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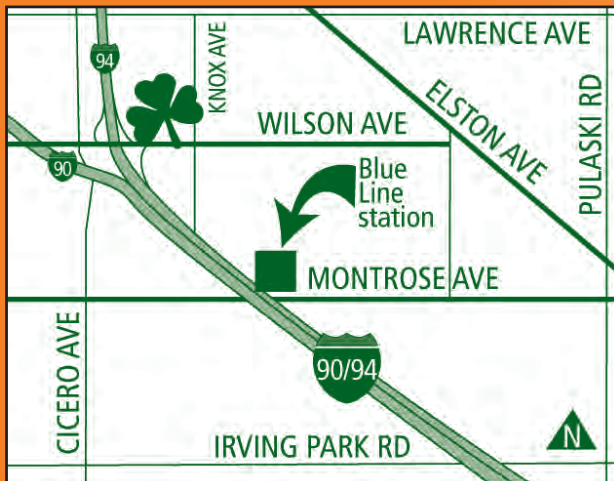
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From the Motherland

By Sean Farrell



Mugged By Reality?

Political columnists and commentators have a new sport – guessing the date of the next General Election and which parties will make up the Government after that election.

This after the results of May's local and European elections when the Coalition achieved the near impossible. The Government with the largest majority in the history of the state, which did nothing to bring about the economic collapse, for the most part performed credibly in repairing the damage, including seeing off the Troika successfully, was punished so severely in the ballot that its chances of recovery before its term runs out are slight. This regardless of any policy initiatives it may take.

The facts make stark reading, particularly for the junior Coalition partner, Labour. A protest vote was expected, but not on this scale. Its vote fell from 14.5% to 7.2% in the local elections, and from 13.9% to 5.3% in the European elections, both a far cry from the heady 19.4% in the 2011 general election. The party lost all three European seats. On this showing most of the party's deputies seem set to lose their Dail seats.

Fine Gael also got a shock, dropping from 32.5% to 24% in the local elections and from 29.1% to 22.3% in the European vote, significantly below its 36% general election figure. The party is now neck and neck with a partially revived Fianna Fail. Like Labour, party strategists can take little comfort that some of the fall was probably due to protest by way of abstention (the turnout was just over 50% compared to the 70% in the 2011 General Election). Suddenly a second term in government looks far from certain.

The big winners were Sinn Fein, which continued the upward trends of the 2011 elections (General and Presidential), doubling its vote in the local elections to 15.2% and increasing its share of the European poll from 11.2% to 19.5%, winning three of the eleven seats. This despite the arrest and lengthy questioning of Gerry Adams by Northern Ireland police just before election day. The other beneficiaries were a slew of Independents and minor parties, chiefly on the Left, who garnered 28% of the vote, three well entrenched personalities

winning seats in Europe.

Some pundits have seen Sinn Fein's continued success as marking a significant shift in the Irish political landscape. Certainly it has muscled its way onto the party scene and, with an efficient dedicated party structure at local level, now appears very much a fourth political force. Having creamed off much of Fianna Fail's "green" vote in 2011, this time around it added the scalp of the 2011 sans culottes surge to Labour. Not being in office is an additional bonus.

How it, and the other parties, will fare in the looming General Election is another matter. Several pundits have pointed to the current volatility of the electorate, present since 2008 and showing no signs of diminishing. That 28% vote for others – chiefly of the left – reflects this, as do successive opinion polls showing high percentages rejecting both the traditional political parties and the arriviste Sinn Fein. Ominously, the figure for "others" – 15.45% in the 2011 election – lurched above 20% in opinion polls in January and has been rising since.

The message from the voters, however unrealistic, is clear: there has been enough austerity, and people have no more to give. An annual property tax in 2013, doubled in 2014, and the prospect of a savage charge for domestic water commencing in 2015, on top of previous impositions, were steps too far. The Troika is now a memory and the Government's overhyping of the "achievement" of getting rid of it cut no ice. This year also, with the fig leaf excuse of the Troika's diktat removed, the ineptitude of the government in mishandling a number of small but sensitive issues has been exposed, compounding its woes. The banana skins proliferated.

The post-mortems have begun. While Sinn Fein is preening, Labour is reeling. Its leader Eamon Gilmore, has quit and, as I write, the succession contest is under way. The irony is that, by any standard, apart from the foolish comments made by Gilmore prior to the 2011 election, Labour in government for the most part delivered for its constituency on its major commitments. Core welfare payments were protected almost in entirety, as was the minimum wage, while those on lower incomes were taken out of the Universal Social Charge net.

It was primarily the small hurdles that tripped Labour up, rendering it vulnerable to sustained attack from Sinn Fein and

the left. Core welfare payments WERE protected, but the collateral damage from the alternative – a host of small stealth cuts brought in to achieve the necessary budgetary targets, and which affected disproportionately the old, sick and marginalised – proved too much. Arguably a further ten euros off unemployment and (non means – tested) child benefit or higher excise charges could have avoided all this and proved more palatable politically.

Then, a small hurdle that became big. While the water charges remain an accident waiting to happen – particularly next year when they have to be paid – another accident, though well signposted in advance, has already occurred. The Discretionary Medical Card fiasco hung the Government out to dry – Labour in particular – and offered a perfect example of a government out of touch.

Irish medical cards are issued, not on medical need, but on a means tested basis, under legislation dating from 1970 – the Stone Age in terms of Irish social policy. They provide free medical care, are a gateway to certain other welfare benefits, and are much sought after. Roughly half the population have them – around two million – including those, healthy or not, on the dole or the state pension. The total in January 2013 included around 60,000 people (3%) with discretionary medical cards, awarded case by case on the basis of individual need, and

by definition, all with real medical needs.

As part of the cost cutting measures to tackle Ireland's enormous health budget of €14 billion, this year's budget targeted savings of €113 million from medical cards, through reviews of eligibility, including strict means testing of discretionary card holders. Thousands lost them, or were "under review", including many highly publicised distressing cases. The media had a field day. It became THE issue on the doorsteps. Government reaction was to parrot that legally its hands were tied. Voters were not impressed, and remain unimpressed in the most recent polls as the Government, in panic, has, post-election, suddenly found a way to reverse policy.

Such is the level of popular disenchantment with the main parties that what happens next is anybody's guess. The new Labour leader may try to be more assertive, though the scope is limited. A government reshuffle is on the cards. There is speculation of more policy change. But time is running out. The summer beckons. After it, October's budget. Few would wager on the Government now lasting until 2016. Even Benjamin Franklin's rationale for hanging together is wearing thin. And then what? Political alliances thought unthinkable are now being contemplated. At least among journalists. For now.

Sean Farrell is a former Irish Consul General in Chicago

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Southside IRISH



80 Graduates in Community Violence Prevention Program

By Tim Moran
Southside Editor

A group of 80 youths in the city of Chicago were recognized on June 24 during a graduation ceremony commending their participation in



the Community Violence Prevention Program (CVPP), which is a five-week program that teaches job readiness skills. During the program, students learned how to identify their strengths and talents, attitudes in action, transferable skills; how to develop character and personal values. They have created a five-year plan and have discovered their career values in the process.

"This program has helped me grow and develop as a young man," said Stefon Arnold, one of five graduates to provide a testimony of the program's success before a crowd of proud family and friends at Bright Star Church in the city's Bronzeville neighborhood. "One thing I'll never forget is that this program taught me that your first impression should be your best impression."

"Working with the mentors and other mentees has taught me so much about the working world," added Essence Helms, another graduate. "The CVPP staff has had a great impact on my life as well

and I will not forget that."

Some of the program's mentors shared their inspirational stories and expressed their pride in the group that completed the program this year.

"It's gratifying to be part of community outreach," said mentor Christopher Lawson. "Being a mentor means paying it forward, and meaningful leadership is about serving."

"Life is a long-distance run, not a sprint," he added. "We all need to be productive in society so we can make a positive difference."

Another mentor shared the importance of "breaking the cycle," urging the youths to believe in themselves "no matter who you are, every dream is valid."

The graduates, who all began working in the community the day after the ceremony, also received a boost of confidence from former Chicago Bears offensive lineman Dan Jiggetts.

"This program is an outstanding example of what young people can accomplish," Jiggetts said. "If you don't believe in yourself, you'll never be able to make it. Life is all about establishing who you are."

Chicago's Third Ward Alderman Pat Dowell and Barbara Bates, a fashion designer and entrepreneur, were among the other high-profile

people in attendance to support the kids' accomplishments.

"Adversity can turn into strength," said Bates, a breast cancer survivor who runs the Barbara Bates Foundation, a fundraiser that helps economically disadvantaged High School seniors afford prom attire. "No matter what happens, you have to keep on living. Had I not been a teen mom, it's unlikely I would have been able to put together to foundation to provide dresses and tuxes to those who need them for prom. Blessings in disguise do happen."

The Community Violence Prevention Program was created by Governor Pat Quinn nearly four years ago. The initiative is implemented in 23 neighborhoods in Chicago and the suburbs through ICJIA (Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority). The goal of the CVPP is to reduce risk factors and promote protective factors associated with violence through a wide range of community-based services for youth and young adults including: social, emotional and job skill development; case management, trauma-informed counseling for students in need of early intervention; mentoring; reentry services; and tutoring and other school supports that enhance young people's ability to succeed in school, in their community and in life.



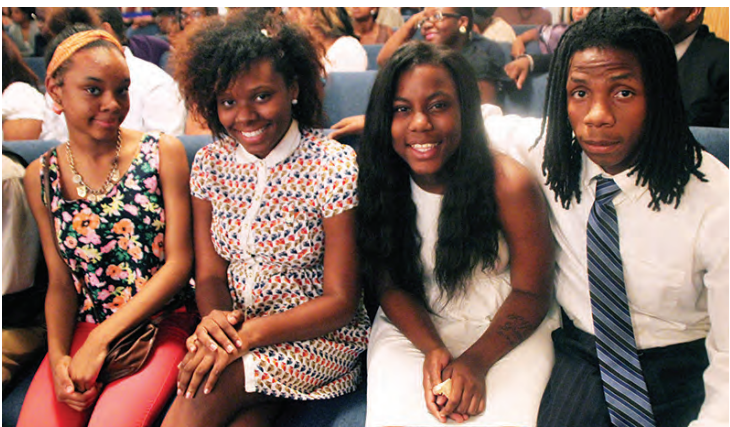
Thomas Cusack of Cusack Insurance Agency LLC, and his staff celebrate 40 years of providing the best insurance options for families, individuals and businesses. Cusack is considered one of the most respected and successful agents in this part of the country. Pictured left to right, top row, are Larry Bahnaman, Tom Cusack and Glen Kato. Seated are Chris Mannix, Tracy Ramel and Raewyn Bozzi.

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Irish American Stars in Shakespeare's *The Merry Wives of Windsor*

By **Tim Moran**
 Southside Editor

The upcoming show of "The Merry Wives of Windsor," playing from July 12 to August 10 at the First Folio Theatre, 31st St. and Rt. 83 in Oak Brook, will feature an Irish American as the lead actor.

Brian McCartney, who will play the role of "Sir John Falstaff" - Shakespeare's greatest comic character, has Irish roots.



Brian McCartney

He says he is a frequent visitor of the Fifth Province at the Irish American Heritage Center and usually attends bar there for their big festival in July. This year he will not be able to because of his role in the play.

"It was a sacrifice I had to consider," he said. "Ultimately, the opportunity to play a role that I've been yearning to play for most of my professional-acting life won out. As any actor that is considered a proverbial 'big guy' can attest, this is one of those that is on the bucket list."

The play, which is a classic Shakespeare comedy, will preview on July 9 and open at 8:15 p.m. on July 12, running through August 10. Guests are encouraged to bring a picnic and enjoy First Folio Theatre's annual "Shakespeare Under the Stars" production, directed by Jeff Award nominee Nick Sandys.

McCartney's character was too huge to be contained by his original appearance in Henry IV. Short on money, the rotund Falstaff sets out on a quest to seduce not just one, but two wealthy married women, who then decide to turn the tables on Falstaff and teach him a lesson in fidelity and honesty. The New York Times raves the tale is "sparkling" and "brims with joy."

"It is such a treat," McCartney said. "I am thrilled for the opportunity to work again with the folks at First Folio Theatre as well as with Director Nick Sandys. And once the play is over, you can most usually find me on Friday nights on a comfortable stool in the Fifth Province with a Guinness in front of me."

All performances of "Merry Wives of Windsor" take place at the Mayslake Peabody Estate, located at 1717 W. 31st St. Preview tickets are \$22, with regular priced tickets set at \$30 Wednesdays and Thursdays (seniors and students are \$26), and \$37 on Fridays through Sundays (seniors and students are \$32). All performances are at 8:15 p.m. Tickets at 630-986-8067 or online at www.firstfolio.org.

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Terry From Derry

by Terry Boyle



Memory lane

In the early 80s I became a member of an ecumenical community. The interfaith group was committed to encouraging reconciliation, and dialogue between Protestants and Catholics. The community aimed to bring about a genuine encounter that would prove to be transformative. But, to be honest, I joined up simply because it was such a welcome change from the riots, and shootings that went with living in Derry. Now I was safely ensconced in a village, beautifully placed at the base of the mountains of Mourne. It was nice feeling to have finally escaped the violence, and tension of the city. I was with educated, peace loving people who offered sanctuary to those who lived in difficult situations by offering them an oasis of peace.

Barely out of my teens, this new venture was luxury compared to where I'd come from. I was meeting people from all over Ireland, Europe and the rest of the world. It was great talking about the Troubles without being directly involved in them. But despite my exposure to the political violence of the North, I was still quite naïve in certain respects, as the following story will demonstrate.

On one occasion, I'd returned to the community after a short stint back in Derry. During my absence from the community, a young married couple had arrived for help. However, this couple needed help far beyond the good wishes and prayers of this kindhearted group. The couple's drug addiction had left them mentally unstable. The husband, during his short visit, took himself off to the woods with a knife, slashed his wrists and had to be admitted into hospital. The whole thing was a mess, and soon he was bandaged up, released from hospital with the recommendation that he be admitted to a mental hospital. And, since he was from the South, it was decided to take

him to Dublin where he lived and admit him to a hospital. His wife was of no help at all. A drug addict herself, and a victim of her husband's abuse, she was incapable of making any decisions or talking any sense to her spouse.

Since the wrist bandaged man threatened to throw himself out of the car, I was designated to travel in the back seat with my finger on the button of door where he was sitting. I was familiar with rioting, bombing, and military raids but this was something new. The trouble started shortly after we set off on the three-hour drive. Imagining himself to be the Devil, he began to rant about how he could destroy us all, especially the one making it impossible for him to escape. It seems I had a special place in his thoughts as he consigned my soul to hell, and my body to any number of diseases.

His delusions shifted from the satanic to being a prophet of God. Suddenly, he was having apocalyptic visions of death and destruction; again the brunt of such disasters was directed my way. Soon after he was Jesus Christ returned, and his first miracle was to try and kick the windscreen out. Forcing the driver to stop, the others worked to pacify him, and it worked for a while. Throughout it all, I never took my finger off the lock. I could feel his hatred towards me in every rant.

The plan was to separate husband and wife when we reached Dublin. I would take the wife to a safe place while the two others took the husband to the mental hospital. The plan sounded good to me. The sooner I got away from the crazy man, the sooner I could take my aching finger off the button.

When we reached Dublin, my finger was numb. Carefully removing my finger from the lock, the wild man pushed open the door. It seems that the Devil and Jesus were not happy with their confinement. On making his escape, the

damned-saviour delivered his final blow squarely to my chin. Initially stunned, I wanted to crucify or exorcise him myself, but we were peacemakers, and I found myself hopelessly trapped by my own ideology.

While my friends escorted the husband away, I walked the wife in the opposite direction. My jaw was hurt in sympathy with my finger as I marched her down a busy street. Thinking myself safe, I was surprised to hear the sound of car horns behind us. Looking back, I could see the husband walking unaccompanied behind us. With each honk of the horn, he would walk onto the road and bang on the windshield of the offending car.

The wife was slowing me down as she pulled herself towards the demon-possessed messiah. At this point, I was not very patient, and pushed her into the nearest pub. But the crazy man would not be dissuaded. Into the pub he came shouting 'Give me back my wife!' Out of the corner of my eye I could see the regulars looking at the lot of us and arriving at every number but the right one. The wrong husband, the adulterer and the sinful wife bringing their domestic into the bar must have looked like a right soap opera moment.

The drama only stopped when he heard the sound of sirens. Thinking himself trapped he ran out of the pub. As I was trying to stop the wife from running out after him, one of the bar patrons came up to me and asked 'Are you from the Shankill (Protestant) or the Falls (Catholic)?'

Had I missed something? I'm in Dublin. I've spent over four hours wishing this nightmare were over, and this man wants to know if I'm a Catholic or a Protestant. I wanted to laugh at the absurdity of it all. The Troubles I thought I'd escaped had found me out.

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9:00 pm: Second Time Around

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4:45 pm: Mulligan Stew

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Irish Books and Plays in Review

Frank West



Put Your Rosary Beads Away Ma

By Cahal Dunne

This book is a joy to read. It is filled with life and humanity, and radiates the enchantment of being fully alive. Live, certainly, has ups and downs, but the author shows many examples of picking yourself up and moving on.

The book follows the exciting adventures of the author's alter-ego, Billy Golden. He is a boy from Cork who grew up and lived during a time in Ireland when there were few possibilities and little hopefulness.

Many Irish people had a self-doubt as a result. This poor self-image was due to pervasive religious repression and to a government that had no vision of a better future for its people.

Dunne knows how to tell a gripping story. He uses humor and suspense and these make

music maker when he came to the United States. He is a solo performer now and has lived here since 1983. He lives near Pittsburgh with his wife and two boys.

The book's main character is Billy Golden. As a boy he was not much interested in sports or school activities. However, he is obsessed with music and loved playing the piano. That love leads him to form a band. (Showbands were very popular in Ireland in the 1950's and 1960's.)

We learn of his experiences performing in halls throughout rural Ireland. This was drudgery, but very good preparation for future success. His song and band won the contest to represent Ireland in the Eurovision contest.

The author has a great ability to create colorful scenes. This, and the powerful story, make the book ideal to be made into a movie.

I was personally fascinated with how he lost his inhibitions and became an open and free adult.

We were both raised in an environment where life was seen as black and white. Life is mostly gray, most people do their best and need compassion and hope.

The book is filled with many possible quotes for this review. I have five single-spaced pages of them!

Those below illustrate the author's emotional development and his story telling skill.

*In the 50's, Ireland hardly changed. The Church had a stranglehold on the people, with the tacit approval of the government. Forty years later, the Church would be guilty of all sorts of physical and sexual abuse of girls and boys... Most of the abuse was covered up by the Church authorities. In

the early 2000's their moral authority will be shot in Ireland, and the pews will be almost completely empty of young people."

*He reflects upon growing up: "Billy must have missed the 'God loves you sermon's they were drilled constantly that God was watching them, and if they strayed, it was eternal flames awaiting... They lived their young lives in the fear of God rather than believing in the loving, forgiving Father."

*Coming off the plane at JFK airport: "The first thing Billy notices is the total contrast in attitudes. The amazing vibe and upbeat buzz. The contrast is stark. From American's story of immigration and hope, compared to Ireland's 800 years of British rule with all of its brutal suppression and the total lack of hope."

*About the end of the civil war in the North. "Finally in April, 1998, England, Northern and Southern Ireland signed the Good Friday Agreement. Thankfully, it has lasted."

*When he had been told a ceasefire had been declared that would stop the violence in the North of Ireland, he composed a song of hope and optimism that a bright new day was coming for Ireland.

This is the first stanza.

*Peace In My Land
Green is my land,
Where a new day is dawning
Peace in our Time is a miracle unfolding
Gone are the days of the
Tears of my country,
Peace in my land.*

Frank West is a retired teacher and has written book and play reviews since this paper's inception in 1977. Many are online at www.irishamericannews.com

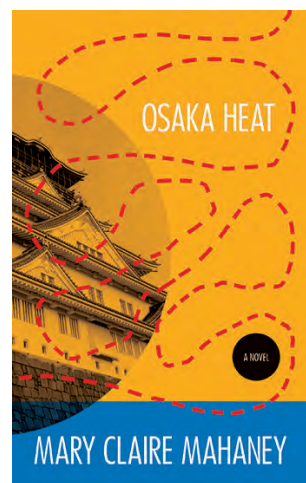


Words With Melody

By Melody Gallagher



Mary Claire Mahaney's Osaka Heat follows Ginger O'Neill, a strong, morally-defined Catholic who never strays far from her path, as she is whisked away on an adventure that will test her beliefs and make her reassess her own ideas of happiness.



"I hate to think I have to do everything right," Ginger O'Neill writes on the plane at the start of her story. A single mother raising a rebellious teen, Ginger reluctantly enters a competition through her school district and wins the chance to travel to Japan. Chosen by her school to act as representative to a prospective sister academy, she suspects her tendency for propriety to be the real reason behind her school's decision. With limited Japanese, Ginger leaves behind home and family to begin her journey to the land of the rising sun. After a shaky start, she soon settles down in her role as "The Visitor." Her host's wife becomes a confidante to her, helping Ginger navigate her new environment, and Ginger in turn becomes a point of interest among her new colleagues. Despite several cultural hiccups, Ginger, the woman who always does the

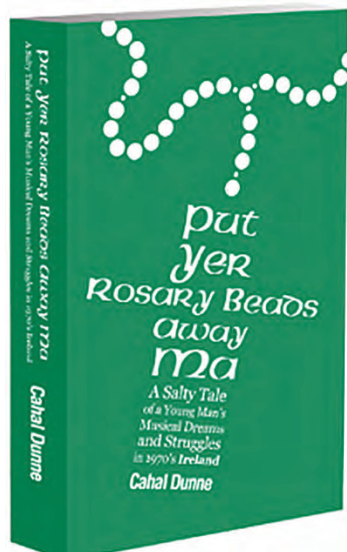
right thing, seems to fit in well at her new school.

Enter Akira, a married colleague at Ginger's new school to whom she is instantly attracted. While attempting to reconcile her feelings with her personal values, Ginger spends more time with Akira. His intellect seemingly only matched by her own, they bond over music, literature, and architecture. Their attraction grows amidst gossip and raised eyebrows as Ginger struggles with her own ideas of right and wrong. Between the thought-provoking chemistry between the two characters and Ginger's internal struggles, Osaka Heat earns its name. The book demonstrates the complexity of life, the difficulties of marriage, and the possibility to start again.

Despite a slow beginning, the main character being prone to small speeches about her stance on different points of grammar and an obsession with sushi, the book quickly adopts a faster pace. Ginger is a flawed yet redeemable character which only serves to make her more relatable if not always likeable. I'd recommend this book to any travel memoir reader or anyone interested stories of new beginnings and redemption.

Divided between journal entries, letters, and third person, Osaka Heat allows the reader to get to know Ginger both through her outward appearance and how she defines herself. A story of art, music, and romance, this is not a love story. There is no concrete beginning or end, and Ginger's relationship with Akira is not always what it appears. It's a story of self-discovery, more about the protagonist's own journey to heal old wounds and discover what really stops her from finding happiness again.

Melody grew up in the Northwest Suburbs of Illinois. She's a recent graduate of the University of Colorado, and is fluent in Japanese and Spanish.



the book easy and fun to read.

Dunne grew up in Cork, Became a choir director, music teacher, and played piano in a show band. He loves to write songs, and his song was chosen as Ireland's entrant in the prestigious Eurovision contest.

He followed his career as a



IRISH BOOKS, VIDEOS, DVD'S AND MORE!



New Irish Courses From Living Language

For those looking to reconnect with their heritage through their mother tongue, Living Language presents two courses based on thousands of years of tradition: Living Language Hebrew And Living Language Irish. Though both were previously on the verge of extinction as spoken languages, they are now vital links between the past and present.

Both Hebrew and Irish come from ancient cultures of legends, poetry, music, folklore, and religious study. After becoming virtually obsolete in everyday use, Hebrew was revived as a modern language and now has an estimated 9 million speakers worldwide, a number that continues to grow. Today, one in four Irish citizens say they have some knowledge of Irish, and a burgeoning international community are exploring their origins while becoming Gaeilgeoiri (Irish speakers).

For those looking to discover their roots, knowledge of Irish or Hebrew can help decode original documents, records, and even surnames, as well as connect travelers journeying to their homelands with fellow speakers. Alongside the lessons, Living Language's courses include culture notes to provide context on everything from ordering at an Israeli restaurant to Irish curses and blessings.

Living Language encourages flexibility and engagement with learning materials over multiple platforms, so users have options in choosing the courses and formats that are right for them. Irish and Hebrew courses are available in a variety of formats and levels, including:

Living Language online courses (\$150 per year)—The digital edition of the beginner through advanced course offers interactive content including games, puzzles, progress quizzes, an online community of language learners, and access to e-tutoring sessions.

Living Language mobile apps (\$9.99 for full course on iPhone or iPad, or \$3.99 per level)—The mobile edition of the course mirrors the full beginner through advanced lessons of the online course, optimized for practicing at home or on the go.

Essential Edition (\$22.95)—Living Language's basics course teaches everything necessary to build a solid base. This course includes 1 workbook covering 10 lessons at a beginner level, 3 audio CDs, and free online study tools in the Language Lab on LivingLanguage.com, which include flashcards and quizzes to accompany each lesson.

Complete Edition (\$49.95)—The Complete course covers beginner through advanced vocabulary, grammar, and conversation in a more traditional learning format. The course includes 3 workbooks covering 46 lessons, 9 audio CDs, and free online study tools in the Language Lab on LivingLanguage.com, which include flashcards and quizzes to accompany each lesson.

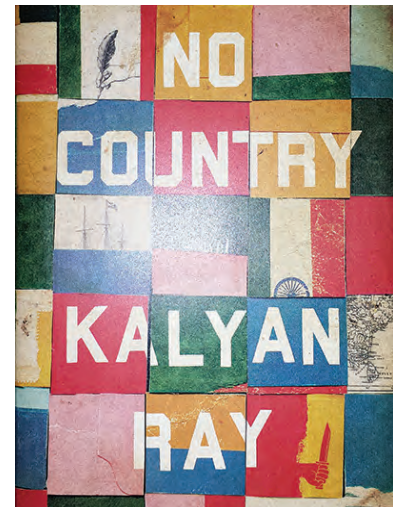
Online learning options let users access exclusive interactive content, like games and

quizzes to aid with retention and recall of a language. Living Language's online courses also include access to community forums, where students can pose questions and connect with other students, and personal e-tutoring sessions, where a native speaker offers additional practice, feedback, advice, and encouragement to assist them on their linguistic journey.

Learning a new language is a step-by-step process—students progress from mastering single words to composing full sentences and constructing conversations. The Living Language Method™, based on courses developed for the US State Department's overseas diplomats, uses a four point approach that provides all the tools necessary to become fluent: Building a Foundation, Progressing with Confidence, Retaining What You've

Learned, and Achieving Your Goals.

In addition to Hebrew and Irish, Living Language's courses are available in Spanish, French, Italian, German, Mandarin Chinese, Japanese, Brazilian Portuguese, Hindi, Arabic, Greek, Korean, and Russian, as well as English for speakers of Chinese, Japanese, and Spanish. For more information about the complete suite of options available from Living Language, or to start speaking a new language today with a free lesson, visit us at www.livinglanguage.com.



No Country

No Country, By Kalyan Ray begins against the backdrop of rural Ireland in 1843, when the lives of Padraig Aherne and Brendan McCarthaigh change forever after Padraig embarks on a trip to Dublin. There, a tragedy forces him on a ship unexpectedly bound for Calcutta, separating him from not only Brendan, but also the young woman he hoped to marry and their newborn daughter.

Unable to return to Ireland, Padraig builds a life for himself in India but never forgets his roots. Meanwhile, Brendan, too, finds himself exiled from Ireland by unforeseen circumstance: the Great Potato Famine. With no choice but to flee or perish, he travels to North America with Maeve, Padraig's young daughter whom Brendan has come to raise as his own.

Forced to create new lives for themselves, Padraig and Brendan's respective journeys cast them as the progenitors for two separate but forever connected families. As their two family trees take root on opposite sides of the world, Ray connects the stories of their descendants to bring this ambitious novel full-circle by divulging the long-seeded motivation behind the terrible murder in a sleepy New York town first introduced to readers in the novel's opening pages.

Published by Simon & Schuster
Published June 17, 2014, Hardcover \$27.00, 544 pages. ISBN: 9781451635997
e-Book ISBN: 9781451636390

put yer ROSARY Beads away ma

A Salty Tale of a Young Man's Musical Dreams and Struggles in 1970's Ireland

by Cahal Dunne

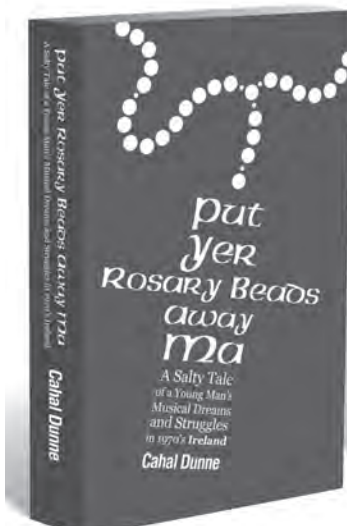
In his new book, Cahal tracks the progress of a young man from Cork City: choir director, music teacher, and showband musician, to seminal Celtic rocker, Eurovision-acclaimed songwriter, and US based solo performer since 1983. He does this through a series of interwoven vignettes, some hilarious and some heart wrenching, but all vastly entertaining. I can unreservedly recommend this book to anyone who would like an insider's perspective on the Irish music scene of the 1960's and 1970's.

Seamus Kennedy

Singer Songwriter Author, Washington, USA

Anybody who ever played in, or danced to the beat of an Irish show band, has to read this book. Apart from that however, it is a great read in its own right, and should appeal to anyone who likes a story of a young man's dreams and struggles to make them come true. A universal tale, beautifully chronicled.

Sean O Se
Cork, Ireland



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PUT YER ROSARY BEADS AWAY BY CAHAL DUNNE

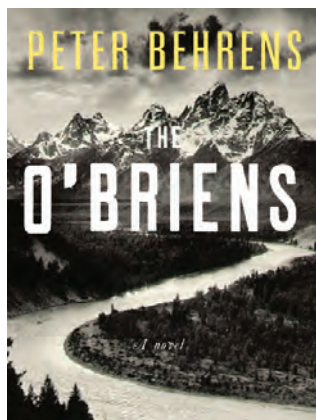
This book is a joy to read. It is filled with life and humanity, and radiates the enchantment of being fully alive. The book follows the exciting adventures of the author's alter ego, Billy Golden. He is a boy from Cork who grew up and lived during a time in Ireland when there were very few possibilities, and little hopefulness. Giving up his secure teaching job, to the chagrin of his mother, he follows his heart for better or for worse.

Dunne knows how to tell a story. He uses humor and suspense, thus making the book a fun and easy read. "Billy" joins a showband in the waning days of the craze that swept Ireland from the 60's through the 70's, and Dunne takes us on some hilarious journeys as the lads play in chancy dancehalls throughout rural Ireland. Along the way, we learn about the band members love stories and romantic heartaches, as they grow into one of the first ever Celtic Rock bands.

Weaving modern Irish history, together with all his anecdotes and experiences, he has a great ability to create colorful scenes. This book is screaming out to be made into a movie.

Frank West, Book and Play Reviewer, Irish American News, Chicago

THE O'BRIENS is an unforgettable saga of love, loss, and change spanning half a century in the lives of a restless patriarch and his splendid, tragic, ambitious clan.



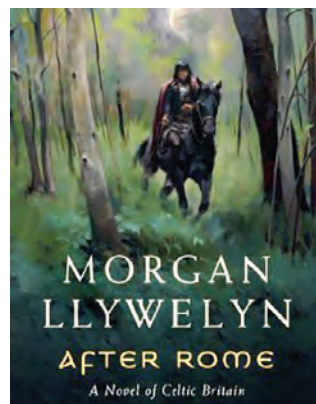
In Joe O'Brien—backwoods boy, railroad magnate, brooding soul—Peter Behrens gives us a fiercely compelling man who exchanges isolation and poverty in the Canadian wilds for a share in the dazzling possibilities and consuming sorrows of the twentieth century. When Joe meets Iseult Wilkins in Venice-by-the-Sea, California, their courtship becomes the first movement in a symphony of the generations. The O'Briens is the story of a marriage and a family moving through the turbulence of history, told with epic precision and wondrous imagination.

amazon.com/The-OBriens-Peter-Behrens/dp/0307744388

AFTER ROME: After over four hundred years of Roman rule, the island its conquerors called Britannia was abandoned—left to its own devices as the Roman empire contracted in a futile effort to defend itself from the barbarian hordes encroaching upon its heart. As Britannia falls into anarchy and the city of Viroconium is left undefended, two cousins who remained behind when the imperial forces withdrew pursue very different courses in the ensuing struggle to unite the disparate tribes and factions throughout the land.

Passionate, adventurous Dinas recruits followers and dreams of kingship. Thoughtful Cadogan saves a group of citizens when Saxons invade and burn Viroconium, then becomes the reluctant founder and leader of a new community that rises in the wilderness.

Available on Amazon.com.



Eoin Colfer Announced as Laureate na nÓg

Acclaimed novelist Eoin Colfer was announced as the third Laureate na nÓg, Ireland's laureate for children's literature, at a special event at the Arts Council. The announcement was made by Fergus O'Dowd, T.D., Minister of State at the Department of Communications, Energy & Natural Resources and Environment, Community & Local Govt, with responsibility for the NewEra Project.

Laureate na nÓg is an initiative of the Arts Council with the support of the Department of Children and Youth Affairs, Children's Books Ireland, Poetry Ireland and the Arts Council of Northern Ireland. The honour was established to engage young people with high quality chil-



are Half Moon Investigations, The Wish List, The Supernaturalist, and a series of Eoin Colfer's Legends. In January 2008, Colfer published a book titled Airman, another best-seller. His latest novel, Warp The Reluctant Assassin has been nominated for the CBI Book of the Year 2014. To date more than half of his books have reached the New York Times list at least once. Eoin Colfer currently lives in Wexford, Ireland with his wife, Jackie, and two children,

Séan and Finn.

Speaking about his appointment as Laureate na nÓg, Eoin Colfer said: 'I feel incredibly honoured and incredibly petrified to be taking on the Laureate mantle after Niamh and Siobhán. I

The Irish: A Photohistory 1840-1940

By Sean Sexton and Christine Kinealy. Published by Thames & Hudson, 500 Fifth Ave., New York NY 10110. www.thamesandhudsonusa.com. 2002 Hardback \$40, 2013 Softcover \$21.95. 224 pp. Illustrations, index.



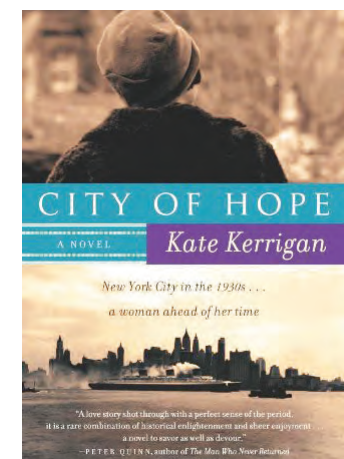
"Photographs remain an undervalued and underused source by those who are interested in Ireland's past. Too often they are treated as appendages to the written word rather than as pieces of evidence in their own right." The 271 photographs used here are all high quality and clear, the best of the best. google.com/books/about/The_Irish.html?id=3-6AMAEACAAJ

City of Hope

By Kate Herrigan

It is the 1930s and when her beloved husband, John, suddenly dies, young Ellie Hogan decides to leave Ireland and return to New York. She hopes that the city's vibrancy will distract her from her grief. But the Depression has rendered the city unrecognizable-gone is the energy and atmosphere of fun that Ellie fell in love with ten years before.

Plunging headfirst into a new life, Ellie pours all her passion and energy into running a home and refuge for the homeless. In return they give her the kind of love, support and friendship she needs to try and overcome her grief. Until, one day, someone she thought she'd never see again steps through her door. It seems that even the Atlantic isn't big enough to prevent the tragedies of the past from catching up with her. goodreads.com/book/show/16248251-city-of-hope



Mary Claire Mahaney

OSAKA HEAT

Gold Medal - Romance category

Silver Medal - Multicultural Fiction category

Independent Publisher's eLit Awards



ISBN: 9781425990824

The printed version of Osaka Heat also won the **Silver Medal** in Independent Publisher's IPPY Award, **Multicultural Fiction category**. The IPPY Awards annually recognize the best independently published books across a variety of categories

Osaka Heat (AuthorHouse) follows the story of an Irish-American widow who travels to Japan and becomes involved in a forbidden romance with a Japanese man

www.authorhouse.com/bookstore and Amazon and Barnes & Noble

dren's literature and to underline the importance of children's literature in our cultural and imaginative lives.

Eoin Colfer was born in Wexford in 1965. Having qualified as a primary school teacher, he worked in Wexford before travelling and working in Saudi Arabia, Tunisia and Italy. His first book, Benny and Omar, was published in 1998, based on his experiences in Tunisia; it has since been translated into many languages. He attained worldwide recognition in 2001, when the first Artemis Fowl book was published and became a New York Times Best Seller, as did some sequels. Among his other popular works

feel I am representing my family and my county and indeed all book people in Ireland which is not something I mean to take lightly. I intend to spend my time spreading stories to every nook and cranny in the country. Nobody is safe. It doesn't matter where you hide - I will find you and tell you a story.'

The role of Laureate na nÓg was established in 2010 to recognise the role and importance of literature for children. The position is held for a period of two years, during which the Laureate will reach a wide and diverse audience throughout Ireland and internationally through selected events and initiatives.



Come By The Hills

By Mary Ann K. Coon



As an Irish travel specialist, I am frequently asked "when is the best time of the year to go to Ireland?". It's a fair question, since people are honestly looking for the best return on their travel dollar. But, Ireland shouldn't be considered a "sun" or "beach" destination regardless what the calendar says. It could be a damp, chilly rain falling in July or the sun shining brightly on an early spring day in February. One cannot predict the weather in Ireland. Dare I say, there are fewer meteorologists in Ireland per capita than here in the U.S. for good reason. Maybe it's because people in Ireland know when you're wet it's raining and when you have to grab your sunglasses off of your car's visor, it's mostly sunny. And they accept it for what it is. It can't be changed. Just like one other thing in Ireland that seemingly can't be changed...the craic....the good times, good music, good banter that doesn't restrict itself to good weather. My answer is generally this..."when is it a good time for YOU to go?" and then have them consider these pros and cons of traveling during different times of the year.

HIGH SEASON – generally considered June – August/St. Patrick's Week. This usually works best for teachers, students, families traveling together and those who truthfully believe the weather follows a pattern in Ireland, and if it's the summer, it must be sunny and warm (not necessarily so). You'll find all of the attractions, sites and points of interest open at this time of year (barring inclement weather). You'll also find a number of tourists trying to enjoy them as well. There are a superlative number of fleadh, horse races, and competitions all to be enjoyed by the Irish and visitor alike. My suggestion? Join in on the fun. Your travel dollar at this time of year may not be stretched as far in terms of accommodation or car rental rates, but you'll make up for it with these experiences that may not be had at other times of the year.

SHOULDER SEASONS – April/May and September/October. Fewer tourists. Historically fair weather (but, no guarantees). Rates fall off slightly from the high season. This is either the "warm-up" or the "wind-down" season. Still it's a great season to be in Ireland. There are festivals to celebrate the spring or the fall harvests. Or, if you find yourself in Lisdoonvarna in September, the world famous "Matchmaking Festival" – a must if you're still looking for "Mr. or Ms. Right" and would enjoy a spin around the dance floor at the Ritz with someone from Mullingar. If you're an avid golfer you'll find less crowded greens, and yet still room for an interested party or foursome. And the caddies have more time to share their wisdom. The shoulder season bears its name well.

OFF SEASON – typically known to be November – March (with the exceptions of Christmas/New Year's weeks and St. Patrick's week). Beware the days are short at this time of the year, so if driving on your own, you may want to plan on being wherever you're headed

before dark falls. The airlines and accommodations conspire to make this a special time to visit Ireland, with their lowest rates of the year. Sure, it may be a little chilly, but it sure beats a Midwestern winter, such as the one we just had. To ward off the cold, a turf fire and a hot whiskey is awaiting those looking for respite from the damp. There may be some attractions closed during this time of the year, but what is open is the hearts of the locals in their element --- the pubs, the shops, the fine restaurants with open tables. Because, one should know this --- the 'craic' knows no season.

My point being, don't let a calendar tell you when the best time is to visit Ireland, let your schedule, your budget, your tastes determine the best time. Let a specialist steer you in the right direction and the weather will be the last thing on your mind.

This month's winning IAN's reader question was posed by Mr. Dave Dooley of Libertyville, IL.

"Is there a maximum age limit for renting a car in Ireland?" Well, Dave, it depends on the individual car rental company's policies, so make sure either you or the experienced travel agent you are working with, accurately determine what the policy is for the rental car company you'd be using. Some maintain a maximum age of 75. Some do not have a maximum age and allow you to rent with specific conditions --- i.e., you must drive on a regular basis, you will need to provide at the rental counter a letter from your doctor to state you have been in good health for at least 12 months and a letter from your insurance company to state you have not had an accident within the last 5 years, and of course carry a valid U.S. driver's license. As with any car rental, I highly recommend purchasing the "SUPER Collision Damage Waiver" available locally, which reduces your liability to zero to damage to the car (with a few minor exceptions). This runs approximately \$18 - \$22 USD, PER DAY, but well worth the peace of mind.

Thank you to Peggy Kinnane's of Arlington Heights

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for providing this month's winner with a dining voucher!

Next month, an interview with Tourism Ireland's Executive VP of the United States & Canada, Ms. Alison Metcalfe.

Until next month, Go dté tú slán - "May you go safely", Mary Ann. I invite all suggestions, comments, and of course questions. travelwithmaryann@gmail.com

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WHOLESALE ONLY

Arlington Heights Irish Fest – July 25-26

Thousands will gather in one of the most historic areas in Arlington Heights to celebrate the 15th annual Irish Fest. Situated in the historic district of Arlington Heights, the Historical Museum's Irish Fest boasts two days packed with Irish dancing, heritage, fun and food. All proceeds from the Irish Fest benefit the Historical Museum and help to fund educational programs, permanent and traveling exhibits, a local historical artifacts and research library as well as programs and events in our historic buildings including the Banta House, the Muller House, the Heritage Gallery, and Log Cabin.

The entire family will enjoy a huge line up of Irish entertainment, food, vendors and cultural programs. Fans of all things Irish can spend two days on the beautiful Arlington Heights Historical Museum grounds immersed in sounds, smells and tastes of Ireland. Blankets and lawn chairs are welcome. No pets please.

Headliner bands close out each eve-

ning's performance with Mike & Joe featured on Saturday and Second Time Around performing on Friday evening.

Friday, July 25

Gates open at 4:30 p.m.

Admission is \$5 adults, children under 15 free

5:00-6:15 p.m.

Small Potatoes-

Folk music duo of

Jacquie Manning

and Rich Prezioso play a diverse reper-

toire "Celtic to Cowboy."

6:00-8:00 p.m. Merry Makers – Free

face painting with Irish themes and bal-

loon twisting

6:30 p.m. Trinity Irish Dancers – The

school has won an unprecedented 32

World Championship titles for the

United States, and is the largest Irish

dance program in the world.

7:15 p.m. The Glengael – Bagpiping in

the grand Celtic tradition



Chancey Brothers

7:30 p.m. The Toolies - Built from the wreckage of several other bands, the Toolies play Irish Pub music greatly influenced by Irish bands like the Pogues, Flogging Molly, Young Dubliners, Saw Doctors, and many more.

8:45 p.m. Lucky Lass Drawing – all ladies receive a free raffle ticket at admission for this drawing

9:00p.m. Second Time Around – Classic Rock Band based out of the northwest suburbs of Chicago, featuring 9 talented musicians each with countless years of experience to their credit. Second Time Around is inspired by the works of many Classic Rock greats and strives to perform their songs with passion and accuracy.

11:00 p.m. Fest closes for evening

Saturday, July 26

Gates open at 3:30 p.m.

Admission is \$5 adults, \$2 children ages 3-14.

4:00 p.m. McNulty Irish Dancers – One of the largest, most active dance schools in the Midwest

4:45-6:15 p.m. Mulligan Stew – Mulligan Stew has been a fixture in the Irish/Celtic Music Scene in Chicago since 1978. Their song selections come from Traditional Irish Music, Irish Drinking Songs, Folk, Rock, Bluegrass & Country Music.

4:00-8:00 p.m. Merry Makers – Free

face painting with Irish themes and balloon twisting

Wee Folk Tent open with children's activities

Irish American Heritage Center display

Northern Illinois Chapter of Crochet Guild of America

6:15 p.m. Best Legs in a Kilt Contest – Gentlemen, bring your own kilt or borrow one from us.

6:45-8:15 p.m. The Chancey Brothers –

It's Hard To Sing Along If Your Glass Is Empty! An acoustic blend of Irish folk, rock and country music. Featuring guitars, vocals, mandolins, fiddles, flute and whistle, the Chancey Brothers perform regularly throughout Chicagoland and the Midwest making fans and friends wherever they go. In true Irish fashion, it's all about the laughter and song.

8:45 p.m. Irish Raffle – Buy your chance to win from a selection of prizes, including \$500 grand prize. Tickets are \$5 each or 6 for \$25.

9:00-10:30 p.m. Mike & Joe - Mike and Joe mix, match, and perfect hand selected hits and timeless favorites. They bring down the house with today's hottest hits while rocking favorite childhood jams. Mike and Joe are not just your normal cover band, they're a true BAND that plays covers.

11:00 p.m. Fest Closes

Arlington Heights Historical Museum is located at the corner of Fremont and Vail streets, one block south of Euclid. Parking is available in the commuter parking lot across the street. Please do not park in the library lot.

For more information, go to ahmuseum.org or call 847-255-1225

Multi-Platinum Irish Music Legend

Phil Coulter

One Show Only!

Friday July 11, 2014 7:30pm

at the

Irish American Heritage Center

4626 North Knox Chicago

tickets \$35

(includes admission to Irish Festival)

773-282-7035 x 10



Hit Songs:

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Puppet on a String.

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GET YOUR IRISH ON at the IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL

July 11, 12 and 13

Irish Fest is July 11, 12 and 13 and showcases the finest in local and international Irish and American music, dance and family activities. It features more than 100 performers for 3 days on 5 stages.

The festival directly supports and is held on the grounds of the Center and is one of its largest fundraisers.

Confirmed performers include:

Gaelic Storm, Phil Coulter, the Tossers, Derek Warfield and the Young Wolfe Tones, Dublin City Ramblers, the Killdares, the Mickey Finns, Kevin Flynn and the Avondale Ramblers, the Chancey Brothers, Red Rebel County, Brother Crowe, the Academy of Irish Music, the Larkin and Moran Brothers, the Dooley Brothers, featuring Kathleen Keane, Baal Tinne, Black Donnellys, RicoQuinn, Piobagusfidil with Patrick and Karen Cannady and friends, Mulligan Stew, Emish, Irish Heritage Singers, Mulhern School of Irish Dance, Chicago Celtic Pipe Band, Gerry Carney, Trinity Irish Dancers, the Holy Hour House Band featuring

Laurence Nugent, Kennedy's Kitchen, Finvarra's Wren, Sheila Tully Academy of Irish Dance, O'Hare School of Irish Dance, McNulty School of Irish Dance, the Shannon Rovers Irish Pipe Band, Tooromeen School of Irish Dance and Foy School of Traditional Irish Dance, Misericordia Heartbreakers and Hartzingers, Shapeshifters Theatre, the Francis O'Neill Club, the City of Chicago Pipe Band, the Great Whiskey Project, Ceoltóirí Chicago, the Johnny Gleeson Band and the Bagpipes and Drums of the Emerald Society and the Boils.

In addition to the great music lineup, the weekend is packed with the regular festival favorites, including shopping, step dancers, cultural exhibits and children's activities.

The Folk Tent returns with hands-on activity with demonstrations of Irish instruments, dances and sing-alongs. Irish and American food is available throughout the weekend from vendors such as the Abbey Pub, Harrington's



Catering and Deli, Winston's Market and the IAHC. Stop by the Grafton Street Market where dozens of vendors and artisans will be selling Irish clothing, music and jewelry.

Cultural offerings include one-act plays and art and museum exhibits.

Back for 2014: visits from Irish

Wolfhound dogs, the Men in Kilts Contest, the Two Brothers Craft Beer Tent, the Irish Soda Bread Contest, the Freckle Contest, the Mashed Potato Eating Contest, the ShamRock Stars singing contest and the Hooley Hook-Up for singles.

New for 2014: A Bags Tournament, a wine bar, and Sunday Mass in the Main Tent at 11am with music by the Irish Heritage Singers, followed by outdoor Irish BreakFEST and Bingo.

Getting to the Fest:

Attendees are encouraged to take public transportation on CTA trains and buses, or Metra trains. Bicycle racks will be on hand for those wishing to come by bike. Free parking is available at remote lots in the neighborhood.

Pick up locations are: the Pumping Station remote lot at Lawrence and Long, the Copernicus Center at 5216 Lawrence, the Pumping Station main lot at 4850 West Wilson Avenue

and the IAHC.

Shuttles run from 7pm to 1am on Friday, 1pm to 1am on Saturday, and noon to 11pm on Sunday.

Fest hours are: 6pm to 1am on July 11, noon to 1am on July 12, and 11am to 11pm on July 13.

Tickets are \$10 in advance for adults (until the end of business on July 9) and \$15 at the door on Friday and Saturday.

On Sunday, tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door.

Seniors are \$10 and children 10 and under are free.

Tickets for Phil Coulter on Friday night are \$35, which includes admission to the festival.

For more information and to purchase tickets, call 773-282-7035, ext. 10 or visit www.irish-american.org.

After July 3 and before July 10, customers must pick-up any ticket orders the IAHC or order online at www.irish-american.org. There will be no will call tickets at the Fest entrance area.

Irish Fest Activities Galore

Once again, Irish Fest features some great activities and contests that set us apart from many city festivals.

Activities include:

Shamrock Tea Room

Sneak away from the festivities to enjoy a nice cup of tea, Irish baked goods with piano and harp music in the background to serenade you. The Tea Room is open on Saturday and Sunday from 2pm to 5pm.

Mashed Potato Eating Contest

Fest fans can enter this fun and messy contest against other champion eaters for

a slew of prizes. The contest is Friday, July 11 at 8:30pm.

Hooley Hook-Up

The Hooley Hook-Up is a party where singles mingle in the Center's Fifth Province Pub. Participants will be treated to live music, raffles and door prizes. Get out to the fest early and possibly meet your "special match" or just come to hang out. The Hooley Hook-Up is Friday, July 12 at 8pm.

Sham-ROCK Stars Singing Contest

Kids can compete for prizes in this annual singing contest.

Auditions are on Saturday, July 12 at 2pm. Two finalists return on Sunday, July 13 at 4:30pm on the

Raffle Stage. Parents and hopeful rockers can sign up in Room 111 starting at 1:30pm and parents' permission is required. THIS CONTEST IS OPEN TO AMATEUR CONTESTANTS ONLY.

The contest consists of two divisions: 1-SHAMROCKS-Teens between the ages of 13 and 18 and 2-CLOVERS-Children under the age of 12. Note: Age ranges are subject to change, depending on the number of contests.

Two finalists return on Sunday, July 13 at 3:15pm on the Raffle Stage. Further judging will be based on scores from a panel of judges and audience response.

The winner of each category receives prizes such as museum tickets and gift cards.

The Men in Kilts Contest

Hey men, grab your kilts and strut your stuff at the second annual Irish Fest contest on Saturday, July 12. The contest pits gents of all ages against each other as they vie for the title of "Kilt King." Categories are:

"Jr Men in Kilts" for men 17 and under

"Men in Kilts" ages 18-34
"Men in Kilts" ages 35 and up



Contestants must register by 6pm and the contest begins at 6:30. Female celebrity judges,

Continued on page 3 of newsletter...

GET YOUR IRISH ON at the IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL

July 11, 12 and 13

FRIDAY, JULY 11TH

(6pm-1am)

MAIN STAGE

7pm-9pm: Brother Crowe
9:30pm: The Tossers



The Tossers

FIFTH PROVINCE STAGE

6pm-7:30pm: Gerry Haughey
8pm-10pm: Hooley Hook-Up
8pm-9:30pm: Great Whiskey Project
10pm-Close: In Spite of Ourselves

ROOM 111

8pm-11pm: Francis O'Neill Club Ceili

ROOM 109

Vendors

RAFFLE STAGE

6:30pm-7pm Foy School of Traditional Irish Dance
8:30pm: Mashed Potato Eating Contest



Phil Coulter

ERIN ROOM

7:30pm: Phil Coulter

ART GALLERY

6pm-8pm: *Illumination*: New Work by Celtic revival artist, Michael Carroll

LIBRARY

6pm-9pm: Genealogy and Used Book Sale



FOLK TENT

7pm: Irish Sing Song with Mark Piekarz
8pm: Irish Singing and Music with Joe Sheridan
9pm: Platform 29

SATURDAY, JULY 12TH

(Noon-1am)

MAIN STAGE

1pm-2:30pm: Dooley Brothers with Special Guest Kathleen Keane
3pm-5pm: Derek Warfield and The Young Wolfe Tones
5:30pm-7pm: The Larkin and Moran Brothers
7:30pm-9pm: Red Rebel Country
9:30pm: The Killdares

FIFTH PROVINCE STAGE

12pm-1:30pm: Academy of Irish Music
2pm-3:30pm: Baal Tinne
4pm-5:30pm: Black Donnellis
6pm-7:30pm: RicoQuinn
8pm-9:30pm: The Mickey Finns
10:15pm to Close: Kevin Flynn and the Avondale Ramblers

ROOM 111

3pm: ShamRock Stars Contest
4pm-6pm: Ceili Lessons

ROOM 109

Vendors

RAFFLE STAGE

2:30pm-3pm: Chicago Celtic Pipe Band
3:30pm: Soda Bread Contest
5pm-5:30pm: Bagpipes and Drums, Emerald Society Chicago Police Department
6:30pm-7:30pm: Men in Kilts Contest
9pm-9:30pm: Kilt King Crowned

AUDITORIUM STAGE

2pm-2:30pm: Mulhern School of Irish Dance
3pm-3:30pm: Trinity Irish Dancers
4:30pm-5pm: McNulty School of Irish Dance
6pm-7pm: *Two Wits to Woo*: Shapeshifters Theater

ERIN ROOM

2:30pm-3:30pm: Irish Heritage Singers
4pm-5:30pm: Johnny Gleeson Band
6pm-8pm: The Tooles
8:30pm-10:30pm: the Boils

ART GALLERY

1pm-5pm: *Illumination*: New Work by Celtic revival artist, Michael Carroll

LIBRARY

Noon-6pm
1pm-6pm: Genealogy and Used Book Sale
2pm-5pm: Shamrock Tea Room in the Children's Library

MUSEUM

Noon-6pm
1pm-6pm: Various Exhibits

FOLK TENT

12:30pm: Academy of Irish Music
1pm: Irish Sing Song with Mark Piekarz
2pm: Demonstration by Great Lakes Irish Wolfhound Association
2:30pm Irish Dance lessons with Trinity Academy of Irish Dance
3:30pm: Children's Sing Song with the Wiggleworms
4:30pm: Music Lessons on the Bodhran with Mike Austin
5:15pm: Irish Singing and Music
6pm: Irish Pipe Band Demonstration City of Chicago Pipe Band
6:30 The Boils



Kevin Flynn and
The Avondale Ramblers



SUNDAY, JULY 13TH

(11am-11pm)

MAIN STAGE

11am-12pm: Mass and BreakFEST (doors open at 10am)
12:30pm-2pm: The Holy Hour House Band, featuring Laurence Nugent
2:30pm-4pm: Emish
4pm: Raffle
4:30pm-6:00pm: Dublin City Ramblers
6:30pm-8:30pm: Gaelic Storm

FIFTH PROVINCE STAGE

Noon-2pm: Piobagusfidil - Patrick and Karen Cannady and Friends
2:30pm-4pm: Gerry Carney
4:30pm-6:30pm: Mulligan Stew
5pm-7pm: Finvarra's Wren
9pm-Close: The Chancey Brothers



Gaelic Storm

ROOM 111

1pm-3pm: Bingo

ROOM 109

Vendors

RAFFLE STAGE

2pm-2:30pm: Misericordia Heartbreakers and Heartzingers
3:30pm: Shamrock Stars
3:30pm: Freckle Contest
4pm-4:30pm: Shannon Rovers Irish Pipe Band
6pm-6:30pm: City of Chicago Pipe Band

AUDITORIUM STAGE

2:30pm-3pm: Tooromeen School of Irish Dance
3:30pm: *Two Wits to Woo*: Shapeshifters Theater
5pm-5:30pm: Identity Dancers

ERIN ROOM

3pm-3:30pm: O'Hare School of Irish Dance
4pm-4:30pm: Sheila Tully Academy of Irish Dance
5pm-7pm: Finnvara's Wren
7:30pm-9pm: Ceili dancing with Ceoltoirí Chicago

ART GALLERY

1pm-5pm: *Illumination*: New Work by Celtic revival artist, Michael Carroll
3pm: Discovering the *Book of Kells* presentation
4pm: Maud Gonne: The Irish Joan of Arc presentation

LIBRARY

Noon-6pm
1pm-6pm: Genealogy and Used Book Sale
2pm-5pm: Children's Library, Shamrock Tea Room

MUSEUM

Noon-6pm
1pm-6pm: Various Exhibits

FOLK TENT

12:30pm: Academy of Irish Music
1pm: Music Lessons on the Bodhran with Mike Austin
1pm-4pm: Southeast and Southwest outside fest grounds Bags Tournament
2pm: Demonstration by Great Lakes Wolfhound Association
2:30pm: Irish Sing Song with Whitey O'Day
3pm: Irish Dance lessons with Trinity Academy of Irish Dance
3:30pm: Children's Sing Song with the Wiggleworms
4:30pm: Irish Pipe Band Demonstration City of Chicago Pipe Band
5:30pm: Irish Sing Song with Mark Piekarz





THE HERITAGE LINE

Irish American heritage center Chicago, Illinois



WWW.IRISH-AMERICAN.ORG

President's Message

As you read this, the tents are going up for our 29th Annual Irish American Heritage Festival. Thanks to all of our great volunteers. This would not be possible without you.

The Fest represents the single largest event investment of members' money and volunteer hours. As the committee has come together to produce this year's Fest, I have continually reminded the group that this is members' money we are investing and that this is the single largest IAHC fundraiser of the year. Please support this fundraiser and have fun.

While the Fest has consumed much of our efforts recently, there are still many other important Center events and happenings in the works...

The annual board elections have just been completed and four new board members will join us. Welcome! A special thank you to our four retiring board members for all their hard work and dedication. And a special thanks

to all of our members who voted.

- The annual \$100 raffle ticket program has been extended to July 13. Prizes will be drawn at Irish Fest on Sunday at 9:30pm. Take this last minute opportunity to purchase a ticket online at www.irish-american.org or at the Fest. Tickets are also available in the Gift Shop, the main office and from any board member.

- The Open House and First Annual Bridal Fair was recently held. The event was well organized and displayed the first-class efforts of our Events and Rental Staff, as well as the rest of the staff. While the turnout could have been better, we learned and will come back even stronger next year. Thank you to our IAHC groups, vendors and IAHC partners for joining us.

- The September Capital Improvement



Fundraiser is rapidly coming together. The event will be the official kick-off for our multi-year three million BACK TO THE FUTURE pledge program. This program will help us continue the vision of the founders of the IAHC and help us to continue to address the mission.

- We will be asking our members, IAHC sponsored groups, partners, renters, suppliers, local and national companies and others to support this effort.

- Stock in the form of non-equity shares will be a feature of the program for levels of pledging.

- Participants may select from any number of giving levels and may spread out their donations in convenient terms utilizing a full range of payment opportunities.

- This effort will span over a length of time and help us to complete much need building improvements like the parking lot, hallway renovations, rest room renovations and similar important projects.

These projects will help us serve our

members and help us continue to attract customers and guests to the Center.

- A complete assessment and upgrade of our computers is in progress. The project is taking inventory of our technology, assessing our system needs and security. The goal is to position the Center's technology to serve our members, customers and guests.

- Our re-energized Cultural Committee is developing a comprehensive schedule of mission-based programming and developing a budget that will help contribute to the financial stability of the Center.

- The roof replacement is in progress. Thank you to our donors, volunteers and members.

- Our key focus areas; transparency, financial stability, membership growth, sustainability, partnership, members' money and culture programming, continue to be addressed. Our recent Town Hall meeting was well attended and all financials and other important Center business were openly displayed

and presented. Our 2014 budget is in writing and a fine effort by our new Finance committee is recognized. Membership will be on display in a booth at the Fest. The new membership software is in place and soon plastic membership cards will replace the paper versions. Look for our partners at the Fest in the partner booth, and as volunteers. The Building Committee reports that all is on schedule to implement an aggressive energy saving lighting program. Just a few of the action plans supporting the key focus areas...

2014 will be an exciting year at the Center. I trust you are as excited and supportive as I am.

Please come to the Fest and feel the excitement.

"Your feet will bring you to where your heart is"

— Irish proverb

John Crowley Gorski
President, IAHC

Irish Fest Activities Galore (Cont'd)

along with the audience will award a variety of prizes on stage, and contestants can have friends and family purchase "KING" votes for your favorite Kilt Man from 6pm to 8:30pm. \$1 buys one vote or 6 votes for \$5. The Kilt King is crowned at 9pm.

Irish Wolfhounds



Irish wolfhounds are the tallest of dog breeds. These beautiful and gentle dogs will be at the Fest on Saturday and Sunday and you can

learn more about them from the Great Lakes Irish Wolfhound Association.

Two Brothers Craft Beer Tent

Craft brew lovers can join the fun at our Two Brothers Craft Beer Tent and enjoy craft beers from this Warrenville, IL brewery. Craft beers include Dog Days Lager, Domaine DuPaige French Style Country Ale, Outlaw IPA and Sidekick Pale Ale. There will also be Two Brothers iced coffee, hot coffee and espresso, and gluten free snacks.

Freckle Contest

Fest fans can see spots with the annual Freckle Contest. This contest honors the Irish with a celebration of freckles and kids can win prizes for their marks.

The contest is 2:45pm on Sunday, July 13 and is open to kids

12 and under. The only requirement is a freckled face and



judges will base the winner on the number of freckles and prizes will be awarded.

Bags Tournament

Join the Young Irish Fellowship Club as it raises money for its charities, Ignite the Spirit and Danny Did Foundation, with its 2nd Annual Bags Tournament at the 2014 Irish Fest.

The tournament is Sunday,

July 13 from 1pm to 4pm. The cost to enter the tournament is \$25 per person, which includes Fest admission, a reusable cup and tickets for 1 beer or soda.

Day-of tournament tickets are \$10 but do not include Fest admission or a drink ticket.

There will be prizes for the top winners of the tournament. To sign up, visit www.youngirish.com.

Irish Soda Bread Contest

This annual contest is Saturday, July 12 at 3:30pm and winners are announced at 5pm on the Raffle Stage. Entries must be delivered to the booth between 12:30pm and 1:30pm on Saturday. There is a \$5 entry fee and all entries should be in an unmarked paper bag. Only one entry per person is permitted



in each category. Winners will be awarded ribbons.

CONTEST CATEGORIES:
1-TRADITIONAL WHITE IRISH SODA BREAD:

Buttermilk (or soured milk), bread soda, flour and salt are the normal ingredients used.

2-TRADITIONAL BROWN IRISH SODA BREAD:

Buttermilk (or soured milk), bread soda, whole wheat flour and salt are the normal ingredients used.



THE HERITAGE LINE

Irish American heritage center

Chicago, Illinois



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Annual Raffle Drawing News

Our Annual Raffle continues this summer. Due to this year's larger prizes and a last minute surge in sales, we will extend the drawing date for this important fundraiser.



renovation of the building. Tickets are \$100 each and winner need not be present.

Prizes:
First Prize \$30,000
Second Prize \$10,000
Third Prize \$5,000

Fourth Prize \$1,000

Prizes may be prorated if minimum sales are not met.

To purchase a ticket, call the IAHC office at 773-282-7035, ext. 10 or Chuck Grant at 773-551-1924.

The new drawing date is Sunday, July 13 at 9:30pm at Irish Fest. This gives our supporters more tickets to sell, and YOU more chances to win as much as \$30,000! Only 1500 tickets are being sold. All of the proceeds from the raffle are used to support our many programs and to continue the

Summer Exhibit Illuminates Art Gallery

Join us in the IAHC Art Gallery for a new exhibit from Irish American artist Michael Carroll. The show, *Illumination* runs this summer.

For more than twenty years, Celtic artist Michael Carroll has been resurrecting the art of the 8th century Irish monk. Picking up where the scribes left off, Carroll creates illuminated works on parchment that resemble lost pages from the *Book of Kells*.

Carroll's intricate, hand-painted pages are produced with authentic medieval tools and materials, such as

calfskin vellum and goose quill pens. The multilayered textures, incredibly small scale and attention to detail must be seen to be believed.

The exhibit runs from Friday, July 11 through July 26 on Saturdays from 1pm to 4pm. There will be an opening night reception on Friday, July 18 from 6pm to 9pm.

During Irish Fest weekend, the exhibit will be open from 6pm to 8pm on Friday, July 11, from Noon to 5pm

on Saturday, July 12 and Noon to 5pm on Sunday, July 13. Fest admission fees apply.



Summer Library Hours

Mondays CLOSED
 Tuesdays and Thursdays 10-2pm
 Wednesday 4pm to 8pm
 Friday closed
 Saturdays: Call for Hours
 Sunday, closed except the last Sunday in

July and August, for genealogy-hours: Noon to 3pm
 August - Library CLOSED
 For more information, call the IAHC Library at 773-282-7035, ext. 19

Save the Date

Don't miss these great cultural events this September



9/13	Anam Cara Storytelling	6:30pm
9/20	Tea with Zelda Fitzgerald	11am
9/28	Great Irish Book Club Selection	
	<i>Transatlantic</i>	1pm
	<i>Collected Stories Play</i>	3pm

BECOME A MEMBER

Chicago boasts one of the finest Irish Centers in the world. Become a part of it. Running, maintaining and upgrading the Center is a big job that takes big commitment. Your membership helps make the Center happen.

irish-american.org, or fill out the form below. Send payment to:

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 Credit Card # _____
 Exp _____ 3 Digit code on card's back: _____

Individual Membership	\$500 - Bard	<input type="checkbox"/> \$5,000 - Saint
<input type="checkbox"/> \$30/year or \$50/2 years	<input type="checkbox"/> 5-year membership -no annual dues	Lifetime membership
Family Membership	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 - Chieftain	-no annual dues
<input type="checkbox"/> \$40/year or \$60/2 years	10-year membership -no annual dues	
\$250 - Harper	<input type="checkbox"/> \$2,500 - High King	
<input type="checkbox"/> 3-year membership -no annual dues	25-year membership -no annual dues	



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For updates on upcoming events and ticket giveaways

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THE HERITAGE LINE

Irish American Heritage Center

Chicago, Illinois



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July 2014

July 4	Independence Day - CLOSED		
July 11, 12, and 13	Irish American Heritage Festival		
July 15	Celtic Women International Meeting	Room 304	7:30pm
July 18	<i>Illumination</i> Art Exhibit Opening	Art Gallery	6pm
July 20	Shamrock American Club Meeting	ShamAmRm	7pm

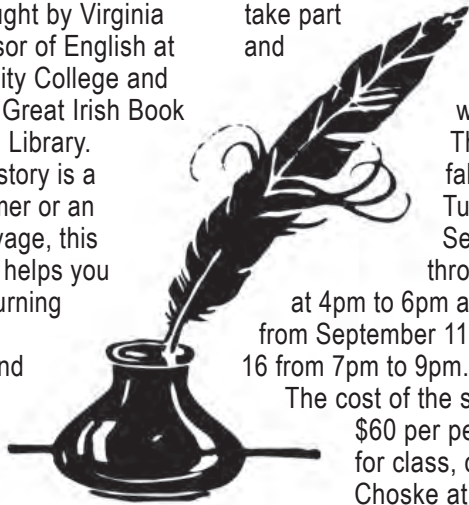
Regularly Scheduled Events

Tues	Set Dancing	Room 111	7:30-9:30pm
Tues	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	9am-Noon 12:30pm-
Tues, Thurs, Fri, & Sat	Golden Diners Lunch Program	Kitchen	2pm
Wed	Irish Language Class	Room 304	11-1:30pm
Wed	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	7-10pm
Thurs	Irish Heritage Singers Rehearsals	Room 304	7pm
Fri	Francis O'Neill Club Ceili Mor	Room 111	8pm
Sat (7/11-26)	<i>Illumination</i> Art Exhibit	Art Gallery	1-4pm
Sat	Irish Language Class	Library	7-9:30pm

Memoir Classes Capture Stories

Memoir writing classes continue this September at the Center. The course is taught by Virginia Gibbons, Professor of English at Oakton Community College and facilitator for the Great Irish Book Club at the IAHC Library.

Whether your story is a memorable summer or an incredible life voyage, this writing workshop helps you identify the key turning moments in your life and understand them against a backdrop of time and place.



Students perform in-class writing exercises, readings and take part in discussion and assignments outside the classroom. There are two fall sessions; on Tuesdays from September 9 through October 14 at 4pm to 6pm and on Thursdays from September 11 through October 16 from 7pm to 9pm.

The cost of the six-week class is \$60 per person. To register for class, call Theresa Choske at 773-545-8057.

Anam Cara Encore

Enjoy an encore performance of storytelling this fall. Anam Cara is a semi-annual evening of readings by the creative writers from the ongoing six week Memoir and Creative Writing Workshops at the Center. They'll be joined by members of the Chicago storytelling community, who will also share their stories called *Loud and Clear*.

The original stories are from students who have joined the writing sessions, which have helped these students find their voice in their writings. Each of them has shown incredible growth in their unique style of writing as they put pen to paper to craft their individual life stories.

Anam Cara is Saturday, September 13 from 6:30pm to 9pm in the IAHC Library and suggested donation is \$5.

No Cover

Free Parking



the fifth province

Irish American Heritage Center

JULY ENTERTAINMENT

7/4	Closed
7/5	Spraoi
7/11	Irish
7/12	Fest
7/13	
7/18	Gerry Haughey
7/19	Seamus O'Kane
7/25	Tommy Tuesday
7/26	Dooley Brothers

All Shows Start After 9pm



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

Note: From 7/18 through Labor Day, the Fifth Province opens at 7pm. The kitchen will be closed, but pizza will be available at the bar. In August, there is no live music.

GREAT IRISH BOOK CLUB 2014-15

The Great Irish Book Club meets from 1pm to 3pm in the Library on the last Sunday of the month from September to May and is open to all. The following are this season's selections. For more information, contact Virginia Gibbons at vgibbon@oakton.edu.

September 28	<i>Transatlantic</i>	Colum McCann	2014
October 26	<i>Someone</i>	Alice McDermott	2013
November 30	<i>Black-Eyed Blond</i>	Benjamin Black	2014
December 28	<i>The Billionaire Who Wasn't</i>	Conor O'Clery	2007
	<i>The Riddle of the Sands</i>	Erskine Childers	1903
January 25	<i>The Guts</i>	Roddy Doyle	2013
February 22	<i>Roses's Ring</i>	Monica Dougherty	2013
	<i>The Man from Kinvara</i>	Tess Gallagher	2009
March 29	<i>A Tree Grows in Brooklyn</i>	Betty Smith	2005
April 26	<i>The Testament of Mary</i>	Colm Toibin	2014
	<i>The Faith Healer</i>	Brian Friel	1980
May 31	<i>The Spinning Heart</i>	Donal Ryan	2014

The Heritage Line Staff

Kathleen O'Neill, Editor
Contributors: Shelby Baron, Theresa Choske, Frank Crowley, John Gorski, Mary Griffin, Natalie Miller, Mary Morris, Peggy Murphy and Sheila Murphy

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How Single Women Can Get More Social Security Income

There are smart ways for single, divorced, and widowed women to capture more Social Security income over their lifetimes. Women should take measures to draw on the Social Security system in the most productive way possible. Consequently, it is important they be informed and smart about the choices that are available to them. Women outlive men by 4 to 5 years on average and, as a whole, tend to have a lower lifetime Social Security earnings history than men. By using clever strategies available to Social Security claimants, women can help provide an added safety net for themselves by intelligently planning for this stable, guaranteed lifetime income stream.

Women are significant contributors to the Social Security entitlement program. So, it is important for them to make the most of their Social Security income election decision. One striking statistic is that nearly 60% of the female population was engaged in the United States labor force in 2010. Their Social Security contributions have significantly helped strengthen Social Security in a way that was not expected when it was founded. Not only are women boosting their individual retirement savings, but over the past four decades, women are living longer, and their contributions have helped continue to keep the Social Security system solvent.

A single woman who has never married may be able to collect greater cumulative lifetime income by examining her top earning years and trying to further build her projected Social Security income benefit. Generally, she will col-

lect more income by delaying the age at which she starts collecting benefits from eligibility at 62 up to the full retirement age (FRA) of 66. For those born between 1943 and 1954, they will receive 100% of their Social Security income benefit at age 66 (source: Social Security). And if she thinks she will live past age 78, it could be to her advantage to keep working and delay claiming benefits until age 66 or even age 70. Many surveys indicate that people tend to underestimate their life expectancies, which can significantly shortchange the amount of lifetime Social Security income they might receive.

As a single, divorced woman, there may be several strategies available to get more income. She may be eligible to collect off her ex-spouse's earnings if those benefits are greater than those of her own earnings. In addition, she may start to collect these benefits off her ex-spouse as early as 62 while her own earnings benefit record continues to grow "in the background." By waiting and then switching to the higher benefit from her own earnings at a later time, a single, divorced woman can potentially collect tens of thousands of additional income over her lifetime. Note that this technique may work in some, but not all, situations.

A single, widowed woman can receive full survivor benefits when she reaches FRA or reduced benefits as early as age 60. Her benefit amount will depend on her age and on the amount her deceased husband was entitled to when he died. If he was already receiving reduced benefits, her survivor benefit will be based on that amount. However, as a widow, if she waits to begin survivor benefits until her FRA, she is entitled to his full benefit,



Daly Investor

By John P. Daly



including any delayed retirement credits, if he passed away prior to claiming his Social Security.

As outlined, each woman will have circumstances that are unique to her own situation. The important point is that she needs to understand there are rules and techniques to learn that can possibly help her get more Social Security income over her lifetime. The rules are complex and unique to her own situation, so she may wish to contact a Financial Advisor proficient in the area of Social Security income planning to help guide her with these decisions.

If a woman has claimed Social Security income within the last 12 months and feels she may have made an incorrect income election, there still may be time to fix it and execute an election re-do. If she is approaching retirement age, becoming informed will help her make a more beneficial decision. A somewhat recent December 2010 ruling now allows the consumer only 12 months after making an income election to fix, or re-do it. Qualified recipients are entitled to collect this guaranteed, inflation-adjusted, lifetime income stream. Women who make it a priority to become smarter about their Social Security election benefits are likely to have a more secure future.

John P. Daly is a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ and President of Daly Investment Management, 180 N LaSalle St Suite 3700 Chicago, IL 60601. Phone: 312-239-1317, Email: john@dalyinvestment.com Readers are encouraged to call or email John with questions regarding Investments or financial planning. www.dalyinvestment.com

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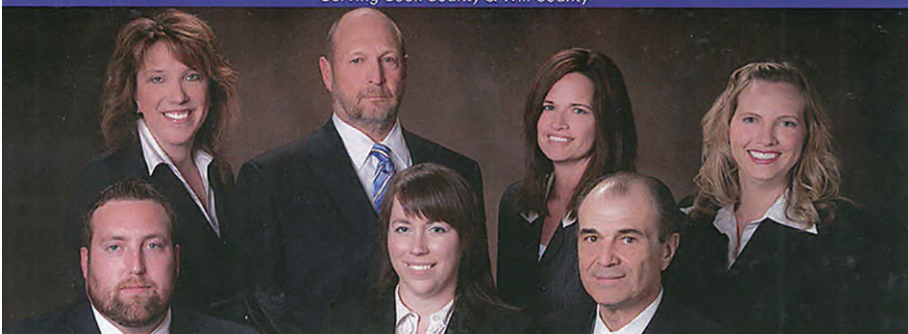
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Fox Valley Irish Fest, August 2nd At Aurora's Riveredge Park

Featuring The Tossers, Bogside Zukes And Anish

Chicago's biggest summer celebration of the Emerald Isle is taking place on Saturday, August 2 in downtown Aurora, right along the Fox River, complete with bag pipers, step dancers, Irish Open Mic sessions, Irish beer and whiskey tastings, freckle competitions, more contests, and authentic Irish food, beverages and merchants.

Bring the whole family to beautiful RiverEdge Park, 360 N. Broadway in Aurora, for an all-day celebration of all-things Irish. The park opens at 1 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for ages 15 and up. Children 14 and under are \$5. Kids two and under are free. To purchase, go to RiverEdge-Aurora.com, call the RiverEdge box office, (630) 896-6666, or visit RiverEdge's satellite box office, the Paramount Theatre, 23 E. Galena Blvd. in downtown Aurora, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday-Saturday. The RiverEdge box office is also open at the park for day-of sales from Noon until show time.

Afternoon entertainment for the adults includes a Jameson Irish Whiskey tasting, Irish beer galore, bean bag games, Gaelic language lessons, a hurling demonstration, St. Baldrick's Foundation, Guinness glass etching, a pop-up Irish gift shop by Irish Sisters in Geneva, the McNulty Irish Dancers, a special visit from the Great Lakes Irish Wolfhounds, and appearances by Irish author Mary Pat Kelly and Irish speaker, author and business humorist Connor Cunneen of Irishman Speaks.

A children's play area will host a bounce house, petting

zoo, games, Irish craft making, face painting and more from 1 to 5 p.m. Children's tickets include unlimited use of kid's area exhibits, bounce house and petting zoo.

When the sun goes down, the kids are welcome to stay,

or drop them off at the sitter's and head back for the grown-up portion of the festival.

Kicking off the music at 5 p.m. is Anish, with a lively cutting edge blend of traditional and new wave Celtic. The Bogside Zukes take over at 6:30

p.m. with a traditional-folk-pub sound which combines classic Celtic, bluegrass and old-time music. The Tossers, six South Siders with a Celtic Punk edge hit, will cap the concert starting at 8:30 p.m. with a raucous, joyous celebration of the

working class, the motherland and their South-Side roots.

Fox Valley Irish Festival is sponsored by Advanced Disposal, Ballydoyle Irish Pub, Banana Split, Baum Property Management, Dolan & Murphy, Illinois Arts Council, I.A.T.S.E. Local 2, Kenny Corn, R.J. O'Neil and West Suburban Irish.

48th Marquette Bank Scholarship Program



2014 Marquette Bank Education Foundation Scholarship Recipients

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- Andrea Francis**
Bogan College Prep High School
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- Brian Kobiernicki**
Brother Rice High School
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- Xiadany Ayala**
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- Jamilyn Hiskes**
Chicago Christian High School
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Paul Robeson High School
- Diamond Parker**
Providence Catholic High School
- Tiara Moore**
Queen of Peace High School
- Jimmy Nguyen**
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- Maximilian Kalinowski**
St. Rita of Cascia High School
- Kathryn Gabel**
Stagg High School
- Carly Crusius**
Tinley Park High School
- Lindsay Dodovich**
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FOX VALLEY IRISH Festival

RIVEREDGE PARK



SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 2014
1 - 10:30 p.m. Kids Area: 1 - 5 p.m.



THE TOSSERS BOGSIDE ZUKES & ANISH

Anish - 5 p.m., The Bogside Zukes - 6:30 p.m., The Tossers - 8 p.m.

Tons of Family Activities Beginning at 1 p.m.

- Petting Zoo
- Freckle Contest
- Moonjump
- Irish Crafts For Kids
- Pipes on Fire Bag Pipers
- Ice Cream Eating Contest
- Irish Dancers
- Food Vendors (including Irish Tare)
- Face Painting

For The Adults In The Afternoon

- Live Entertainment
- Jameson Tasting
- Irish Beer Galore
- Hurling Demo
- Bean Bag Games
- Gaelic Language Lessons
- Guinness Glass Etching
- Irish Author- Mary Pat Kelly
- St. Baldrick's Foundation
- Irish Sisters-Geneva
- McNulty Irish Dancers
- Great Lakes Irish Wolfhounds
- Connor Cunneen-Irishman Speaks, Irish speaker, author & business humorist

TICKETS

Ages 15 and up: \$10
Ages 14 and under: \$5
Kids 2 and under: FREE

Children's tickets include unlimited use of Kids' Area including Bounce House and Petting Zoo.

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Chicago Gaelic Park

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



A Chairde:

The long warm days of summer are here and so are the boys and girls who play football and hurling at Gaelic Park every Sunday. The GAA in Ireland inked a deal with RTE, Ireland's national broadcast company, to air many of the live telecast games which are a staple diet of GAA fans in the US for free. This well meaning initiative is an attempt to broaden the fan base for Ireland's national sports of hurling and football. The rights to air these telecast games in commercial establishments are still privately held, which means that fans may have to pay to view these games at Gaelic Park. The telecasts are a social event for many Gaelic Park patrons who like to congregate, support their county or provincial team and perform a post mortem on the game when it is over. I hope that this tradition, which is a highlight of summer for many, will continue. Thank you to all the readers who supported the Gaelic Park Memorial Weekend Festival. We enjoyed glorious weather, great music and

dancing for all four days. Festival Chairman, Frank Bradley, who just completed his 28th Festival is so grateful to the army of loyal volunteers who sacrifice their weekend to make the festival possible. Congratulations to Vera Kelly, who won the best actress award at The Acting Irish Festival which took place in Florida on Memorial weekend. The many Gaelic Park patrons who witnessed Vera's powerful performance in our Spring Play *The Butterfly Of Killybegs* are not surprised, and the whole cast of the play did an outstanding job in a show that sold out repeatedly during a nine show run in the Spring. Gaelic Park is hosting its second Cultural Camp in August. This camp was a huge success in 2013 and was well received by the young participants and their parents. Early sign-up is essential as space is limited. I want to wish all IAN readers and supporters of Gaelic Park a safe and healthy summer.

John Devitt, President

The County Connection Corner



July 13

Clare Picnic at Rubio Woods
5858 Midlothian Turnpike

Sept. 27

Clare Golf Outing
Silver Lakes Country Club

*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*



On Independence Day God Bless America

All we have of freedom
All we use or know
This our fathers bought for us
Long and long ago.

—Rudyard Kipling

July Event Calendar

7/2 & 8/6	Monthly Musical Luncheon	NOON
8/18	Lady of Knock	
8/5-7	Children's Cultural Camp	
9/14	Heritage & Harvest Day	

Monthly Musical Luncheon Doors open at noon, hot lunch served at 1pm and entertainment for just \$13 per person. Entertainment for July 2 will be Kara and Jerry Eddy and for August 6, Jue Cullen.
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

Sunday Mass & Breakfast/Classic Carvery resume in November.

Ladies Auxiliary resumes in September.

Pub Trivia Tuesday Evenings returns in the fall.

Monday Evenings	Set Dancing	7:30pm
Tuesday Evenings	Ceili Dancing Lessons 7pm/Ceili	7:30pm
Sunday Afternoons	GAA Live Telecasts	9:00am

Sunday Evening	CGP Radio Live	WCEV 1450 AM	7-8pm
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SUMMER PUB BARBEQUES on our Patio

Beginning Wednesday, July 2 until September 10, a barbeque will be held on the patio every Wednesday evening, weather permitting. Charlie will have the grill going, and we will be serving our famous barbecued ribs, burgers, hot dogs, salads... and more.



8/06 Ray Gavin
8/13 Frank Rossi
8/20 Bernie Glim
8/27 Bernie Glim
9/03 Bernie Glim
9/10 Richie Z

And more summer events on our Patio...

SUNDAYS DJ Bernie (after the games)

TUESDAYS Bean Bags for fun or tournament!

Wednesday patio live entertainment begins at 6:30pm.

7/02 Bernie Glim
7/09 Frank Rossi
7/16 Bernie Glim
7/23 Richie Z
7/30 John Dillon

Congrats to our Bartender "Brian," who took 1st place in the Chicago land for Martini making... order your favorite martini next visit to the Pub... you'll definitely order another!

Lady of Knock Commemoration

On Monday evening, August 18, the annual Lady of Knock rosary and prayer service will begin at 7:30pm (seating on the covered Gaelic Park Patio). You are invited to share this beautiful evening with us beginning with a candlelight procession to the grotto for Benediction, followed by group rosary and prayers and music and song by the Gaelic Park Choir. The Ladies Auxilliary will prepare light refreshments following the service. All are welcome!



SAVE THE DATE!











Irish Cultural Camp
August 5-7, 2014
At Chicago Gaelic Park
Open for children aged 6 to 14 years
Focus will be on Irish Sport, dance, music, language, drama, mythology, storytelling, history and much more!
Cost \$70 per child, \$5.00 discount for additional siblings
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Fri July 4 PUB CLOSED
 Sat July 5 Afterglow
 Fri July 11 Nick Gonzalez & Brian Thoma
 Sat July 12 Kieran Byrne
 Fri July 18 The Bucks
 Sat July 19 Vocal Illusion
 Fri July 25 Jimmy & Rhonda Lee
 Sat July 26 3 Men in Kilts
 Thursdays DJ Neardark

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Chicago Gaelic Park

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



the sun did shine warm upon our faces... and the rain did not fall soft upon our fields...



and the crowds came til the close of each day!



Gaelic Park Future Queen Could Be You!

Immigration

The real immigration problem is our southern border which continues to leak like a busted dam! People are streaming across the border.

We can empathize with the plight of the illegal alien who only wants the opportunity to build a new life. We can empathize with the anchor children who have reached adulthood and now have to watch their parents get deported. Others who were brought here as young children and are now finding out they are not entitled to the benefits of citizenship.

A blanket amnesty doesn't resolve the problem, rather it makes it worse. Amnesty only encourages others to come here illegally.

The path to citizenship must begin with tighter border security.

We have become a bilingual society and the Tower of Babel is long gone. An article in the local papers tells us that there is a total of 41 languages spoken in school district 62, 1541 students are enrolled in English as a second language classes. English, Spanish, and Polish are the top three languages spoken in District 62.

We are the children of immigrants. My parents came from Ireland in the late 1920's. My father was here illegally. Reportedly, he came over the Canadian border on the back of a milk truck. They met in Chicago and were married in 1928. Early in the year 1931 he was caught and deported. My mother was left alone with two children, a two year old and an infant. In early March, 1932 after he was issued an Irish Free State Passport along with a quota immigration visa by

Boyle the Kettle



We'll Have A Sup Of Tea
Tom Boyle

the U.S. Consulate, Cobh on April 4, 1932 he was allowed to return to the USA. He became a naturalized citizen July, 1, 1943. My mother became a naturalized citizen on November 14, 1935.

The moral of the story is, the path to citizenship can be very difficult. It becomes much more difficult if you are illegal. I am not opposed to immigration reform but it must be the "common sense" immigration reform which is being touted. It's been said that immigrants are more entrepreneurial, if buying a franchise makes you an entrepreneur okay, Dunkin Donuts comes to mind.

Stroger Race Card

Todd Stroger, former Cook County Board President, is blaming "institutional racism" for his inability to get a better job.

The only success he ever had was due to the political success of his father. He was appointed to most of the public offices he held. No human resource manager would look twice at him based on his record. He demonstrated a lack of management skills as County Board President. It's funny how often the race card gets played in Chicago. Perhaps he could get a job with Chick Fil A!

Derrick Smith

State Representative Derrick Smith has been found guilty of accepting a \$7,000 bribe and also guilty of attempted extortion.

When he was indicted in the Spring of 2012, his colleagues in the



Illinois House of Representatives expelled him, the first member of the House to be expelled in over 100 years. Three months later he was re-elected to the House. His constituency is lacking in sophistication.

President Obama

It was surprising to hear Speaker of the House, John Boehner's remarks as we watched the Iraqi Army crumble in the face of ISIS (Islamic State of Iraq and Syria) rolling across Northern Iraq.

Speaker Boehner asked, "where was our President, taking a nap?" It's a valid question. Surely we

have enough military intelligence to know when something is brewing. Senator Mark Kirk (R) said, "Obama is not up to this job." Once again, we can ask where was the NSA, CIA, and the FBI. Our Commander in Chief seems to be wavering. Shouldn't plans for this kind of eventuality have been in place long ago?

Bon Secours

St. Mary's Mother and Baby Home, a maternity home for unmarried mothers and their children was in operation from 1925 to 1961 near Tuam, Co. Galway, Ireland.

796 deaths of infants and young children have been confirmed. Many were found in a common grave in a septic tank. Many of

them may have died from infectious diseases and malnutrition. Where will this lead to? I'm sure there will be a thorough investigation. The jury is out!

Conservative Catholic doctrine at that time prohibited the children of unmarried parents to be baptized and consequently burial in consecrated ground was also denied.

The denial of baptism for an innocent child speaks volumes for the extreme position of the Catholic Church in Ireland as regards human sexual behavior.

Bowe Bergdahl

Bowe Bergdahl was the U.S. prisoner of war released by the Taliban in exchange for the release of five senior members of the Taliban from the prison in Guantanaamo.

President Obama failed to give Congress 30 days notice before releasing the prisoners. What is your perception of our President? Is he too rash? Is he thumbing his nose at Congress? A five for one trade doesn't sound like a good deal.

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel said, "this was the right decision for the right reasons." He felt the deal had to be made before informing Congress. "It was our judgement and it was unanimous, by the way" . . ." it was the Secretary of Defense, Chairman of the Joint Chief's of Staff, Director of National Intelligence, Attorney General. We all came to the same conclusion." President Obama felt very strongly he made the *right decision* . . . nobody who worked for him was going to disagree. It's his way or the highway. He has surrounded himself with yes men and yes women.

Victor Shaffer

My Grand Nephew Victor Shaffer graduated from Scranton University Magna Cum Laude with a double major in finance and accounting. He was recently inducted into the Jesuit Hall of Fame, Alpha Sigma Nu.

New Arrivals in Ireland

My cousin Eileen Boyle O'Sullivan & husband, Keith welcomed twin daughters Emily and Jessica in Tralee. Her sister Margaret Boyle Gileece and husband, Ramond welcomed twin daughters, Allison and Sofie in Sligo.

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Guilty Pleasures

Christine Gallagher Kearney



obstacles because it's very intimidating," she says. "My goal is to take the intimidating factor out of mixology."

To support her goal, Schneider is planning

Shandy, the sweet mix of lager and lemon Fanta, reminds me of summer in Ireland. One sip of the honey-colored brew and I am transported back to a stunning Saturday afternoon in June, 2006, when I found myself relaxing on the patio of Belfast's Cutter's Warf.

Friends and family had gathered to celebrate a birthday. Our skin was quickly converting from pale white to a bright red under the unrelenting rays, as we lifted glasses and knocked them together proclaiming "Sláinte!"

Just a few days ago, my fresh summer sunburn, acquired after an afternoon bike ride in Lincoln Park, reminded me of that particular sunny afternoon, and suddenly I was craving a Shandy – along with something summery and tasty, such as a BBQ.

Eating outside is one of the things I love most about summer in the Midwest. There's something nostalgic about the experience, even as it's happening in the moment. Lighting the coals for the grill, calling up some friends, and throwing together a wonderfully impromptu summer soiree feels like the world slows down just enough for you to catch your breath, sip on something iced and sink your teeth into a juicy hamburger.

Back when I lived in Ireland, what I missed the most, besides sunny days, were drink options beyond beer, cider and simple mixed drinks. A Chicago BBQ (and perhaps an Irish BBQ too) cannot go wrong with a special cocktail to accompany the array of summer salads, fruits, vegetable skewers, hotdogs, hamburgers, and brats.

This is where Revae Schneider of Femme Du Coupe comes in. She's a Chicago-based entrepreneur who specializes in bar-styling, custom drink consulting, and cocktail crafting classes, among other boozy things. For Schneider, when it comes to the art of cocktails, it's all about creativity and accessibility. "A lot of people want to know how to make cocktails, but there are many

a book, one based on simple 3-step cocktails. And she's working on expanding a product line of specially crafted cocktail syrups that have names like Ginger Zest and Winter Spice.

In the meantime, for your summer BBQ, she recommends a cocktail using her own Le Sirop Lavender Honey, which she whips up in her own kitchen and sells online. "The one that I've been doing lately that I'm hugely obsessed with is comprised of freshly squeezed lime juice, watermelon juice, lavender honey and tequila."

You can follow Schneider's recipe below or enroll in one of her classes, where she is an encouraging, hands-on presence.

"When I teach a class, I am able to see my student's reactions to making their own drinks," Schneider said. "Seeing the excitement on their faces and knowing that what they are making is cool to watch."

Schneider teaches classes locally and, on occasion, nationally, but she would love to teach abroad and travel as much as possible.

One of her inspirations is Paris, after all. It's part of her business' namesake.

She's never traveled to Ireland, though. When I asked her which cocktail she'd introduce to the Emerald Isle, she stopped and thought for a minute. "I would do an old fashioned or some sort of gin cocktail."

Her summer favorite, kumquat, thyme, ginger, scotch, and fresh-squeezed lime juice, will have to wait. "It's just phenomenal, but who keeps Kumquats on-hand?"

Not me, but I would certainly love to try a cocktail that requires one. Maybe Ireland would too.

Sandia Fresca

2.0oz Blanco Tequila (Olmeca Altos recommended)

2.0oz Watermelon Water

1.0oz Lime Juice

1.0oz Le Sirop Lavender Honey

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Mercy Home: Helping Our Youth Be the Best They Can Be

By Rynne Gallagher Johnson

Mercy Home for Boys and Girls is a children's charity dedicated to providing a solution for at-risk youth in Chicago. Headed up by Fr. Scott Donahue, Mercy Home's president and CEO, it is perhaps one of the most forward-thinking homes/programs in the Midwest, providing out-of-the-box services and solutions to hundreds of young people, as can be attested by all of its residents and participants, some of which travel from distant states in order to be able to take part of this incredible opportunity.

Its Christian-based mission statement, A Catholic Organization answering the Gospel call to minister children and families in need, works on four main fronts: - Saves young lives by providing:

- A safe, nurturing residential treatment home,
- AfterCare support for former residents and their families,
- Community-based and site-based youth mentoring,
- Promotes therapeutic, educational, vocational, spiritual and life skill development,
- Is committed to raising public awareness of youth in need and encourages support to help them,
- Is sustained by benefactors who believe in the miracle of God's mercy in action.

Beginning in 1887 above a Catholic library, Mercy Home was originally named St. Paul's Home for Working Boys by Father Louis Campbell, becoming incorporated later that year as an organization within the Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago and renamed the Mission of Our Lady of Mercy. In 1889, Father Dennis Mahoney took charge, and raised a down payment to purchase a private residence at what is now 1140 Jackson Boulevard, west of downtown Chicago, and is currently Mercy Home's headquarters. As it was then, Mercy Home is a Catholic institution, and the spiritual component is one of the grounding aspects of the program. Today, Mercy Home has grown to two separate residential campuses- one for boys, one for girls, an After Care site, and the Friends First mentoring program.

The Youth Residential Program is a 24/7 care program that accepts youths beginning at age 11. Children live on one of two campuses, Hay Boys Campus, made up of ten houses of 8-10 males, or the Girls Campus, four houses of 6-12 females each. Residential living is mirrored after a family model. Children have their own rooms, are expected to keep a cleaning and chore schedule, sit down to family meals each day, and have adult leadership models to come to for help, advice, and care.

Each residential program at Mercy Home provides a structured space for a young person to work on their education, personal development, daily living skills and emotional healing. Mercy Home also works with the families of the boys and girls to provide an anchor for them in the community upon leaving the program. - MercyHome.org

Part of what makes Mercy Home so unique, and effective, is that it's much less structured than other homes, and they adapt to the individual needs of every resident. The goal is to support the individual growth and success of the children. Each child is worked with in order to develop a personalized plan that will guide their progress, then placed in one of fourteen specialized residential programs based on their age and level of developmental need. Youth Care Workers help develop their treatment plans, speak with the parents of each child on a weekly basis to discuss progress and areas that need work, and help children set and attain goals every few months. Goals of each child are aligned with that set forth by therapists and tutors, and all work together to help each individual succeed.

Next to food, family and safety, education is the single most important element of Mercy Home's care for its children. But unfortunately, because many of our young people arrive here a year or more behind

in school due to poor attendance, lack of guidance, untreated learning disorders and other factors, education is also one of their biggest struggles.

That is why our focus on academic achievement is so strong. Education impacts every aspect of our kids' lives, and is critical in providing the confidence and discipline they need to achieve



lasting success. -Mercy Home Education Mission

While children who live in the residential buildings have around-the-clock caretakers and mentors on-site, they still attend school during the academic year. School locations vary depending on previous schooling, education levels, and learning styles, but most children have already been enrolled at a certain school by the time they arrive as residents at Mercy Home, and the program makes sure that each student gets to and from school on time each day. Some are driven, some take the bus, and some (older children, starting in high school) even take the train to their schools every day. Outside of school, Mercy Home picks up where institutionalized education leaves off, offering a variety of tutors and mentors to each child. Mercy Home has around 140 volunteer tutors at the

moment, with specializations ranging from school subjects like math, reading, and Spanish, all the way to important learned skills such as time management and focusing. "Collectively, we find their strengths to focus on. A lot of kids are told 'this is what you need to fix', but we find what they excel at and build off that first, and that helps improve their (feeling of)

self-worth," explains one of their many therapists.

In tandem with volunteer tutors, Mercy Home also offers mentors through the Friends First mentoring program, which matches children in need with positive adult role models. Since the birth of the program in 1987, it has paired more than 1,000 children to carefully-screened and prepared adults, who make at least a one-year commitment to mentor a child. Benefits of mentoring programs such as Friends First include better school attendance, lower risk of using drugs or alcohol, and a higher likelihood of developing a trusting and supportive relationship with their parents.

As if all of this help, support, caring, nurturing, and love weren't enough, the kids are also taken on various trips around the area for activity and educational "vacations", such as skiing, snow-mo-

biling, or a visit to D.C.. In 2010, a 10-day international trip to Ireland was introduced, allowing a select few residents with the program to travel abroad and experience another life, country, and culture.

An idea that came about stemming from Cork, Ireland as part of the Cook County/Cork County sister county program, and provided by Cork County out of the goodness of their hearts, kids ranging from 13-22 can apply to be selected as part of a small group to be taken to Ireland to experience an itinerary of activities inspired by opportunities for youths in Cork. Each trip, leaders expect around half of the kids in the program to apply to go to Ireland, but they look for the most enthusiastic applicants who are eager to learn.

Before the trip, those chosen to go spend time learning about Ireland, Cork in particular, and are given cultural and physical training to prepare them for the activities ahead. During their Ireland stay, the focus is on one part of Ireland so that the kids can experience that particular area to the fullest. Their itinerary is set up by the Irish (Cork County) side

of the program based on activities everyone can do as a group and still have fun doing, and includes mountain climbing, rapid swimming, museum visits, and lots of interacting with locals, eating food, dancing, and experiencing Irish life. The children are put up in host homes in a very safe, small area, so they can walk and participate freely without having to worry about anything.

Everything about the trip is tailored for the enjoyment and enrichment of the kids, and Cork County goes out of its way to make sure it's an adaptable and wonderful experience. One example of the lengths the hosts go to for the children happened one night out to eat during their first trip over, when the group of kids ordered and thoroughly enjoyed a platter of local cheeses. The next day, the host arranged for the group to go to a local farm where the kids

learned about agriculture, milked goats, and saw the farm-to-table process first-hand. Unsurprisingly, the food has been many of the kids’ favorite part of the trips. Local dishes are served each day, and the travelers get to try things like fresh lamb, fresh fish caught that day, and home baked goods from their hosts.

Most in the program have never been away from home, let alone overseas, so this opportunity is truly incredible for them. They are at Mercy Home to heal from traumatic experiences, and the idea behind these vacations is that nobody can take the trip experience away from them. During their Ireland stay, they are woken early every morning so they can make the most of every moment of their time there. “To have this truly extraordinary experience for our young people, to experience another culture... to see the families welcoming and making our kids feel so much at home... the educational experience of it all... is truly a lifelong experience for our



Meals are served in a beautifully cafeteria-style area at the home.

young people, to know it’s a much smaller world after your first trip overseas, to come to understand that we’re all sisters and brothers in this world... and the generosity of people...they share their talent, their treasure, their time, their family...extraordinary generosity,” Says Fr. Scott.

After all Mercy Home does for and offers to its residents, it still makes sure each child has a plan set in place for when they leave the program. They set forth goals that ensure success, and provide re-

sources for continuing growth. The Aftercare program has been set up to offer support, encouragement, and resources to former residents of Mercy Home and their families.

The program is dedicated care managers work with each AfterCare member on a “passion plan,” which is designed to break down large life goals into smaller, tangible steps that clearly illustrate each young person’s progress.

As stated on their website (www.mercyhome.org/aftercare), “Our AfterCare team takes pride in its

strengths-based approach, which leverages its members’ skills and abilities in order to help them set their own goals and determine their own needs.

In short, we do not direct our members’ futures—but rather, we help them chart their own paths. In fact, former residents who participate in the program are called members to underscore the personal ownership that each has over his or her own destiny.”

“Aftercare has been the strongest support system of my life for the past 10 years. (It’s) been involved with every major life event I’ve had in (the last decade).” Says Naya, a former resident and current worker at Mercy Home, who also owns her own business, Shamrock Catering.

Every department of Mercy Home is threaded with people who are there to be steadfast pillars in these children’s lives. “A big part of this program is the relationships. Because a lot of kids come from situations and environments where they have not developed

a lot of trust with adults, they’ve been let down a lot of times in a variety of ways, so when they come here, they’re learning that they’re surrounded by people who are gonna be there for them, no matter what. Their first instinct when they get here... is to push you away. Our staff doesn’t. Our staff remains. And when they realize this, it’s when the healing begins and they can move forward.”

One hope for kids in the program is that they go out into the world and help others the way Mercy Home helped them in their times of need. “It’s the ripple effect... we change one child, and that child ends up changing more lives over time,” says one Mercy Home employee. They teach kids to be self-reliant, functioning, successful members of society, but with charitable values and giving hearts.

To learn more about Mercy Home, it’s many missions and programs, and to find donation information, please visit www.mercyhome.org.

To Ireland, with Love

The people of Cork want to open their hearts and homes to young people from Mercy Home for Boys & Girls this summer. But we need help to get them overseas. You can give a child an experience abroad that will be positively life changing.

Please donate to Mercy Home’s Kids to Cork program and help us send a child on an Irish adventure. Use the coupon in this ad, or donate online at mercymhome.org/kidstocork.

For more information, see the article in this month’s Irish American News.

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SINCE 1887



MERCY HOME FOR BOYS & GIRLS





By Colleen Harstad

Happy July! It is nice to have summer back around the Chicagoland area after the worst winter in history as far as I am concerned. I also look forward to July 4th celebrating the US Independence Day. I want to discuss an issue that was near and dear to my grandpa's (Pat Hennessy) heart: Irish immigration.

In 1965, long before I was born, Present Lyndon B. Johnson, the house, and the senate passed a law that would forever change immigration in the United States. This law is the 1965 Immigration and Nationality Act; also known as the Hart-Cellar Act. The law was signed on October 3, 1965 by Johnson in front of the Statue of Liberty, a sign for many of the promises and hope that was on the shores of the United States.

The Hart-Cellar Act abolished the national origins quota system

that had structured American immigration policy since the 1920s, replacing it with a preference system that focused on immigrants' skills and family relationships with citizens or residents of the U.S. Numerical restrictions on visas were set at 170,000 per year, not including immediate relatives of U.S. citizens, nor "special immigrants" (including those born in "independent" nations in the Western hemisphere, former citizen, ministers, and employees of the U.S. government abroad).

Here is a little background about Irish Immigration before 1965. Between 1820 and 1930 there were 4.5 million Irish immigrants in the United States. In 1850, half of the immigrants to the United States were from Ireland. The 1965 Immigration and Nationality Act was supposed to correct a policy that discriminated against Asians

and Third World peoples and was intended to be more neutral and allow everyone around the world an opportunity to come to the US legally.

However, the requirements for sponsorships for the immigration were nearly impossible. Yes, the quota was high for Ireland. However the sponsorship requirements were almost impossible to meet. The requirements were as

followed: the sponsor had to be a US citizen; those immigrating had to fit into the following categories: 1) unmarried minored children had first priority; 2) spouses and children who were unmarried and over the age of 21; 3) married sons or daughter; and 4) had a brother or sister over the age of 21 in the US. It could take anywhere from 4 ½ years to 23 years to get a visa to come to the United States. The paper work and red tape made it nearly impossible for Irish immigrants. The law ignored the pattern of Irish immigration. The Irish pattern was a pattern of cousins or neighbors who immigrated at the same time.

Congress realized the law was discriminating against the Western Hemisphere countries and tried to reverse the outcome of the Immigration Act of 1965. Policies included enforcing border control and enacting amnesty in 1986. Some Irish did qualify for this amnesty, but it was not easy to get.

Well, that's the background, but now it's 2014 and the Irish are still having problems legally immigrating to the US and becoming legal US citizens. Currently, there are over 50,000 "illegal" Irish Immigrants in the US. Many of them came on student or travel visas, and they stayed. According to my grandpa as he would say, "they forgot to go back." Many of these "illegal" Irish immigrants do file taxes as proof that they have been in the US and are on good moral ground. Grandpa always thought it would be a good idea if

the House and Senate could pass an amnesty bill for the "Illegal" Irish Immigrants who "forgot to go back" and are in the US now. After all it is the government's fault that the Irish were discriminated against in 1965 and that the US put up all the red tape to block immigration.

What can we do to help? My grandpa always had the idea to be proactive and to write to the



(l to r): P. J. O'Dea and Pat Hennessy

senators and the house representatives in Illinois and later in Indiana and tell his story. He would tell them how he was the youngest of twelve and out of the twelve, eight immigrated to the United States. He would tell of his time on Ellis Island where the immigrants would arrive. He would tell of the great contributions that Uncle Bill made to the city of Chicago; he would tell of other great contributions the Irish had made to the US and continue to make. He would never speak about himself, as he always was the most humble man I knew. I also know this if our country, the great US, had the immigrations policy of 1965 when my grandpa and grandma immigrated in 1948, they would still be living in Ireland. I am sure things would have turned out differently. I urge you to write to your congress men and women about Irish immigration, you never know what good it will do.

I want to talk about a near and dear friend of my family P.J. O'Dea. P.J. has always been close with my grandpa, and I know he misses my

grandpa so I am always excited to see when he calls the house to check in on us in Indiana. P.J. official retired from Cook County Sheriff's Department on February 28th, 2014 after over twenty years of outstanding public service. For those of you who know P.J. you know he is a kind man with many words. He has a love for the Irish community that is like no other. He is originally of County Clare,

Ireland where he played football and hurling. You can only imagine the conversations he and my grandpa would have about hurling and about Kilkenny and Clare. P.J. was honored in 2007 at Chicago's historic Gaelic Park for his contributions to the GAA (Gaelic Athletic Association) and in 2009 he was inducted into the San Francisco GAA Hall of

fame. P.J. and his beloved wife Mary have been married for fifty years. Congratulations to both of them, that is a milestone.

My favorite memories of P.J. are always at the South Side Parade with my grandpa. Our parade section use to always be close to the Cook County Sheriff's and the Sheriff's group would have a BBQ with drinks, hot dogs, brauts, hamburgers, and more than I can remember, but the Sheriff's group always took in the entire Hennessy Clan and fed us simply because we were with P.J. That's all it took was for us to tell them we were with P.J. and they took care of us.

I was honored to read many letters that were sent to P.J. for his retirement from John P. Daley, Toni Preckwinkle, and others. P.J. is a man just like my grandpa who will not gloat at his own success; so let's take the time now to give P.J. the credit and standing ovation that he deserves for all of his successes he has accomplished by being the great and honorable P.J. O'Dea from county Clare and the United States of America.

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Hogan's Heroes

Chicago is the long-time home of a distinguished Irish patriot. A Limerick man, and one of the strongest swordsmen in the British Army, he could cut in two an iron bar hanging from a barrack-room ceiling with one blow. While serving in that army he also recruited fellow soldiers to strike a blow to free Ireland from British rule.

Betrayed by that abiding Irish curse, an informer, he was first sentenced to die, then cast for life into Britain's worst hell-hole of a prison and left to rot, until fellow Irish patriots in America made a most epic and daring rescue. Yet this man, whose story reads like a Jack London novel or Errol Flynn script, now lies in an unmarked grave on Chicago's South side, forgotten by his countrymen.

When recruiting for the Fenian movement became impossible following a wave of arrests in September, 1865, Martin Hogan, 27, along with James Wilson, deserted from the Fifth Dragoon Guards, and made for Dublin. In January they attended a meeting with other Fenians at Peter Curran's Pub near Merrion Square, on orders of John Devoy, chief organizer for the Irish Republican Brotherhood- a man described by the London Times as 'the most dangerous enemy of [Britain] Ireland has produced since Wolfe Tone'. By that time the Brotherhood claimed 80,000 oath-bound members in Ireland and 15,000 in the British Army. At 23, Devoy was one of the youngest men at the meeting. Hogan and other leading IRB men from Dublin-based British regiments were there, along with John Boyle O'Reilly, a newspaperman and member of the 10th Hussars, and John McCafferty, a former US Civil War Confederate cavalryman who detailed for the group the hit-and-run raids and tactics used by his irregular cavalry.

But under threat of mass execution by British authorities, soldiers had begun to inform. On 22nd February, 1866, John Devoy and most of the other IRB leaders were arrested on information supplied by Patrick Foley of the Fifth Dragoons. 68 Fenians received the death sentence, later commuted to penal servitude for life, and were sent in chains to Australia. Hogan later told the Chicago Tribune the clemency was ordered by the Queen: "owing to the high tide of public excitement in Dublin, the British were afraid to execute us".

They were instead transported to West Australia, 'Van Diemen's Land', and Fremantle, the highest security prison in the colonies. No one had ever escaped this fortress alive.

On their arrival in January, 1869, Assistant Prison Superintendent Doonan explained to the prisoners: "There are two ways of escaping from this prison, by land or by sea". By land lay "the most cruel country God ever turned over to the devil... You cannot live, you can go mad, you will die - unless I find you first. And I will. And you will be glad I did; and be grateful for flogging and the chaining". Less hope of escape lay seaward in shark-filled waters.

On 21st April, 1869, Martin Hogan became the first Fenian reported for misconduct in the colony. He had allegedly abused and threatened Assistant Warder Munday at a quarry by the Swan River, then walked off, declaring that he would no longer work there. In a letter to John Devoy James Wilson wrote that Hogan was 'going to kill a warder that spoke slightly of Ireland'. Hogan was sentenced to six months hard labor and solitary confinement.

Two rounds of pardons in 1869 and 1871 saw most of the Fenians released. In 1870, as a result of public opinion in Britain and abroad the British government declared an amnesty for the Fenians, provided those released go into exile for the remainder of their sentences. However, the Duke of Cambridge, Commander-in-Chief of the British Army, refused clemency for the military Fenians, including the fifteen in Fremantle.

In 1872 Boyle O'Reilly was sent



a hundred miles south to help with a road project in Bunbury, where he became friendly with an Irish priest, Father Patrick McCabe, and a settler, James Maguire. They later helped O'Reilly escape the colony aboard an American whaler. The American Brotherhood, including O'Reilly and another Irishman John Devoy, plotted to rescue the 6 remaining prisoners.

The ship Catalpa was purchased by John Devoy and the US Fenians, with the help of Clan na Gael. In April 1875, disguised as a whaler with a normal whaling crew, Catalpa left Massachusetts for Western Australia. Captained by George Anthony and crewed by 22 sailors, she took 11 more months to reach Australia while hunting whales.

Meanwhile Devoy dispatched two Fenian agents, John Breslin and Tom Desmond, to Fremantle

in September 1875. Catalpa finally reached Bunbury in March 1876. Anthony and Breslin finalized the rescue. The rescue plan went into action on Easter Monday.

Desmond cut the telegraph lines to Perth as the six remaining Fenian prisoners left for their morning work parties. Most of the prison garrison was out watching the Perth Regatta on the river. The six slipped away from their work parties, were met by Breslin and Desmond with two carriages, and they all raced south to a waiting whaleboat.

The convicts could not reach Catalpa that evening due to a fierce storm which carried away their mast. In the morning they again rowed hard for the ship. But by now the Governor had commandeered an armed steamship, Georgette, bearing eight constables, eighteen pensioners, and a loaded cannon. She fired a shot across the whaler's bows as Superintendent Stone of the Water Police hailed Captain Anthony: "I telegraphed to your government. Don't you know that you are amenable to British law in the Colony?" Breslin knew this was a bluff, because the telegraph wires had been cut. Stone then threatened to blow the mast off the Catalpa. Captain Anthony tossed the bluff

back. Standing high in the bow, he pointed at the flag and proclaimed: "That's the American flag. I am on the high seas. My flag protects me. If you fire on this ship, you fire on the American flag."

Georgette steamed slowly across the whaler's stern but did not fire a shot. The Catalpa and the prisoners, now free men, set course for America.

The Catalpa sailed triumphantly into her home port of New Bedford, south of Boston, on August 24 1876 to a heroes' welcome, the booming of cannons, and a great crowd cheering. Hogan and his Fenian companions were feted, speeched and regaled. The Chicago Tribune described Hogan as "a tall, broad shouldered, suntanned, stout Irishman" who "may conclude to settle down in America". Stay here he did.

But the cheers and celebrations ended, and the last reference to Martin Hogan found was in the New York Times, November 26, 1901 headed: "NOTED IRISH PATRIOT DYING" (he died that day). The Times went on to say "Hogan has lived in Chicago for a quarter century, and been in straightened circumstances for a long time. On November 16 he was taken to County Hospital."

I could find neither obit nor other mention of the death or burial of the powerful swordsman, Fenian to the core, survivor of British prisons and brutality, Martin Hogan. His Cook County death record simply lists Hogan as a painter. He now lies in Chicago's Mt. Olivet Cemetery, unremembered, unidentified.

In the 1988 Australia edition of the Limerick Journal, from which much of the above information on the Catalpa rescue was gleaned, author Eamon McDermott concluded: "In 1904 a West Australian committee was formed to assist two of the remaining Fenian ex-prisoners: one, aged eighty-two, was in a destitute men's home, the other, aged seventy-six was living in a tent... A national appeal was launched. In total keeping with the Australian reception of Fenianism from its beginning, the appeal never met its target."

We trust that won't be the case regarding Hogan's current obscurity in Chicago. In order to provide Martin Hogan a decent headstone and plaque so visitors may find his grave and remember his deeds, the "Fenian Memorial Committee of Chicago" (P.O.Box 477861, Chicago IL 60647-5535) has set up an account at First American Bank, 1345 Diversey Parkway, Chicago to provide a proper headstone and memorial plaque for Martin Hogan. For each donation of \$50 or more earmarked for the Martin Hogan Fund, donors will receive a framed photo of Martin Hogan.

Address questions to Niall Fennessy at 773-799-4137.

[See the full version of this column at IAN online: 'Mick']

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An Immigrant's Musings

Fr. Michael Leonard



A Time For Change

Ecclesiastes Ch. 3 says: There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: And for me the time has come to step away from my ministry in priesthood and in particular to bid farewell to my role

as chaplain to Chicago Irish Immigrant Support. The following thoughts are taken from a piece that I wrote for the bulletin at St Tarcissus parish where I resided from the fall of 2003 until the end of last month.

As most of you know, I came to Chicago in the fall of 2003. I

did so knowing little about this community and little more about what my role as chaplain to Irish immigrants entailed. Little did I think as I came to Chicago that I would spend so much time outside of the city as I endeavored to serve in a "parish without borders". I had no idea then that I would come to know the halls of congress so intimately as I made frequent trips to DC seeking a solution to the plight of our undocumented brothers and sisters.

On June 9th I completed 30 years of service as a diocesan priest. I am grateful to God for the journey that has taken me from ministry to folks in places as

far apart as, Derry City, Co.Clare, Zimbabwe, Israel, Maynooth, Ireland, Chicago and the larger mid-west. I will always treasure the experiences that I've had and most especially the friendships formed along the way.

As I begin this next chapter in my life, I take this opportunity to say a very sincere thanks to the pastors and staff of St. Tars who have always been so supportive of me. Also, a big thanks to the parishioners here and the Irish community who have been so generous, patient and accepting of me and my idiosyncrasies, not to mention my crazy sense of humor and bad jokes (: .

While I will no longer serve as chaplain to C.I.I.S., I will remain an active member of the group called Chicago Celts for Immigration Reform. I will continue to do everything I can to work with all those who strive to find a solution to the plight of our undocumented brothers and sisters.

My parting prayer for one and all is; May you embrace each new day and opportunity confident that "The Lord is with you" and may the Spirit who began the good work in each one of us bring it to completion. Finally, I invite you to: "Leave the past to God's mercy, the present to God's Love and the future to God's providence." St. Padre Pio. Slán

Black or White

When I was in elementary school, I got into a major argument with a boy in my class. I have forgotten what the argument was about, but I have never forgotten the lesson I learned that day.

I was convinced that "I" was right and "he" was wrong - and he was just as convinced that "I" was wrong and "he" was right. The teacher decided to teach us a very important lesson.

She brought us up to the front of the class and placed him on one side of her desk and me on the other. In the middle of her desk was a large, round object. I could clearly see that it was black. She asked the boy what color the object was. "White," he answered.

I couldn't believe he said the object was white, when it was obviously black! Another argument started between my classmate and me, this time about the color of the object.

The teacher told me to go stand where the boy was standing and told him to come stand where I had been. We changed places, and now she asked me what the color of the object was. I had to answer, "White."

It was an object with two differently colored sides, and from his viewpoint it was white. Only from my side it was black. (Author unknown.)

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

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In your quiet moments, your interior life, when you speak to... or pray to God, what do you say?

Hooliganism

Mike Houlihan



Prayers are not always a desperate plea for help, sometimes you're just goin' along and thanking God while asking for all the help He is prepared to give. One doesn't have to be desperate to plead for help.

"Lord please help me Jesus." is about as close to a mantra I'll ever have. And I repeat that continually just looking for a parkin' space.

As prayers go, the human race has been blessed with a whole arsenal of prayers written by Irish saints and scholars.

So I'm always on the lookout for a good prayer, most of them work. Sure you can't beat The Memorare, but each situation seems to beg for specific prayers. Hence the football term "The Hail Mary"!

What else you gonna call it? I stopped by a chapel recently in a former Catholic hospital in Chicagoland. My grand daughter Charlotte, the four-year-old firecracker, had broken her arm on the monkey bars and we were all gathered at the hospital to hover over the little darling. Poor kid was scared too.

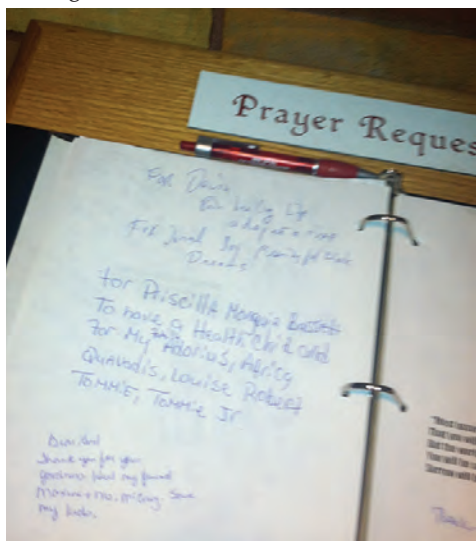
Thank the good Lord that's all it was. I thought of that as I walked to the elevators to Charlotte's room. Nothing sadder than a sick kid. I walked down the hall and passed the chapel, peeked in the door, and thought, "quick prayer for Charlotte", and entered.

Unfortunately the chapel was very secular, it had been scrubbed of any Catholic influence, it seemed. A cross was visible in a corner, but no crucifix, and a podium, no altar really. Anyway, it kinda gave me the creeps.

I knelt down and tossed out a few requests and some thanks as I scanned the room. There was a light shining on a book that appeared to have prayers or pleas for help written in longhand on the notebook.

I leapt from my seat and started

reading the prayers. Many were about "Dad" or whoever was currently in the hospital. Families of stroke victims, children in danger, the gamut.



I felt guilty reading the personal prayers of strangers, but read them I did, voraciously!

The Prayer Requests book was on a small pedestal and was actually only a loose-leaf three-ring binder with hundreds of unlined pages to write on. Each page had a typed quote from Jesus, like "I am the way, the truth and the

or little happy faces and some that were...well let's take a look, shall we? The names are pseudonyms.

"5/19/14 Heavenly Father, I am asking you to look down on Reg Murphy. Right whatever it is that he is going through, please take it away from him Lord. Show him that you are able in all things. Lord I'm just asking you to touch him, right now Holy Father, take all the evil spirits away from him now Father, Lord. Show him that I really love him Father, and I really need him. Give him one more chance Lord. Let him see all things are your willing Lord, in Jesus name

Amen." This leap of faith, this testimony touched me. I tried to imagine what was going on with Reg. Some illness? A tumor? Or was he in the mental ward, "take all the evil spirits away". It was a mystery.

And that's as it should be I guess. Lord knows what the

problem is with Reg. He knows everything. That makes it so much easier when praying. It's not like you have to put things in context for God, he figured you out a long time ago. You don't even have to name names in your prayers. He knows.

But spying on the letters in the chapel suddenly made me feel guilty when I read the note below.

"5/20/14 Lord I want a divorce! God please help me today. My husband Ike left me over three months ago after we had celebrated our one year anniversary. He is with another woman and we are still married. He deserted

me and is committing adultery. I want to get a divorce soon. He is smearing his dirty sin of adultery and lies in my face daily."

And then she signed it, Hillary Clinton.

Sorry couldn't resist that joke right there folks. She did sign her name but I won't go there.

Anyway I feel bad for that lady on 5/20/14. It seems her prayer is written as if God is gonna say, "That's not what he told me!" And do we really have to put dates on letters to Our Lord? Hey lady, He knows what time it is.

I picked up the pen and wrote in Jesus' yearbook.

*Lord, my protector and my salvation...
I don't have to tell you what I need....
You know my situation.
Thanks for healing Charlotte and her arm..
I pray she will never come to any more harm
Please help Mrs. Murphy and her husband Reg...
Zap his evil spirits and talk him off the ledge.
That lady asking for a divorce from her husband Ike...
Needs to understand why he took a hike.
He done her wrong and Ike's in a heap of trouble.
Only you Lord, can patch this up with them, so please
Help them out on the double!
As for me, sure Lotto would be nice..
But I know you've got more challenges ahead for me...
So please just give me the strength, patience, and wisdom...
To continue to roll the dice!
Amen.*

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Crowley on Kells

By Frank Crowley



Vikings, Coins and Commerce

Denis Couglan, a long time volunteer in the IAHC kitchen, is also a serious coin collector. He is eager



Hiberno-Norse Silver Penny
Struck in the name of King Shitric
of Dublin, c. 1010-16
actual size: 1.75 inches
Image Courtesy of Heritage Auctions

to share his impressive collection of ancient and very old Irish currency with us. He recently showed me a catalogue from a coin auction he attended. In it, I saw, for the first time, very rare Hiberno-Norse coins from the years 995-1020. I was astounded--the Vikings made coins?--in Ireland? It began my thinking about what was it the Vikings did in Ireland, besides plunder and destroy.

Vikings attacked sites in Ireland and Britain, then set up fortified camps, that led to larger settlements which became commercial centers. Before coins, the Irish used traditional barter for their needs which was necessarily between individuals and small scale. The Vikings introduced large scale commerce and coins into Ireland. For at least 100 years, the Vikings in Ireland used Anglo-Saxon, Carolingian and Islamic coins for their

commerce.

In the late 900s silver pennies struck in Dublin under the Viking King Sihtric III. (He became more well known for building the alliance against Brian Boru for the coming 1014 battle.) These coins are known as Hiberno-Norse Pennies. They were made to look like the coins of the English king Aethelred II but they were not forgeries. They were identified as made in Dublin under the authority of

Sihtric. The purpose was to make the coins recognized as legitimate money.

After the victory over the Vikings in 1014, Ireland became more isolated for a while as a result of diminished Viking commerce. During that period, Irish domestic commerce reverted to the traditional methods of exchange. When the native Irish acquired coins, there is evidence the Irish melted the coins to use the metal for other purposes or used the coins for trade with remaining Vikings.

Coins for trade diminished in Ireland until the arrival of the Normans in the 12th century and became widespread.

Viking Ships

During the early to middle ages, the fastest ship to transport warriors and booty around the northern Atlantic was the Viking

longship. It had a square mainsail for open ocean travel and in close quarters switched to oars for maneuverability.

Its design was nothing like the slower French and English ships of the time. First of all, it was made of fresh oak trees which it split with axes into thin planks. The planks were as long as the length of the ship they were building. They

were curved with steam and fastened to the keel with iron nails. The planks overlapped from the keel up in what is called the "clinker" method. Deck planks were fastened to the keel and not to the hull for flexibility and the keel was reinforced to support the mast.

The shipwright and workers built the ship without written plans and fashioned it all by eye.

Irish V. Irish Property and Money

Inter Tribal Raids

The Annals of Ulster records the war of 780 between Leinster and the Ui Neill clan. The annals tell us that the Ui Neills pursued the Leinster army back to their home territory where they defeated them and burned their fields and churches. This warfare was not unusual.

Long before the Vikings arrived in Ireland, many monasteries became centers of wealth. Ecclesiastic as well as material wealth such as crops and live stock. This made them a target of domestic raiders such as local kings wanting to increase their power, in good times and especially bad times. It was not a matter of anti-religious attitudes, it was mostly a matter of need with a certain amount of greed. Some large monasteries had to have armed guards.

The first recorded Viking attack on Ireland was in 795. Their attacks continued and eventually

they established and defended camps and permanent trading centers. What else was going on during this period? Here is a sample.

The story of Fedelmid mac Crimthainn, king of Munster 820-847, can give a broader picture of Ireland's history. This account is a mixture of documentation and legend.

Fedelmid's ultimate goal was

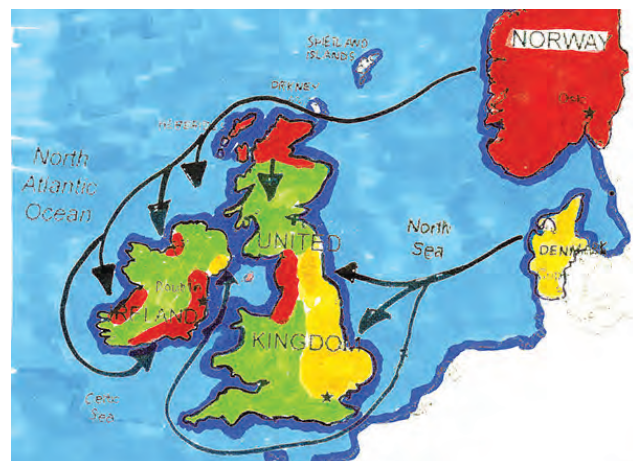


Columbian Exposition, Chicago, 1892

to be High King of all Ireland. Becoming a Bishop would greatly enhance his prospects as would defeating anyone opposing his plans. Fedelmid is described as plundering the monasteries at Kildare, Durrow, Fore, Gallen and Clonmacnoise. He also attacked the Ui Neills in Ulster several times.

The annals of Clonmacnoise describe Fedelmid as leading his attacks "...without respect of place, saint or shrine."

Another account describes him arresting the abbot of Armagh and imprisoning the abbot and the rest of St. Patrick's congregation.



These accounts are not fully documented and verge on the unbelievable.

After negotiations with Niall Caille mac Aeda, King of the

Northern Ui Neill in 838, Fedelmid became a full king of Ireland and abbot of Clonfert. Two years later, however, Niall Caille defeated Fedelmid in a devastating battle in Kildare from which Fedelmid and his army never recovered.

He died in 847. Legends tell of his murder by St. Kieran, who became the patron saint of Clonmacnoise, as revenge for Fedelmid's plundering of that holy site.

It would seem that in many cases, the Vikings had an advantage. They could choose to attack the locations that were weakened by previous or ongoing battles.

4. Let us not forget James Joyce's Ulysses:

"Galleys of Locklanns ran here to beach, in quest of prey, their bloodbeaked prows riding low on a molten pewter surf. Dane Vikings, torcs of tomahawks aglitter on their breasts when Malachi wore the collar of gold."

"Locklanns" is an ancient name for the Norse invaders. They came from Norway which is a land of lakes and fjords, hence, "lake lands." Joyce describes the Vikings as from Denmark and implies that they used war axes more than swords. Joyce mentions "torcs of tomahawks" as if they somehow had axes around their necks. Not clear at all.

"Malachi" is Mael Sechnail mac Domnail (Anglicized Malachi II) a warrior king from northeast Ireland.

Frank Delaney posts a weekly blog on James Joyce's Ulysses where he sings an old school-boy's song: Let Erin remember the days of old 'ere her faithless sons betrayed her when Malachi wore the collar of gold

that he won from the proud invader For any James Joyce lover, Frank Delaney's blog is not to be missed: blog.frankdelaney.com

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Piping It In

Jack Baker



if they don't like what they hear, they walk. I have never known 3 Pints Gone to have a problem drawing a crowd. If smiles were dollars, these folks

could retire now on the amount of fun they have brought to festival crowds. Their new CD "It's About Bloody Time"



features a lot of songs that they are famous for, like "Donegal Danny", "Down Where the Drunkards Roll", "Flower of Scotland" and, in a salute to the TV series "Firefly" and the movie "Serenity", they've included the theme from Firefly and "Hero of Canton" (Jayne's Theme). If you haven't seen this series or this movie, check them out and you'll understand why browncoats like me get excited to hear someone performing these songs. All in all a lovely collection of songs that make 3 Pints Gone so memorable and so popular with everyone who hears them.

I was contacted recently by Brenda McCann (www.annetteandbrendamusic.com) about a new CD she had done with Annette Owens and Brian McGrath. I knew the reputation of these young ladies who have played together for quite some time and I knew Brian had played with a number of notable bands and was currently playing with De Danann, so I looked forward anxiously to get the CD. Well, I was not disappointed, to say the least! Their CD, "Fly by Night" is a gem of traditional Irish music. The tunes are mostly dance tunes, jigs, reels, hornpipes and are delightfully performed. You've heard about CDs that set your feet to moving, well here's one that does just that. If you're a dancer, you'll love this collection and use it to dance to all the time. If you don't dance, you'll find yourself playing this over and over and wishing you did dance. Every time I have had this CD playing in the store, customers have asked what it was and bought it. That's a recommendation that's hard to beat! I only hope

that these three bring their talents to the US for a tour, I would dearly love to see them in person. No exaggeration, this is some of the finest traditional music I've been privileged to hear in my life and I've heard a lot. "Fly by Night" is one of the finest CDs I've heard.

The Michigan Irish Music Festival in Muskegon Michigan has been one of the best places to hear new music for me. They never disappoint me. One of the bands I saw there and fell in love with is Runa (www.runamusic.com). Out of the Philadelphia area, they have a tremendously talented vocalist, Shannon Lambert-Ryan who is just a joy to watch and listen to, plus they have Cheryl Prashker, the most talented percussionist I've ever seen, another joy to watch and listen to. Before I get lost in the talents of those two band members, let me talk a bit about the rest of the band who are no less stellar in their respective talents. Fionán de Barra, of the famously talented de Barra family, shows that the fruit doesn't fall too far from the tree with fantastic guitar work and outstanding vocals. Dave Curley, who also plays with supergroup Slide, works his magic on mandolin, banjo, bodhran and supplies

more excellent vocals. The band has a new fiddler, Maggie Estes White, who I haven't seen yet but whose work on their new CD is outstanding. And the new CD? "Current Affairs" is the title and a finer crafted piece of work you couldn't ask for. The band has three previous CDs, all of which were delightful, but this is their best work yet. The songs are well chosen to fit the band's talents and are done in their own distinctive style. There is one original piece, "The Ruthless Wife" by Fionán and Shannon that is worth the price of admission by itself. A finer piece of ballad writing you couldn't ask for. They also did a version of one of my favorite songs, "The Last Trip Home" by Davy Steele. It's a very different version than any I've heard but it brings out new facets of this great song that I've never heard before. A tremendous performance. I hope you all get a chance to see and hear this band of outstanding young performers soon, they are a joy and a pleasure to see and hear. In the meantime get their CD.

That's it for me for now, see you at the festivals or at the store (630-834-8108) or on line at jack@rampantlion.com. Greetings to John Nolan in Iowa City.

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Careers

By James F. Fitzgerald, CPA



Are you ready for a few more practical suggestions?

As I indicated in my June column, I wanted to share some common sense ideas with you; here are a few additional thoughts that I would like to share with you. When I was a college senior, we invited an executive from a major clothing store to address our class on presenting a professional image. The only recommendation I remember from the

presentation was about wearing a kerchief in the breast pocket of our newly minted business suits. To this day, I never wear a suit without one of my 20 trusty silk kerchiefs.

Hopefully, you will find one of my suggestions that will be useful to you in your career. I sure hope so.

1. Learn to be happy. Recognize that being happy is a state of mind. As the song says, "Oh

what a beautiful morning." You get to decide your state of mind regardless of your situation. In Dr. Victor Frankl's book, *Man's Search for Meaning*, he validated the notion that you, even in perilous circumstances, are in charge of how you react to any given situation. Dr. Frankl reached that conclusion while a prisoner in a Nazi concentration camp.

In my experience, many of us allow petty, incidental things to decide how we are going to conduct ourselves. Road rage could be an example of that. So I recommend that you use self-talk throughout the day, saying things like "what a great day"; or "I am one lucky and fortunate person"; or "I have so many wonderful opportunities." If you are thinking such positive thoughts, road rage will just not be one of your considerations.

2. Learn to listen. It seems to me we have become a very discourteous society; perhaps we can blame the talk/discussion shows for this problem. Many people seem to be incapable of waiting for the other person to finish their

thought. They feel compelled to jump in and raise the volume of their voice so as to drown out the other person. They render an opinion based on some portion of the other person's point of view. As a client of mine has said to me, "Jim, I am a smart guy: once the other person starts to speak I know what he is going to say." Accordingly, he begins to answer the question that he "thinks" the other person is going to ask. The other person is likely to feel devalued or abused by such conduct.

Obviously, listening to another person can be a great learning experience. Tom Friedman, author of the book, *The World is Flat*, provides an excellent insight on this matter. He says that as a young Jewish reporter working in the Muslim world he was treated courteously because he was a good listener. His willingness to listen was communicating to the Muslim interviewee that Mr. Friedman really wanted to know his opinion. The late Dr. Patrick Scanlon of Loyola Medical

Center used to tell his medical students to always listen to their patients. Eighty percent of the time the patient will provide the doctor with very important information about the specifics of the problem they are experiencing. Having spent a lot of years as an auditor and financial consultant, I would add my two cents and solidly support the opinions registered by Dr. Scanlon and Mr. Friedman.

3. Take good care of your health. As the legendary NY Yankee, Mickey Mantle, said as he got older, "If I knew I was going to live so long I would have taken better care of myself." I believe most trainers and health authorities say that a modest regimen of exercise, supplemented by a reasonable diet, will substantially enhance your long term health. My friend, author Peter McLaughlin, suggests a third ingredient, a good sense of humor. Peter says that humor has a real multiplier effect on your well-being.

Let me suggest that you develop a basic program of exercise that will challenge you while enhancing your physical health.

Staying in shape has a great effect on your overall capability in all aspects of your life, most assuredly your career. A healthy body will provide the necessary level of oxygen that you need to excel intellectually.

Tap into the necessary resources. It is impossible for me to define what is "necessary" specifically for you. But the problem that many of us have is not the knowledge of what we need, but the willingness or commitment to fulfill the basic requirements of our health program.

4. Develop goals. If your goals are not written, you don't have any. Unwritten goals were characterized by the motivational speaker, Zig Ziglar, as WISHES not goals. Think about it, very few of us actually accomplish WISHES before they are allowed to slide into the dumpster. My recommendation is that you consider writing down a few of your major goals and then focus on achieving them. Sales goals, weight goals, marathon goals have made it clear to many of us that goals are an essential element in the motivation that drives us to succeeding in the attainment of goals.

Dr. Frankl said the concentration camps proved to him that prisoners who had goals for their lives beyond their imprisonment whether grand or simple were far more likely to survive.

Would it be correct to say that you would appreciate working with a happy person, who is willing to listen to others, who doesn't whine about their health and who seems to know where they are going? Perhaps you can apply these four thoughts to your daily work life.

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION:

Whatever you can do, or dream you can, begin it. Boldness has genius, power and magic in it. Goethe (German scientist and poet in the 1700's-1800's)

James F. Fitzgerald is the president of James F. Fitzgerald & Associates, Inc., an Oak Brook, IL-based senior executive coaching and outplacement firm. #630-684-2204. Web-site: jamesffitzgerald.com. jamesffitz37@hotmail.com

Mike Houlihan to Tell Stories At McNally's Irish Pub in St. Charles

Irish American News columnist Mike Houlihan is scheduled to appear in St. Charles on Monday night July 7th at McNally's Traditional Irish Pub at

109 West Main Street, in St. Charles, IL at 6:30PM at the personal invitation of Shay Clarke.

Houlihan is scheduled to appear at the pub to promote his latest book, "More Hooliganism", the sequel to his immensely popular debut tome "Hooliganism", which enraptured readers and critics alike. The new book features Houlihan's columns from the last six years as well as a foreword written by former 19th Ward Alderman and Cook County Sheriff Mike Sheahan. In the foreword, Sheahan makes allusions to the crime of "Hooliganism" which led to the imprisonment of feminist rock punk group "Pussy Riot" in Russia.

Mike Houlihan is an award winning writer, actor, producer, director, filmmaker, radio host, and journalist. He began his professional career with The American Shakespeare Festival in Stratford, CT and has appeared on Broadway, Off-Broadway, on television, major motion pictures, our nations largest newspapers, periodicals, and bathroom walls. He is a former features columnist for The Chicago Sun-Times and currently co-hosts "The Skinny & Houli

Show" each weekend on WCEV 1450 AM. Books and DVDs will be available for purchase and signing at McNally's that night or you can get caught up on your entertainment at www.mikehoulihan.com. For more info please call McNally's or Shay Clarke at (630) 513-6300.

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Reel Jiggy

Deirdre Kozicki



These past few months have been a whirlwind of excitement. It all started with the Minnesota feis in April. It was getting dangerously close to the cutoff date for national qualifications and I only needed one more 1st to be able to compete in this huge competition. I knew this was my last shot. I danced as well as I could and it was a small competition but I always have my doubts. They were unnecessary though because I won the competition!! I'm going to Nationals in Montreal! I have never been more hopeful for a major before. As this is my first time competing in solos for nation-

als, my goal is to just recall but I'm working harder than ever before. I can only remain hopeful. We are also performing a brand new choreography so I am very excited about that. For these past two

weeks leading up to nationals, my teammates and I have been practicing for 6 hours a day, sometimes even more. I am hoping that when they say practice makes perfect, it's true. And without school, I have nothing distracting me from my goal. I am beyond excited for Canada and it's going to be a fantastic few days no matter how I place. I wouldn't want to spend the first part of my summer any other way.

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pH Factor

By Pat Hickey



In Praise of Road Rage Obstructors – The Lords of the Lane

*Consideration, like an angel, came
And whipped the offending Adam out of him. (Henry V 1.1.28)
In peace there's nothing so becomes a man
As modest stillness and humility:
But when the blast of war blows in our ears,
Then imitate the action of the tiger;
Stiffen the sinews, summon up the blood,
Disguise fair nature with hard-favoured rage;
Then lend the eye a terrible aspect. (Henry V 3.1.1)*

I drive my vehicle with two hands, maintain the posted-speed limits, and check my mirrors with great regularity and a universal courtesy born of practice and faith in the knowledge that I am not the center of the cosmos.

I understand the basic laws of Newtonian physics and civics sprouted from the property addicted John Locke.

I do not believe that these two vastly dissimilar doctrines are mutually exclusive. An automobile is tin metallic shell containing

not only my bones and blood but a minimum of 15 gallons of highly inflammable fuel. Coupled with this fact is the second law of Newton, "The acceleration of an object depends directly upon the net force acting upon the object, and inversely upon the mass of the object. As the force acting upon an object is increased, the acceleration of the object is increased. As the mass of an object is increased, the acceleration of the object is decreased."

If my massive container of fuel,

blood and bones accelerates and impacts into Newton's first Law – that of inertia – there will be tragic consequences – a conflagrating pyre burnt offerings of blood and bones, melted plastics and thin metals.

Now, to the Laws of private property and good old John Locke, "Sec. 44. From all which it is evident, that though the things of nature are given in common, yet man, by being master of himself, and proprietor of his own person, and the actions or labour of it, had still in himself the great foundation of property; and that, which

made up the great part of what he applied to the support or comfort of his being, when invention and arts had improved the conveniences of life, was perfectly his own, and did not belong in common to others."

Okay, so you own, lease or have stolen a car. You are in possession of a motor vehicle. Does that mean that you may confound the laws of God, physics, Illinois Roads and common sense?

It seems many too people take Locke over Newton.

Just this weekend I took the Tri-State, Illinois Toll I-88, Illinois 39,

Illinois 20 & 26 to Wisconsin in order to avoid the massive stretches of construction on Interstate 90 the more direct artery. Nevertheless, Merge Lane Line Lurking Yahoos ignored the signage posted on Illinois Route 39 between I-88 and the Rock River. LEFT LANE ENDS IN 1 MILE + MERGE RIGHT + Lane Ends in 500 Feet = a Parking Lot.

I turned down the A/C and cranked up the Errol Garner Concert by the Sea CD and took a long breath. While doing so, I quietly cursed with cordial loathing the mopeds, cretins, feebs, dummies and recreation Bicycle laden hipster loads of louts who were bound and determined to squeeze the last metric ME out of an Illinois highway.

Remember, I maintain a constant vigilance over the rear view mirrors automatic and manual and lo, to my delight I spied hero!

That equation of cancelled out by a heroic driver of AIR PRODUCTS Liquid Fuel Tanker Truck 1996 out of Granite City, Illinois.

Whoever, this long-hauling blue collar Roland happened to be, I do not know. He maneuvered his massive cab and tanker trailer full of liquid fuels into slowly disappearing left lane; thus, confounding the Lane Lurkers for a good many mile south. After about ten minutes of his efforts, his cab came into close proximity to my 2008 Malibu and darted out a hearty thumbs up in recognition of his heroics and indicated that I would offer him safe passage to the right lane ahead of me.

The elderly couple driving a late model Chrysler 300 series sporting Iowa Plates flipped me off over their dash boards and mouthed maledictions heard only on HBO directed at my future happiness and well-being.

Lane Lurking to one's immediate advantage, gratification and time-saving husbandry is the mark of the anthropological phenomenon - Homo autem penitus aboleatur (AKA -Asshat Man). Lane Lurking confounds traffic and tempers.

God Bless the truckers who confound such folly! That you, Sir – Mr. Air Products Tanker 1996 out of Granite City, Illinois!



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Last month's column revealed the (documented) connections between MI5/FBI crimes in Chicago and Omagh and the Good Friday Agreement (GFA)-mandated surrender to Britain of Ireland's contested Six-Counties.

They freed up Britain's military for use in WBush's Supreme Crime against Iraq et al. "Rogue agent"? No. MI5/FBI Agent Buckley's immunity indicates governmental complicity. Ditto the IRS's immunized robberies and the unwillingness of lawyers to take our watertight cases for damages against the FBI. These and the documented actions of U.S. Judges George Lindberg and Wayne Andersen in U.S. Case 91CR911 and U.S. Case 94C6139, respectively, all indicate governmental complicity.

Blame Fr. Alex Reid, if you will, for being MI5's asset who flipped Gerry Adams to the British side, and Adams' well-revealed role in eliminating the incorruptible East Tyrone Brigade (Patrick Kelly, Lynagh, McKearney, Arthurs, Donnelly, Eugene Kelly, O Callaghan, and Gormley). Another Non-Sell-Out to be eliminated was Michael McKeivitt (married to Bobby Sand's sister). McKeivitt was railroaded in 2003 by MI5/FBI, co-arrangers of Omagh. "Witness." David Rupert, a life-long criminal according to a NY Police affidavit, had lived a con-man's life of destitution and serial bankruptcy until he finally hit the jack-pot for \$millions by abetting MI5/FBI's Omagh massacre and framing McKeivitt for it. McKeivitt remains in Portlaoise prison. But behind these low-level collaborators are criminals on an international scale.

AN INVISIBLE GOVERNMENT is behind our wars and the destruction of our middle class. Its branch behind both the GFA and our War Crimes was/is the National Committee on American Foreign Policy (NCAFP). Founder; Hans Morgenthau. Members; Henry Kissinger, Margaret Thatcher, David Rockefeller, Jeanne Kirkpatrick, Sol Linowitz, Colin Powell, George Schultz, Richard Holbrooke, George Mitchell, Ex-Gov. Carey, Gerry Adams, and William Flynn who, following his GFA success, became its 2003 Chairman.

Flynn belongs among those monsters. He then headed Mutual of America, an insurance company. Some thirty years ago predators took over insurance companies, Wall Street, multinationals, and banking. Insurance executives like Flynn began "cleaning up" for themselves, not through production, but by denying claims, cutting wages, and raising premiums. (Chicago's monumnet to such predatory insurance is Dickie Parillo's \$60 million house in the

For The Republic



Chris Fogarty

1900 block of North Burling.) Such thuggery offends decency, but their vast loot now controls our government, making our once-proud republic a criminal empire.

Flynn's carefully-crafted self-image as President of the American Chapter of the (Catholic) Order of Malta and collector of dubious "do-gooder" awards surpasses his NCAFP accomplices. Their untouchability probably obviated such self-reinvention.

The "international community" for whom Clinton/GBush/Obama perpetrated their crimes might seem to be only FOX TV, AIPAC, Hillary, Kerry, et al, but regarding Ireland it is really the NCAFP members, each pursuing multinationals' agendas.

NEEDING BRITAIN'S MILITARY. America once dismantled empires, the Nazi one and Britain's far larger one. But upon becoming an empire pursuing Full Spectrum Dominance, it needed Britain's military which was occupied suppressing Irish self-determination. This is where the NCAFP used Flynn's Irish name, his "Catholicism," the venality of Ireland's politicians, and Flynn's flock of Judas goats in Irish-America's news media.

QUEEN LIZ, acknowledging Flynn's role in getting undisputed sovereignty over Ireland's Six-Counties and its \$billions in off-shore hydrocarbons, made him Commander of the British Empire. In turn, Flynn rewarded Gerry Adams' indispensable complicity by paying (per published reports) for his dentures and \$30,000 per-state operation.

TERRORISM HAS WON. Under Flynn's leadership the Occupied Irish get admission to college, but remain occupied, with corrupt courts, uncharged imprisonments, torture of POWs, abusive police, and British marches through Irish areas. "Peace" walls remain; a recent one built around Belfast's St. Matthew's Catholic Church defends against fire-bombs.

PEACE? Homicides peaked at 474 in 1972 and dropped rapidly, to 64 by 1984, fourteen years before the GFA referendum that supposedly brought "peace." Immune from prosecution are Britain's perpetrators of essentially all of the worst atrocities; Bloody Sunday, Ballymurphy, Dublin/Monaghan, McGurk's Pub, Loughinisland, Miami Show Band, etc., Omagh (with FBI involvement), and the 800 Catholics murdered randomly in ones and twos by the



British-army-led Ulster Volunteer Force (UVF). Flynn acknowledged the UVF's role in terrorizing the Occupied Irish into accepting the GFA by getting its leader, David Irvine, invited to the White House in triumph. Flynn's betrayal isn't unique but it's the first time that Irish-America, especially its news media, betrayed Ireland and truth, for Britain.

BRITAIN GOT TO SHARE in the proceeds of war crimes (especially oil, national treasuries, and weapons markets). It got total control of Ireland's Six-Counties, its people, and their offshore riches. Criminal RUC got golden-handshakes and were re-hired as PSNI to "investigate" murders they'd perpetrated. British terrorists conduct lucrative seminars on "Defeating Terrorism."

RECONCILIATION? Why would decent people reconcile with the current torture,

etc. regime?

IRELAND RE-ENSLAVED. "Ireland's" government abetted international banksters by foisting their foolish €multi-billion losses onto Ireland's taxpayers. The €4.5 billion in Six-County losses were made the responsibility of tax-payers in the 26-Counties (a foreign country per the GFA). In the name of Ireland's taxpayers, Ireland's National Asset Management Agency (NAMA), in its Dublin-sited Treasury Building, assumed those losses. Last week NAMA sold that €4.5 billion in non-performing 6-County properties (mostly real estate) to Cerberus Capital Management, a NY company headed by Dan Quayle, for a reported €1.0 to €1.3 billion. More than 1,000 properties are involved. Quayle, U.S. Vice-President under Reagan, is evidently part of America's invisible government.

ProvSinnFein verbally opposes banksters controlling Ireland's three main parties; thus the recent election results. fogarty@att.net or 312/664-7651

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The Irish Rover

By James McClure



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thought "this is nice but Lake Geneva is home."

The Williams Bay, Wisconsin entrepreneur had made her mark in both Colorado and California as a procurer, designer and seller of the finer things in life, everything from the high-end stationery she sold in Aspen at her Dear John stores, to upscale jewelry to the Harold John Shoes business still touting custom luxury loafers on the Internet.

skies and blue waters of Geneva Lake and her longtime second home in Fontana. "When you get down to it, life is about family and roots and I feel close to them here," says the seaside pretty-Brady at her newest venture called The Hedge.

The Hedge is a vintage Williams Bay house that is zoned for business but the store's contents are just that...everything you would find in a well appointed lakeside home. Just



hours after opening the last weekend in May and minutes after what was a successful first day of sales, Brady's consignment furnishings, antiques and designer items were a hot item of California casual cool.

"I've put a lot of thought to what I've filled the house with," says Brady. "Every item from the living room and dining area to the bedroom upstairs is something with a sophisticated style - yet affordable."

Among the many items are linen slipcovered sofas, a Ralph Lauren vintage rattan bed, mid-century Pirelli chairs, and accessories like antique bottles topped with coral and shells set atop a distressed white cottage dresser. "It all fits in

with the Lake and lake living," notes Brady, the middle of three sisters.

But The Hedge is no roadside knick knock store or cliché emporium of lobster baskets and "No Wake" buoys. The demitasse sets and capodimonte table items are of finest quality and nautical nuance, like the antique canoe and waterfront wall art that fill the elegant spaces of the two story home.

"You never know what you might come across at The Hedge," she adds, and with good reason. One Brady sister, Karan, was a senior designer at Ralph Lauren in Los Angeles for 10 years and boasted a list of celebrity clients; the other sister, also an L.A. designer, recently outfitted the homes of Ellen DeGeneres and Jennifer Aniston. "We will have pieces with an interesting provenance from time to time...in fact I just sold a table from Ellen's office."

It's a long way from the 405 in sunny L.A. to The Hedge's doorstep on Highway 67 in Williams Bay. But not when it comes to upscale California chic with a Wisconsin accent.

Longtime residential neighbor Stacey Porter who lived near Brady in Fontana is now also a business neighbor next door at Stacey Porter Antiques. "Suzy comes from a family of taste, sophistication, and simplicity," notes Porter, who not only has experience with

Brady's products but also the business of doing business in Walworth County and the world. "The Hedge has the edge on living a well designed life."

"That's kind of Stacey to say. We see a symmetry of clientele between her shop, mine and Elizabeth Marie's art gallery which are all on the same block of Walworth Avenue in the Bay," says the newest member of The Upscale Triangle

as gulls sweep over the bayside businesses between Walworth State Bank and Skip's Restaurant.

"The consigned furniture, vintage finds and gifts I offer here will appeal not only to visitors and residents but will be of special interest to interior designers shopping for their Geneva Lakes area clients," adds Brady.

About that other sister. And the new business's name. Kathe lives in Green Bay and like Suzy, is a graduate of St. Mary's College, Notre Dame. She's married to the Fighting Irish 1973 National Champion Quarterback Tom Clements, now offensive coordinator with the Green Bay Packers.

"You move a lot in the sports business," says Brady of her sister and brother-in-law. "Every new house in every new town had a storage room to hold all the extra furniture and can't-lose items that followed them from team to team. Tom and Kathe nicknamed such rooms "the hedge." as in, if there's not enough room in the house there's room in the hedge. "In our family the stuff you want to keep and can't pass up goes to "The Hedge!"

The Hedge is at 105 Elkhorn Road (Wis. Hwy. 67) in Williams Bay. Phone ahead to consign items at (262) 686-0020 or e-mail pictures and ideas to thehedgehome@gmail.com

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Our Take on Social Services

By Paul Dowling



gave information of a study they are currently undertaking to better understand the

mental health implications of emigration. The hope is that they can use this information to better prepare those intending to migrate for the challenges and stresses they are likely to encounter. This project could be of enormous benefit to the masses that have been leaving Ireland's shores in recent years and who, in all likelihood, will continue to leave over the course of the coming years. In order to promote their efforts I have included here a copy of the e-mail I received from Crosscare and encourage you to tell others about it.

We are currently conducting an online survey on the mental health of recent Irish emigrants abroad with a view to producing a short 'emigrant driven' guide on how to cope with the emotional and mental challenges of emigration.

Aimed at Irish people who have emigrated from Ireland at any stage since January 2009, we are hoping for input from Irish emigrants all over the world including those who have returned. The survey is confidential and in it we will be asking about coping mechanisms, emotional supports, homesickness, changing perceptions and also people's positive experiences of emigration. We will also be asking people their own view on how their mental health has changed before, during and after the process of emigrating.

Please share the survey with anyone you know who may have left Ireland in the last five years. We are also asking anyone with a Facebook or Twitter account to spread the word about this survey via the internet. It could be a small but important contribution to easing the strain of emigration for future emigrants.

See our website www.migrantproject.ie or go to <http://bit.ly/1jasJOv>

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Long Grove Irish Days Return Aug 30,31 & Sept 1

This Labor Day Weekend, Paddy's on the Square and The Irish Boutique of Long Grove will be bringing back the Long Grove Irish Days, an event Long Grove hosted from 2003 through 2009.

Irish Days is a three-day celebration of Irish music, dance, culture and food. This free event will take place Saturday August 30, Sunday August 31 and Monday September 1 at Fountain Square in historic Long Grove Village.

Entertainment will include Gavin Coyle, Baal Tinne, Jeff Ward, the McNulty Irish Dancers, the Academy of Irish Music, the Shannon Rovers Bagpipe Band & many more. Winstons will be preparing authentic Irish fare and serving up Guinness Stout,

Harp Ale and other favorite Irish beverages.

Wee ones of all ages will enjoy Irish arts and crafts, face-painting and a village-wide

Leprechaun hunt. Representatives from local Irish organizations will be on hand to offer impromptu Gaelic lessons and genealogical information.

Also returning will be the popular Irish Dog Competition. All dogs are Irish at Irish Days. A panel of child judges will choose an Irish Days King, Queen, Prince and Princess each day. A highlight of Irish Days will be the Best Look-

ing Men's Legs in a Kilt Competition. Bring your best kilt or borrow one at the event!

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View From Ireland

By Maurice Fitzpatrick



One hundred years ago, on June 15th, 1914, a young man from Dublin issued a book which would, he maintained, give Irish people a chance finally to view themselves in his finely polished looking glass. He had also declared that unless his first book was published the

civilisation of his country would be retarded.

Time has a way of dealing with such grandiose claims. The Court of Chronos exacts justice in nearly every case. Spoofers are thrown out of court, never to be heard of again; those whose work rightly deserves attention are given a fair hearing. For all his bluster, the case put forward by that young man, James Joyce, for his book of fifteen short

stories, *Dubliners*, has been upheld.

Justice is more than a metaphor here. Joyce spent more than a decade of extraordinary struggle to defend the legitimacy of his writing. In his fiction, he used proper names, slang and curse words; he expressed the tragedy of Dubliners' lives, and even confronted the dysfunctionality of their sexual relations. Publishers hemmed, printers hawed; they asked for changes, then more changes which were never enough. No diplomat, Joyce challenged publishers' view that the book was immoral with the irony that would characterise his later work. For nearly ten years one publishing house after another rejected the book. Joyce joined a writer's guild, and the publication of the book cost him infinitely more in delays and legal fees than he ever saw from it.

Today *Dubliners* reads as a prescient collection. In one story, 'An Encounter', two truant schoolboys meet a man in a great coat who is the worse for drink. The man interrogates them about their sweethearts and then disappears, apparently to interfere with himself. On his return, he is overbearing and menacing towards the boys. Neither the publishers cum censors who parsed the book for obscenity, nor the myopically sighted moralists of the day spotted the potentially scandalous implications of that story.

The less innocent Ireland of 2014 is rather more aware of the threat of child abusers, which leads to the most searing news story of this month. Why is it that when the remains of 800 mothers and babies were discovered in an unmarked grave in Tuam, Co. Galway, the Archbishop of Dublin vociferously condemned the egregious treatment, and welcomed an official enquiry into abuse at institutions charged with taking care of young women and children, and certain Irish politicians rushed to claim that the numbers were exaggerated?

The answer is power: whereas once the clerical class breezily made such distinctions, today our political class is the one most removed from the exercise of conscience and compassion. Archbishop Martin has done a wondrous job of attempting to address the wreckage of abuse perpetuated within the Catholic Church; he has been brave, honest and humble. The power that the Catholic Church used to have in Ireland has been so thoroughly discredited that nobody but a wilfully blind adherent will trust in its explanations of past abuse. The Catholic Church is finally to be subjected to the law—the archbishop is right to welcome this novel approach to justice.

Against this backdrop, how would James Joyce, a hundred years on, have viewed the state of public and private morality in Ireland? We know from conversations recorded with Joyce in his mature years that he was dismayed that the most Irish people managed to do with their political independence was to hand it over to a coalition of the Catholic Church and a self-serving middle class. But how exactly does Dubliners reflect the lives of modern Irish people?

Luckily, Tramp Press has addressed just that question with a book, *Dubliners 100*, a retelling of Joyce's stories in modern times. Tramp Press assembled fifteen of Ireland's skilled prose writers to create their own stories inspired by the lineaments of Joyce's originals. And they did Joyce proud.

The most outstanding versions of Joyce's stories collected here are 'A Mother' by Elske Rahill and 'A Painful Case' by Paul Murray. 'A Mother', who appears as a puritanical tyrant wielding unwarranted control at her daughter's first big concert in Joyce, morphs into a watery Gaelscoil busybody in *Dubliners 100*. Irish language schools, or Gaelscoileanna, are just the setting for a modern rendering of 'A Mother'. The mother in this story, Kathleen, belongs to a swelling proportion of the Irish middle class who push for Irish language schooling, although their underlying aspiration is for something entirely different. Not for her the liberal views of Educate Together, Rahill's remade title character, Kathleen, sees in such schools an opportunity to shield her princess from the worst assaults that exposure to a multi-ethnic society may bring; she is deftly wrong-footed in the story when she is forced to cope with other mothers who refuse to follow her lead.

The retelling of 'A Painful Case' captures the humour of later Joyce when the hermitic and anemic Mr. Duffy is transformed into Dublin's most feared restaurant critic. Just as Joyce's Mr. Duffy created a worldview that trapped him and ultimately destroyed any chance of happiness he might have had, so this Mr. Duffy hid behind an armoury of savage restaurant reviews and contempt for yuppie company, which succeeds in perfectly translating the spirit of the Joyce story into a 21st century setting.

Richard Ellmann's view that "we are still learning to be Joyce's contemporaries" is as true today as it was when he wrote it in 1959. On the centenary of the publication of Joyce's first book of fiction, *Dubliners 100* has provided a compelling reason to read James Joyce in our time. It is a welcome book.

Dubliners 100 was published by Tramp Press in June 2014



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It Starts With A Song

By Joe McShane
and Margo O'Donnell



Hello Everybody

It is with a great sense of loss and emptiness in my heart that I write this note to all of you.

I'm sure you all know my Mother went home to God on May 18th. R.I.P. She was just short a few weeks of her 95th birthday.

My Dad passed away in 1968. 46 years ago and I know she has joined him and rekindled the love she held dear for all that time. People say she was a great age and believe me I am so aware of the long and interesting life she had but you know, no matter how long she was here with me, it doesn't ease the pain and loss I feel. Mam was so much in my life everyday, not a day passed that we were not in touch with each other no matter where in the world I was. She knew about everything in my life.

On my Mam and Dad's Wedding Anniversary September 22nd my Autobiography will be published and Mam was so looking forward to that. I am so happy that I read the entire book for her and she gave me the thumbs up and her blessing to it. I wanted to give her the first copy but now that's not possible, but I know she will be near me now more than ever. I am dedicating my book "The Promise And The Dream" to my Mam and Dad, may they Rest in Peace. I have recorded two new albums which will be released later on, I am so glad that I played every song over the phone for my

Mam. She would ask me to play the songs for her over and over again, this is something I always did over the years.

Myself, Kathleen my sister and my brothers John, James and Daniel would like to say "Thank you" to everyone who phoned, sent Mass cards or were with us in any way during our sad days. Believe me it meant so much to us all. My Mother was an Island woman and I am so glad that on the evening of her journey home. My brother James suggested we take her to see Owey Island, the place of her birth, one last time. So with a Garda escort we took her there then we took her home. From Heaven now she will be able to see us all. Rest In Peace Mam. Thank you Joe for keeping the column going for the past couple of months and I look forward to seeing you when you arrive home soon.

God bless.

Love Margo

Thank you Margo,

Well I'm busy this week getting my gear together for my trip across the Atlantic. By the time you read this I'll have already played a weekend in Ireland. Then its on to Scotland, England and a trip to the Shetland Isles and back to Ireland again.

A big thank you to Pauline (Tenor Banjo) and Kathleen Conneely (Tin Whistle) and Aiofe Lynch (Concertina) for coming along to my CD release at the

Corrib and playing some beautiful music. I really appreciate it and it was a lovely surprise. I'm looking forward to another release night on the south side of Chicago @ the Blackthorn the night before I fly home.

Margo has kindly given me a spot on her INEC show in Killarney on August 23rd. I'm really looking forward to that. Its been a very eventful year for our song writing. With "On The Boat To Liverpool" recorded by Nathan Carter who co wrote the song with us. We also wrote another song with Nathan, which he recorded in Nashville, after his Chicago visit. Song is called "Caribbean Feelin" A good one to wiggle your butt to.

This month we will include another song that we wrote with Gerry Carney. A very talented song writer from Mayo. Gerry wrote the evergreen song P.A.D.D.Y. about his uncle and was a huge success for him and was also recorded by Mike Denver. It is a pleasure to write with him. He is visiting Chicago last week of June and first week of July. So if you get a chance you should try and catch one of his shows.

I hope you all have a great summer and although I'm really looking forward to my trip home, I will miss Chicago, because it is my home also. Margo and I will be writing our next column together. She always has a supply of KitKat's for me and a cup of good old Irish tea.

Until next time be good to each other.

Your friends,

Margo and Joe

"I Can See The Future In Your Eyes"

Written by Gerry Carney, Margo O'Donnell and Joe McShane
Verse 1

Passing clouds will try to spoil the view
But the sun casts a long shadow when I'm standing next to you

Silver in the storm clouds compromise
I can see the future in your eyes

Verse 2

Sometimes I can't see another day
With not a friend to lend a hand, and help me on my way
But holding you it comes as no surprise
That I can see the future in your eyes

Chorus

Walking on the rocky road we strive for peace of mind
But broken dreams and promises are all to easy find
Good time friends that are no more is a blessing in disguise
When I can see the future in your eyes

Verse 3

So onward with our journey you and I
Letting go of all we knew, it's down to do or die
Time will tell it's story of where destiny lies
But I can see the future in your eyes

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Healy Law

Martin J. Healy, Jr.

Senior Partner



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.

Healy Scanlon 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.HealyScanlon.com. The firm concentrates in the representation of injured victims of all types of accidents.

Taking Care Of Those Who Cared For Us

When we were young, they fed us, they sheltered us, they educated us and cared for us when we were ill. As we grew older and became physically independent, they still provided us with their guidance and wisdom and helped us navigate our way through life's challenges. But now, these mothers, fathers, aunts, uncles, matriarchs and patriarchs are aging and we find ourselves in the unfamiliar position of having to care for those who cared for us.

Today, this need to provide care for the elderly is greater than ever before due to our ever increasing life expectancies. During the past two years, my own family has had to come together to find a way to care for a family member who suffer from age related dementia. This experience has taught us a great deal about what we need to do to protect those who played such an important role in our lives.

The first recommendation I would make to anyone who is facing this type of situation is to create the appropriate power of attorney to allow family members to act on behalf of a loved one. Old age, dementia, and physical disability can all result in situations where a family member can no longer perform crucial daily activities on their own. Before a loved one reaches this state, it is important to plan ahead and have this individual

create a power of attorney for financial matters and a power of attorney for health care matters.

The State of Illinois has created short form powers of attorney for both financial matters and health care matters. These forms can be accessed online through the Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission. By appropriately filling out the power of attorney for healthcare form, family members will be able to access an elderly relative's medical records, make medical decisions for an elderly family member and consult with an elderly family member's physicians. Similarly, by creating a power of attorney for finances, family members can address virtually all financial concerns an elderly family member might face. For instance, a power of attorney for finances allows family members to pay bills, manage bank accounts, buy and sell real estate, manage pension and insurance matters, and make investment decisions. Creating the appropriate power of attorney for our family members allows us to make all the important decisions that a family member may no longer be able to make.

One of the most important decisions that you will face is how to take care of the physical day to day needs of a family member who is in decline. There is a wide spectrum of help available. For instance, for those family mem-

bers who still have strong mental capabilities it may be appropriate to arrange to have a home health-care aide visit several hours a day on a daily basis to help with day to day tasks like housekeeping and cooking. For those who have suffered severe physical and/or mental decline, 24 hour care may be the only option.

For those who need 24 hour care, you can hire home health-care aides to provide 24 hour care for elderly family members who either live on their own or with another family member. Alternatively, there are many assisted living facilities that provide many levels of care for older or disabled individuals. The Illinois Department of Public Health regulates both assisted living facilities, which were formally known as nursing homes, and home healthcare agencies.

I would strongly recommend that research be done on a facility or home healthcare agency before allowing them to have contact with family members. The Illinois Department Public Health website has a specific page covering nursing homes in Illinois and this page provides a link to quarterly reports of all nursing home violations and also provides a link to the Medicare database on the performance of all nursing homes in Illinois.

Finally, I think the is the best recommendation I can make to those who are caring for elderly or disabled family members is to actively participate and be present in their lives. Letting the hired caregivers know that you are a regular visitor who asks questions about a family member's care will lessen the chance that any harm will befall a family member. Too often, we are reluctant to ask medical professionals questions. Remember, you know your family members better than anyone and an appropriate question to a medical provider may cause that medical provider to consider an issue that escaped notice.

Also, if there is any evidence that an elderly family member has been physically abused or

Continued to page 47

A Word With Monsignor Boland

The Voice of Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Chicago

Monsignor Michael M. Boland

Administrator, President and CEO



Last month I had the great privilege to accompany the Sovereign Order of Malta on their annual pilgrimage to Lourdes. I wish I could have bottled up the tremendous outpouring of faith, compassion, and overwhelming love for Jesus Christ that I felt there, and brought it home to share with the people in the Archdiocese of Chicago.

In Lourdes, Our Lady welcomes the ill and the healthy in prayer, penance, and charity. A few may find physical healing there, but almost all who travel to Lourdes find spiritual healing that strengthens them and their families, helping them to cope with the challenging circumstances and reinforcing that they are not alone; Christ carries the cross with them, suffers with them, and loves them. But for many who are seriously ill, travelling to Lourdes can be an impossibility.

For the past 56 years, the Order of Malta has enabled thousands of seriously ill individuals, or "malades," to experience the miracle of Lourdes. This year, 1,300 malades from 33 countries were carefully chaperoned by 6,500 hundred Order members ("Knights" and "Dames") and volunteers.

Each malade is assigned a specialized team of the finest doctors, nurses, and other medical professionals. Most team members are Knights and Dames of the Order of Malta who joyfully volunteer their time to care for the malade during the week. The team accompanies the malade at all times—helping with meals and daily personal care, administering medications, tending to a multitude of medical needs, shepherding the malade through the streets of Lourdes, and ensuring their safety at all times.

As chaplain for one of the teams, I was humbled not only by the faith and fortitude of the malades, but also by the generous spirit of my fellow Knights and Dames who provided the most compassionate, loving care I have ever seen.

In the true spirit of Matthew 25,

"whatever you did for these least brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me," the malades were treated like Christ himself. Anyone who has experienced a serious illness knows that sometimes you feel like a "patient" and not a person, moving from one "treatment" to the next. In contrast, the malades never felt more truly human and truly cared for than by the Knights and Dames of Malta in Lourdes. Repeatedly they would tell me that the compassion and simple gestures shown by the Knights and Dames restored their faith in human kindness and strengthened their faith in God. It was not only that they received some of the best medical care available, but it was the way in which the care was delivered that entered their hearts and helped them feel the love of Christ.

Serving the poor and sick with loving tenderness is the essence of the Order of Malta's mission; a mission that reaches around the world and right to the doors of Catholic Charities. We are blessed to have many Knights and Dames on our Board of Advisors and deeply appreciate the Order's volunteer hours, generous donations, and spiritual guidance. Just like the Order of Malta, Catholic Charities' goal is not simply to provide material assistance, but to give compassionate care that enhances the God-given dignity of each person who seeks our help.

To be sure, the miracle of Lourdes is meant to spread beyond the pilgrimage and enrich everyday life. Although I could not bottle my experience in Lourdes, I will carry it in my heart and soul and pray for the Holy Spirit to help me share it with the good people of the Archdiocese of Chicago, including more than one million people served by Catholic Charities yearly. May we all remember that Christ's transforming power can be found not only in lending our helping hands, but in the warmth and tenderness with which they are extended.



Tradition In Review

Bill Margeson



Happy July 4th. This is the month to celebrate America. Wait, every month is the month to celebrate America. Now, we celebrate the best in Irish music, and we also celebrate four new albums that are absolutely sensational.

First up, let's talk about We Banjo 3. Their new album is Gather the Good, and indeed that is just what they've done. There are 12 songs and tunes on this remarkable album. We have discussed in detail this band's wonderful joining, and its meteoric rise to the current number one position in Irish-bluegrass-Americana-world-folk-blues-music. They are stunning, and incredibly popular. Some recent unfortunate pairings for live shows with bands far lesser than they must be overlooked. This album from the Galway lads is the best they've got right now, and that's just about better than everybody else. If you are a We Banjo 3 fan, all you need is this notification that the new CD is out. It is their second. Their first was Roots of the Banjo Tree. If you are not a fan, give a listen to both albums, and you will be. Join the rest of the world. This is the leading contender right now for Vocal-Instrument Album of the Year.

Out of Donegal comes a favorite group of ours, The Henry Girls. You should know that they are Lorna, Karen, and Joleen McLaughlin. The history of why they are called The Henry Girls has been discussed here in detail. Everything gets discussed here in detail. Where are YOU? They have had five wonderful previous albums including Mountains to the Ocean, with the raucous bluegrass group, Fox Hunt. This is not Irish Traditional music. However, it is wonderful and purely Irish music. These three girls have been performing all their lives, and like the Everly

Brothers, Andrews Sisters, and the Mills Brothers, they share that perfect sibling blend in gorgeous harmonies. Nobody in Irish music sings harmonies better than these girls. Fantastic, and so is this album. The new one is called Louder Than Words, and it is their best ever. Just like We Banjo 3, it is great to see an experienced band of entertainers just continuously get better and better. We are unabashed fans of these Donegal Duchesses. Make no mistake about it, this is wonderful music from a group that we suspect does not yet fully realize how good they are. World-class. Three voices as one. Those wonderful sibling harmony groups of the past could not have their legacies in better hands. You go, Girls.

Third up is Tall Tales and Misadventures, the brand new outing from the fabulous quintet, Goitse. This is their third album. Guess what? It is their BEST, also! Tall Tales and Misadventures has 11 great songs and tunes. This act is now so

polished and professional it is no wonder that they are one of the most popular acts on the international festival circuit, as well as concert performances through the rest of the year. On our Sunday program, the Bill & Imelda show from Dublin Ireland, on LiveIreland.com, we have long been well been aware that Goitse is one of the most



popular acts internationally. We like to think on LiveIreland that we discovered them for the international trade. We believe we did. But, like anything else, that is only trying to get bragging rights for something that is a complete phenomenon on its own. Goitse is wonderful, and keeps getting wonderfuller! We love them, and can't wait to see them again in person. Unfortunately, we missed them when they were in Milwaukee for a winter concert, but we'll look forward to repeated visits to the

Chicago area. Long live Goitse. The new album is a stunner.

Finally, a great album from Runa. Entitled, Current Affairs, it shows the band at its current best. And, that best is mighty good. The band's personnel is an international gumbo of an Irish group. It's a quintet, and it's terrific, blending wonderful vocals with really exciting instrumentals. This is their fourth album, and just out two weeks as you read this. Quite honestly, like Goitse, it includes a full variety of tempos, timings and fresh approaches to the auld' music. Runa is young, fresh and exciting. Extremely high level of creativity meets a really high level of musicianship and understanding of the tradition. We love Runa. Get this CD. Heck, get ALL of these CD's.

You can hear all this music on our pal, Maryann Keifer's program, Ireland Tonight, each Monday at 9 o'clock on WDCB 90.9 fm in the Chicago area, and streaming at wdcb.org. Imelda

Bhroga and I follow with House Party, which is mostly bluegrass, but always has an Irish tune to remind everyone where bluegrass music came from. We follow Maryann at 10 o'clock. And, don't forget Imelda Bhroga's and my Sunday program on LiveIreland.com every week at noon Chicago time. We offer you two hours of the best in traditional music. The show is based out of Dublin, Ireland, and is now the #1 Irish music program in the world for total listening audience. We are followed every week on Sundays at 2 o'clock pm by what we consider to be the best Irish music program in the world in terms of quality, selection, knowledge and taste. It is The Copperplate Show, hosted by Alan O'Leary. Also on LiveIreland.com and based out of London and Dublin. Along with Harry Bradshaw, formerly of the RTE, no one in the world knows more about our music than Alan. Uber Fab.

Tune in to all three of these shows. You will be hearing a lot of each of these four CD's on the programs. We all know great music when we hear it.

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Swimming Upstream

By Charles Brady



Suffer the Little Children: The Atrocity at Tuam

"We are clearly stating on the record that at least ten thousand babies were neglected to death.

"We believe the Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus are responsible for at least 2,500 to 3,500 of these deaths and the evidence so far uncovered backs up this truth with incontrovertible facts and a clear pattern of neglecting babies and children to death."

--- Report into the History of Adoption in Ireland since 1922

From 1925 until 1961; that's how long the laughingly called 'mother-and-child' home in Tuam, County Galway was run by the Bon Secours order of nuns.

1961. It's that year, that figure that gets me. That date means that at least some of the 796 infants--whose remains were uncovered in the seventies before being quickly and efficiently hidden from sight and knowledge once more--were buried during my lifetime.

Buried? Ah, no. It's a bit late in the day to be dainty and sensi-

tive about people's feelings, now isn't it? These tiny little mites, these poor broken little children were dumped--unceremoniously dumped, with less dignity than you would give to a goldfish--into a septic tank that is forty minutes' drive from where I live. Forty minutes; and yet for more than three decades in modern times it has been harder to get information on this appalling testament to human atrocity than it would have been to get details of a mass grave exhumed after a war in some country thousands of miles away.

Yet I'm being disingenuous myself here; because the information always was there. It's rather that there just never has been the will, cowed for centuries and held in thrall as the Irish were by the Catholic Church, to peel back the curtain of sanctimonious hypocrisy that they represented. To peel back that earthly veil and take a good hard look at the evil that has been perpetrated in the name of Christ.

1961. Less than three years after that date, when the last of these infants was being thrown away

and disposed of as you would a used tissue, I was starting Catholic primary school. Amongst many other useless things that we were taught there, was the story from the Gospel of Matthew. You know the one, about nasty Herod and the Slaughter of the Innocents. Drummed into us, it was, like a lot of other highly questionable baloney; and all the while we didn't have to look as far as ancient Jerusalem at all; all the while genuine Evil was taking place on our own doorsteps.

Nor is it acceptable to blame the Catholic Church in entirety. For such an extremely successful cover-up over a large number of years of an enormous group of paedophiles (not a small minority, mind you--an enormous and organized group) there had to be links with politicians and police. At the very least they have been guilty of turning a blind eye to the behavior of Holy Mother Church. At the very least, although I do believe it to have been much more. I believe it to have been active collusion and even participation. After all, Ireland was then a country ruled completely by the ghastly Archbishop John Charles McQuaid. So it was a country where anything was possible in the name of God. Now, it seems likely that this may even have included mass murder. Well, you may call it something else but when it comes

to children being starved to death I'm not quite so delicate.

And that should have the Usual Suspects howling at me; no doubt the same ones who wanted my head when I suggested years back that what we knew was only the tip of the iceberg, something that turned out to be correct. With this current slice of awfulness, I see that such phrases as 'negligent homicide' are being thrown around. Heaven forbid we call a spade a spade.

'We Can't Really Judge the Past.'

There aren't going to be any happy endings here. No one is going to come out of this looking very good. What were the fathers of these children doing? Did they just watch and breathe a sigh of relief as their pregnant lover was dragged off to a life of misery and their child was farmed off to whoever would have it? Did the fathers' families? Many must be alive now, having gone on to raise families of their own. Do they sometimes lie there staring into the darkness at three o'clock in the morning? Or did they buy into the Church's wicked teachings hook, line and sinker (as much for convenience as anything else) that the wanton woman was to blame for her tempting ways and as the descendent of Eve? Were these children and the unmarried mother just embarrassments to be locked away lest they 'shamed' an island that considered itself to be the land of saints and scholars?

If the Christ came back in the morning he would look in despair at what twisted minds have caused to take place in his name.

I despaired myself as this story once more--because remember, it's been around since the seventies--had a light shone on it. For more than a week it was hidden and went almost unnoticed because of the elections (!) and the extremely important issue of the union of the awful West and Kardashian dynasties. When it couldn't be ignored any longer because some news outlets had their teeth into it, as well as the fact that it was going international, then a damage limitation exercise kicked in almost immediately.

We began hearing ominous cau-

tions about how high the infant mortality rate was back then in what had hitherto been known as the Good Old Days; although no one was rushing to mention how much higher it seemed to be around the mother-and-baby institutions.

Yesterday June 6th I sent the following email to my friend Darren:

"Father Fintan Monaghan, secretary of the Tuam archdiocese, says: 'I suppose we can't really judge the past from our point of view, from our lens. All we can do is mark it appropriately and make sure there is a suitable place here where people can come and remember the babies that died.'

"Jaw-dropping statement of the year. Ah, sure it was the sixties; we did things differently then. Mass graves weren't uncommon. Wonder if he'll repeat that at this Sunday's sermon. Or if people have the good sense to walk out if he does. IF there's any mass-goers left."

Darren emailed back:

"Next he will be saying that they all died of natural causes! Or that they were there before the house was built or that they were planted by the English!"

What could be seen as flippant is in fact a statement born out of anger. What Darren may not have known at the time is that he was closer to the truth than he knew: previous 'explanations' tentatively suggested that it might have been linked to the original building being a workhouse dating back to the 1840; or that the dead were victims of the famine. Damage limitation, indeed. Is the Church sensing already that this may cost them money, just as those damned paedophile priests who were stupid enough to get caught did only recently? And we know how they hate parting with money.

As I prepare to send this we now find that some of the documents that it will be essential for us to examine have vanished from the National Archives up to ten years ago. Good luck with finding them. Here we go.

Due to space limitations you can read this article in its entirety on www.charleybrady.com

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Healy Law

Continued from page 44

neglected or if there is some suggestion that property has been misappropriated or stolen, the Illinois Department of Public Health on its website has complaint forms that will trigger an automatic investigation by the State of Illinois.

I hope the above suggestions will provide you with some guidance when caring for your elderly and disabled family members. Caring for these family members can be quite challenging physically, mentally and emotionally. But you will

learn that by doing this it will bring you and your other family members closer together as you try to find a way to care for those who cared for you when you needed help.

By: John P. Scanlon (pictured)



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Ward Irish Music Archives Wins AASLH Award of Merit

The American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) proudly announces that the Ward Irish Music Archives, housed at the Irish Fest Center in Wauwatosa, Wis., is the recipient of an Award of Merit from the AASLH Leadership in History Awards for the Irish Sheet Music Archives website (<http://irishsheetmusicarchives.com>). The website is the online home of the sheet music collections found in the Ward Irish Music Archives of Milwaukee Irish Fest. Users can browse and search over 5,000 pieces of Irish and Irish American themed sheet music, and they can view full scans of sheet music in the public domain.

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