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From the *Motherland*

By Sean Farrell



Section Two of 1969

Benjamin Franklin remarked that taxes and death were the only two certainties. A century earlier French Finance Minister Colbert defined the art of taxation as "so plucking the goose as to obtain the largest amount of feathers with the least possible amount of hissing". And we all know what befell the woman who said only little people paid taxes.

Whatever else can be said about tax there's almost universal agreement that current systems are basically unfair. Every country employs a system of levies, reliefs and exemptions that have evolved out of a mix ranging from political beliefs, expert advice to foster desirable social and economic developments, a vague commitment to equitable treatment (at least among OECD states), down to special pleading and cronyism, the latter two normally carefully disguised. Once legislated for (in or out!), particular provisions regarding tax tend to be regarded as holy writ, with any change assuming a zero sum status. Those who benefit hunker down; those who don't howl for change.

We in Ireland have had several fairly unique tax exemptions. Back in the era of real hardship - synonymous with the Pre-Mass/Whitaker era before 1960, when the country was literally bleeding to death - farmers, the chief bred-in-the-bone source of the country's modest wealth, were by and large free from tax. It was meagre income/meagre capital allowances, rather than any special treatment. Nevertheless, after EU membership, when farmers at last had some income thanks to Europe's CAP, the perceived favourable tax treatment of farmers generated some resentment and criticism from urban taxpayers.

When at last the country began to develop a significant manufacturing base, via for the most part FDI, exported manufactured goods earned a tax exemption. This survived and morphed into a generalised zero taxation rate for manufactures, making Ireland a desirable place for foreign investment. There is little doubt that this favourable tax regime, ably promoted by Ireland's Industrial Development Authority, helped the successful development of the Irish economy from the mid-seventies on.

This very success eventually prompted attacks from the European Commission and several member states, seeking to end the

exemption on the grounds that it gave Ireland an unfair advantage in attracting foreign investment. Perhaps, but then Ireland

already has significant strikes against, in the form of geographical peripherality and the extra costs of bringing goods to market.

The battle with the Commission is ongoing and has seen grudging acceptance - on both sides - of a modified tax rate of 12.5% on manufactures. When Ireland went broke several years ago there were fears that Europe would keep the plug pulled unless the favourable rate was abandoned but this threat did not materialise. The pressure, however, continues, with the strongest argument for abolition the fact that many large multinationals use their Irish branch to launder profits to avail of the preferential tax rate. The counter argument is that the multinationals will simply find somewhere else equally or more accommodating.

One enduring Irish taxation measure HAS captured the imagination and attracted much international interest. In introducing the Irish budget in 1969 the then Irish Finance Minister, Charlie Haughey drew "particular attention to Section 2 which deals with the exemption from income tax of earnings of writers, composers, sculptors and painters". Whatever else he will be remembered for, Haughey will be forever associated with this measure. As anyone with experience in government will testify, most legislation, particularly involving changes in taxation, emerges after a gestation period of debate and consideration, sometimes public, sometimes internal. Section 2 of 1969, however, appears to have come out of left field and it's difficult to conceive of another Irish politician coming up with the idea.

How to treat income generated from artistic endeavour has long been a problem everywhere. Aside from the handful of mega successes who earn millions, most of the artistic community in any society live and earn modestly. Financial success, where it comes, is often concentrated in one or two years with fallow periods before and after. Prior to 1969 the artistic community in Ireland had been lobbying for a change in the system to allow royalties or revenue to be spread across several years; this at a time of low incomes, low tax thresholds and very high rates of marginal tax (dubbed surtax). Not surprisingly the bureaucrats found enough practical objections (chiefly involving relativities) to do nothing. Haughey's measure cut that particular Gordian Knot.

The scheme was broadly, though not

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universally, welcomed. One crusty revenue official remarked to me, with sage perspicacity, that Haughey was seeking to create another group of people who would pay no tax! This at a time when Ireland's retarded economic development was finally speeding up, with fortunes being made particularly in building and property development, where tax breaks and loopholes abounded. Yet such riches did not touch much on the artistic community at the time nor for long afterwards, despite Haughey's initiative.

The terms of the scheme were clear: earnings from an original book, play or other writing, a musical composition, painting or sculpture, deemed by the Revenue Commissioners to have artistic merit, were exempted from tax. So first there had to be earnings! The expressed aims were to foster and encourage the arts generally and artists to remain in Ireland (1969 was the year the Nobel Prize for Literature went to one famous Irish exile - Samuel Beckett). Irish residence (including for tax purposes) was, and is required. Claims could not be made retrospectively, thus ensuring that there was a stream rather than a flood of writers and artists into the country, as some critics had feared.

The scheme ground on without amendment for a generation, despite several efforts by Revenue to have it reined in. Most of those covered benefitted modestly. To counter "administrative creep," guidelines were

introduced in 1995 and revised in 2013. By then there had been change. For as Ireland boomed, and incomes rose, so too did the incomes of artists and writers. When the Freedom of Information Act was deemed to cover those benefitting, the information revealed caused some surprise, particularly the revelation that a small handful of individuals, including some rock stars (on royalties from musical compositions) were saving millions in tax.

In 2007, thirteen of the 2,427 availing of the scheme were earning in excess of €500,000. The exemption was capped in 2006 at a generous €250,000 (roughly \$300,000) and further reduced to stand now at €50,000, as well as being enmeshed in the high earners' tax restrictions. The figures available, for 2012 show that roughly 64% of those benefitting had incomes below the exemption, with many having less than half that amount.

Section 2, now Section 195 of a 1997 act, is again under attack, on the usual grounds of equity, with Revenue again leading the charge. In a perfect world the case for abolition would be unchallengeable. But, given the gaps, loopholes, deficiencies and blatant unfairness, which characterise the way in which income (including welfare payments) and wealth are treated in Irish legislation, why single out this? In the broad scheme of things the measure costs little. To end it would be a victory for bean counters, no one else.



Tradition In Review

Bill Margeson



This is depressing. Things are getting out of hand. The walls are closing in. The fog of old age descends. Last month, we reviewed a terrific album, Oga, by a wonderful 15-year-old Texas fiddle player, Hailey Sandoz. Let me repeat. 15 years old. She is terrific. A fabulous fiddler, we raved—and, we were right.

We had just settled back into our old ways and easy chair. We were prepared to go on and pretend that Miss Sandoz was a one-off, a rarity come forward from the fervent Irish musical scene that has grown up around the annual North Texas Irish Festival.

Then came a note. Would we be interested in hearing a new album from another Haley—Haley Richardson? We responded immediately that we would be interested, indeed. Somewhere, deep in the haze, we remember talking to our friend, Manus McGuire. Manus is considered by many as the best of all Irish fiddlers. So, when he tells you he has just heard a phenomenal new talent, you are well advised to listen carefully. That talent is Haley Richardson. Her brand new album is called Heart on a String and features the wondrous Haley, accompanied on guitar by her brother, Dylan. There is so much about this album that is so very, very good. Critically, Haley shows a masterful musical maturity in her tempos, and a deep understanding of the music. She is taught by the fiddle playing New York prosecuting attorney, Brian Conway. Conway is a terrific fiddle player and in the succession of the masterful Andy McGann and other magnificent players. New York joins Texas in a very active trad scene. Out of these creative cauldrons come Haley and Dylan. Her first tune on the CD is a version of Porthole of the Kelps, which we remember from the playing of the iconic, Bobby Casey. The playing of the set includes a Liz Carroll tune, The Brocca. There are airs, jigs, fabulous reels, and barn dances. Each is played flawlessly, with great taste. Haley and Dylan have resisted the urge so ruinously common in much of Irish music to play everything at 375 miles per hour. No, these tempos are perfect, as they are meant



to be in Irish music. It gives us room to hear style and ornamentation. On that first tune of the album, the aforementioned Portholes, we feel it could be Maurice Lennon playing. Haley is that good.

Oh, did we mention she is 12 years old? Let that sink in, dear reader. 12. Her brother, Dylan, is the old man of the operation. He is 17. By the way, his accompaniment is just about as perfect as Haley's playing. If my math is correct, she was born in 2003. I'm stunned. I'm thrilled that the tradition is in such good hands. The only danger is that Hailey and Haley are so young that they may decide to go off and be doctors and cure cancer, OR decide to be President of the United States! If they can play like this at this age, there is nothing that they can't do! Find this CD and hear the long-range future of the music. You will be as thrilled as I am to know that it is in such capable hands.

Socks in the Frying Pan is out with their brand new cd, Return of the Giant Sock Monsters from Outer Space. That's right. And if you think the title is something, wait until you see the album cover! Socks is another incredibly young group of musicians, though compared to Haley Richardson, they are ready for their old age pensions. They are in their early 20's. They will be tearing up the summer festival scene this year, as they did last year. By the time you read this, they will have already had their American cd launch at Chief O'Neill's in Chicago on April 24th.

The big deal here is that Socks, We Banjo 3, and now Jigiam are all highly successful young groups, and point the same direction. All three of them are combining Americana, Bluegrass, and Irish Trad in a music of wide and immediate appeal. All the groups play these tunes wonderfully, sing these



songs with great feeling, and are immediately accessible. They will serve as gateways to Irish Trad in its more pure forms. But, this is no place for purists. Return of the Giant Sock Monsters from Outer Space is new, great fun, and played brilliantly. This is all part of a wonderful youthful music in popular Irish Trad, and it is going in new directions. Never mind the 'auld ones who insist on a rigid adherence to the way Coleman or Morrison played a tune. These youngsters are very capable musicians, and seem to be writing new rules. They all share certain attributes. They are very good, young and attractive. Don't underestimate the latter. They put on a great show. None better than Socks, and long may they be in the Frying Pan. Good work, lads! This trio of the Hayes Brothers, and Aodan Coyne are on the stove, in the pan and hot, hot, hot.

We're going to save space for a review of the Jeremiahs new album next month. They are wonderful and we want to give them due attention. We must squeeze in a review of the album Ireland: Crossroads of Art and Deign 1690-1840. This CD is a musical accompaniment, really, to an exhibition of Irish Art and Culture that is at the Art Institute of Chicago until June 7th of this year. It is fantastic, and so is this album. Marty Fahey and our own Liz Carroll put together a lot of this and are joined by many of our great local musicians including Liz Knowles, Kieran O'Hare, Jackie Moran, and others in a gorgeously produced and sumptuously presented album of music designed to perfectly accompany the exhibition. Liz composed a number of these tracks, specially commissioned to correspond to the exhibition and its themes. Perhaps there could have been more tunes from the actual periods represented in the exhibition directly. Let us not argue. Liz, Marty, and this album are fab, and so is the exhibition. Go see it. It is a blessing that it is in Chicago. It is also a blessing that you can get this CD. This is the real Ireland. This is the culture of Ireland. Not some drunken hash of a mixer at an Irish pub on St. Patrick's Day. No, this is the real Ireland. And it is wonderful.

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Brendan Loughrey's New CD, Erin

Donegal-born musician Brendan Loughrey has recently released "Erin", an album full of heartfelt celtic music. The album features 13 original songs, with Bart Cason on Percussion, John Lardinois on Violin, Adam Gueth on Bass, and Leo Butler on Bagpipes/Whistle. Included in the set is Tiocfaidg Ar La (Our Day Will Come),



which is the theme song to the currently in-producton movie Doherty. From his website review by James

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By *Ryanne Gallagher Johnson*

Making a name for her new business, Amie Nolan Ryan (pictured), reached back to Ireland's original written word, Ogham. An Irish-born, newly-made American citizen, she is the founder and owner of Indie Celt, representing alternative Irish crafts that have an emphasis on the Irish language and Irish culture.



Her creations focus on Ogham, an ancient and beautiful Celtic inscription, dating from the 4th century. It was the earliest system of writing to appear in Ireland and is a phonetic language read from bottom to top. It is pronounced 'oh-am', or 'og-am' (the old Irish way). It was engraved on wood and on stone and modern day examples can be found on standing stones in Ireland, especially in the South West of the country. (Indie Celt Facebook page).

Nolan got started on Ogham when she was at university in Galway, studying archeology. Using handmade pre-shrunk organic cotton, or other organic materials depending on the product, her inscriptions are hand painted, and all inscriptions are done by herself. Her designs are put onto slate, pillows, or framed wall art, and people can choose from a pre-made selection, or custom order almost anything they like (popular requests are "Love"- in Ogham- for a wedding, or a name for a new baby or baby shower).

While her pieces centering on the ancient

script are best-sellers, her goal is to branch out into Irish culture, focusing less on archeology in her crafting endeavors. She's recently begun work using vintage Irish stamps, printing them on hand sewn pillows, and will launch her Commemorative 1916 Rising product range in the Fall.

Hesitant to try and sell Irish crafts in the U.S. when she first moved here, she

quickly discovered that people were very aware of Irish culture and like the crafts that come from her designs. She sells her pieces online through Etsy, Facebook, her email, and her own website. You can also find Indie Celt products around the Chicago area at:

Celtica Gifts, 1940 W. Montrose, Chicago, IL 60613 773-784-7712



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Frank Mahon: Rest in Peace My Friend

January 26, 1951 - April 20, 2015
By *Cliff Carlson*

I received the sad news from Ireland, that Frank Mahon died over the weekend unexpectedly. All I know is that he didn't show up for work on Monday, and they found him at his home in Evanston.

Frank loved the Quiet Man, and created a play out of the same book the Quiet Man came out of. His play is called The Quiet Man Tales. I remember Frank coming to my office with supporters and they pitched the play to me. I went to a reading and I loved it. I told Frank I would help and I enlisted Jim Corboy to lend a hand. Long story short, the play was made, and produced. It was successful, but it came about when the economy was going south so like many things, it was a struggle.

This past summer, Frank took the play to Ireland, and from all I heard it did well there.

When the Irish American Hall of Fame decided to honor Maureen O'Hara, I "volunteered" to go to Ireland and get her acceptance speech on video. Frank went too and it was a highlight of our lives.

I wish you much success in Heaven Frank! Hope to see you there, but not too soon!

(Visitation was at Donnellan Family Funeral Services in Skokie and the funeral was April 27th at Saint Mary's Church, Evanston).



Pictured are Frank Mahon, Maureen O'Hara, and Morgan Llywelyn.

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Piping It In



Jack Baker

Home from our annual pilgrimage to the Hawaiian Scottish Games and Celtic Festival, I'm fighting the effects of jet lag and a very persistent Pacific flu bug but happy in that I finally got to see two of my very favorite performers in person. Scottish fiddler Rebecca Lomnicky and multi-instrumentalist David Brewer perform together as "The Fire" www.firescottishband.com, and while I've reviewed their CDs, I'd never had the opportunity to see them perform. Well scratch that one off my bucket list. What a fantastic performance these two performers give. Rebecca sparkles on the fiddle while David plays several types of bagpipe, flute, whistle and guitar and does it all with unreal energy and verve. They mostly play the west coast of the US but are hoping to pick up some gigs in the Midwest. I hope they get their wish, we could use some new talent around here to perk up the Scottish festival

scene and this duo delivers with talent, stage presence and energy. They do have a new CD in production right now and I can't wait to hear it.



On to new CDs I have in hand and there's some beauties here. I received a promo from a new band called "Cúig" www.breakingtunes.com/cuigmusic. A very young band but with an old sound and I mean old in all the best ways. Their self-titled EP has only 5 tracks but impressive tracks they were, all traditional tunes but with band's

arrangements. If you're worried about the future of Irish music, worry no more because young outstanding musicians like this will be leading the way. The band consists of Cathal Murphy doing an outstanding job on drum kit, just enough to give the heartbeat to the music without stepping on the other instruments; Miceál Mullen on mandolin and banjo; Rónán Stewart on fiddle an pipes; Eoin Murphy on button accordiam and Ruairí Stewart on guitar. They play blistering music with lovely tight arrangements that aere a total joy to listen to. Their promotional material does leave a lot of facts out but I'm sure we will be hearing more from this bunch soon and I look forward to that day.

Another CD that showed up in my mailbox was from Nova Scotia, containing the music of Gillian Head, www.gillian-head.com, titled "Spirit". Aptly titled, this CD grabbed and held my attention. Gillian plays fiddle and has a backing group that really knows how to highlight her artistry. The group consists of Jason Roach on piano, David MacIsaac on guitar, Ryan J. MacNeil on whistle and Steven Wilton on drums. A student of the late master fiddler Jerry Holland, Gillian would

certainly make her teacher proud with the masterful performance she gives here. Not just another Cape Breton fiddler, Gillian has blended other styles along with the Cape Breton sound and has crafted a sound the is uniquely her own. I spent one whole day in the store just listening to this CD repeat, it was a totally new sound, innovative, complex and completely lovely. I look forward to being able to see Gillian perform in person but in the meantime I'm going to give her CD a workout.

Malinky, www.malinky.com, a Scottish band of no small reputation and talent, has just released their latest in a long string of memorable CD and , frankly, I think it's their best yet. "far better days" is a collection of 11 traditional Scots songs arranged and performed in Malinky's inimitable style. At a time when it seems the fashion to include new songs, good or not, Malinky goes their own path with the finest rendering of pure Scottish trad music I've ever heard. Talented vocalists all, the band consists of Steve Byrne on bouzouki, guitar, jew's harp and harmonica; Mark Dunlop on whistles, flute and bodhran; Fiona Hunter on cello and Mike Vass on fiddle and tenor guitar. If you like striking vocal talent, here's the band for you. If you've ever wondered why some folk like Scots trad, give this a listen and you'll understand. The band doesn't plan to tour this year and that is a real shame. It's very difficult for Scottish bands to get the proper paperwork to tour and I would hope the UK government takes steps to correct this situation soon, but I have little hope we'll

see any change. Saving the most fun for last, I almost don't see a need to write about the next CD since it's all I've heard anybody talking about for the last month or so. A bandin Montreal, Canada. 28 dancers that three years ago we'd never heard of, released their first CD two years ago, did their first tour last year and now have released the most anticipated CD I've ever seen, of course I refer to Socks in the Frying Pan, www.socksinthefryingpan.com. The new CD, "Return of the Giant Sock Monsters From Outer Space" is that rarest of CDs, being a sequel that is as good as the first and in some ways better. How better you ask? Well first of all the boys let their effervesant humor loose in the design of the CD cover. Secondly the boys lent their talents to several different types of vocals and scored on them all. My favorite is their rendition of that bluegrass icon "Rolling in my Sweet Baby's Arms". If you were lucky enough to see these guys last year you'll know what I'm talking about, if not, no problem, since they've been hired back this year for every place they played last year and more besides. At Milwaukee's Irish Fest last year they were tucked into the Snug and the place was packed at every performance. This year they're on the Tipperary state, the largest covered stage there. These are the guys who are setting the bar this year and it's a tall leap for sure. Do yourself a favor and make it a point to catch them when they're playing near you, oh yeah, get the CD too!

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Lavin-Cassidy Successful at World Championships

By Barbara Bullington

In April, the World Championships were held for the first time for the last month or so. A bandin Montreal, Canada. 28 dancers represented our school, and we are thrilled to report that we won THREE World Titles and a second place. We came home with 27 World medals and 4 World Globes!!!! Quite the accomplishment for a small school.

The following dancers competed as soloists and placed:

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- Jack Bullington U11
8 th place - Evergreen Park, IL
- Michalene Donnelly U13
9 th place, Oak Lawn IL

U11 Ceili Team – 2nd Place
Delaney Bullington, Aileen Chesniak, Kylie Collins, Libby Gibbons, Kayla Harper, Courtney Mayo, Maura McNerney, and Mairead O'Brien,

U13 Ceili Team – 1st place
Abigail Chesniak, Michalene Donnelly, Elizabeth Gildea,

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Irish Books and Plays in Review

Frank West



The Celtic Myths: A Guide to the Ancient Gods and Legends

By Miranda Aldhouse-Green, *Thames And Hudson*

The dictionary describes a myth as "A story that was told in an ancient culture practice, belief, or natural occurrences."

Myths try to answer "some of the most fundamental human concerns: Who are we? Why are we here? Why is our world like this? How was the world created? What happens to us when we die?"

Myths "particularly those from the Celtic world, are highly concerned with morality - violence . . . war and ethics . . ."

The book is beautifully illustrated throughout with examples of archaeological treasures from the

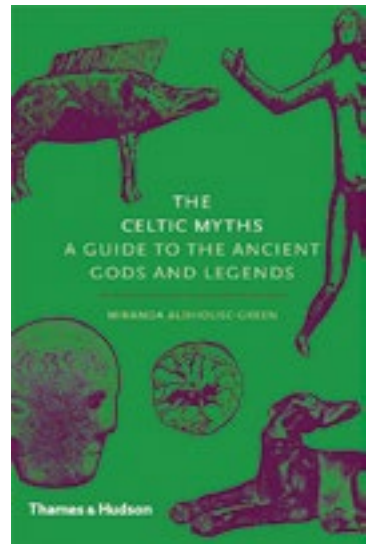
Celtic world. It would be helpful to the reader to provide phonetic pronunciations of names.

Miranda Aldhouse-Green is the author and scholar of great breadth. She is Professor Emerita at Cardiff University and has published several books about the Celts and their world.

The ancient myths tell us a lot about our modern myths. These quotes show this,

"In the Irish stories of triple gods and goddesses, "it is clear that only one real persona or identity existed . . .". The number three favored over other numbers. "It was a holy number, charged with meaning and magic . . ."

So the Celts were



predisposed to accept the Christian concept of a three aspect God.

* Paganism and Christianity existed side-by-side for hundreds of years. "The Trinitarian nature of Christianity - the Father, Son and Holy Spirit - resonated well with the . . . Celts." The myths are bristling with triple imagery, so threeness was a comfortable and familiar concept that could be used by Christian missionaries . . ."

* "The power of pagan mythic tradition continued to manifest itself centuries after Christianity was commonplace in Celtic lands, and was by no means obliterated . . ."

* "Bowls, drinking cups and chalices (like the Ardagh Chalice-AD700) were important to the Celts throughout Europe." Bowls" whether pagan or Christian, represent not only drinking but also transformation. Liquor is the juice of fruit or grain transformed into an alcoholic drink. In the Christian tradition "a chalice holds the wine that becomes the Christ's blood during the Eucharist."

* "The teller of tales was powerful, for he or she was curator of tradition, wisdom and ancestral knowledge, all of which served to find communities together and give depth and meaning to their world."

The Irish Citizen Army

By Ann Matthews, Mercier Press and DuFour Editions

In April, 1916 James Connolly wrote: "The Council for the *Irish Citizen Army* has resolved . . . to raise the green flag of Ireland . . ."

With incredible bravery the soldiers of the Irish Citizen Army were willing - even to the sacrifice of their lives - to fight to take the British boot off the neck of Ireland.

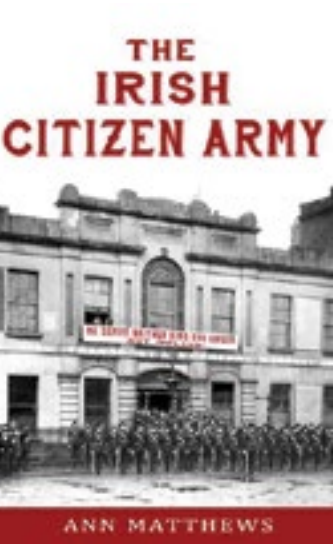
They were few in number - but they bravely set out on Monday morning, April 24, 1916 to fight against the colossal might of the British Empire.

During the day they were joined by other soldiers until the number was about 2,000.

The leaders of the rebellion had chosen Easter Monday because many British officers left Dublin oners of the Rebellion. However, that day to go to the horse races at the dead Irish leaders triumphed the Curragh!

The Irish soldiers seized key buildings in Dublin. They held out for a week until they were forced to surrender by the British forces.

All - in - all theirs was a great feat of resolution and patriotism.



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All - in - all theirs was a great feat of resolution and patriotism.

Now Arriving: Traveling to and From Chicago By Air: 90 Years Of Flight

Authors: Neal Samors and Christopher Lynch | Publisher: Chicago's Books Press, Hardcover: \$39.50, 220 pages with 200+ photographs

In the 18th Century, Chicago was just a village along the banks of Lake Michigan and the Chicago River that had been inhabited by numerous Native American tribes for thousands of years. When Americans began moving westward across the country in the early 1800s, many of them traveled to and settled in what would become the city of Chicago. They came by boat across the Erie Canal and then the Great Lakes, and by wagon and horses, and began settling in the new town and city of Chicago.

As Chicago grew into a metropolitan area during the 1800s and 1900s, and as air travel developed along with rail travel, the city's main airport, Municipal Airport, located on the city's South Side along Cicero Avenue, eventually became known as Midway Airport. With the advent of jet travel by 1960, Chicago expanded a piece of land called Orchard Field into what became O'Hare Airport, named for Edward "Butch" O'Hare, a naval aviator. First dedicated in 1949, this airport had long enough runways to handle jet airplane traffic.

This new hard cover, coffee table book of 220 pages, which includes more than 200 black and white photographs, along with a variety of interviews with those who had key memories of air travel into and out of Chicago, tells the story about air travel into and out

of Chicago over the past ninety years, and is the first publication to provide many rare photos. A major part of the book's photo collection was provided to the authors by the family of a famous Chicago photographer, Mike Rotunno, who spent much time from the 1930s to the 1960s photographing famous people arriving in the city.

In addition, the book includes a collection of rare autographed photos of famous people traveling through Midway Airport,



from Amelia Earhart, to J. Edgar Hoover, Will Rogers, Cary Grant, and the Three Stooges. These signatures were collected by a teenager named Johnny Latoza, who sold newspapers at the airport in the 1930s, and whose charm and persistence always got the stars to sign his book.

Now Arriving includes stunning photographs provided to the authors by United Airlines which document the construction of O'Hare, the early years of the airport, as well as the opening of the modern terminal which United built in 1987.

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U12-U14: MAY 27th	HIGH SCHOOL: MAY 29th
U12 Girls & Boys: 4:00-6:00pm	U15 & U16 Girls & Boys: 4:00-6:00pm
U13 & U14 Girls & Boys: 6:00-8:00pm	U17 & U18 Girls & Boys: 6:00-8:00pm

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Frank is a retired school teacher and has written book and theatre reviews since this papers inception in 1977.

Jefferson Parker Launches Memoir-Writing Business and Offers Free Writing Workshop

Local resident Nora Kerr launched new business, Memoir for Me, providing interviewing, writing, photography, and layout services to create a special keepsake capturing the lives of everyday people.

"We all have a story to tell and share with the world," reports Kerr. "My father is the quintessential Irish man and has the gift of the gab. He inspired me to start the business because I love a good story."

Memoir for Me is also sponsoring a free memoir-writing workshop at the Jefferson Park branch of the Chicago Public Library (5363 W. Lawrence Avenue) on Saturday, April 25th at 2pm. Space is limited; call the library branch at 312-744-1998 to reserve a spot.

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Roisin's Song

By Ann O'Farrell
Like so many young girls growing up in the poverty-stricken West of Ireland in the 1930's Roisin Keavney loves her family, but dreams of a wealthy husband and a better life. In defiance of her father's wishes she escapes the tensions within her family by fleeing to the sea shore where she encounters the older, mysterious Tom McCafferty. Could he be the one?

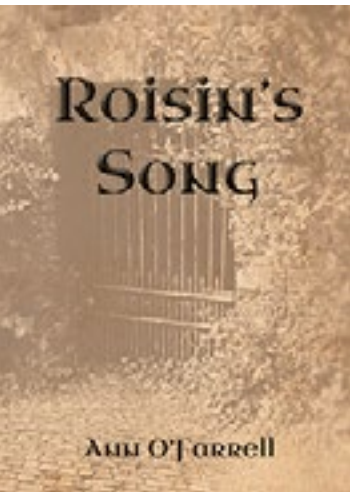
Over the next few years her day-dreams and fantasies collide with the harsh realities of life during her turbulent coming of age.

"Roisin's Song" is told in an absorbing blend of Maeve Binchy's gentle storytelling style coupled with Frank McCourt's poignant realism.

About the Author
Irish author Ann O'Farrell is graduate of Trinity College, Dublin, and spent many years as a drama therapist and a theater set and costume designer before retiring to Florida and becoming a full-time writer. In addition to "Roisin's Song" Ann has written four other

Irish historical novels; The Norah's Children Trilogy: "Norah's Children," "Michael," "Going Home," and "Kitty's Hive."

More about the author and her novels at: www.annofarrell.net



Reviews
"O'Farrell is a sure writer, sketching the details of the time and place vividly. The stark contrasts of Roisin's experiences are delivered in spare, heart-rending prose ... with fully drawn characters ... An affecting, disturbing, but ultimately redemptive novel."
Kirkus Reviews

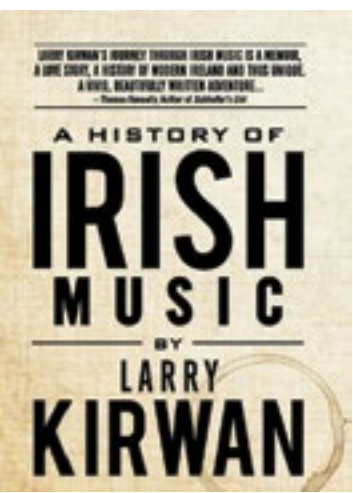
A History of Irish Music: Larry Kirwan

From Medieval Wexford to Midtown Manhattan Larry Kirwan tells the story of Irish music to a backdrop of war, social upheaval and revolution. From Viking invader to Sean O'Riada, Oliver Cromwell to Rory Gallagher, James Connolly to Van Morrison the book explodes in a clash of uilleann pipes, armalights and electric guitars.

Kirwan, leader of Black 47, watches the 1960's Ireland of staid showbands morph into the Blues of Rory Gallagher, the R&B of Van, and the Trad of The Chieftains. He details how the introduction of television and the civil rights movement affected the music. Emigration is always a factor and eventually Kirwan joins the Diaspora and witnesses the music adapting to the Lon-

don of The Pogues, the Boston of Dropkick Murphys, and the New York City of Black 47.

A History of Irish Music is unapologetically subjective – Kirwan makes the case that Sean O'Riada's groundbreaking score for the 1959 film, Mise Eire, sparked the nationalist uprising of the following decade. That Van Morrison's oeuvre was chiefly inspired by the old time



religion of East Belfast, and somewhat comically how Brendan Bowyer and The Royal Showband hastened the Irish sexual revolution by jamming parish halls with virginal teenagers.

He describes the heroism of Thin Lizzy, Horslips, and Rory Gallagher who insisted on playing Belfast during the Troubles, and the night the music died when members of The Miami Showband were executed en route from a performance in the North.

He gives vital insider sketches of friends and acquaintances like Donal Lunny, Christy Moore,

Continued to page 14

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The Irish Rover

By James McClure



Bright Future in Saving Theatre's Famous Past

The return of the Belfry Music Theatre passed another milestone this past month when auditions were held for a series of one-act plays to debut this summer under the Belfry name while the historic theater complex just outside Williams Bay, Wisconsin continues toward its planned December 2016 reopening. In the 18 months since the nearly

number of visible and vibrant steps to return Wisconsin's first summer stock theater to its former glory have begun. The historic church/lobby, attached auditorium and adjacent dormitory have been cleaned out and landscaped, open houses have been held so the public could see the inside for the first

abandoned site was purchased by Christian theater group Transformative Arts, a time since the late 1990's, and a website and fundraising efforts are up and running to make new architectural renovation plans a reality. Belfry Music Theatre Development Director Anne Connors says all the new



redeveloped as a popular summer stock theater in the 1930's and became a paid training ground for actors who would go to make their mark among the best on stage and screen, including Paul Newman (1949), Gary Burghoff (Radar O'Reilly of M*A*S*H) in the early 1960's and Harrison Ford in the summer of 1964. The structures have been vacant since 1998. Connors and a newly created Kerry GAA advisor board are now moving forward with plans to restore the Belfry to its days of family-friendly presentations of new plays and musicals along with a year-round slate of concerts, special events and community gatherings once the Belfry reopens.

Kerry GAA Supporters Club Events in Support of New Training Facility in Co. Kerry

Golf Classic / Banquet - Fundraising Social - Sam Maguire and Tom Markham Cups - Youth GAA Coaching Session

By **Ryanne Gallagher Johnson**
In order to compete against much larger areas with state-of-the-art training facilities, the Kerry County Board in Ireland has purchased 48 acres in Currans, County Kerry to build a new Kerry GAA training home. The project, re-revealed in 2013, and slated to begin its 18-month construction in June this year, will enable players to stay closer to home for practice and play, giving them a level up against the bigger counties in the country. Because Kerry is a geographically isolated county, when the weather is inclement, or during the night time hours there aren't enough pitches to practice on, so players are forced to travel to clubs to use other facilities. It becomes difficult to find venues to train in, and commute distances can sometimes reach nearly 70 miles. Building a facility on-site in Kerry will give the county's teams the ability to train in familiar territory, which will help them make the most of their practice time. The idea is to provide state-of-the-art essential training and development programs for all Kerry inter-county GAA teams.



Sam Maguire and Tom Markham Cups at all events!

All donations from the fundraising weekend will go through the American Ireland fund, which will ensure that the funds get back to the Kerry County Board in Ireland. 100% of the donations are going directly to the program, and all are tax deductible as a not for profit. O'Sullivan is confident that they'll raise their goal for the project. "People realize that we're competing with the likes of Dublin and all the other counties that have these centers (already), and because of where we are geographically, it's difficult for us on a regular basis," he explains. "We're just trying to catch up and give the young people of Kerry a fighting

chance to compete with the bigger counties." Funding for the project will not only go into the construction of the facilities, but will also be put towards maintaining them. A partnership with the Institute of Technology (IT Tralee) plans to develop a new section of sports courses over the next few years, along with other long-term programs that will benefit the players. For sponsorship, donation, and golf opportunities, contact committee members: Chairman Denis Neville: 312-532-8037, Secretary Declan Fitzmaurice: 708-557-6268, Treasurer Joe Walsh 773-354-1743, Public Relations Officer Therese O'Sullivan: 708-653-6789, Willie Joe Casey - Golf committee chair: 773-457-6320. Information can be found on the Kerry Supporters Club Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/KerryGAASupportersClub-Chicago>

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activity and future plans are a community-wide labor of love. "We will offer a highly varied program of musical theatre, drama, comedy, children's theatre and art exhibits in our renovated historic facility utilizing state of the art lighting and sound to enhance the shared experience of live performance," says Connors. "The support we're already receiving from sponsors and volunteers in the Geneva Lakes area is exciting."

A History of Irish Music: Larry Kirwan

Continued from page 12
Sinead O'Connor, Liam Clancy, The Saw Doctors and Hothouse Flowers, and where U2 fits in the Irish psyche. He describes the early days of CBGB's, and how "the temple of Punk" affected the Celtic Rock of The Pogues, Dropkick Murphys and Flogging Molly. We get an intimate look at how Black 47 re-imagined Irish music, and how the band supported civil rights in Ireland and the US while challenging homophobia and the Iraq invasion. Thomas Keneally, of Schindler's List fame

This year will focus heavily on construction and renovation, with Volunteer Saturdays May through October. Connors is encouraging volunteers to "Give a Day" by signing up on their website under the "Connect" category and donors should reference a wish list of items needed under the "Support Us" link. For info on sponsoring, volunteering or performing at The Belfry Music Theatre, contact Anne Connors 262-744-0982, email Anne.Connors@belfrymusictheatre.com, or mail to P.O. Box 355, Williams Bay, WI 53191.

Larry Kirwan is a musician, playwright and novelist. He hosts the ic Crush on SiriusXM and writes a regular column for The Irish Echo. He will give a number of readings and performances to promote A History of Irish Music. Details: www.black47.com where the book can also be purchased.

What's leftover to raise, Patrick O'Sullivan, GAA Chairperson of County Kerry Board in Ireland, is hoping to chip away at during a number of fundraisers slated for the States this summer. New York, Boston, and Chicago will be the hosting grounds of dinners, golf classics, and luncheons that will hopefully bring in funds for the new facilities. Fundraising for the new Centre will reach Chicago through the Kerry Supporters Club. The club's Chairman, Denis Neville, says that

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Once completed, the structure will boast six pitches, along with a building that will host gyms, saunas, kitchens, dressing rooms, a medical center, an administration and a meeting room. The new facility has been budgeted at 6.9 million Euros, and a number of readings and performances from sponsors and fund raisers in the U.K. and the United States.

Fundraising for the new Centre will reach Chicago through the Kerry Supporters Club. The club's Chairman, Denis Neville, says that

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on Chicago from where they came from to where they have gone," said Commissioner Frank Avila, MWRD Chairman of Finance. "We congratulate the Irish American Hall of Fame on its latest class of inductees and thank them for their contributions."

MWRD Honors Irish-American Hall of Fame

At a recent meeting the Board of Commissioners of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) honored the Irish American Hall of Fame's latest class of inductees with a resolution. The Irish American Hall of Fame introduced its inductees at an Awards Gala and dinner on April 25, at the Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 N. Knox Ave, Chicago. "Through their various contributions, each of these individuals have left an imprint



(L-R): James O'Connor Corboy, MWRD Chairman of Finance Frank Avila, Sherry Avila, Mike Shevlin and Commissioner Patrick Thompson.

AOH Golf Outing 5-29 Chevy Chase Best Ball Tourney - Dinner - Help Others Too!

It's golf outing time, and the Ancient Order of Hibernians Division 32 hold their annual Best Ball Tourney Friday, May 29th at Chevy Chase in Wheeling. With an afternoon shotgun start at 1:00 pm, there will be no rushing to get there when the birds arise. The cost for golf-cart-dinner w drinks and lunch before tee off is \$130. Dinner only will be \$55.00. Hole sponsors for \$100. are also sought, as this event is the main fundraising tool for the charitable causes the AOH supports such as scholarships- families and individuals in distress- and Miseracordia. Dan Helfenbein and Mike O'Malley will pair you or sign you up for a foursome! Golf signup and hole sponsorship form are at www.aoo.org

Irish Pianist Fionnuala Moynihan Debuts CD

The Ivory Lady' celebrates Irish traditional songs and airs that so adroitly joins physical in a classical-trad fusion style. intensity, Irish pianist Fionnuala Moynihan's debut CD features Irish favourites from past to present and also includes two of her own take a breath."—Kenneth Turan, Los Angeles Times

Set in bloody Belfast in 1971, this sensational directing debut by Yann Demange is an ultra-gritty war movie whose white-knuckle intensity pushes it far into thriller territory and even, at times, toward the borders of the horror film. Jack O'Connell delivers a riveting performance as Pvt. Hook, a green British soldier shipped to



compositions. This album features piano with guitar, uilleann pipes, flute, accordion and string quartet in exciting collaborations and an eclectic fusion of styles. This promises to be a musical treat for music lovers both at home and abroad. The Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University presents the culminating performance of Fionnuala Moynihan, Patthe city-wide Chicago Rhythm Moynihan, Donncha Moynihan, Fest, a showcase of events, mini-Diarmaid Moynihan, Deirdreconcerts and panel discussions Moynihan, Kieran Moynihancelebrating the diversity of the and Aoife Nic Athlaoich'. percussive arts, highlighting five

Gene Siskel Film Center To Present One-Week Run of Critically Acclaimed War-Thriller '71 May-29 to June 4

"Swift and exciting, with no taste for the usual war movie heroics." —Michael Phillips, Chicago Tribune

Belfast, where his unit is almost immediately caught in the middle of a riot. In the ensuing confusion, Hook is cut off from



middle of a riot. In the ensuing confusion, Hook is cut off from

Sean Donnelly In Chicago May 5-10 At Zanies

When he's not catching a nap with his bulldog, Rickles, Sean can be found headlining clubs all over New York, including Caroline's, Gotham, Stand Up NY, and The Stand.

He has appeared on MTV's World of Jenks and The Late Show with David Letterman. Sean was a Comic Stand-Off finalist at the 2010 Magners Comedy Festival, performed at the Bridgetown Comedy Festival in 2011 and 2012, was a

Trinity Dance Featured in 'Made in Chicago' May 13

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The Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University presents the culminating performance of Fionnuala Moynihan, Patthe city-wide Chicago Rhythm Moynihan, Donncha Moynihan, Fest, a showcase of events, mini-Diarmaid Moynihan, Deirdreconcerts and panel discussions Moynihan, Kieran Moynihancelebrating the diversity of the and Aoife Nic Athlaoich'. percussive arts, highlighting five



semi-finalist in the 2012 Boston Comedy Festival competition, and performed at Comedy Central's 2013 South Beach Comedy Festival.



Photo by Cheryl Mann

Message From Executive Director Chicago Irish Immigrant Support

We have some exciting news this month! To start, Chicago Irish Immigrant Support (CIIS) is resuming legal consultations. Our next legal clinic will be held on Thursday May 14th from 5:30-8:30pm. Consultations last 30 minutes per person and are by appointment only so call 773-282-9034 to reserve your place. Call the above number for more details. CIIS has also booked our annual golf outing. The golf outing will take place on June 28th at St. Andrews Golf course in West Chicago. Please mark your calendars to reserve the date. We will have a shotgun start and many fun competitions throughout the day. Golf carts will be available for rent if you desire. We hope to have a good turn out and a fun day out on the course. Fees will include 18 holes of golf followed by a dinner and refreshments. Please call 773-282-9034 to sponsor a hole or reserve a place in this year's ad book!



Advocacy and Outreach CIIS has been and continues to be involved heavily in the national debate over immigration reform. CIIS is working closely with other groups such as the Chicago Celts for Immigration Reform and the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (ICIRR) in order to keep the public informed and keep pressure on lawmakers to pass pro-immigration bills. This has not been an easy task. Governor Rauner announced on Friday that he proposes to cut \$6.7 million dollars from immigration services. This cut would essentially eliminate immigration services supported by the state. ICIRR has expressed outrage over the unilateral decision to stop immigration support services. Governor Rauner's announcement directly contradicts his statement made in January 2015 supporting immigration services. At that time, Governor Rauner stated, "that's why I'm here" (Chicago Tribune). ICIRR released a statement noting that the "median earnings for naturalized citizens in our state outpace those of non-citizens by as much as \$20,000 per year, ISLI [immigration services line item] is a key investment in our state's future that provide five-fold returns to State coffers in the form of increased tax revenues." The group continues to note that although Governor Rauner sees himself as a smart businessman, he seems oblivious to the return on investing in immigrant communities. CIIS and ICIRR are working hard to reverse or at least lessen the impact of such draconian cuts. At the national level, we are anxiously awaiting the outcome of the Texas court's challenge to President Obama's Executive Order. CIIS will continue to work towards immigration reform as well as providing assistance in immigration cases where needed.

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Orland Park-143rd – 9533 W. 143rd Street
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Community Shred Day

Saturday, May 16, 10 a.m. to Noon
Protect your identity by shredding your old financial statements, documents and bills. Industrial shred trucks will be on hand to destroy your materials while you wait. Four locations for shredding:

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Reel Jiggy
Deirdre Kozicki

I'd like to start out by congratulating all my friends that competed amazingly at the World Championships in March. The u16 choreography (my old team) are the now the reigning world champs!!! I'm so proud of all their hard work and making us proud back home. Although I sadly wasn't there, I was on the world live feed 24/7 and was so touched that my teammates gave me a shout out in their post-win interview. It was good to know I was a part of their win in some way. Several of our ceilis are coming home with globes, which is always so exciting! And last but not least, all the soloists did amazing and just to have even danced on that stage is an incredible feat. I can't wait to see what the 2016 World Championships in Glasgow, Scotland have in store for us. While all my friends were busy practicing for worlds, I at least got the chance to go New York City for college visits and I had a ton of fun while I was there. I visited Fordham, Barnard and Columbia. All of the campuses were beautiful and I am so excited by the possibility that I could live in New York City in just a year. We will have to wait and see. While I was there, I did all the touristy things such as visiting 30 Rock, strolling through Central Park, seeing the bright lights in Times Square, and

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Hooliganism
Mike Houlihan

Many old school South Side Irish remember being told stories of the mythological Feroocious Frank O'Hooligan by their grandparents. Frank had learned his Druid powers from his father Finbar in Kilrush and the not infrequent occasions of their use are what nurtured his legend. Here's one of my faves.

Frank was just a young cop in those days, probably back in the late sixties, when he was working the Englewood district, not far from his alma mater Mt. Carmel. He and his partner Ed Szibinski, also a Carmel guy, were working the midnight shift on a Friday night when they got a radio call about a disturbance at the Zanzibar Motel on Stony Island around three AM.

The cops put on the siren and wheeled into the parking lot of the Zanzibar and ran into the motel office to find out what was going on. Behind the counter night manager Sadie Coleman screamed at them, "Thank the Lawd, you'se here! We got a crazy Irish guy pulled a butcher knife on a couple hookers in Room 237!"

The "Irish guy" in question was one Bugeye Brian O'Boyle, who was renting a kitchenette at the Zanzibar in those days while driving a cab at night all over the south side. He earned his nickname because of his bulging eyeballs whenever he got angry, which was quote often according to his family and friends. He'd been given a tip by one of his fares the night before and won six hundred bucks on a horse named "She's My Coochie" at Washington Park.

Driving back that night he'd thrown on quite a load and picked up the Kazooka sisters on Stony Island for a party in his room at the Zanzibar. They'd had a delightful time together until Brian came out of the john and found his empty cigar box on the floor

and the cash gone. The Kazookas were having trouble unlocking the door however and ol' Bugeye went into a rage as he picked up the butcher knife and backed the gals up against the wall.

Accusations were tossed back and forth and finally Helen Kazooka, the elder sister, grabbed the phone and called Sadie Coleman for some room service, who called the cops.

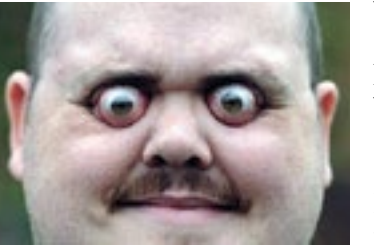
The standoff in room 237 would soon come to an end when Frank and his partner Ed broke down the door, slapped Bugeye silly as he dropped the knife and shoved the ladies onto the bed and told them all to "shut the feck up!"

Of course the Kazooka sisters wanted Bugeye arrested for attempted murder and O'Boyle wanted the hookers locked up for theft. "Shut up the both of you'se!" Frank admonished them and then picked up the empty cigar box and nodded at his partner Szibinski.

He opened the box and pointed at it as he questioned Bugeye, "Is this where your keep your money, ya' amadon?"

Bugeye was practically frothing at the mouth as the veins in his necks pulsed, "Yeah, they stole it, search 'em, you'll find the dough for sure, six hundred bucks!"

Szibinski wasn't crazy about the idea of searching the girls and he smirked at Frank. But Frank winked at him and began speaking in Gaelic as he blew into the box and the dust from the old cigars settled on the Kazooka sisters and they were immediately transformed into the finest pair of swine hogs ever to grace the



Dupage County Fairgrounds. They lay on the motel bed grunting and squealing and the money was laid bare by their side. Bugeye was now scared and astounded and he grabbed for the money.

"Not so fast, Bugeyes!"

Frank swept the dough up off the bed as Szibinski's jaw hit the floor. Frank bounced the cigar box off Bugeye's head and counted the dough. "There's six hundred and twenty-six bucks here, you're gonna pay these nice ladies a couple hundred for the lovely evening and they are going to go home, got it?"

Bugeye shook his head yes in absolute fear. Frank yanked the bedspread off and the pigs turned back into the Kazooka sisters, who had no idea what had just happened. Frank handed them their share and told them, "Goodnight ladies, and don't let me catch you out on the street anymore tonight or we'll be pinchin' ya for sure."

The gals left and Frank handed Bugeye the rest of the dough, minus fifty bucks, "for Sadie and the trouble you put her through."

Frank pulled a rosary out of his pocket and told O'Boyle, "Take this and use it and don't be bringin' any more oinkers back to the Zanzibar motel and threatening to butcher them. Keep your mouth shut, your nose clean, and go back to church. You just walked on an attempted murder beef."

Bugeye meekly offered up a hundred, "Can I buy you guys breakfast?"

Szibinski grabbed it and said, "Thanks, we're going to the Pump Room for breakfast after this one."

And that is how it happened. Brian O'Boyle became a priest several years later and went on to become pastor of St. Felicitas on the South Side. He told only a close few the story of his encounter with the Druid powers of Feroocious Frank O'Hooligan but after all these years it can be revealed that the late Ed Szibinski inherited the rosary when Father Bugeye passed in the early nineties. Amen.



Chicago Gaelic Park
Serving the social & cultural needs of the Irish community throughout Chicagoland

Hi,
Holiday parades and the opening of the baseball season are behind us, and now our thoughts are turning toward summer, or at least to the unofficial start of summer, Gaelic Park's 29th Annual Irish Fest. Make plans to join us on Memorial Day Weekend and celebrate the best of our Irish culture and heritage. The festival field and building will be full of music, dancing, theatre, games and fun, with enough variety to please everyone. I look forward to seeing some of my favorite bands and discovering some new favorites. Kids of all ages will enjoy the magicians, puppets, jugglers, clowns, ponies, dogs and petting zoo, and especially the carnival, which features unlimited rides with festival admission. Also, the Chicago Feis Irish Dancing Competition will be held during the Irish Fest, on Saturday and Sunday, May 24th and 25th.

Another sure sign of summer is the upcoming start of the local GAA season. A hurling and camogie tournament is scheduled for mid-May, and there will be Gaelic football and hurling games at the Festival. Regular season action should be going strong in June.

I hope to see many of you on Memorial Weekend. Please introduce yourself if you get the chance.
Bill O'Sullivan, President

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Fri May 1	Bernie Glim	8:00pm
Sat May 2	TBA	???
Fri May 8	Joe McShane	7:30pm
Sat May 9	Bill O'Donohue & Larry Nugent	9:00pm
Wed May 13	Frank Rossi	6:30pm
Fri May 15	Kieran Byrne	9:00pm
Sat May 16	The Chancey Bros	8:30pm
Wed May 20	Richie Z	???
Fri May 29	???	???
Sat May 30	Gerry & Kara	8:30pm

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2015 CGP Calendar of Events 2015

May
5/3 Sunday Classic Carvery - Kieran Byrne
5/6 Musical Luncheon - Joe Cullen *RR NOON
5/10 Mother's Day Mass & Breakfast 10am
5/13 Ladies Auxiliary 7:30pm
5/22-25 IRISH FESTIVAL - MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

(RR) = Reservations Required 708.687.9323

Monthly Musical Luncheon Doors open at noon, hot lunch served at 1pm for just \$13 per person. Entertainment 5/06 Joe Cullen.
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

Set Dancing Monday Evenings 7:30pm
Ceili Dancing Tuesday Evenings Lessons 7pm/Ceili 7:30pm
Pub Trivia Tuesday Evenings 7:30pm
Pub Irish Music Sessions Thursday Evenings 7:30pm
Sunday Evening CGP Radio Live WCEV 1450 AM 7-8pm

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Mother's Day
Sunday May 10, 2015

Treat Mom to Dinner Out
This Year!

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Mother's Day Celtic Supper

Enjoy a Wonderful All-You-Can-Eat Dinner Buffet with Soup, an Extensive Salad Bar, your main entrees of Prime Rib, Chicken Marsala and Baked Ham, vegetables, potatoes and pasta Ice Cream Cake Roll for Dessert
Musical Entertainment by Ray Gavin

Dinner is served from 3 to 6pm, Entertainment lasts until 8:00pm
Reservations are Required – and must be paid in advance
Adults \$25.00, Children 4 to 12 \$12.00
Admission includes dinner and entertainment
Cash Bar

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Ladies having fun at the monthly luncheon.



FOUR DAYS OF GREAT IRISH ENTERTAINMENT AT GAELIC PARK'S IRISH FESTIVAL ON MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

For the past 29 years, Gaelic Park has brought the best in Irish entertainment to the Chicago Southland on Memorial Day Weekend. This year, the tradition will continue on May 22 - 25, 2015. All the entertainment, unlimited free carnival rides and free parking are included in the admission price. Throw in shopping food, food and refreshments and you have Gaelic Park Irish Festival to kick off the summer festival season.

Headlining this year is Ireland's Folk Band of the year, The High Kings. Coming from accomplished musical pedigrees, the High Kings will showcase their incredible versatility and skills as multi-instrumentalists and perform brand new songs as well as old favorites. Also entertaining are Famous Irish tenor, Mark Forrest, fest favorites Makem & Spain, The Young Dubliners, The Fenians, and Doug Leahy & The Next Generation, presenting all types of Irish music. There is entertainment to suit all tastes with Country music stars Bernie Glim & Country Roads and for rock music fans, Infinity and American English. All in all over 40 acts perform on 5 stages – both indoors and out.

Irish Fest hours are Friday, May 23 from 4pm-11pm, Saturday, May 24 from 2:00pm to 11:00pm, Sunday, May 25 from 1:00pm to 11:00pm and Monday, May 26 from 1:00pm to 8:00 pm. Mass will be celebrated on Sunday at 11:30am. The Chicago Feis Irish step dancing competition takes place from 9:00am to 3:00pm on Sunday and Monday.

Admission at the door is \$15.00 for adults. Admission for adults 65 and over and children 4-12 is \$12.00. General admission for the first hour each day is \$10.00. Special online pricing is available, a four day pass for only \$28.00 through May 21, and a daily pass for only \$10.00 for adults and \$8.00 for 65+ and kids 4-12 through May 19.

For further information, call Gaelic Park 708-687-9323 Or visit the special festival website at chicagogaelicparkirishfestival.com.



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2015 IRISH FEST

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Theatre and Story Telling
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Magicians • Puppets • Jugglers • Clowns
Irish Import Shops and Tea Room

Chicago Feis Irish Dancing Competition
Sunday, May 24th 9am-3pm
Monday, May 25th 9am-3pm

www.ChicagoGaelicPark.org
Sponsored by Chicago Gaelic Park (A Not for Profit Organization) Schedule subject to change.




2015 Easter Egg Hunt

To Start off the Irish Fest weekend at Gaelic Park The John and Nancy Memorial Ceili



Thursday, May 21, 2015
7:00 - 11:00pm
Music provided by: Murphy- Roche Band
\$10.00
(16 & under free)

Please let Carol Sweeney know if you will bring a treat for tea • Cjsween513@msn.com • 773-458-4672

Chicago Gaelic Park Celebrates 29 Years of Irish Music Headliners MEMORIAL WEEKEND - May 22, 23, 24, 25

Also Appearing
Three Men in Kilts • Pat Finnegan & Friends • Bernie Glim & Country Roads • Larkin & Moran Brothers
Gerard Haughey & Sean O'Donnell • Joe Cullen • Mulligan Stew • Murphy-Roche Irish Music Club
Irish Musicians • The Ray Gavin Band • The Shannon Rovers • The Pipes & Drums Of The Emerald Society

FEST HOURS
Friday May 22 Gates open 4pm
Half price admission 4pm-5pm only - \$7 & \$6!
Saturday May 23 Gates open 2pm
\$10 Admission 2pm-3pm only!
Sunday May 24 Gates open 1pm
11:30am Mass
\$10 Admission 1pm-2pm only!
9am-3pm Chicago Feis Dancing Competition
Monday May 25 Gates open 1pm
\$10 Admission 1pm-2pm only!
9am-3pm Chicago Feis Dancing Competition

ADMISSION
Full Access Daily Pass includes ALL Stages, Events and Shows, FREE Parking and Unlimited FREE Carnival Rides!
Daily
\$15 Adults - \$10 First Hour Only!
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View From Ireland

By Maurice Fitzpatrick



The Bridge From Selma to Derry

Crossing a bridge in a time of high political tension can be a metaphor for transformative political change. Just as members of the American Civil Rights Movement's holding firm on their right to cross the Edmund Pettus Bridge in their Selma-Montgomery march was a watershed moment for that movement, so too was the attack on non-violent civil rights marchers as they crossed Craigavon Bridge in Derry City by the Royal Ulster Constabulary on October 5th, 1968 in the history of our island. It was the beginning of the end of the Northern Irish State.

Similarly, too, in January 1969, in homage to the Alabama march, a group of civil rights marchers in Northern Ireland, mainly students under the banner of the People's Democracy, organised their own version of Selma to Montgomery: a Belfast to Derry march. The Northern Irish Civil Rights seekers were attacked en route, most savagely at Burntollet Bridge, just outside Derry, having conducted themselves peacefully all the way from Belfast. The outrages at Burntollet, and at Craigavon a few months earlier, exposed the extreme violence of the State to television viewers and newspaper readers outside the Northern Irish State, who rallied to the support of a people whose non-violent demonstrations defeated the state's sole weapon, the jackboot. Much the same publicity victory as back in Selma.

Selma, a film released earlier this year, is

an attempt to recreate the drama that surrounded that city in 1965. It shows that President Lyndon Baines Johnson's alignment with the civil rights campaign was a crucial catalyst for reform, and the US President's insistence on triangulating the issue was a devastating blow to white supremacy. As LBJ put it, 'In Selma... many were brutally assaulted. One good man, a man of God, was killed... There is no Negro problem. There is no Southern problem. There is only an American problem.'

The film excels in its vivid depiction of brutality. LBJ knew very well the emotive power that non-violent protest could have when met by recalcitrant statist aggression; non-violent protest played well on television, because it swung public opinion in favour of the demonstrators like little else could. As LBJ put it, "Pretty soon, the fellow that didn't do anything but follow... he'll say, 'Well that's not right, that's not fair.'" Violence, the shock of which film audiences may think themselves immune by its pervasiveness in cinema, is hugely unsettling in this film, something achieved through the authentic portrayal of attacks on innocent people and in the exactitude of the human suffering. As soon as the battle charge comes from mounted policemen against marchers on their first attempt to cross the Edmund Pettus Bridge, the crowd disperses in chaos. The cattle prods, the billy rods, the horse-whips wielded against the marchers is startlingly well captured. Back in Northern Ireland, civil rights campaigners faced comparably sinister members of police (the RUC colluded

in the Burntollet attack) and members of government too: as unionist politician, William Craig, stated to a cheering audience, "when the politicians fail us it may be our job to liquidate the enemy."

In Selma, the initial tactic of LBJ in his negotiations with Dr. Martin Luther King is to procrastinate. LBJ insists that the issue of voter registration in the South and its corrupt administration was but one of the myriad concerns of the White House (the veracity of how this disagreement between King and LBJ is shown in the film has been contested by historians as well as Andrew Young, King's deputy). Implacable, King refuses to allow Johnson to buy time. Selma does not give full scope to LBJ's political acuity, and that is unfortunate. Film scripts have immemorably created simplistic conflicts between lead characters: the noble person faces the dastardly capitalist; the reactionary puts obstacles in the way of the heroic moderniser. But King and LBJ had much in common, more than this film suggests—their reading of the situation in the South being a good example of their common ground.

Like Northern Irish Civil Rights leader John Hume, King knew very well how to force the government's hand when he wished. King, exiting jail in Selma, declared that he was on his way to see LBJ, realising that that comment to the media guaranteed his entry into the Oval Office—LBJ wanted to avoid scenes outside the White House of the magnitude that his predecessor, JFK, had to face. Selma adroitly weaves between the streets of the South and the Oval Office. Both Selma and Derry were the sites of cataclysmic events that propelled an entire transformation of the political landscape of their countries. Bloody Sunday in Selma, on March 7th, 1965, caused a huge expression of public sympathy in the US, and it was

ultimately an unstoppable advance for the Civil Rights Movement towards gaining the Voting Rights Act of 1965. After Bloody Sunday in Derry on January 30th, 1972, Northern Ireland's parliament in Belfast fell within a few months, establishing direct rule of Northern Ireland from London.

Selma implies that King did not lead the first Selma march due to a family crisis. Hume did not march on Bloody Sunday in Derry because on the previous Saturday, January 22nd, he had led an anti-internment march on Magilligan Beach, around the world. These male and female dancers spend hours every week perfecting their toe pointing, jumps and knee touches with their arms straight against their body. Like a small boy dreams of becoming a baseball or football star, the Irish dancer dreams of getting a gold medal at the Irish dance competition. Of the winners at the Irish feis's around the world, some of those winners will participate in the Olympics of Irish Dancing or in Selma by James Stephens, is also important what is known as the Irish Dancing World Cup: film audiences in the US in particular will know that Lewis went on to have a long career in US Congress. In April 2014, Congressman Lewis walked across Derry's Peace Bridge—a bridge that runs parallel to Craigavon bridge—where he was greeted by the mayor of the city and John Hume. Now, let's talk about firefighters. There are over 1.1 million firemen in the United States and approximately 4% women firefighters. To be a woman firefighter in a fire department would not be an easy feat. Firefighters must possess agility, upper body strength, and stamina. The physical requirements for strength, stamina, and dexterity are high calibre film productions. As theorising involving outdoor, dirty, or dangerous work is difficult. The fact that women pass the same physical requirement tests as men to gain employment demonstrates it is a special type of woman who would aspire for such a challenging career.

So now, you have learned about World Champion Irish Dancers and women firefighters. Have you ever thought a world champion Irish Dancer would be a Firefighter? Probably not, but one exists and she is in Chicago, IL and works at the Evanston, IL Firehouse, Station #3. Her name is Colleen Martin-Hanley. She is a World Champion Irish Dancer and an Engineer Firefighter/Paramedic. Colleen Martin-Hanley's parents; Sally and Larry, came to the US from County Monahan, Ireland. Her parents met at an Irish dance in Chicago on the North West side. She has 5 older brothers. Two of her brothers are also Firemen. Colleen started Irish dancing in grade school around the age of five. She was



A Slice of Ireland

By Cathy Cooney-Millar

Meet Irish Dancer, Mother, Firefighter, Colleen Martin-Hanley

There are thousands of Irish dancers around the world. These male and female dancers spend hours every week perfecting their toe pointing, jumps and knee touches with their arms straight against their body. Like a small boy dreams of becoming a baseball or football star, the Irish dancer dreams of getting a gold medal at the Irish dance competition. Of the winners at the Irish feis's around the world, some of those winners will participate in the Olympics of Irish Dancing or in Selma by James Stephens, is also important what is known as the Irish Dancing World Cup: film audiences in the US in particular will know that Lewis went on to have a long career in US Congress. In April 2014, Congressman Lewis walked across Derry's Peace Bridge—a bridge that runs parallel to Craigavon bridge—where he was greeted by the mayor of the city and John Hume. Now, let's talk about firefighters. There are over 1.1 million firemen in the United States and approximately 4% women firefighters. To be a woman firefighter in a fire department would not be an easy feat. Firefighters must possess agility, upper body strength, and stamina. The physical requirements for strength, stamina, and dexterity are high calibre film productions. As theorising involving outdoor, dirty, or dangerous work is difficult. The fact that women pass the same physical requirement tests as men to gain employment demonstrates it is a special type of woman who would aspire for such a challenging career.

So now, you have learned about World Champion Irish Dancers and women firefighters. Have you ever thought a world champion Irish Dancer would be a Firefighter? Probably not, but one exists and she is in Chicago, IL and works at the Evanston, IL Firehouse, Station #3. Her name is Colleen Martin-Hanley. She is a World Champion Irish Dancer and an Engineer Firefighter/Paramedic. Colleen Martin-Hanley's parents; Sally and Larry, came to the US from County Monahan, Ireland. Her parents met at an Irish dance in Chicago on the North West side. She has 5 older brothers. Two of her brothers are also Firemen. Colleen started Irish dancing in grade school around the age of five. She was

trained by Geraldine Foley followed by Michael Flatley and then the Trinity Academy of Irish Dance. At Trinity Dance School, she was helping teach dancing with the instructors and then was teaching her own classes. Her niche was training the kids who went to major Irish dance championships. Colleen devoted her life to Irish dancing. It didn't go unnoticed. After winning the local Irish dance competitions she was off to Ireland representing the United States. In 1987 and 1990 Colleen won two Gold Medals in the World Championship Irish dancing in the dance drama category. They were the first Americans to win the gold in that category. After winning the gold medals, Colleen performed and traveled all over the world. She danced her way from the Johnny Carson show to performing for Princess Grace Kelly and Prince Rainier III of Monaco, and her favorite spot the Grand Ole Opry! She has entertained at the huge world folk festivals all over Europe including Austria and Belgium and Cannes, France.

After retiring from Irish dancing, Colleen earned her college degree in Behavioral Psychology at UIC. Knowing that she could not tolerate a desk job and aspiring to be active while helping people, it was an easy choice for her to look into a profession with the Fire Department. She did not take the easy way either. She had to pass all the difficult agility and strength tests and entrance exam. For the past 13 years, Colleen has been a FT Engineer, Paramedic/ Firefighter at the Evanston, IL Firehouse, Station #3, and drives the Fire truck or Water truck. Today, Colleen's most rewarding job is being a wife to John and mother to her two adorable children. Bridie is turning 3 soon and Marty who is 1.5 years old will no doubt be a professional ball player as his full attention is on playing with any ball he can get his hands on! What would Colleen say to any up and coming Irish dancers? She will tell you if you love the sport, get ready for the blood sweat and tears. You must possess internal drive, discipline and motivation to be the best. Great advice from a World Champion Irish Dancer, Firefighter and Mother!

Colleen started Irish dancing in grade school around the age of five. She was



Colleen, Marty, Bridie and John in front of Fire Engine 23.

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First topping free
Mondays 4-8

Four Days of World Class Musical Headliners at Chicago Gaelic Park's Irish Fest

A full roster of Irish music nobility will be onstage over Memorial weekend at Chicago Gaelic Park's Irish Fest in Oak Forest. A tradition for all ages, the Fest not only brings the best of international contemporary and traditional Irish headliners to multiple stages but also features a full carnival with rides, special events for children, Gaelic football and hurling, Ceiling dancing, pony and dog exhibits, shopping and Irish



The High Kings

cultural exhibits all surrounded by food, refreshments and great fun - all at one low price.

With non-stop music, free on-site parking and early online ticket discounts, Irish Fest at Chicago Gaelic Park has become one of the country's premier musical events featuring some of the best and brightest headliners appearing on stage May 22-25.

Irish Fest is proud to welcome The High Kings, Irish Folk Band of the Year. Coming from accomplished musical pedigrees, The High Kings grew up in households nurtured in Irish Music tradition. Since touring with Celtic Woman they've sold out hundreds of shows here and abroad, made numerous TV appearances and recorded four albums - two reaching platinum status.

The High Kings showcase their incredible versatility and skills as multi-instrumentalists, playing 13 instruments between the four of them. Their close harmonies bring a rousing acoustic

flavor to new songs as well as old favorites. They live up to their "Folk 'n Roll" reputation as a phenomenal live band, serving up musical brilliance, good times, laughter and sing-alongs. See The High Kings making their first appearance live at Irish Fest.

Also new to Irish Fest, hailing from County Clare, Socks in the Frying Pan is comprised of two brothers, Shane and Fiachra Hayes on accordion and fiddle/banjo, accompanied by Aodán

International Irish tenor sensation Mark Forrest comes to Chicago Gaelic Park this year. His melodic voice has filled concert halls and cathedrals worldwide. He has sung inspirational hymns for luminaries such as Pope John Paul II and Mother Theresa. His soothing Broadway melodies have entertained award-winning performers including Charlton Heston and Maureen O'Hara.

Although he has performed for some of the leading figures of our time, Mark hopes his listeners will hear a deeper call and discover his heartfelt message - a message that has been shaped by the tragedies in his life.

Born in Dublin, Ireland, awarded full scholarships to



Socks in the Frying Pan

Having gained a fan base from four years of gigging around the west of Ireland, this exciting group has recently started branching out and has been well received for their modern traditional style and energetic approach to music. This, combined with an acoustic musical interplay, three-part harmony and an obvious love for live performances, compliments

the traditional essence of Irish tunes and lyrics in a fresh and entertaining way.

Their debut CD was launched at the Ennis Trad Festival in November and was strongly received by an oversold audience. The CD offers lovingly crafted tracks which the trio is eager to showcase both on the album and at their musically charged live gigs. But, as to the origin of the name...well, maybe you'll have a chance to ask them yourself when they appear live at Irish Fest.



Mark Forrest

close and personal at Irish Fest this year.

Doug Leahy and the Next Generation Leahy makes their first appearance at Irish Fest. Building on generations of musicianship, Doug Leahy, together with his wife Jennifer and their children, are keeping traditions alive through music, song and dance.

Doug and Jennifer, having played music throughout their lives, understand the joy and exhilaration that music provides and it is little surprise the children understand that music will be a huge part of their lives as well. Even the smallest of the children are drawn to it and are passionate about it.

It is this musical drive that leads Doug and Jennifer's children to achieve so much at young ages. The children, still all in elementary school, are accomplished multi-instrumentalists. Lead by Doug, live performances are filled with the high-energy, infectious Celtic-based music.

coming through his gifted talent, is the sanctity of human life - at every stage and age.

Mark Forrest uses his music, whether Broadway's best inspirational tunes, traditional Irish songs or classic hymns, to inspire people everywhere to appreciate the importance of their faith and their family life in today's changing society. Proceeds from Mark's concerts and the sale of his recordings go to benefit the Foundation. See Mark Forrest - and feel his passion for life - up

More Special Appearances at 2015 Irish Fest

The Fest is also proud to present American English - the complete Beatles tribute band, The Young Dubliners, Bohola, Makem & Spain - Irish folk music royalty, Infinity - a returning crowd favorite, The Fenians, The Kathy Durkin Band - one of Ireland's leading female artists, The Mudmen, Kathleen Keane & Friends, Creel, Matt Cunningham, Shari Sarazin, Gerry Carney and Chicago Reel.

Also appearing at Irish Fest is Three Men in Kilts, Pat Finnegan & Friends, Bernie Glim & Country Roads, Larkin and Moran Brothers, Gerard Haughey & Sean O'Donnell, Joe Cullen, Mulligan Stew, Murphy-Roche Irish Music Club, Irish Musicians, The Ray Gavin Band, The Shannon Rovers, The Pipes & Drums Of The Emerald Society, plus many more leading artists!

Chicago Gaelic Park is located just outside the Chicago city limits in Oak Forest. A full day pass to all stages, shows, events, a carnival with unlimited rides and free on-site parking is only \$15. Adults over 65 years and kids 4-12 are only \$12. Youngsters three years and under are free. Discounts on early ticket orders are available online through May 21. Online discount tickets, a complete Irish Fest performance schedule and directions are available at www.chicagogaelicpark.org.



MEMORIAL WEEKEND May 22, 23, 24, 25 World Class Irish Music, Culture and Fun!

 The High Kings Irish Folk Band of the Year	 Doug Leahy and the Next Generation Leahy	 Mark Forrest Irish Tenor Co. Dublin	 Socks in the Frying Pan Co. Clare	 The Young Dubliners
 The Fenians	 Makem & Spain	 The Mudmen	 Matt Cunningham Co. Galway	 The Kathy Durkin Band Co. Cavan
 American English Beatles tribute band	 Infinity	Also Appearing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three Men in Kilts • Pat Finnegan & Friends • Bernie Glim & Country Roads • Larkin and Moran Brothers • Gerard Haughey & Sean O'Donnell • Joe Cullen • Mulligan Stew • Murphy-Roche Irish Music Club • Irish Musicians • The Ray Gavin Band • The Shannon Rovers • The Pipes & Drums Of The Emerald Society, • Plus many more! 		
 Shari Sarazin	 Creel	 Bohola	 Kathleen Keane & Friends	
		 Chicago Reel	 Gerry Carney - Co. Mayo	

FEST HOURS

Friday May 22 Gates open 4pm
Half price admission
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Saturday May 23 Gates open 2pm
\$10 Admission 2pm-3pm only!

Sunday May 24 Gates open 1pm
11:30am Mass
\$10 Admission 1pm-2pm only!
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Dancing Competition

Monday May 25 Gates open 1pm
\$10 Admission 1pm-2pm only!
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On the Law

Martin J. Healy, Jr.

Founding 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.

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

Changes Coming to Illinois Jury Duty: "The Highest Calling of any Citizen"

Recently, jury selection in a seemingly routine Maryland civil case arising out of a traffic accident featured an odd twist: one of the prospective jurors was the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, John Roberts, the highest ranking judicial officer in the United States. While many would assume that Chief Justice Roberts would be quickly dismissed with apologies from the court for the inconvenience, all reports indicate that Chief Justice Roberts patiently waited through the process with all of his fellow prospective jurors.

Albeit under the watchful eye of the Chief's two security guards, Roberts answered group questions posed to all of the jurors - indicating in his case that he had a brother-in-law in law enforcement and a sister who is a nurse. When the group questions concluded, Roberts, who was referred to simply as "Juror 49" by the presiding judge, was separately questioned by the court and counsel regarding his employment. Roberts was subsequently dismissed from jury duty. Roberts is not the only public figure graced with a juror

summons. His fellow justices, Stephen Breyer and Elena Kagan have also been summoned in recent years, but neither has been chosen to serve. Both President Obama and President George W. Bush were called for jury duty while serving as president, but neither was required, as a sitting president, to appear. Current Secretary of State John Kerry's story is different. In 2005, while serving as a U.S. Senator, Kerry was summoned for jury duty, chosen, and elected foreperson.

Although most dread receiving a juror's summons in the mail, that these important public figures receive juror summonses, and, save for sitting presidents, appear for jury duty, is a testament to the importance of jury duty in our democracy.

Change in Jury Size in Illinois

Here in Illinois, a change is coming to civil juries. Effective June 1st, civil lawsuits in Illinois will be tried before a jury of six individuals, rather than twelve. The change, signed by Governor Quinn in his final days in office, was necessary to allow for an increase in juror pay, which has remained unchanged for years. Previously, jurors in Cook County were paid \$17.20 per day. Under the previous law, some counties were authorized to pay jurors as little as \$4 per day. As a result of the new law, jurors will be paid \$25 per day for their first day of jury service and \$50 for

subsequent days. Illinois is hardly alone in using a six person jury for civil cases. Instead, the change brings Illinois in line with the federal court system and 38 other states. Criminal cases will continue to

"The highest calling of any citizen is to serve as a juror"

-Abraham Lincoln

be heard by twelve jurors. The importance of jury duty was enshrined 800 years ago in the Magna Carta, one of the first official documents ever to limit the power of a government. Interference with the right to trial by jury was cited in the Declaration of Independence as one of the reasons for America's need to break away from England. Its author, Thomas Jefferson, believed jury duty was the best line of defense against tyranny and more precious to democracy than even the right to vote.

Following the recent Chicago Municipal elections, Chicago Tribune/Red Eye columnist Ryan Smith agreed with President Jefferson's sentiment. Smith noted that while many proudly wear "I voted" stickers, jury duty and was chosen to serve once.

is treated "with the kind of contempt reserved for dentist appointments or shoveling snow after a blizzard." Smith points out that while a single vote in an election will be taken into account with millions of others, the single vote of a juror is much more significant.

The power wielded by a jury is also significant. In criminal cases, a jury's verdict can conform to the LGBTQ agenda, you deprive an individual of his freedom. In civil cases, a jury's verdict has a dramatic effect on the safety of our streets, that's not good enough. The good ship Indiana ran use, and the care given to our loved ones. Only through a jury trial can a multi-national, multi-billion dollar corporation and individual citizen be placed on equal footing.

In talking to jurors throughout the decades our firm has been in trying cases, nearly all agree that, regardless of their initial hesitation, jury duty was a very memorable experience. Hopefully, the next time you receive a jury summons, you will quickly get over your initial hesitation and instead think of the importance and significant impact of serving.



By: Martin Healy, Jr. (pictured above) and Dennis M. Lynch. Dennis Lynch is a member of HealyScanlon. Since entering law school, he has been called for jury duty multiple times.

Boyle the Kettle We'll Have A Sup Of Tea Tom Boyle



Religious Freedom Law

What it boils down to, if your religious convictions don't conform to the LGBTQ agenda, you are free to leave. It doesn't matter if you are a doctor, a teacher, a police officer, or a business owner. The safety of the products we use, and the care given to our loved ones. Only through a jury trial can a multi-national, multi-billion dollar corporation and individual citizen be placed on equal footing.

In talking to jurors throughout the decades our firm has been in trying cases, nearly all agree that, regardless of their initial hesitation, jury duty was a very memorable experience. Hopefully, the next time you receive a jury summons, you will quickly get over your initial hesitation and instead think of the importance and significant impact of serving.

Memorial Day

Traditionally, we honor our servicemen and women who died in service to their country on May 30th. Their bodies lie in graveyards all over the world. Countless thousands can be found in the depths of the ocean. On my recent trip to California I came across a book titled "Made in the Trenches" edited by Sir Frederick Treves. The book, first published in 1916, is a collection of writings by soldiers who served in the British Army in World War I. All profits are to be devoted to the "Star and Garter Fund" in aid of totally disabled soldiers and sailors.

One heading in the book is Poems of Life and Death.

One of those poems is

A Soldier's Cemetery

Behind the long and lonely trenched line To which men come and go, where brave men die, There is a yet unmarked and unknown shrine, A broken plot, a soldiers' cemetery. There lie the flower of youth, the men who scorn'd To live (so died) when languished Liberty: Across their graves flowerless and unadorned Still scream the shells of each artillery. When war shall cease: this lonely unknown spot Of many a pilgrimage will be the end, And flowers will shine in this now barren plot And fame upon it through the years descend: But many a heart upon each simple cross Will hang the grief, the memory of its loss.

Desert Shamrock

While in Phoenix, Arizona I picked up a few copies of the local Irish, Welsh, Scottish newspaper/magazine, The Desert Shamrock. Printed bimonthly, I read an article by Gary Every titled "Captain Colorado." He wrote about the Wild Geese and the Celtic regiments in the Spanish Army. The Dragoons of Dublin, the Dragoons of Edin-

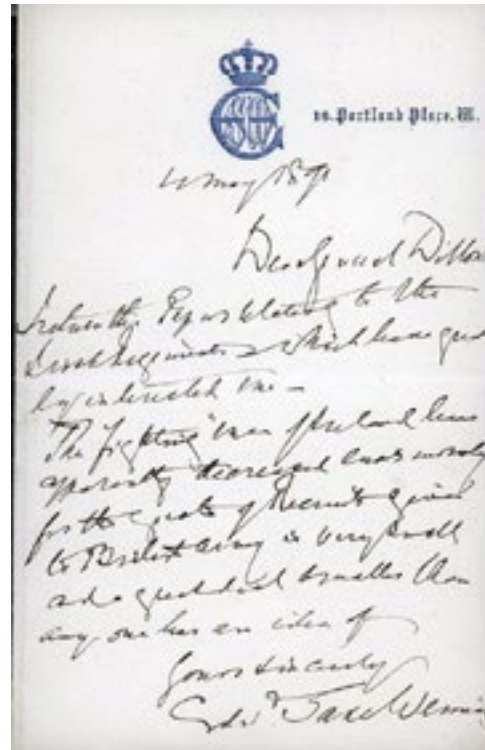
burgh, and five infantry units: the Irlanda, Hibernia, Ultonia (Ulster), Limerick, and Waterford.

Years ago I came across a some ephemera at the flea market, dated 1 May, 1871. The brief note was written in pen and ink and is difficult to read. Translation: "Dear friend Dillon. The papers relating to the Irish regiment which have greatly interested me. The fighting

in Ireland has decreased enormously. For the quota of recruits given to the British Army is very small, and a great deal smaller than anyone has an idea of.

Yours Sincerely, Cdr Sax Werthing

A card was enclosed listing the Irish regiments in service of Spain from 1701 - 1800.



(letter translation) 1 May 1871

Dear Friend Dillon, The papers relating to the Irish Regiments which have greatly interested me -- The fighting in Ireland has apparently decreased enormously for the quota of recruits given to British Army is very small and a great deal smaller than anyone has an idea of

Yours sincerely Commander Saxi Werthing



Political and Historical Tours of Derry

If you are going to Ireland and plan on visiting Derry, check out Derry Guided Tours which offers unique and factual political and historical tours of the City of Derry and Donegal. All guides are fully trained and have been directly affected by the conflict and Bloody Sunday.

Glenn Doherty is a native of Derry, born in the Brandywell area in 1971, and brought up in Derry all through the conflict. Glenn lost his father on the day of Bloody Sunday at the age of 7 months and has been involved in the Bloody Sunday Justice Campaign and also attended the Saville Inquiry in Derry and London.

Glenn is a B.A Honours Degree graduate Irish History and Politics from the Magee campus University of Ulster 2013, which ensures that

tours, can be tailored to cover any aspect of Irish history. These tours are compatible with both education systems on the island of Ireland, university groups studying Irish history and or the political conflict as well as peace and reconciliation studies.

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Daly Investor

By John P. Daly



The Strong Dollar: Good or Bad?

You may have heard that the dollar is "strong" right now. You may have also heard that a strong dollar amounts to a headwind against commodities and stocks. While there is some truth to that, there is more to the story. A strong dollar does not necessarily rein in the bulls, and dollar strength can work for the economy and the markets.

The U.S. Dollar Index has soared lately rising 19% from July of 2014. Before this dollar bull market, we had a weak dollar for some time. A dollar bear market occurred from 2001-11, partly resulting from the monetary policy that the Federal Reserve adopted in the Alan Greenspan and Ben Bernanke years. As U.S. interest rates descended to historic lows in the late 2000s, the dollar became more attractive as a funding currency and demand for dollar-denominated debt increased.

So why has the dollar strengthened? The quick, easy explanation is twofold. One, the Fed is poised to tighten while other central banks have eased, promoting expectations of a mightier U.S. currency. Two, our economy is healthy versus those of many other nations. The greenback gained on every other major currency in 2014 - a development unseen since the 1980s. This explanation for dollar strength aside, attention must also be paid to two other critical factors emerging which could stoke the dollar bull market to even greater degree. At some point, liabilities will increase for the issuers of all that dollar-denominated debt. That will ramp up demand for dollars, because they will want to hedge. Will the dollar supply meet the demand? The account deficit has been slimming for the U.S., and the slimmer it gets, the fewer new dollars become available. It could take a few years to unwind \$9 trillion of dollar-denominated debt, and when you factor in a probable rate

hike from our central bank, things get really interesting. The dollar bull may be just getting started.

If the dollar keeps rallying, what happens to stocks & commodities? Earnings could be hurt, meaning bad news for Wall Street. A strong dollar can curb profits for multinational corporations and lower demand for U.S. exports, as it makes them more expensive. U.S. firms with the bulk of their business centered in America tend to cope better with a strong dollar than firms that are major exporters. Fixed-income investments invested in dollar-denominated assets (as is usually the case) may fare better in such an environment than those invested in other currencies. As dollar strength reduces the lure of gold, oil and other commodities mainly traded in dollars, they face a real headwind.

The economic upside is that U.S. households gain more purchasing power when the dollar strengthens, with prices of imported goods falling. Improved consumer spending could also give the Fed grounds to extend its accommodative monetary policy. Stocks can still rally when the dollar is strong. As research from Charles Schwab indicates, the average annualized return for U.S. stocks when the dollar rises has been 12.8% since 1970. For bonds, it has been 8.5% in the years since 1976. While there is no guarantee the future will replicate the past, the strong dollar is certainly encouraging to sustain the bull market.

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

An Immigrant's Musings

Michael Leonard



2016 Déjà vu

We have not yet reached the Memorial Day holiday and already we see the signs of Déjà vu in the declared (or about to declare) candidates for the 2016 presidential race. The entrance of Hillary Clinton and the expected entrance of Jeb Bush certainly look like we have seen this game played out before.

The prospect of another Bush v Clinton race is not very appealing for those who would like to see a move away from the family dynasty mode of politics. So it is difficult to know who will eventually win the nominations for both parties. The Republican field looks like it is going to be much larger than the Democratic side. Right now, the only candidate that is likely to oppose Hillary is Martin O'Malley the former governor of Maryland. O'Malley struck a cord with many people when he said in a recent interview that; "the Presidency is not a hereditary right". Martin O'Malley is a good friend to Ireland and has visited the ancestral

would be the best person to support. Only one thing does seem certain at this point. The person who is to be successful in occupying the Oval office will be a person who has broad appeal. Both parties would do well to keep in mind that approximately one quarter of voters in the US are self-professed moderates and the candidate who gets the lions share of this group will most likely end up following in Obama's footsteps.

If a dog was your teacher
If a dog was your teacher,
these are some of the lessons you might learn:

- When loved ones come home, always run to greet them
- Never pass up the opportunity to go for a joyride
- Allow the experience of fresh air and the wind in your face, to be pure ecstasy
- When it's in your best interest, practice obedience
- Let others know when they've invaded your territory
- Take naps and stretch before rising

- Run romp and play daily
- Thrive on attention and let people touch you
- Avoid biting, when a simple growl will do
- On warm days stop to lie on your back on the grass
- On hot days drink lots of water and lay under a shady tree

- When you're happy dance around and wag your entire body
- No matter how often you're scolded, don't buy into the guilt thing and pout,
- Delight in the simple joy of a long walk
- Eat with gusto and enthusiasm
- Stop when you have had enough
- Be loyal
- Never pretend to be something you're not
- If what you want lies buried, dig until you find it
- When someone is having a bad day, be silent....
- ...sit close by
- ...and nuzzle them gently.

Author Unknown
Should you have any comments, questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact me at sliabhanoir@gmail.com PLEASE NOTE MY NEW E-MAIL.

- Mass Lunch After, Passion Of Christ Following Blue Chip Wednesday Sunday May 31st
- Holy Hill In Wisconsin Sunday July 12th
- Arlington Race Track Thursday August 6th
- Milwaukee Irish Fest August 16th Sunday
- Saturday October 10th Sharon Shannon (iBAM! event held at Irish American Heritage Center)
- Sunday October 11 The High Kings (iBAM! event held at Irish American Heritage Center)
- Mackinac Island Sept Or Oct. 3Days 2 Nights Celebration Cruise Taken Off From Moline???
- Botanic Garden???
- Ravinia???

Summer Trips Available for 2015

Margaret Coyle is organizing trips for people to get together and enjoy Irish events over the Summer. If you are interested, give her a call or send her an email.

Dates Subject To Change - More People Less Cost

YES ___ NO ___ Sunday June 7- St John's In Indiana 9:30 am

YES ___ NO ___

YES ___ NO ___

YES ___ NO ___

YES ___ NO ___

YES ___ NO ___

YES ___ NO ___

YES ___ NO ___

YES ___ NO ___

YES ___ NO ___

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The Herd

By Rory Kinnear

Reviewed by Frank West
"Life is like a lottery..." "That's all life is: Luck and Doggedness"

This play is enjoyable and very meaningful. Don't miss it! "It is a witty and heartfelt look at family life when it doesn't turn out quite the way you imagined."

The focus of the play is the birthday party for Andy, who is severely handicapped. He never appears on stage, but is constantly present. "Carol his anxiety-ridden mother, has arranged a small family party to celebrate Andy's 21st birthday."

The summary of the play is quoted from doolee.com "Unexpected guests arrive, one is his father who hasn't come around in 5 years. The party is disrupted and family relationships become intense and intimately exposed."

THE HERD is part of Steppenwolf's theme for the year. That theme is "How did I get here?" This season's plays are about



"professor emeritus in the department of performance studio at Northwestern University."

Walt Spangler, and all the people who worked on the beautiful set, and the sound and lighting designers are to be congratulated for their unobtrusive but crucial work.

Rory Kinnear, the playwright of The Herd, was born in London in 1978, and lives there now. He wrote this play, with its great substance of life experience, in 2013 when he was only 35. He won an Oliver Award for acting. He is also a singer, musician, and now playwright. He is engaged to actor Pandora Collin. We'll be hearing a lot more from this young man.

THE HERD will be produced by the Steppenwolf Theater Company through June 7. The theatre is located at 1650 N. Halsted St., Chicago. The Box Office phone is 312-335-1650 or for other information: steppenwolf.org. Tues, Wed, Thur, Fri at 7:30pm Saturday and Sunday at 3:00pm and 7:30 pm.

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Happy Birthday Sister! Late Nite Catechism in 23rd Year

A Chicago original and inter-nationally hit, **Late Nite Catechism** begins its 23rd year in the city where it all started.

A special anniversary performance will be held on Sunday, May 31, at 2 p.m. with Chicago actress Patricia Musker in the role of the fast talking nun.

In the past 23 years, the show has seen three popes, two cardinals, three presidents, two Chicago mayors, at least nine Chicago area theaters, 20 actresses, and provided laughter to at least a million audience members on four continents.

Late Nite Catechism has helped raise more than \$3 million for the retirement funds of various orders of nuns.

The role of Sister, the wise-cracking, lovable character of LATE NITE CATECHISM, was created in 1993 by Vicki Quade and Maripat Donovan, both products of the Catholic school system. It premiered at Live Bait Theatre, then developed and morphed into one of the longest running comedies in not only Chicago, but in cities

Mothers Day Sale

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Remembering Maureen O'Looney

By Marty Michaels
 I first met Maureen O'Looney in 1977 when I walked into Shamrock Imports to ask her to put a sign up for my new 7 day-a-week Irish show "Freedom's Sons", and to get some music there. Even though I grew up with what I thought was Irish music, by the time I left she was my advisor, music director, and good friend. She said that with my voice I was going somewhere in broadcasting. Little did I know...

My wife, Debbie, who took all of these pictures, thank goodness, searched endlessly since we heard about the death of our beloved Maureen. We wanted to have them for the memorial, and then for the *Irish American News* articles to follow, but they had eluded us until now. They begin with Maureen bringing the newly arrived Corrib Folk to be on my first show in 1977 at WEAW in Evanston,

performing with him on the stage! It was both a surprise and an honor, but that describes everyday life with Maureen.

It was when we decided to get out of the pubs that A.I.R.N. was born. We were working on a title for the show and Maureen wanted to be sure that the word "American" came before "Irish" in any title. Also, because we had started airing weekly reports with Kevin O'Connor in Dublin (before he moved to Roundwood), and used network feeds from elsewhere,



a great businessman, knew my Uncle Mike Munroe, and I always admired him. Maureen was surprised I pulled it off. The first picture is Maureen and I right after setup was complete and we were doing last minute plans. Lastly, the show is underway and someone has sent us both Irish Coffees!!! It is my honor to share this with you.

photos by Debbie Hoffman

then Maureen dancing the jig with my brother Tom and Gilmory Doyle (whom I sang with at The Gaelic League) at the scene of Maureen and my first show together, "The Glenshesk Radio Hour" live from The Glenshesk Pub on WOPA (now WPNA).

Next is a picture of a typical Maureen arrangement: We were doing a remote broadcast from Dirty Dick's Pub when Maureen informs me that our guest is Sean Sands – brother of now-deceased IRA hunger striker Bobby Sands. Then she tells me that I will



that the word "Network" should be a part of the show. As we talked it out, I suggested that the initials "A.I.R.N." (for American Irish Radio Network) sounds like "Erin" and it might catch on. The rest is history.

Next is a picture of us in-studio doing A.I.R.N. in the middle of the blizzard of 1979. We brought a crew of "pushers" in case our car got stuck on the way to or from the Oak Park studios.

Finally, we always wanted to do a live radio show with The Corrib Folk and got our chance after entering into negotiations with Jimmy O'Neill of The Irish Village. He was



WWW.IRISH-AMERICAN.ORG

Monthly Mass and Carvery Brunch

Start a family tradition at the Irish American Heritage Center with the Monthly Mass and Carvery Brunch. Be a part of Center history in the making, as this exciting new event kicks off on Mother's Day 2015. The Mass and Brunch will be the second Sunday of each month.

Chef John Dempsey is a skilled gourmet chef who has worked at Arlington Park Race Track, as a production cook for Whole Foods, as well as Aramark and El Elegante Catering. At El Elegante, he provided catering for Kenny Chesney, Carrie Underwood, Sugarland, Rascal Flatts, Keith Urban and Brooks and Dunn. He now joins the IAHC.

The day begins on Sunday, May 10, with Mass at 10:30am in the Auditorium,

and music by the Irish Heritage Singers. A buffet style brunch follows in the Fifth Province and reservations are strongly suggested.

Diners can choose an 11:30am to 1pm seating, or a 2pm to 4pm seating.

Attire is casual elegance and diners can enjoy piano or harp music with their meal.

The menu consists of salads, golden carved ham, grilled salmon, quiche, potatoes

colcannon, roasted cauliflower with steamed organic rainbow colored carrots, barley pilaf with zucchini squash, Irish mac and cheese, fresh fruits and Irish cheeses. Scrambled eggs and French toast will be available as part of the children's menu.

For dessert, enjoy short bread, bread pudding and pastries. Coffee, juice, milk and tea will be served, as well as a cash bar available with

mimosas, Bloody Marys, and beer, wine and cocktails. Adult guests will receive a complimentary glass of champagne, and mothers will receive a gift. Stay after brunch for live music in the Fifth Province.

The cost for the Monthly Mass and Carvery Brunch on Sunday, May 10 is \$20 for IAHC adult members and \$22 for adult general admission. Children 12 and under who are members are \$12, and children general admission is \$14. Children 2 and under are free.

Upcoming dates are:
 June 14, July 12, August 9, September 13, October 11, November 8 and December 13.

To make reservations, visit www.irish-american.org or call 773-282-7035, ext. 10.



30th Annual Irish American Heritage Festival

Tickets are now on sale for the 30th annual Irish American Heritage Festival. Irish Fest is July 10, 11 and 12, and showcases the finest in local and international Irish and American music, dance and family activities. The festival directly supports and is held on the grounds of the Center, and is one of its largest fundraisers.



Confirmed performers include: Baal Tinne, Brogue, Patrick and Karen Cannady and Friends, the Chancey Brothers, Chicago Irish Band, the Dooley Brothers, Kevin Flynn and the Avondale Ramblers, Foy School of Traditional Irish Dance, Gaelic Storm, Gerry Haughey, Irish Heritage Singers, Kennedy's Kitchen, McNulty School of Irish Dance, Makem Spain, Misericordia Heartbreakers and Heartzingers, the Muck Brothers, O'Hare School of Irish Dance, RUNA, Scythian, Shannon Rovers Irish Pipe Band, Sheila

Tully Academy of Irish Dance, Tooromeen School of Irish Dance, Trinity Irish Dancers and the Westies, with Michael McDermott.

In addition to the great music lineup, the weekend is packed with the regular festival favorites: Irish and American food and drink from vendors such as the Abbey Pub, Harrington's Catering and Deli, Winston's Market and the IAHC, shopping, dancer performances, contests, cultural exhibits and children's activities. Dozens of vendors and artisans will be selling Irish clothing, music and jewelry.

Cultural offerings include language lessons, and exhibits in our Library and Museum. Our Tea Room returns as a respite for folks looking

to cool off with live harp and piano music, a proper cup of tea and sandwiches in the air-conditioned Shamrock American Room.

Back for 2015: Visits from Irish Wolfhound dogs, Men in Kilts Contest, Craft Beer Tent, Irish Soda Bread Contest, the Freckle Contest, the Mashed Potato Eating Contest, the ShamRock Stars singing contest, the Hooley Hook-Up for singles and Bingo.

New for 2015: Our Monthly Mass and Carvery Brunch will be outside on the fest grounds on Sunday, July 12.

Fest hours are: 6pm to 1am on July 10, noon to 1am on July 11, and 11am to 11pm on July 12.

Early bird prices for Irish Fest are \$13 for adults for Friday and Sunday and \$18 for Saturday, through June 15. After June 15, tickets are \$15 for adults on Friday and Sunday. Saturday tickets are \$20. Children under 12 are \$5 and children under 4 are free To purchase tickets, visit www.irish-american.org or call 773-282-7035.

Golf Outing



Get your golf on at the 25th annual IAHC Golf Open this June.

The fundraiser is Saturday, June 27 at 1pm, and is a scramble style open at St. Andrew's Golf and Country Club in West Chicago. The price is \$125 per person and includes greens fees, a cart, a light lunch, dinner, cocktails and prizes.

We are also offering sponsorship opportunities, such as hole, gift basket, golf ball and dinner sponsorships. In exchange, sponsors will be listed in the July issue of this paper.

To join us or to sponsor the open, visit www.irish-american.org, contact Alan Duggan at 312-401- 2603 or the Center at 773-282-7035, ext 10.



President's Message

Dear friends and members,

Over the past four years, I have been blessed to have worked with so many great volunteers and staff at the IAHC. I have also been blessed to have had so many friends and mentors who have helped me understand and serve the Center. Together in these last four years plus, we have accomplished and implemented many improvements in finances, processes, procedures, programs, products and services. The result is that the Center is on track for a fifth straight year of profitability and much improved financial stability. This comes after inheriting years of losses and financial instability.

We are back and stronger than ever!

Many of you came to me years ago and shared your concern about the future of the Center. You were concerned about finances, funding, fundraising, capital improvements, the leaking roof, spending, expenses, the Walk of Names project, lack of policies and procedures, building needs, lack of transparency and more.

I assured you then as I do now, that we have worked to help make sure the Center has a bright future. Everything is not where we would like it to be, but things are pretty good and a heckuva lot better than they were. There are critics out there and regardless of time or place, there will always be that element. Perhaps someday when they become members or donors or make the volunteering investment so many of us have made, they may find that being on the team is a better place to be than on the sidelines. We have not looked over our shoulder, we have looked ahead. And we pressed on.

The efforts we have made as a group required change, and change is never universally accepted. We understand that, as we worked to strengthen the Center as a whole, there would be some who would not be quite as happy as others with what needed to be done. As we have interacted with these groups and individuals, we have continued to take the "high road." We believe the high road is the best approach and, someday down the road when all our paths cross again, we hope to meet everyone on that high road.

In the next two months, we will be transitioning to a new board and a new executive

team.

I ask you to review the candidates' resumes and elect the best candidates to continue the high road path of:

- Transparency
- Accountability
- Expense control
- Financial responsibility
- Fundraising programs
- Risk management
- Capital improvement endowment funding
- Documented planning
- Membership growth
- Technology implementation
- Sustainability practices
- Customer service
- Partnering
- Staff and organizational development
- Sponsorship pursuit
- New products, services and ideas

After some time off, Mary, Meghan and I look forward to continuing to volunteer and help the Center and the new board in any way we can.

I trust you know in your hearts we gave it our best effort as we kept the Center's future as a whole in focus as the goal. We put in over four years, thousands of hours and dollars, suffered a stroke along the way but realized it was one of the best, if not the best, investment we ever made.

As you read this, we are packing for our trip to Ireland to represent the Center in mid-May at a number of special functions in County Mayo. We will also be bringing our dearest friend Maureen home to Bohola. And just to be sure the message is clear, we do this on our personal, not Center money.

To Mary, Meghan, Maureen, Finn and the family, thank you for your understanding and allowing me the time and freedom to pursue serving the Center.

To our members, staff and volunteers, thank you for allowing me to serve.

As time goes on and you happen to call and I do not answer, come on out to St. Charles or Crowley Ridge in Seneca, Wisconsin. Finn and I will probably be in the apple orchard or in the garden or on the lake, just fishing. No cell phones or e-mail allowed.

John Crowley Gorski
 President



What a "March" to St. Patrick's Day 2015!

The Irish Heritage Singers had seven concerts in 17 days, starting with their performance at St. Tarcissus on March 1, and wrapping up at the Mount Prospect Library on March 17. While the group loves to sing no matter what the venue, they had a special treat this year with their Skokie Theatre concert on March 15. The Theatre, with seating for 140, opened in 1916 as the Niles Center, and its art deco façade is from the 1940's. The Singers greatly enjoyed performing in the renovated space for the approximately 100 guests that attended the concert.

Prior to the concert at the Poplar Creek Library, Magdalena Bromberg, a reporter from the *Streamwood Examiner*, stopped by for a visit and to talk with some of the singers for her article that appeared in the paper's March 18 edition.

Attendees at the Mount Prospect Library were asked to complete an evaluation form after the performance. Some of the comments included: "Very

enjoyable – Fun", "A Great Show", "Excellent program-Beautiful music, lyrics and voices", "Best Irish singers around-Bring them back next year!"

Thanks to everyone who attended the concerts and to all of the behind-the-scenes folks that help taking shows on the road! With everyone's kind words and support, the group will already be "Back Next Year" at three of this year's venues.

The Singers' calendar is filling up fast.

- Sunday, May 10-IAHC, Monthly Mass, 10:30am
- Saturday, July 11-IAHC, Irish Fest
- Saturday, July 18- Edward Hines Veterans Hospital
- Sunday, September 27-Prairie Center for the Arts, Schaumburg, 3pm

To learn more about the Irish Heritage Singers, visit www.irish-american.org or follow them on Facebook.

—John Mahal

Tea with Bette Davis

Enjoy Tea with Bette Davis in June as part of the ongoing Saturday Morning Tea Series. Celebrate the

Few actresses in Hollywood rivaled Bette Davis for longevity and appeal. In such classic films as *Jezebel*



and *All About Eve*, Davis created a new kind of film heroine: strong, outspoken, luxurious, and even wicked.

Tea with Bette Davis is Saturday, June 27 from 11am to 1pm. Tickets are \$25 and must be reserved by June 24 by visiting www.irish-american.org or calling 773-282-7035, ext. 10.

and *All About Eve*, Davis created a new kind of film heroine: strong, outspoken, luxurious, and even wicked.

Tea with Bette Davis is Saturday, June 27 from 11am to 1pm. Tickets are \$25 and must be reserved by June 24 by visiting www.irish-american.org or calling 773-282-7035, ext. 10.



May 2015

May 1	Leo and Anto in Concert	Erin Room	8pm
	Francis O'Neill Club Ceili Mor	Fifth Province	8pm
May 2	Tea with Beatrix Potter	Fifth Province	11am
	Delia O'Keefe Benefit	Erin Room	5pm
May 9	St. Patrick's Fathers Social	Fifth Province	8pm
May 10	Monthly Mass	Auditorium	10:30am
	Carvery Brunch	Fifth Province	11:30am or 2pm
May 13	Tara Club Meeting	Room 304	10am
May 15	Shamrock American Club Meeting	Sham Am Room	8pm
	Quiz Night	Room 109	8pm
May 16	Roscommon Club Social	McGinty Room	8pm
May 19	Celtic Women International Meeting		
	Ireland's National Gallery Paintings	Room 304	7pm
May 25	Memorial Day, office closed		
May 27	Tara Club Meeting	Room 304	10am
May 31	Genealogy Meeting	Library	1pm
	Library Book Club, <i>The Spinning Heart</i>	Library	1pm

Regularly Scheduled Events

Tues	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	9am-Noon
Tues	Memoir & Creating Writing Classes	Library	4pm
Tues	Set Dancing	Room 111	7:30-9:30pm
Tues, Thurs, Fri. & Sat	Golden Diners Lunch Program	Kitchen	2pm
Wed	Irish Language Classes	Room 304	7pm
Wed	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	7-10pm
Thurs	Memoir & Creative Writing Classes	Library	7pm
Thurs	Irish Heritage Singers Rehearsals	Room 304	7pm
Fri	Francis O'Neill Club Ceili	Room 111	8pm
Sat	Irish Language Classes	Library	11am

Annual Raffle

Our Annual Raffle continues this spring. Tickets are \$100 for a chance to win \$30,000. Only 1,500 tickets will be sold. Like last year, you have multiple chances to win. You could win \$1,000 at our final Pre-Grand prize drawing on Sunday, June 14 at our Monthly Mass and Carvery. The drawing will be at 4pm.

The June \$1,000 Pre-Grand prize winning ticket will be returned to the mix and eligible for the Grand Prize drawing. At Irish Fest on July 12, the Grand Prize

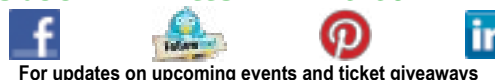
Drawing will be held. Prizes will be pro-rated based on total tickets sold.

- 1st prize \$30,000**
- 2nd prize \$10,000**
- 3rd Prize \$5,000**

You need not be present to win, but if you are, you can win a special \$250 attendance bonus, in addition to the drawing prize.

To purchase tickets, visit www.irish-american.org, call 773-282-7035, ext. 10 or stop by the Center or Gift Shop.

Follow the IAHC on
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For updates on upcoming events and ticket giveaways

The Heritage Line Staff Kathleen O'Neill, Editor

Contributors: Shelby Baron, Alan Duggan, Mike Frericks, John Gorski, Catherine Kelly, John Mahal, Natalie Miller, Mary Morris, and Sheila Murphy

No Cover *Free Parking*

the fifth province
 irish american heritage center

MAY ENTERTAINMENT

- 5/1 Ceili Mor
- 5/2 Mulligan Stew
- 5/8 Joe Cullen
- 5/9 St. Patrick's Fathers
- 5/15 Tommy Tuesday and Friends
- 5/16 Larry Nugent and Bill O'Donoghue
- 5/22 Seamus O'Kane
- 5/23 Dooley Brothers
- 5/29 Little Larsen
- 5/30 Gerry Haughey

All Shows Start After 9pm

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

May Drink Special Guinness Blonde pint \$5

May Food Special Fish & Chips \$9

Valid for the month of May 2015 only.

Annual Appeal and Pledge Donors

The IAHC Annual Appeal and Back to the Future Pledge Campaigns continue. Below are names who contributed to the both campaigns through April 9.

Contributions to the Annual Appeal have been enhanced once again by the matching program offered by Pat and Peggy Burke. We thank them for their continued support. We will continue to list names of contributors to both campaigns through June 2015.

BACK TO THE FUTURE PLEDGES Under \$499

Mary Kane, in memory of Mike Kane, RIP

ANNUAL APPEAL FRIEND (\$100-\$499)

Michele Cleary Allen
 William Mullally

Book Your Party Now



Spring means warm weather and showers, christenings, weddings and graduation parties.

Book your next event at the IAHC during the month of May and receive a 25% discount on your room rental. To reserve space for your special day, call the Events and Sales Department at 773-282-7035, ext. 21.



Darina Allen hesitated when I asked about her guilty pleasure. "I don't think I have one," said Allen, the founder of the Ballymaloe Cookery School in Shanagarry, County Cork, Ireland. I could

hear Allen pull her head away from the receiver and ask her assistant Sharon Hogan for help.

Finally Allen said, "Occasionally I have a chocolate ice cream. What do you call it? A magnum. No, chocolates."

That was the beginning and end of guilty pleasures for Allen. For most of our conversation, we discussed the importance of sitting around the table for a home-cooked meal, the joy of cultivating fertile soil, fresh ingredients, teaching people how to cook and the legacy of her cookery school.

Although we were speaking by phone, I could feel Allen's energy and passion radiating across the line. She truly lives and breathes everything encompassing food, which is handy since she owns and runs a cookery school.



Darina Allen will be honored at the Irish American Heritage Center October 9th with the iBAM Chicago 2015 Culinary Arts Award for her outstanding contributions in the field of culinary arts.

depend on the four to five inches of soil around the world for our very existence. The health of the soil, the plant, animal and human are all totally connected." She got me thinking about what

guilty pleasures truly mean in the context of our dependence on soil. Could we have guilty pleasures without healthy soil? As my thoughts digressed into philosophical meanderings, Allen pulled me back to real life.

"I want to remind people, in their busy lives, how important home cooking is to our own health, vitality, our ability to concentrate and indeed to our quality of life," she offered.

She believes that food should be

grow something yourself and you wait for it to mature into something you can eat, which takes about three months, "you will not boil the hell out of it in the kitchen."

"You just want to give thanks. You just feel moved to say grace and give thanks, to nature, to whatever. When you have the first of the new potatoes, the new rhubarb, you just want to thank the good Lord for the joy and the gift of something like that. I'm sounding really crazy, but you don't feel the same about a fish finger," said Allen.

Allen feels deeply fortunate to be living in the middle of a farm. Every day she cooks she feels excited and feels equally lucky to be able to teach people how to cook.

"There's nothing that touches peoples lives in the same way as cooking. When you're teaching them cooking skills, you're giving them a gift for life. The way to everyone's hearts is through their tummies," said Allen. "You know [cooking skills are] something that can never be

our medicine and that if you start off with really good, quality, fresh, local food, it's easy to get recipes to taste good. If you start off with mass produced food, "then you need to be a magician [to make it taste good]."

She pointed out how much money we spend on our hair, nails and dogs, anything, but food often falls low on the list.

"I just think that the benefits of and rewards of home cooking far outweigh the sort of inconvenience of spending time in the kitchen. Push food shopping to the top of your list of priorities," Allen said.

Everything about the cooking experience brings Allen joy. Fortunately, at her cookery school, she is surrounded by amazing produce, which they farm onsite. Allen is adamant that if you

taken away from them."

If you happen to be in Ireland May 15-17, stop by the cookery school for the The Kerrygold Ballymaloe Literary Festival of Food and Wine. For more information, go to: <http://www.litfest.ie>.

Save the date: Darina Allen will be in Chicago for iBAM, October, 9-11, 2015, where she will receive the Culinary Arts Award for her outstanding contributions to the field. For more information about the event, go to: www.ibamchicago.com.

Here's a recipe from the Ballymaloe Cookery School for you to try. If you only take one piece of advice from Allen, get the freshest ingredients and take some time in the kitchen, you may find you enjoy it. **Cullohill**

Apple Pie

The pastry is made by the creaming method so people who are convinced that they suffer from 'hot hands' don't have to worry about rubbing in the butter.

Serves 8-12

- Pastry
- 225g (8oz/2 sticks) butter
- 40g (1 1/2oz/scant 1/4 cup) castor sugar
- 2 eggs, preferably free range
- 350g (12ozs/2 1/3 cups) white flour, preferably unbleached
- Filling
- 675g (1 1/2 lbs) Bramley Seedling cooking apples
- 150g (5oz/2/3 cup) sugar
- 2-3 cloves
- egg wash made with one beaten egg and a dash of milk
- castor sugar for sprinkling
- To Serve
- softly whipped cream
- Barbados sugar
- Pie tin, 18cm (7 inches) x 30.5cm (12 inches) x 2.5cm (1 inch) deep
- Preheat oven to 180°C/350°F/Gas Mark 4.

First make the pastry. Cream butter and sugar together by hand or in a food mixer (no need to over cream). Add the eggs and beat for a few minutes. Reduce speed and mix in the flour. Turn out onto a piece of floured greaseproof paper, flatten into a round wrap and chill for at least 2 hours otherwise it is difficult to handle.

To Make the Tart Roll out the chilled pastry 3mm (1/8 inch) thick approx., and use about 2/3 of it to line a suitable tin. Peel, quarter and dice the apples into the tart, sprinkle with sugar and add the cloves. Cover with a lid of pastry, seal edges, decorate with pastry leaves, egg wash and bake in the preheated oven until the apples are tender, approx. 45 minutes to 1 hour. When cooked, cut into squares, sprinkle lightly with castor sugar and serve softly whipped cream and Barbados sugar.

Rhubarb Tart

Make in exactly the same way as the apple pie. Use approx. 900g (2lbs) sliced rhubarb (about 1cm/1/2 inch thick) and approx. 370g - 400g (13oz - 14oz/1 3/4 cups) sugar.



Mother Clutter Buster Procrastinate No More by Rita Emmett

The Anticrastination Tip Sheet

Emmett's List Of Miserable, Mealy-Mouthed Myths Of Clutter

1. It's too overwhelming. I can never get rid of all this clutter. Poor Baby. So true. It IS overwhelming. So smack yourself in the face with a trout and let's get real. Start by picking just one spot to clutter-bust. Not the whole house, not even a whole room. Just one part of the room. So to begin, PICK ONE SPOT. Not the whole closet, just that shelf. Not the whole office, just the stack in the corner. Not the whole car, just the trunk.
2. It will take me forever. Yes...um...and how long did it take to take a while to gain control. No sense procrastinating. Might as well start now.
3. I don't have time to devote something at the curb that is "just too good to throw out"?
- Or...do you consider garage sales and flea markets to be blissful, spiritual experiences?? Tell me, Punkin, are you starting to figure out how that clutter magically re-appears?
7. I need to find the perfect recipient for everything I'm getting rid of.
- Let me guess. The last time you went through your closet, you ended up with 15 stacks of stuff that you planned to pack up and mail or deliver to many people. Then you were too tired to pack it all up, so you put it back in the closet and are still mystified why that closet continues to be so cluttered.
- You need a **Disposal Plan**. Instead of packing up a bunch of items, donate it all to one organization. If getting it there is too overwhelming, ask a friend if he will help by delivering your donation bags to Goodwill. If a garage sale, Ebay and Freecycle are too overwhelming now, don't

ing Decisions.

- If you don't need or use it, get rid of it.
- If you don't have enough room for all your stuff, you don't need more room, you need less stuff. If something doesn't have a place to belong, it automatically becomes clutter.
- After I get rid of clutter, it just seems to re-appear in no time. Let's consider: Do you ever find yourself saying: "Poor, poor pitiful me. I'm swamped with the clutter of stuff and the clutter of debt. Wait!! I know what will fix it...I'll Go Shopping!!!"
- Or...when someone finishes cleaning out their basement and offers you 16 boxes of stuff, do you say "YIPPEE. I'd love it. Thank you"?
- Or...does your car screech to a halt on trash day when you see something at the curb that is "just too good to throw out"?
- Or...do you consider garage sales and flea markets to be blissful, spiritual experiences?? Tell me, Punkin, are you starting to figure out how that clutter magically re-appears?
7. I need to find the perfect recipient for everything I'm getting rid of.
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- You need a **Disposal Plan**. Instead of packing up a bunch of items, donate it all to one organization. If getting it there is too overwhelming, ask a friend if he will help by delivering your donation bags to Goodwill. If a garage sale, Ebay and Freecycle are too overwhelming now, don't

do them. Just donate everything to one place. Being free of clutter will mean more to you than the \$39.52 you would make after spending all weekend on a garage sale. Make it easy to get rid of your stuff.

Now Comes The Super-Duper, Tear-Jerking, Heart-Rending Reasons (Myths) "Why I Really Can Never Ever Get Rid Of This Stuff".

8. I might possibly need this one day. OR maybe I won't, but maybe someone sometime some place on this planet might need it. Seriously?? A coffee can full of rusty nails? Seven pounds of rubber bands, ketchup packets or used gift boxes (with matching faded, scrunched bows)? Your old used faded curtains that you had hanging for ten years? **Your Textbooks And Notes From School???** Seriously? How many mugs, towels, sets of sheets does a person need?
- Now a bit of reality (Yes, another slap yourself in the face with a trout moment) IF someone told you she needed a thing-a-ma-bob, you would probably forget you had one...because it's buried under all your clutter. And if you DID remember you had it... would you really be able to find it? Seriously?
9. I just need to get it fixed or repaired. If it broke yesterday and you know how to fix it. OK. Keep it. Otherwise, if you've had it for more than six months, and it still isn't fixed...it's clutter.
10. This brings back memories. Ahhh Sweet Little Grasshopper, let us contemplate boxes of memory-providing mementos... in the storage unit, back of your closet, basement or garage. Um... what is in those boxes? You don't remember? **Then How is it Bringing a Memory to You???** Our memories are in our minds and in our hearts, not in those boxes. If you absolutely need a memento, then take ONE picture your child drew, not all of them. One tee shirt from college, not 135. One item your grandmother left you, not everything. Then honor her memory by giving the rest of her items to people who need and will cherish and use them.
11. It's a gift. When you give

a gift, do you expect it to be kept forever? If yes, then you need more face-trout-smacking because that is an unrealistic expectation. If the answer is no, then you understand that gift-giver does not expect you to keep it forever either. Keep it for a while and then get rid of it.

If they ask you about it, act absent-minded and say "I was using it but then something happened to it." You don't have to get specific and tell them you gleefully

donated it to the Organization of People Who Love Weird Stuff.

12. I might lose a ton of weight and then I'd fit into these clothes again. Dear, dear adorable, delusional, unrealistic, clueless darlin'. Ask anyone who's done it. Once you lose all that weight you will say "Wear this old, out-of-date stuff?? Heck no. I deserve some cool new clothes for the cool new me." Trust me. It's true.

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Swimming Upstream

By Charles Brady



Gwyneth Paltrow and Irish Politicians Have Something in Common

You'd never guess we were about to start the election count-down, would you? Not much, you wouldn't. You know, if you didn't shake yourself out of it now and again and look at our politicians with the jaundiced eye they deserve, then it would be all too easy to despair.

This coming Monday (April 20th) sees a new documentary on TV3 that will have 'four politicians spend time with constituents who are surviving on social welfare'. The report I'm looking at goes on to say that these four goons will be experiencing what it's like to make ends meet, feed themselves etcetera, all on the money that people

Maybe they got the idea from Gwyneth Paltrow and her 'living on food stamps' gig. After all, the actress may well be one of the few with even less connection to the person in the street than our grisly lot.

An Unexpected Journey

All right. That was the easy part. Blowing off steam about our gougiers has never been overly difficult for me. In fact, being able to rant on paper may well be the reason I'm still stomach-ulcer free. Now, though, I want to tell you about a sea change that began to take place in my life a year ago. This would never be classed a Road to Damascus conversion - a lot of things caused it, not one or even half-a-dozen -- but it's a major sea change for me, just the same.

I've said it many times but it always needs repeating: they have absolutely no sense of irony. Could they possibly be more patronizing? Really and truly, a publicity stunt that involves them pretending to slum it (bet they manage to still claim their expenses) whilst being followed around by a crew of cameramen.

Then of course there was the Atheist Ireland society. I thought this was a joke at first. I mean, what on earth do these people do at their meetings? Argue about who disbelieves more? So I had dropped both the tag and even giving much thought to religion in general. It was therefore a big surprise to me at Mass that evening to find that I was greatly interested in what the parish priest was saying. This is Fr. Diarmuid Hogan. He's been here in Oranmore for two years now--so naturally he's still referred to as 'the new priest'. He may even still be getting called that if he's here in 2025.



Fr. Diarmuid Hogan

if I can ever actually let them go. As for turning the other cheek... Well, as far as I'm concerned you grow our self-esteem with their encouragement only have four - two on your face and two on your ass. You can't just walk away from trouble all generously shower us with unconditional love and nurturing guidance that forever hard time with a lot of this. At the moment I feel like a kid, though, eternally asking: Why? Well, maybe not a kid; more like these severely hampered by poverty and the Prodigal Son from Hell.

I had, however, stopped referring to myself, if asked, as an atheist some time previously. This was mainly because I had begun to be turned off by some of the characters who were also describing themselves like this. I'm talking about people like Richard Dawkins, who comes across to me as an insufferably arrogant man. The late Christopher Hitchens I at least found amusing and likeable. With Dawkins, it appeared to me that he was more intolerant, narrow minded and abusive than those he railed against.

For the life of me I can't recall what it was he said that made me listen. I think it was just his easy-going manner and the way that he would mention little snippets of information on what he was doing in his own life, something that he has continued to do. After that I began to drop in if I was around in the afternoon. Even empty, I discovered that a church is a great place to think, to focus yourself a little. Then I began to pick up some of the books on the shelves at the rear; and from there it was a short but very strange step to attending the occasional morning Mass. I still haven't gone of a Sunday yet but I find that there is a pleasant feeling these days to a part of my life where I hadn't even realised there was something missing. I have said some really vicious things about the faith of my late father in the past. So am I a hypocrite? I don't know; I hope not. I hope that I've just realised

that if you stop growing then you might as well be dead. Ditto if you find that you've made some very wrong calls throughout your life and don't acknowledge them out of stubbornness or misplaced pride.

Last month I took the enormous step of making my firstment, and forsake not your mother's confession in over 35 years. (Teaching. Bind them on your heart al-doubt that I'll ever get used to; tie them around your neck. When turned out I had gotten the timelie down, they will watch over you; and wrong and as a result was therewhen you awake, they will talk with you. when Fr. Hogan was about to (Proverbs 6:20-22).

lock up. When I told him what I Although Solomon was using these was there for he locked the doors words to warn young men to remain faithful and he sat on one pew and I onful husbands, in a much broader sense I another. It was both informal and have always loved the imagery this verse intimate - and deeply, gives us because it begins to capture the deeply moving. depth of our mothers' importance in our

Now of course, I'm lives. As the Proverb so eloquently states, full of questions. Whatever when our mothers are not with was all that in the read-us, their teachings are imbedded in our ings at Easter of the hearts to watch over us and walk with apostles not recog-us through life.

Mothers certainly provide for our mater-resurrection? Hadn't tal needs: cooking meals to nourish us, create these guys known himing homes where we feel safe, and properly for years? And this clothing us so that we are protected from thing about 'forgiving the elements. But mothers give us so much our trespassers': theremore. They see to our education and help are grudges I've held us with our studies. They patiently listen to for donkeys' years and our worries and find a way to make us feel I'm going to miss them better. They teach us kindness and compas-

sion towards others. They provide rules and boundaries. They boost our confidence and Well, as far as I'm concerned you grow our self-esteem with their encouragement only have four - two on your face and two on your ass. You can't just walk away from trouble all generously shower us with unconditional love and nurturing guidance that forever hard time with a lot of this. At the moment I feel like a kid, though, eternally asking: Why? Well, maybe not a kid; more like these severely hampered by poverty and the Prodigal Son from Hell.

So yeah, I'm going to have ashape our lives. Unfortunately, the ability of many mothers to provide for the material and eternally asking: Why? Well, maybe not a kid; more like these severely hampered by poverty and the Prodigal Son from Hell.

I only 'know' Fr. Hogan from deep-rooted social and economic factors, listening to him on the occasional poverty disproportionately affects women morning that I head to 8.30 Mass; and the children in their care. Nearly 40 but if the church had a few more percent of female-headed families were like him it wouldn't be a bad pool in 2013 compared to 20 percent for male-headed families, and 8 percent for

In the meantime, I'm sure that two-parent families. Not surprisingly, I'll get a fair bit of stick for this; nearly 60 percent of poor children live in but that's OK -- because I think female-headed families.

We know too well the potential effects of poverty--homelessness, hunger, inferior that the benefits are going to make We know too well the potential effects of poverty--homelessness, hunger, inferior that the benefits are going to make We know too well the potential effects of poverty--homelessness, hunger, inferior that the benefits are going to make

A Word With Father Boland

The Voice of Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Chicago

Reverend Michael M. Boland

Administrator, President and CEO



My son, keep your father's commandments, and forsake not your mother's teaching. Bind them on your heart al-doubt that I'll ever get used to; tie them around your neck. When turned out I had gotten the timelie down, they will watch over you; and wrong and as a result was therewhen you awake, they will talk with you. when Fr. Hogan was about to (Proverbs 6:20-22).

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We know too well the potential effects of poverty--homelessness, hunger, inferior that the benefits are going to make We know too well the potential effects of poverty--homelessness, hunger, inferior that the benefits are going to make

goes on with many of these conditions perpetuating through generations and trapping families in cycles of poverty that are hard to break. Motherhood presents challenges to anyone, but it is particularly difficult to be a nurturing caregiver and strong provider when a mother is dealing with the continual crises associated with surviving poverty. As the official social service arm of the Church, Catholic Charities daily fights the many devastating effects of poverty. Nearly two-thirds of the more than one million people we serve each year are women, the majority of whom are mothers and grandmothers. Catholic Charities provides comprehensive services--nutrition programs, housing and rental assistance, education, job training, financial and budget planning, domestic violence and mental health counseling, maternity services, child care, and a host of senior services--that "wrap-around" women, helping them surmount each and every obstacle, overcoming the effects of poverty, and leading them to stability and self-sufficiency. It is because of Catholic Charities' special relationship with mothers that many years ago we began the Mother's Day Appeal. We are deeply grateful for the funds raised through this campaign, which supports the many programs we provide for all those who suffer poverty in the Archdiocese of Chicago. During this beautiful month of May, as you honor your own mother and all the special women in your life, I hope you will consider a gift to Catholic Charities Mother's Day Appeal. Together, we can strengthen and support all of our impoverished brothers and sisters, including the many mothers who need assistance to raise their children with dignity, and lead them to healthy and productive futures.



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Our Take on Social Services

By Paul Dowling



Senior groups take place at IAHC and Gaelic Park. See below for specific details of senior group meetings this month. All senior group meetings begin at 10am. There is no cost and refreshments will be served. All are very welcome. If you need further information, please call our office on 773-282-8445.

Gaelic Park – Emerald Club
Wednesday, 6th May 2015 –

Eat your Greens!

We all know the importance of eating lots of fresh fruit and vegetables, but squeezing the right amount of them into your diet can be difficult. Today we will learn some tips about eating fruits, vegetables, and berries in affordable and convenient ways.

Wednesday, 20th May 2015 – Student led Program

As most of you are aware Chi-



Military / Veterans Discount Program

Cook County Recorder of Deeds Karen A. Yarbrough and County Commissioner Joan Patricia Murphy have partnered together to bring Cook County's new money saving Military and Veterans Discount Program to the Southwest Suburbs by adding the Bridgeview Courthouse as an intake location for local veterans.

The Cook County Military and Veterans Discount Program is a public/private partnership to create a network of businesses across Cook County that offer standing discounts to veterans year-round. Upon verification of service, veterans, active-duty personnel, as well as Guard and Reserve members, are given a Discount Card and a Merchant Directory. Nearly 200 businesses have signed on to offer valuable discounts in a wide variety of categories, including restaurants, museums, and legal services.

In addition to signing up for the Discount Card at the Recorder's Downtown Office, located at 118 N. Clark Street in Chicago, veterans in the Southwest Suburbs can visit either the Bridgeview Courthouse (Room 238), or the Markham Courthouse (Room 238C), between 8:30 am and 4:00 pm. Those who sign up at a Courthouse will receive their card in the mail. More information about the program, including a list of participating merchants and an easy online registration form for interested merchants, can be found at CookRecorder.com/MilitaryDiscount. Those with questions can call the Recorder's Veterans Service Office at (312) 603-5788.

cago Irish Immigrant Support offers training opportunities for students in Irish social work schools. As part of their learning experience we ask them to plan and run one of our senior group meetings. Today, we invite our latest student, studying at Trinity College, to take charge!

IAHC – Tara Club
Wednesday, 13th May 2015 – A Journey of Love & Discovery Joint Meeting with Tír na nÓg

Today, we are joined by Roberta Wachowicz who will tell us of her efforts to have a book written by her late mother published. The book tells an epic tale of love and discovery that takes the reader across the European countryside. Learn more about the book and the woman who wrote it by joining us for this fascinating talk.

Wednesday, 27th May 2015 – Caring for your Kidneys

Today, we are joined by our friends from Oak Street Health who will be providing some very useful information that all seniors should know about how to keep their kidneys healthy and working well.

Special American Anniversary

May is national Older Americans Month which is an opportunity for the nation to recognize, thank, and celebrate the lives and contributions of the nation's older adults. If you are senior, congratulations! Older Americans Month (formally Senior Citizens Month) has been celebrated since 1963 and each year features a theme that encourages us to cherish our older population. The theme of this year's celebration is "Get into the Act," to focus on how older adults are taking charge of their health, getting engaged in their communities, and making a positive impact in the lives of others.

This year the celebrations are made all the more special as they

coincide with another anniversary that has deep significance for older Americans. 2015 marks the 50th year anniversary of the Older Americans Act. President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Older Americans Act into law in July 1965. Since that time, the Act has provided a nationwide aging services network and funding that helps older adults live with dignity in the communities of their choice for as long as possible. These services include home-delivered and congregate meals, caregiver support, community-based assistance, preventive health services, elder abuse prevention, and much more. For more information about these services contact the Illinois Department on Aging's Senior Helpline (8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday through Friday) at 1-80-252-8966.

Irish Government Show

Commitment to the Diaspora

Chicago Irish Immigrant Support, as an organization that both serves the Irish diaspora and is funded largely by the Irish government, we are keenly aware of the interplay between the two. The Government of Ireland has long expressed a commitment to nurture its relationship with the people of Ireland who left her shores. This sentiment was reinforced with the introduction of the Emigrant Support Program in 2006 under the portfolio of the Department of Foreign Affairs' Irish Abroad Unit. The ESP provided a vehicle for the Irish Government to provide financial support organizations and initiatives overseas that worked with Irish emigrants and the wider Irish community. The ESP has a particular focus on frontline support programs that serve isolated or vulnerable populations. Over the years the program has expanded and now

also includes funding opportunities for cultural, community and heritage projects, which foster a vibrant sense of Irish community and identity, as well as capital projects.

Between 2004 and 2014, the Emigrant Support Program assisted over 400 organizations in 26 countries with grants totaling over €114m. Grants ranged from small amounts for grass-roots groups, and women together, to major allocations awarded to voluntary and community organizations operating on a large scale. The Department of Foreign Affairs' website lists the following as key objectives of the ESP:

- Celebrate, maintain and strengthen the links between Ireland and the Global Irish;
- Address the evolving needs of Irish emigrants, especially the elderly and tagged and vulnerable;
- Facilitate access to and voluntary services in their country of residence for Irish emigrants;
- Foster a more vibrant sense of community and identity;
- Further support business networks to connect Irish people at home and abroad;
- Research and define emerging needs of Irish communities abroad;
- Support development of new ways to communicate and connect with the increasingly diverse global Irish, including non-traditional diasporas;
- Improve awareness and understanding of the emigrant and diaspora experience.

Further to the ESP the Irish Government have reinforced its commitment to the Irish diaspora over the past year by appointing Jimmy Deenihan as the first ever Minister for the Diaspora last summer, and launching the Global Irish Initiative early this year which outlines the official policy goals of the Irish Government in relation to the Diaspora. Learn how the Government of Ireland hopes to connect with Irish communities overseas by visiting the Global Irish website at <https://www.dfa.ie/global-irish/>.



The Healing Fire

Who would ever think that the burning of a religious symbol would bring 15,000 Northern Irish men and women together? For those who may not know, to a major allocation awarded recently in Derry, a 'temple' structure was created by the voluntary and community organizations operating on a large scale. The temple, which was beautifully crafted, reached a height of 75 feet and was 40 foot wide. The result of two years of deliberation and construction, the structure was composed of a timber frame, and clad with intricate panels. Many of these decorative panels were designed and created by local young people. Each panel is a representation of what Derry/Londonderry meant for them. For the seven days after its unveiling over 60,000 people visited the temple 'covering the inside of the structure and its pillar with personal messages.' Soon it became a shrine of hope, a place to validate personal suffering, and an opportunity to come to terms with the past.

Best, an American sculptor is internationally known for his building large flammable structures for the sole purpose of settling them alight. Of course the purpose is not simply to burn and destroy but, in the case of the Derry temple, to symbolize the power of 'forgiveness'. Over a short period of time, people took the opportunity to bring to rest a grievance, a painful memory, in the hope of either finding or giving forgiveness. In other words, a sacred space was created for reflection, remembrance, and offering. It was an inspired opportunity for a community to express its desire to reconcile itself with past hurts. Best's intention to create a sanctuary to hold the secret wounds of the past found a way into the hearts of many affected by the worst of the Troubles. Since Northern Ireland is familiar with the annual seasonal bonfires, and the continued proliferation of sectarian sentiment at such times, it seemed appropriate that the cleansing power of fire (a spiritual symbol

of healing or purging) should be implemented in a new fashion and therefore redeeming and utilizing fire in a positive way. Bonfires have always been a divisive means of reinforcing tribal differences. Whether it's the eleventh night (July) or August 15, the burnings have demonstrated an ongoing contribution to the cycle of religious bigotry.

On Saturday, March 21st 8 people set the temple alight, and a work of art and labour quickly turned to ash. Those who did not pay to see the event watched from their windows or other vantage points. The burning of the temple caught the imagination of even the most cynical. It was an event not to be missed.

Over the months leading up to the 'burn', I was fascinated by how local people responded to the idea of burning a religious symbol. There were of course clerical reservations on both sides. The idea of a pagan ritual being used to promote peace and reconciliation seemed at odds with the Christian faith. While others thought the location one-sided, in Catholic area, and therefore would potentially exclude the Protestant community also seemed to dog the construction of the temple. However, the argument over being one-sided was countermanded by involving youth from both sides to contribute in the building process.

This work of art has taken polarizing work of the nationalist and loyalist icons out of political tribalism and offered, by fire, healing instead of hatred. And by bringing both communities together, the burning of the temple unified by using a medium shared by both traditions.

The burning of the temple symbolically suggests a desire to move beyond the past. Derry, in recent years, has seen the emergence of a new hope since becoming recognized as a city of culture. As photographs, messages, poems, craft, and art became engulfed in flames, a fragmented community shared in the hope that from those ashes would rise a new tomorrow. For some, the whole thing smacked almost a throwback to the idealism of the 60s and the love generation (a criticism regularly aimed at Best, and his work). Yet, such ideals speak to the best that we can hope to be, even if we continue to fail to become what we aspire to. Clichés such as 'keep the faith' and 'love not war' are bandied about so flippantly, and casually as though these statements

represent a futile attempt to put a Band-Aid on mortal wound. However, even the worst cynic would like to hope, would like to believe that humans are capable of being more than killing machines.

And, it was this aspiration that caught fire on March 21st on Derry's Waterside.

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Brittania Waives Rules

For more than eight centuries since King Henry II used a document (Laudabiliter) issued by Pope Hadrian IV as an excuse to invade Ireland in 1169, England's role in Ireland resembles variations on a theme of conquest, waxing or waning over time. Since the death of the Anglo Pope, England has, with varying levels of success, striven to own or control Ireland and the Irish, who have a tendency to resist. The latest clash ended with the 1996 Belfast Agreement and Britain still in control of the North. Britain has since focused on mopping up any northern resistance to the agreement. But keeping the South on board appears fairly easy. A month after becoming Prime Minister In June of 1997 Tony Blair apologized for the deaths of millions of Irish Catholics and the forced expulsion of millions more saying: "Those who governed in London at the time failed their people." Ten years later and 6 months after leaving office, Blair announced he had become a Catholic.

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(remembering those who died trying to rid Ireland of English rule). One of the country's biggest security operations was mounted for her majesty's visit. Socialist Party TD Joe Higgins asked in Dáil Éireann if "the Queen of England might be politely asked to contribute to the cost of her bed & breakfast during her visit to Ireland."

The Queen duly bent and placed the wreath, presenting her wrinkled royal rear to the Irish population in attendance. But as yet she has not left office nor turned Catholic. (Ireland might try serving a better soup.)

Thinking one visit was not enough, and revealing a preference for royals over Republicans, Taoiseach Enda Kenny proposed a smashing idea for next year's Easter Rising Commemoration: inviting the royal family to join in. That bright idea was bandied about for a year. Relatives of the dead 1916 volunteers boycotted the commemoration launch in 2014, calling it a 'political stunt'. But, the Irish Times, once "the voice of Irish unionism" printed a poll claiming 69% of the Irish population were in favor of a royal return visit.

Dublin released a short video promoting next year's events, featuring the Queen laying the wreath, but making no reference whatever to the 1916 Rising or the heroes and veterans thereof.

Some Irish pols are even less subtle in their dislike for a Republican-flavored event in 2016. Former Fine Gael Taoiseach

John Bruton called the 1916 Rising 'a mistake'. Openly gay Independent Senator David Norris labeled the 1916 rebels "traitors to their own cause" and the writing of Padraig Pearse "racist pap". But the grandson of Eamon de Valera, former Fianna Fáil minister Eamon O'Cuiv, said he believed the royals would be "seriously distracting" and wondered: "So are you going to ask the family of the Kaiser?" (Hellooo, Eamon. By inviting QEII, the great granddaughter of Queen Victoria, you ARE inviting the family of the Kaiser, who was Victoria's grandson.)



The royals must have thought the Irish public's enchantment might not last through another presentation of the royal rump. Dublin now says it's "extremely unlikely" a member of the British royal family will attend the commemorations.

What won't get much space in Anglo-American media is continuing mopping up operations. Britain is reneging on promised immunity from prosecution, waiving the rules and digging up decades-old charges to prosecute Irish Republicans.

Nor is much space given in Anglo-American news reports to a growing epidemic of loyalist attacks, not only on Irish Catholics, but on Africans, Asians, Eastern Europeans, Muslims- or just about anyone not Anglo-Protestant.

In 1600, Protestants owned only 10% of Ireland's land. By 1778, two years after America issued the Declaration of Independence, Protestants owned 95%. The Chicago Art Institute's current exhibit,

Ireland: Crossroads of Art and Design, 1690-1840, is touted as a "staggering array" of Ireland's of decorative and fine arts of the 18th century. I was momentarily tempted to pony up \$25 to see the exhibit before I realized this exhibit of "Irish" culture starts with Cromwell's bloody conquest- England's wholesale destruction of Irish Catholic society- and all the Mothers, a very happy ends at the lowest point in that process, Mothers Day. I know you celebrate it in May in America. We the Great Starvation.

The ads show paintings of "Irish-celebrate it in March in Ireland. men" in wigs quaffing mugs of ale. MyI think we should celebrate it parents never told me about these tra-every month. Mothers are very ditional Irish wigs or about their lifespecial people. It's one year ago spent in grand houses, dressed to the this month that my Mother went nines, surrounded by fine furniture to join my Father in heaven. We and objets d'art. But then again, they were so close and she confided in didn't talk much at all about life "backme about everything. We would home". They did send boxes with talk five and six times a day, every new clothes and other gifts, including day. I miss those phone calls. I money a couple times a year, telling know that we all have lost loved me it was for sisters and brothers. ones sometime in our lives. What Could it have been for the servants? Ian empty place that leaves in our searched the exhibit's online portrait hearts. Time is a great healer, and gallery for an ancestor: a Morley or that's just what it takes, time. McDermott, Caulfield or Waters, but I have just returned from found none. a lovely relaxing and enjoyable

With an Irish air playing in the holiday in Tenerife. The weather background, the Art Institute video was really warm and I did a lot of shows beautifully inlaid musical walking until I hurt my foot which instruments. I knew that in his youth was very painful. I am still having my dad made himself a fiddle, but it physiotherapy and I have to go for probably didn't look like one of these an x-ray next week. So no jiving or instruments. I once examined a long waltzing for a little while. I met unused fiddle of his, and peering some friends and neighbours from through the F holes, was surprised home and we spent some time to find it labeled inside "Antonius together catching up on news etc. Stradivarius". After I got my breath I even sang a few songs for them

back, I lifted the old fiddle again. Turning after our lunch. On St. Patrick's Day, I went to Mass (which was in that above that iconic name was printed English) in Los Christianos. When in smaller type, "copy of" and below that, the Mass had ended the priest "Made in Germany"- confirmation that invited the people who were all dad had not been leading a secret "prince from Ireland and UK to join him for tea and refreshments in a

But surely many readers did hear from meeting room below the chapel. their parents tales of the great society they Afterwards I was asked to sing left in Ireland: the stables of fine horse- a few songs for everyone. I think flesh, the finely crafted firearms and the the priest enjoyed the songs too. thrill of fox hunting on "the auld sod". So we shared stories of home and

The exhibit brought to mind a day had some good laughs. long ago when my parents took me to It is nice to go away but I see "Song of the South", Walt Disney's always look forward to returning fond remembrance of life on very similar to my home in Castleblayney. I Anglo plantations in Georgia. Just like had only been home a day when little Bobby Driscoll in the film, I was cap- I got a really bad chest and throat tivated by the "zippidy-doo-dah" tunes infection. Next month I am go- and the tales of Br'er Rabbit told by theing to Fatima with Sr. Consilio wise, contented old slave Uncle Remus. from "Cuan Mhuire". It is a place (I wonder- why hasn't that nostalgic where I have not been to so I look post-war Disney classic been re-released forward to going there. This trip in theatres or on home video in the US?) will be special to me, to be in the

It Starts With A Song

By Joe McShane and Margo O'Donnell

Hello everyone First of all I would like to wish the Mothers, a very happy Mothers Day. I know you celebrate it in May in America. We still unpacking after my trip so I will catch up with you next month and I'm sorry we missed you in the last edition.

As always, take care. Over to you Joe. Love Margo x Thank you Margo and hello everyone!

It's great to see the sunshine again. This is the month of the Gaelic Park Memorial weekend festival. I won't be performing there this year but I will certainly be there. It is always a great time. We get to meet some of the Irish entertainers that travel here every year. This time last year we had the new Irish sensation Nathan Carter. I've got to know Nathan over the last couple of years and written quite a few songs with him. The song "On The Boat To Liverpool" is coming out on his latest CD on the DECCA label. Release date is May 2nd, written by Nathan, Margo and myself. So Margo and I feel very honored to have a track on his first CD (other than the Christmas album) with DECCA Records.

Happy Mother's Day and I, like Margo, miss my Mother very much. But I have now learned to count my inherited blessings. Time has taught me that both my parents are still with me. I just have to look in the mirror or at my children and I see them. My son Declan will be joining me on an occasional show later this year. I'm sure his Granny and Grandad will be looking down with a smile.

Thank you Cathy and Cliff Carlson for the really outstanding meal and get together with all the other columnists a couple of weeks ago at Chief O'Neil's on Elston. It was so nice to meet all the other writers and swap stories. Near the end of the night, I was



company of Sr. Consilio.

I am only doing a few concerts this year to finish off my 50th Anniversary year. That is all I am able to do for health reasons. I'm still unpacking after my trip so I will catch up with you next month and I'm sorry we missed you in the last edition.

As always, take care. Over to you Joe.

Love Margo x

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Thank you Cathy and Cliff Carlson for the really outstanding meal and get together with all the other columnists a couple of weeks ago at Chief O'Neil's on Elston. It was so nice to meet all the other writers and swap stories. Near the end of the night, I was

talking to Cathy and Cliff about Mother's Day and in particular about my own Mother. Cathy said to me "you should write about it in your next months column". So here's a little bit about her. Like a lot of other people in Ireland my Mother Bridget grew up in times of poverty. On 3 acres of land, half of which was bog. At the age of 13 she went to the hiring fair in Crossmaglen. The hiring fairs would stand the young people up on a stage and landlord type people would check them out to see if they would be able to stand a hard day's work. If and when they were picked, which my mother was. They would be taken to their place of employment for a period of usually six months. My mother's room was a loft where the hay was stored. She used to tell me how she would long for her parents and how afraid she would be at night as she lay listening to animals scurrying around. At the end of the six months she would receive 30 pounds. She would take this home to my Grandparents. They were wonderful people also and I know it broke their hearts to see their children have to go away like this, but that was life in their time. That would have been in the 1930's. I sat down a few years ago and wrote a poem about the hiring fairs. Its entitled "The Slave Hiring Men" I will include it as

"Slave Hiring Men"

Written by Joe McShane

Verse 1
She was forced from her home then her memories roamed
To the house that she left behind
Family love blessed from heaven above
Brings sad feelings back to her mind
Her age was 13 but she remembers the scenes
Forced into slavery's bond
With little to eat, no shoes on her feet
My mothers life in our native land
Chorus
Into Crossmaglen came the slave hiring men
Marching children away from their home
Grabbing arms and legs, to test the children's strength
To work them on the land they had stole
Verse 2
My grandparents cried as they bid her goodbye
For 6 months hard labour each time
The tyrants cruel hand in our homeland
I know it still haunts her mind
My dear mothers room, full of damp and of gloom
Was a barn where she slept in the hay
The rats they would crawl from the night till the dawn
God love her, she never complained
Verse 3
I'll never forget, the cruelty she met
Though twas long before I was born
When those cruel hearted men, came into Crossmaglen
Someday they will pay for their scorn
They never felt shame when to Ireland they came
Causing families anguish and pain
Taken out of our hands, this beautiful land
In our minds their cruelty remains

this months song. So give your world. As always, be good to one Mom a big hug everyday and see her whenever you can. Mothers another. Joe and Margo

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LOOK OF THE LASS



Meet The 2015 Chicago Rose!

On Sunday, March 22, 2015 bright and early that morning the 2015 Chicago Rose Contestants showed up with their dresses, bags and excitement to start the day with great anticipation to see who was going to be crowned as the 2015 Chicago Rose. Dressed in business casual they were interviewed one by one by a panel of judges. The judges consisted of four well-respected members of the Irish American community; Teresa McNulty, Director/Nurse Consultant Healthcare at Huron Consulting Group and a past Chicago Rose, Bill McTighe, Manager of the Shannon Rovers Irish Pipe Band, Imelda Gallagher, President of Ireland Network and Catherine O'Connell, musician and past Chi-

evening, called each girl to the stage for their interview. Some of the women sang an Irish Ballad and others Irish Danced. But, participation in the Chicago Rose of Tralee has nothing to do with "talent" per say - it has more to do with who they are on the inside. The judges took their jobs very seriously as to choose the girl that would best represent Chicago as our 2015 Ambassador; a difficult job indeed! The contestants this year, as in past years, are the finest Irish Ladies in the Chicagoland area. How they can narrow it down to just one is a miracle, but this year's rose happens to be an extraordinarily lovely lady. This year's 2015 Chicago Rose is Maeve McSweeney! She will be the lady to go off to Portlaoise, Ireland to represent our fine city at the Regionals.



The ladies took their places and Michele McCormack, past Chicago Rose and Emcee for the

Maeve is currently a student at Marquette University where she is studying in the Biological Sciences Department and will graduate this May. Maeve plans on starting Medical School and

will become a pediatrician. "Giving back" is essential to who Maeve is as a person. Since her freshman year, she has volunteered one day a week in the HOT Unit (hematology, oncology, and transplant) at The Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. This experience taught her that holding babies is really good medicine, that a caring word to a toddler could dry their tears, and that a "normal" conversation with a teenager can take their mind off their illness for a little while. From this experience, Maeve has also learned the qualities of empathy and dependability and claims that, "When others are depending on you, you can't let them down."

more during the festival. If you are looking for something to do, I would urge you to take part in this amazing festival, for you will surely have plenty to do while you are there. The Rose of Tralee

International Festival The famine left Ireland with psychological wounds, exhausted and sadly at times, a country divided. So naturally, movements started to grow. Why do we want or need a change in their society, Maeve McSweeney their economic, political, or social conditions. There are a host of reasons and in Ireland. The party many countries have had their movements will be held at Corkmunks. It's a struggle to change and it & Kerry, 10614 S. leaves behind a legacy. Western, Chicago, Home rule, (Isaac Butt, Co. Donegal on Friday, May 22nd) fenianism (an ideology, a revolutionary - 7:00-10:00 p.m. - ary nationalists) and the Land League There is no charge (founders Michael Davitt b1846 Co. Wicklow) were born. The struggle to send off Maeve for land and for independence from properly and to help England gained momentum. These keep the Chicago groups wanted to reform the system of Rose Center alive for land ownership in Ireland and to ensure the citizens of Ireland were able to own

years to come. Maeve said, "My 94 year old granddaddy, Malachy Towey, was abusive relations between British featured on Chicago Tonight, based absentee landlords and their tenement Channel 11, as a prominent Irish musician and elder in Chicago. Over increased rents. The ultimate goal was 50 years ago, he and his fellow to see Irish people own their own land. Musicians brought the WrenTheir basis was the 3 F's fair rent, fixture Boy celebration to 63rd Street in of tenuous and freedom of the tenant to Chicago from his native Ireland. sell his holdings. You can see him play every Sunday evening at the Irish music 1860's and it meant an Irish legislature seisún in Lanigan's Irish Pub. had responsibility for domestic affairs. He has given me a great love it was loosely interpreted, at times, seen in honor of Maeve and her Grand-Britain. A domestic parliamentary at father's love of Irish Music we Westminster would continue to have will be holding an Irish Session during the "Send Off Party" and invite all Irish Musicians who would like to pull up a seat with Malachy Towey to please join us! So, come with a song or a dance and we will have a Hooley! We may even hear Maeve sing a ballad or two!

The mission of the Chicago Rose of Tralee is to provide enrichment opportunities that will encourage young women of Irish descent to be exemplary role models for tomorrow's youth and to make a positive difference in the world. For more information please visit our website at www.chicagoroseoftralee.com

Getting to Know the Irish

By Tina Butler



responsibility for imperial affairs. However, the Republicans/ the Fenians wanted total separation from Great Britain, if necessary by force. The brain child of Home Rule was Isaac Butt, born in Donegal into a Protestant family. He was a colorful character, formerly a Unionist (a person that agrees to a connections with England) who converted to Nationalism by his experiences and understanding of Irish suffering during the famine. He was also very impressed by the courage and integrity of the Fenians and their strive for independence.

The movements created a legacy of patriotism. Home Rule was the most dominant feature of Irish political life. It bound militants with constitutionalists Irish with British politicians. The British father of Home rule was William Gladstone, he acknowledged the injustices England did and felt it a necessity to give Ireland self-government. He supported Charles Parnell. Home Rule was about reconciliation of Irish nationalism. To the British state, the conservatives and Ulster unionists Home Rule presented a fearful issue. They knew their opposition to it could bring a civil war. In 1858 the Irish Republican Brotherhood/Fenian organization was founded simultaneously in Dublin and New York. They believed that Britain would never agree to an independent Ireland, except by physical force. Hence, the Fenians prepared a secret military organization for armed uprisings. They concentrated on a single aim, independence from England, and insisted that the pursuit of any other aims were a deviation from their goals.

The Catholic clergy disapproved of the Fenians but the Fenians claimed to just be a Nationalistic group that wanted independence from the Crown and all it's members were Catholic. They believed in separation from Church and State and wanted England out of their country. They gained support from their America affiliate, called Clan na gael. (The first Irish Republican organization in America)

Charles Stewart Parnell was born into a wealthy protestant family. He became a leading political figure in Ireland. He inherited the belief in Irish nationalism from his father and American mother. He was elected President of the Land league in 1879. Though he was a poor speaker he perfected the technique of obstruction. While he was in parliament he was disruptive and would sometimes speak for hours on end. He made himself the most hated man in the house of commons. He sought through constitutional movement, to gain Irish autonomy. His strategy was to disrupt all political parties in an attempt to draw attention to the Irish cause, and his goal was to bring political change to Westminster. He worked hard for Irish independence from England, but he was always opposed to the use of violence to reach political goals. He visited America several times and he won the support of Irish Americans.

Parnell and Michael Davitt had no doubt that the destruction of landlordism would lead to the over-

throw of English power in Ireland - it was just a matter of time. For the first time the tenant farmers as a class stood up to the landlords, and at times, things ended in violence.

Sadly, the beloved leader and innovator Parnell was forced out as a leader for becoming involved with a married woman, named Kitty O'Shea. Kitty was unhappily married to a man named William O'Shea, who was also a member of parliament and a Nationalist. Thus, William Gladstone, a Lord in the Parliament, withdrew all of his support from Parnell on moral grounds. It was a huge scandal and crisis because of all the political ties. Parnell's personal life cost him his political career. Parnell and Kitty were later married and had three children.

Gaelic Words for the month:
Nationalist~Naisiunaithé
Independence~Neamhspleachas
Freedom~Saoirse
Molanive@yahoo.com

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Careers

By James F. Fitzgerald, CPA



Could You Be A Better "You"?

Probably because I clearly sense that I am in the fourth quarter of my life, I wonder how I will be remembered. Did that guy Fitzgerald ever do anything worthwhile, other than marry that gorgeous blonde, Sandra? Well, of course, they did produce four beautiful children together. Okay, kidding aside, don't you occasionally wonder why some other fellows or gals have swept by you in terms of their careers? While watching a recent episode of Castle on TV, his significant other mentioned that she graduated from the Police Academy with a person who was just named Captain while she is still a Detective. She begins to wonder if the world is passing her by. As a dear friend of mine once told me, "Jim, don't compare yourself against a person who

has been very successful in his career." Instead ask yourself, are you happy with who you are? When you look in the mirror in the morning, do you like and respect the person looking back at you? I am convinced that many of us stop trying to improve ourselves at a very early age, possibly even grammar school, but surely by high school. If we accept the comments of peers, many of us will be burdened down by their lack of enthusiasm for our abilities. And especially when you believe these people to be your good friends. Aren't they supposed to think well of you? Frankly, I pity those people who grew up in a negative environment. Yet, I do believe that the negative tone of some lives might have been the fodder that has allowed (nay, has driven) these individuals to their success. You may know a person or two like

that. But I am convinced that many of us grew up deeply affected by our toxic environment. Perhaps we simply weren't encouraged or cherished enough in our early years. But NOW all of us have an opportunity to help such individuals. We can provide inspiration so they begin to see their own substantial potential. You see it all the time on the nightly news, where a youngster is killed in a mindless incident and his neighbors say he was someone with great potential, but his life was snuffed out. But would that person really have matured the way the neighbor(s) thought he would? Did the young person's parents, teachers, coaches, buddies and others ENCOURAGE him? Did he ever really see himself as a successful person? To quote the author, spiritual teacher and lecturer Marianne Williamson, "You are a child of God, your playing small doesn't serve the world..... We were born to manifest the glory of God that is within us." Does our society work at encouraging or discouraging our youth? Do we celebrate their achievements or their mediocrity? Did you ever hear an Olympic coach say his or her protégé was a lazy slug? No, they will talk about the level of commitment they nurtured (or demanded] from the young athlete. Even the finest of athletes,

students, electricians, elevator repairmen, and others must push themselves to succeed. But that is far more likely to happen when the individual is encouraged by his mentors rather than being mocked by them. I will always remember a buddy of mine who took me for a long walk after I had lost a college class election and spent the whole time convincing me to "get back" on the horse and try again. He focused on what I had learned from the defeat and what skills I had enhanced during the campaign. I returned to the Student Union energized by the "pep" talk surprised to realize that it had taken him just about an hour to change my outlook. It helped me win three more class elections; I have been eternally grateful for that hour of my friend's time. Who will you help on the path to their enhanced life or career? Ideally, you will then find others who will help you on the pathway to your success. Has our society poisoned the well with the celebration of mediocrity at all levels? Yes, I think it is nice to get a trophy or an award for achievement, but I am horrified that we seem to have reached a point where if the person has a pulse we give him or her an award. I am convinced that practice is very poor preparation for "real" life. As Bill Gates' Rules of Life state: Your school may have done away with winners and losers, but life has not. This doesn't

bear the slightest resemblance to ANYTHING in real life. So if you have a chance to genuinely encourage somebody, do it. It may prove to be good for that individual, but it will also probably affect your own self esteem positively. I encourage you to adopt the wisdom of Ms. Williamson's life lessons. In a recent New York Times article about Frank (The Tank) Kaminski, the outstanding center on the University of Wisconsin basketball team says, during the summer he shoots 750-800 shotguns every day until he makes 500 of them. Just think of the dedication and commitment that takes: all 73 aboard. Though convicted particularly when you know that in both Venezuela and Panama he may only take 12-14 shots in a game. The article clearly indicates that Frank's Dad set the bar high for his son and convinced him that he could achieve greatness! ONLY if he was willing to pay the price. CARPE DIEM. Cuba, the TARGET of Posadas' FOR YOUR FURTHER CONSIDERATION: The price of success is hard work, dedication to the job at hand, and the determination that whether we win or lose, we have applied the best of ourselves to the task at hand. James F. Fitzgerald is the president of James F. Fitzgerald & Associates, Inc., a Naperville, IL-based senior executive coaching and outplacement firm. Web: jamesffitzgerald.com James F. Fitzgerald is the president of James F. Fitzgerald & Associates, Inc., a Naperville, IL-based senior executive coaching and outplacement firm. Web: jamesffitzgerald.com James F. Fitzgerald is the president of James F. Fitzgerald & Associates, Inc., a Naperville, IL-based senior executive coaching and outplacement firm. Web: jamesffitzgerald.com

For The Republic



Chris Fogarty



PATRIOTS! Where are America's patriots? Where is law enforcement? "America; Land of the Free and the Home of the ...airliner bomber?" Juan Posadas Carilles lives in Miami where he admits, on the University of Wisconsin basketball team says, during the summer he shoots 750-800 shotguns every day until he makes 500 of them. Just think of the dedication and commitment that takes: all 73 aboard. Though convicted particularly when you know that in both Venezuela and Panama he may only take 12-14 shots in a game. The article clearly indicates that Frank's Dad set the bar high for his son and convinced him that he could achieve greatness! ONLY if he was willing to pay the price. CARPE DIEM. Cuba, the TARGET of Posadas' FOR YOUR FURTHER CONSIDERATION: The price of success is hard work, dedication to the job at hand, and the determination that whether we win or lose, we have applied the best of ourselves to the task at hand. James F. Fitzgerald is the president of James F. Fitzgerald & Associates, Inc., a Naperville, IL-based senior executive coaching and outplacement firm. Web: jamesffitzgerald.com James F. Fitzgerald is the president of James F. Fitzgerald & Associates, Inc., a Naperville, IL-based senior executive coaching and outplacement firm. Web: jamesffitzgerald.com

banners or distributing such leaflets makes one the equivalent of an African-American. The police' contempt is the same; as are the malice, violence, and wrongful arrests. Try defending the US Constitution and true American values in public in Chicago; it will teach you the plight of African-Americans and all minorities of color, especially suspected Arabs. **DICKENSIAN CHICAGO?** The following vignette encapsulates Chicago's current status, involving, as it does, punishment of virtue and exaltation of official sleaze. When MI5 got the FBI to incarcerate and seek lengthy prison sentences for four of us, Frank O'Neill, Tony McCormick, my Mary and me, Magistrate Pallmeyer ordered us to each get a separate attorney. For O'Neill I got Ann Burke (Alderman Eddie had been helpful earlier). For Mary I got IIT-Kent Law Professor David Thomas, and other lawyers for McCormick and me. Because the charges were false we four decided to sink or swim together. We instructed our attorneys to not seek advantage for one of us at another's expense; so our seven attorneys (three were pro bono) became a team. At an early meeting of all of the lawyers Burke informed me that she couldn't perform the work for which she had contracted; saying it would be a violation of ethics. Professor Thomas interjected; "No, Ann; I taught you your course in ethics; you would violate ethics if you FAIL to fulfill your agreement." She refused to perform; also refused to return the retainer, so I replaced her with an attorney that proved ethical. Fifteen months later in federal court all four of us were vindicated when we proved that the main evidence against us, an FBI audiotape, was criminally fabricated. (This is written without Thomas's knowledge.) Professor Thomas is one of Chicago's precious jewels, a defender

of the legally preyed-upon, attorney for the wrongfully convicted. Another such champion was Professor Protes of Northwestern Univ. who, with his students, freed a framed Death-Row prisoner. But the Empire of torturers, evidence fabricators and testi-liars counter-attacked. According to news reports, they forced Northwestern University to fire Protes and got one of Prof. Thomas's clients to turn on him; to claim that Thomas hadn't kept him adequately informed. **TODAY** Profs. Protes and Thomas are taken down and the Empire rides high. Convictions based upon tortured "confessions" never had much opposition in Chicago. Today, victims of torture, evidence-fabrication, and testifying have two fewer defenders. Mary and I know Protes only from published reports but we are grateful beneficiaries of Thomas's legal skills and ethics. **THE KICKER:** While our supremely ethical attorney David Thomas is now sidelined, to Chicago's immense loss, Ann Burke whose false claim of ethical concern Thomas had promptly refuted, the same Ann Burke that I had to replace with a more ethical attorney, is now a sitting Justice on the Supreme Court of Illinois. **TORTURE** by Chicago's police will cost us all. The City Council has allocated \$5.5 million for a few of the victims, and legal claims are filed for more than \$100 million against Chicago. Many who signed confessions under torture are not even released from prison yet. **A QUESTION** for the non-criminal 95% of Chicago's police: Why not support the law instead of your criminal brethren? Don't you realize that by acquiescing to their crimes you are making yourselves their accomplices; painting bulls-eyes on your own backs? **MEDIA CORRUPTION.** Zero coverage this evening (excepting RT TV) of today's hundreds of thousands nationwide, including Chicago, demonstrating against cops who murder. **WHICH BRIT REG'T** starved your relatives? See www.irishholocaust.org. **WHO ARE THE TERROR-**

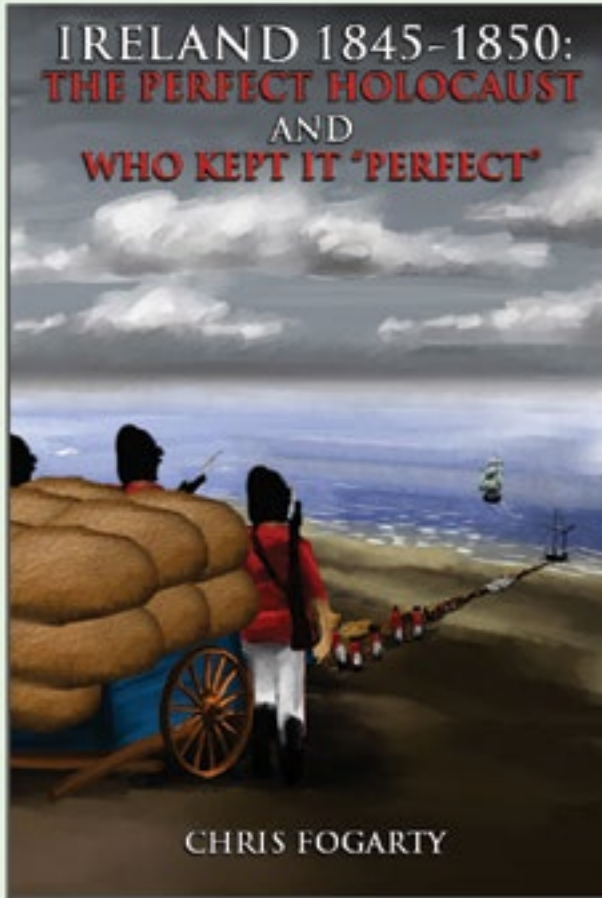
ISTS? See www.terrorismireland.org **GFA BENEFICIAL?** See www.michaelmckevitt.com, www.billymcguire.com. www.justice-forthecraigavontwo.com **MI5/FBI;** See www.chicago-

mole.org. **WRITE** to Ireland's patriot/prisoners. For names/addresses contact maryosullivan-paa@gmail.com or 312/437-3175. **CONTACT** fogartyc@att.net or 312/664-7651

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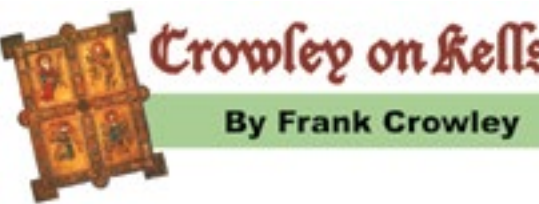


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by blocking food imports. But somebody has been punished. Dr. Rafil Dhafir, an Upstate NY oncologist is serving 22 years in prison for his "crime" of sending food and medicine to those Albright was killing. Be a real patriot; write to Rafil Dhafir, #11921-052-Unit HA, Federal Medical Center Devens, PO Box 879, Ayer, MA 01432. **VIEWPOINT.** My worldview and that of a friend are nearly identical in all but one area. I couldn't understand his blindness to the frequency of cop crimes. It finally hit me; he has never fulfilled his civic duty to oppose criminal wars, torture, or crimes against humanity. Judging by police responses to us; carrying anti-war or pro-justice



The Book of Kells' Six Most Distinctive Illuminated Leaves

Further thoughts and discoveries....

I just finished my third seminar on The Art and History of the Book of Kells at the Newberry Library here in Chicago.

During last summer and fall I gave Book of Kells presentations in New York City, Tama University of Art in Tokyo and another in Kyoto, Japan. To prepare for those seminars I expanded my research and added new detailed pictures of the artwork.

I want to review this material with you beginning by summing up Gerald of Wales' 1185 account of an illuminated manuscript called Topographia Hibernica. He included a description of a book he saw at the Abby of Kildare.

"...Look more keenly at it, and you will penetrate to the very shrine of art. You will make out intricacies, so delicate and subtle, so exact and compact, so full of knots and links, with colors so fresh and vivid, that you might say that all this was the work of an angel, and not of a man..."

This description of a book is often attributed to the book at Kells but is now generally accepted as a book at Kildare Abby that has since been lost. However, there is evidence that both the book at Kildare and the book at Kells were at least started at the Abby on Iona. I quote Gerald's account from the 12th century to show that miraculous involvement was part of the origination stories of the Book of Kells and the book at Kildare. References to the Book of Kells often add, "...

the most magnificent of medieval manuscripts that still exist." There could have been at least two such Books and the one at Kildare is lost.

In this series of columns, the focus is the four full-page illuminations, which are based on

the first word or phrase of each Evangelist's Gospel, and two additional illuminations, the Chi Rho (XPI) page and the Eight Circle Cross page.

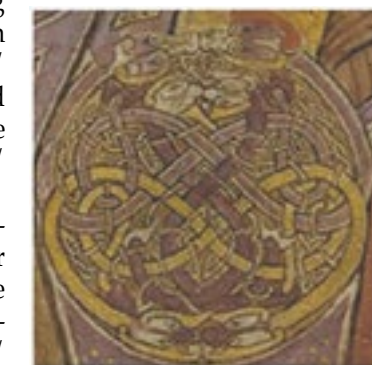
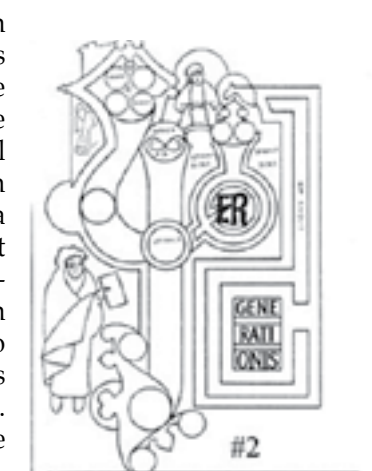
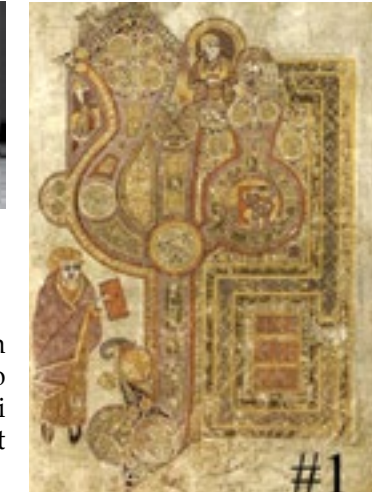
From the earliest times, monasteries provided scribes with copybooks containing examples of the text required to be in the books. For example, there were canon restrictions on textual content though allowing room for artistic expression, such as a decorated initial letter of the first word. As time went on, the beginning letters or phrase of each gospel became subordinated to design. These became known as the incipit, or "beginning" page.

Comparing pages from the Gospel Books of Durrow, Echternach, Lichfield, Armagh and Lindisfarne, the incipit illuminations show a progression in the size of letters and a clear development in detail, design and historical sequence. Kells, however, brought the Insular Gospel books to their fullest and most intricate level. (Most likely also Kildare)

I would like to propose that there is a distinct difference between the initial Gospel pages and the other illuminated pages of the Book.

There is a range of technical ability and artistic vision shared in the initial pages suggesting that they all could have been produced by the same artist/scribe. I think the Chi Rho and Eight Circle Cross pages were also made by the same artist/scribe.

This is art that seems miraculous, pulling in the viewer for close examination. It has the quality of mystery in the intricacy of its design. The artist/scribe, although drawing on earlier models, surpassed them, producing an astounding effect



#5

on viewers. The scribe (presumably a man) created designs using color, spirals and disks which appear to be spinning and circling around, framed by interlacing snakes, lions and peacocks and all part of words of sacred texts.

I believe it was the intention of the artist/scribe, who I will name Artist/Scribe A, to create designs and patterns provoking in the meditative reader a frame of mind to receive a vision of sudden spiritual manifestation of divinity-an ecstatic rapture.

The first Abbot of Iona, St Columba, explained to his disciple Lugbe, that divine favor bestows on certain deserving persons a miraculously enlarged scope of mind. Such persons have, 'in one moment' clearly and distinctly contemplated the 'whole earth...ocean and sky.' Surprisingly, this is similar to the description of Zen enlightenment.

Adomnan, an Abbot of Iona from 679 to 704 AD, describes St. Columba as referring to ecstatic vision as being necessary to understand the "dark and difficult" sacred scriptures.

It is important to note that recent research has discovered that these large Gospel books were shown to the public only during processions during feast days and other important celebrations. Otherwise, they were restricted to an inner circle of monks for contemplation and meditation.

In James Joyce's Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man, Stephen Dedalus discusses how great art results in "aesthetic arrest." He paraphrases Thomas Aquinas: "The instant wherein that supreme quality of beauty, the clear radiance of the aesthetic image, is apprehended luminously by the mind which has been arrested by its wholeness and fascinated by its harmony is the luminous silent stasis of aesthetic pleasure, a spiritual state..."

I like to think of the connection between Joyce's description of the "silent stasis of aesthetic pleasure, a spiritual state..." as

it relates to the four pages of the opening gospel words, the Chi Rho and the Eight Circle Cross.

This month I would like to begin an examination of these Initial pages in the order they appear in the Book.

St. Matthew's Gospel incipit, begins with "Liber generationis," f29r. (Image 1) Compare the image of f29r and the outline drawing, (Image 2) which makes the design more clear.

The upper section contains the "L" with a curved bottom leg that swings across the "I," which extends down to bottom of the page, and connects to the bowl of the "b." that contains the letters "ER." This completes the word "Liber," the Latin word for "book."

In the outline picture, three rectangles in the lower right, contain the letters "G" [looks like a "T"], ENE, RATI, and ONIS, the Latin word for "genealogy." (Image 2)

The larger angel at the top center holds a book and an angel at upper left has no face. A large figure at lower left also holds a book. A book is an important symbol of the gospel, and a constant motif appearing more than 30 times. (Image 1)

I believe that Artist/Scribe A worked with a collaborator that drew the two angels and the separate figure holding a book on lower left.

It's a speculation, but there is a distinct difference in style. Artists can use different styles to draw and paint, but in this case, why would he? The three figures lack the fine details that Artist/Scribe A uses. The robes do not have the supreme confidence of line work, design or use of color.

The sizes of the interlaced lions framing elements 5/8" (Image 3), two snake interlacing 1/2" (Image 4) and the larger snake design is 1". (Image 5) In addition, there are approximately 320 spirals and disks throughout the monogram that reflect the mastery of line, color and design that is his unsurpassed specialty.

Next month: what many people consider the greatest of all the illuminations-the Chi Rho page.



The road isn't going to rise up to meet you all the way over there in America, you know.

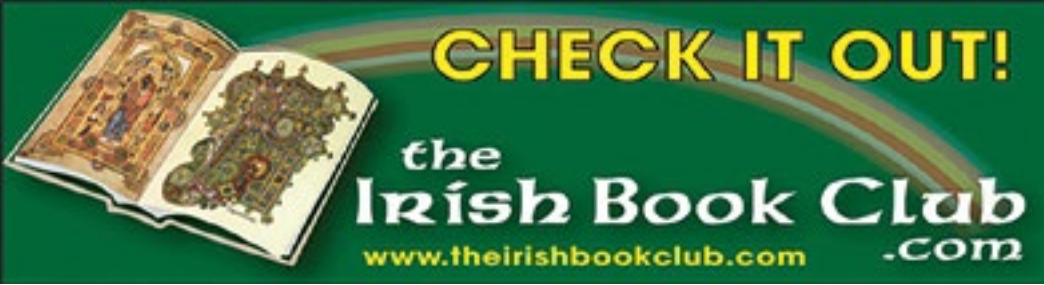
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