial research has been completed a case worker is as-

signed to begin a more in-depth analysis of the information available. At this time OITS has a relatively short waiting period and a case worker can be assigned within two months. The case worker will work more intensive with clients, not only doing research but also providing support as they navigate this emotional process.

Many who apply are merely seeking information about their family of origin and why they were placed in an industrial school. For them their quest will end once they have learned this information. Others however, feel as though a resolution can only be found in contacting or meeting with any surviving family members that the search uncovers. OITS will contact newly found family members to verify that they are the right person and ask if they are willing to meeting with their clients. Throughout this process OTIS works to provide emotional guidance and a listening ear to all parties involved. Walker reports that this is a trying time for all involved and no matter what the outcome may be it is an emotionally fraught experience.

Given the time period in which the schools were operational clients who approach OITS are generally seniors and it is also very common for them to be contacting the services from overseas. Walker estimates that about 40% of those that contact OITS are living in the UK and that a further 10% are living in other foreign countries including the USA. The OITS annual report from January 2012 indicates that since services began in 2002 they have completed a total of 1130 tracing cases. To find out more about the great services provided by OITS at Barnardos you can call their Dublin based office on +353 (1) 453 0355 or check out their website at <http://www.barnardos.ie>.



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by Jason Coleman
The third in our series of articles on researching your family history into Ireland.

We are at the point now where you have identified as many current relatives as you have or know of, by organizing the information into pedigree and genealogy charts and group format help sheets, you should now have a solid foundation base from which to explore your deeper roots. So before becoming a library mole or a bookworm scholar, the time has come in your journey to "Get Social". Theoretically, every living soul in your current family tree should be contacted and encouraged to share their knowledge of your common history, and become involved in your quest. First cousins, second cousins, great aunts and uncles, distant relatives with

the same ancestors, and even in-laws if interested. Starting with the elder members of your extended family, you will want to establish or re-establish contact, and find a way to discuss and explore your heritage together. Sadly, this is often one of the biggest obstacles in the pursuit of family history. Anyone familiar with general history will know that most of the battles, wars, and trials of the world were the result of in-fighting amongst family members, near relatives, and peoples of common roots.

If one side of your family does not speak to the other, unfortunately you are missing half of your history. If some relatives have avoided shaking up "hidden skeletons", then the biographies and stories you are trying to discover might not be openly true. If some members of your family are not interested, or cannot be contacted, then you might be missing an important piece of knowledge evidence which could link you to a specific community or events in Ireland. Family traditions, photographs, documents, heirlooms, hearsay,

and even rumors, from all sides of the family, each have their place as puzzle perspectives, like faces of a diamond, all bound in the same nugget, reflected, pointing to the clues, proposals, and theories of that solid core of facts. If your heritage history is a bit of a mystery, then you need all the help you can get. If you are looking for ancestors, every related descendant is a vital link to the past. The other, common sense, reason for gathering all existing known information first, is to avoid re-inventing the wheel. Why spend years in archival research, or the money it might involve, if your grandmother's cousin has already written about her days in Ireland for her parish newsletter. If she was the last of her generation to remember the immigrant travels, or she only told her eldest son, you might miss out on otherwise hard to find details. The further back in generations you know, the larger the potential group of relatives who have the same ancestors of which you are anxious to learn. If any one of these received the family bible with birth dates, or was given the same middle name as Grandpa Riley's mother's maiden surname, or they were taught a song about a village burning; these fellow descendants have information you likely need for your family history goals.

How do you deal with un-responsive social communications outreach? How do you find or contact these relatives you may not even know about yet? What if you have exhausted all your known kin? It can be very frustrating, especially after preparing your organized charts and forms, let us say, showing 12 living relations over three generations, only to realize that cousin Mary never kept in touch with the other 10 on her side. You try to break the ice, by doing

an internet search for Uncle Rory Hamlin. You find his address, and send an envelope by post. It returns one month afterward marked "forwarding unknown". You have a verified email for your niece's business enterprise, you introduce yourself, but never receive a reply.

You see a forum on an internet blog about the Kelly's of Canfield, and you realize that the writer might be a distant relative because your Aunt was married there. They have published several webpages with some family history, but never

ond cousin had a postcard, which he found in an old trunk full of musty clothing, which mentioned the creamery plant where Great Uncle Ben used to work. You look up the town and find it on the map, and confirm that your creamery used to be on the corner of Main and 5th. But is that where Ben "actually" lived, because there are several other villages nearby, all in walking distance to a job at the creamery. So as you can see, even with the help of ALL your family, you then begin to think outside the box, build-

mention your grandfather. You want to find out the name of the index where the writer found the baptisms or christenings lists. There is no contact information, and the website is seven years old. You find an inscription on some antique lace at your sisters, it has a year, place (of manufacture?), and initials. The initials match your grandmother, so you wonder if she came from the place described as Ballybyrne. You look up Ballybyrne on the internet and find at least eight different places called Ballybyrne in various spellings, scattered across Ireland. And even so, is that "actually" where she "came from" anyway? These are the types of challenges that send us into the genealogy swampland. We also trudge in that direction, a disappointing journey, after we have gathered all we can from busy, living relatives, gained nothing new, and still have not found what we are looking for.



If you were lucky, your sec-

ing upon all your gathered information, and starting to seek some background from other sources. Every clue you have compiled to that point, thus becomes the springboard to "Get Social" again. But this time, you begin to expand the circle of knowledge from your family out into the community. Have you talked to others from the creamery? the village? the parish? Have you contacted the local history groups? Have you corresponded with the regional archives? Have you discussed your search with the nearest library? with other researchers interested in the same time and place? You start to think, what would be the best process or sequence to explore the many associations of others that your relatives may have come in contact with during their life? In our next article, we will offer some more ideas, resources, and helpers, for the next steps on the trail.

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For The Republic



Chris Fogarty



George Gannon R.I.P. (96) How to live a long, constructive, congenial life

Marian Price remains imprisoned, gravely ill. How insane, that we must petition mass murderers for justice for Ireland's best-of-the-best. The perpetrators of all of Britain's bloodiest atrocities in Ireland remain above the law; untouchable; they ARE the law. **Great news!** Gerry McGeough, one of Ireland's shining lights, is free. Britain had imprisoned him for combat some thirty-five years earlier between him, an IRA volunteer on the land of his ancestors, and a British soldier. Both were wounded. The mercenary is "innocent;" the patriot a "felon."

Ireland, will it ever free itself? It's doubtful; at least for the foreseeable future. The surrender of Ireland's bloodily-contested Six Counties to Britain is a fait accompli. Now, for the first time ever, Ireland's news media refer to Derry by its British name; "Londonderry," EU bureaucrats are in Dublin countermanding Ireland's elected gov't, and Irish soldiers are scheduled to fight, not for Irish freedom, but in Mali for the US/UK's robbery of Malian resources. The British empire of death, destruction, and injustice is being reestablished; but under U.S. control.

U.S. General Pat Hurley's letter to FDR marks America's

ethical era. Hurley's letter was a blueprint for foreign policies of fairness instead of predation, beginning with Iran. FDR approved, and sent Hurley's letter to Churchill, slyly shaming him toward democracy. Churchill objected, but FDR soon began the dismantling of the British empire. His "Battleships for Bases" treaty yielded independence movements throughout Britain's West Indies colonies where Irish slaves once toiled under the lash; Trinidad, Barbadoes, Antigua, Nevis & St. Kitt's, and the "Emerald Isle" (Montserrat) where so many place-names are Irish, including a "Fogarty Hill." With Hitler gone the era of slavery and genocide seemed to be ending; especially Britain's. Britain had established slavery in Ireland for centuries and had perpetrated three genocides there; by Queen Bess I, Cromwell, and Victoria. In 1917-1919 Britain murdered 9-11 million in Iran; in 1943-44 Britain starved to death 5.4 millions in India. In 1770 the British East India Company's private army starved to death ten million Bengalis. Gen. Hurley, as FDR's idea man, was ushering in a new era that lasted a few decades worldwide. (Google Hurley-FDRChurchill) **It ended**, debatably, with the 1953 overthrow by Kermit Roosevelt and the CIA of Iran's elected President Mos-

sadeq. They imposed the Shah over the objections of Iran as part of a protection racket wrested from the Brits, and thenceforth supported the oil-rich tyrannies.

The news media are concealing the full-scale invasion of Africa now underway. Our troops are occupying thirty-five African countries, beginning with Libya, Sudan, Algeria and Niger, according to AP 2/25/2012.

To learn why the US gov't sold out Irish-America and Ireland's national self-determination, see page 450 of "Voices From the Grave," Ed Moloney's book (2010) comprised mostly of tapes of two participants in the struggle, Brendan "Darkie" Hughes (ex-IRA) and David Ervine (leader of the UVF that had murdered close to 1,000 Catholics). It was the US State Dept's "Head of the Britain desk" that explained to Ervine why the US arranged the sell-out of the Six Counties to Britain. Ervine quotes him as follows: "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 at him, and he said; 'Islamic funda-

mentalism.' That was November 1994, and I was not alone, there are witnesses."

Torture. Writers Tommy McKeearney and Ian Cobain recently queried; was it during WW1 that Britain began to torture as policy? Here's my reply: the record shows that torture is permanent British policy. It ought to interest all opponents of torture, especially the Occupied Irish, that Stormont Castle, the local seat of official corruption, is named for an infamous torturer. Did Britain name Stormont Castle with torture

Lord Stormont, during the American Revolution, made his name infamous, being the entity responsible for Britain's policy of torture of American republican POWs. Today, the Ships Martyrs Memorial, atop the highest point of Brooklyn's Ft. Greene Park Cemetery, informs visitors that the vault beneath that monument contains the remains of 11,400 American patriots starved and tortured to death aboard British prison hulks in the adjacent East River in 1776. (They could have achieved surcease by doing a Gerry Adams.) A lengthy letter dated 12March1777 to The Committee of Secret Correspondence from Dr. Benjamin Franklin and Silas Deane in Paris, ends (ante

salutations) thusly; "We transmit you some affidavits, relating to the treatment of our prisoners, with a copy of our letter to Lord Stormont, communicating them, and his insolent answer. The Diplomatic Correspondence of the American Revolution, Vol. 1 of 12, Page 281

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Which Brit Reg't starved your relatives? See www.irishholocaust.org.

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