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# Belleek

## Belleek Signing Event

Sunday Nov. 15  
12pm-4pm

**The Irish Boutique**  
434 Robert Parker Coffin Rd  
Long Grove IL  
847 634 3540



2016 Edition Piece



The Celtic Lace Gift Box will be available at the signing. This box draws inspiration from ancient Celtic art and the delicate handcraft of Irish lace making. Each Celtic Lace Gift Box is adorned with an individually hand painted shamrock, placed on the lid.

**Attracta Lyndon** of Belleek Ireland will be on hand to sign, date, and personalize any Belleek piece

## Emerald Heritage Strives to Preserve the Glens of Antrim

Why not go 'green' this Christmas with the ultimate Irish gift? A gift that celebrates your ancestry, reclaims a piece of your Irish heritage and makes a valuable contribution to the protection of the Emerald Isle's landscape.

Emerald Heritage offers a perfect solution to the annual dilemma of what to buy for family and friends for this holiday. With prices starting at just \$50 for a square foot plot

you can become an Irish landowner with a fully legal and authenticated souvenir piece of land, yours in perpetuity to pass on to future generations. Visit your land at any time, plant a tree there or memorialize a loved one with a plaque. You can also use the courtesy title Squireen [an old Irish term for landowner] on utility bills

Isle moniker, Ireland is now the most de-forested country in Europe with just 1% of our native trees left standing.

With your help we can arrest this slide and begin to rebuild. Buying land is saving land, each plot purchased making a genuine contribution to conservation and keeping at bay the developers' bulldozers.

*In a marked contrast to its Emerald Isle moniker, Ireland is now the most de-forested country in Europe with just 1% of our native trees left standing*

The Emerald Heritage land is situated in the stunning Glens Of Antrim, an officially designated Area Of Outstanding Natural Beauty, where many pivotal scenes were filmed for HBO's critically acclaimed

series Game Of Thrones. The Glens (as they're known locally) is also a region renowned for championing all aspects of Irish culture, from the Gaelic language to sport, dance and traditional music. So if you're proud of your Irish heritage, or know someone who is, why not go 'green' this Christmas and buy them the perfect

## this christmas give the gift that celebrates your Irish ancestry

and helps protect the Emerald Isle's landscape

- Become an Irish landowner with a fully authenticated piece of land
- Visit your land at any time, plant a tree, or memorialize a loved one with a plaque
- Play your part in safeguarding an ancestral homeland under serious threat
- Use the courtesy title Squireen on utility bills or just to have some fun!

So if you're proud of your Irish heritage, or know someone who is, why not go 'green' this Christmas & buy them the perfect Irish gift?

Prices from \$50

The Emerald Heritage land is situated in the stunning Glens Of Antrim where many pivotal scenes were filmed for HBO's critically acclaimed series Game Of Thrones.

**EMERALD HERITAGE:**  
USA (free) 1 844 404 7863 [www.emerald-heritage.com](http://www.emerald-heritage.com)



or just to have some fun! Perhaps more importantly, purchasing a plot means you're playing your part in preserving and protecting this ancestral homeland of leafy glades and tumbling waterfalls, rugged cliffs and a welcome as warm as a roaring turf fire.

Emerald Heritage was created to safeguard Irish heritage and to conserve a breath-taking landscape under serious threat. In a marked contrast to its Emerald

Irish gift?

After all, why just have an affinity with the Old Country, when you can own a piece of your own?

See the video on the land and our mission <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mn0IpZE8YnQ&feature=youtu.be>

For more information on how to participate and to get your family a foot of land in Ireland for Christmas go to: <http://emerald-heritage.com/>

## Today We Stand With Martin Hogan

by Deirdre Fennessy

On Saturday October 10, 2015, a large crowd turned out to Mount Olivet Cemetery for a historic gravestone unveiling for Fenian Martin Hogan, organized by the Fenian Memorial Committee of Chicago.

In August of 1876 six of Britain's most wanted - a group referred to as Ireland's military Fenians - were rescued from the foreboding environs of Australia's Free-

most dramatic prison break in the history of world". George McLaughlin and Niall Fennessy spoke of their tireless efforts to raise funds for the gravestone- first in Rhode Island pubs- then uncovering long-obscured story of Martin Hogan's life in Chicago, and the difficult search for his descendants through Hogan's daughters. McLaughlin made the salient remark that "it doesn't take many people to accomplish great things" - the Voyage of the Catalpa being a proof if that fact; and that "today we stand with Martin



*On the right side of the flag pic are: Darlene Willix O'Connor(Chicago), Jim Ryan (New Bedford, MA) and Richard Willix (Chicago)  
J.T.R. is in reference to John T Richardson, who sold the vessel to the rescuers.*

mantle prison camp in a daring mission that many have referred to as akin to a modern-day rescue from the moon. One of those brave six, Martin Hogan, eventually settled in Chicago where he died in 1901, without a marker where he lay for the past 114 years.

Guest speakers at the gravestone unveiling included Limerick historian and author Ruan O'Donnell, Rhode Island scholar George McLaughlin, Chicago historian Niall Fennessy, great grandson of Captain George Anthony Jim Ryan, and Richard Willix, great grandson of Martin Hogan. A benediction was made by Fr. David Dillon, O. Carm., and Chicago balladeer Joe Monahan played the song Marin Hogan was known to love, "My Old Kentucky Home". Bagpipes were courtesy of David Cormelleth.

After the singing of the Irish and American anthems by the assembled, Ruan O'Donnell spoke of the historic connections between Chicago and the Irish freedom movement, and the oppressive environment from which Fenianism arose. He talked of the remarkable achievement the military Fenians undertook in infiltrating the British military in Ireland, and referred to the Catalpa Escape as "The

Hogan".

Captain George Anthony's great grandson Jim Ryan - of New Bedford, MA - unfurled the massive ship's flag that few atop the Catalpa as it sailed to and from Australia to rescue the Catalpa Six, and Chicago's Richard Willix described his amazement at receiving the phone call from Niall Fennessy to tell him the stunning news that he was the great-grandson of Fenian and Catalpa escapee Martin Hogan; telling Niall "Thank you for giving me an ancestry". Richard's sister Darlene Willix O'Connor was also present. Together the Hogan descendants unveiled the black granite gravestone bearing an etching of the Catalpa and the words "Fenian Martin Hogan".

The gravestone unveiling was followed by a reception at the iBAM celebrations at the Irish American Heritage Center; where a documentary of the Catalpa Voyage was screened by Irish TV's Mike Morley; and an exclusive tin whistle "Tribute to Martin Hogan", composed and performed by Rhode Island's Phil Edmonds, was debuted.

For more information see Fenian Memorial Committee of Chicago on Facebook.

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## Happy Thanksgiving



from all of us at IAN

## Thanksgiving Magic

By Rowena Bastin Bennett

Thanksgiving Day I like to see  
Our cook perform her witchery.  
She turns a pumpkin into pie  
As easily as you or I  
Can wave a hand or wink an eye.  
She takes leftover bread and muffin  
And changes them to turkey stuffin'.  
She changes cranberries to sauce  
And meats to stews and  
stews to broths;  
And when she mixes gingerbread  
It turns into a man instead  
With frosting collar 'round his throat  
And raisin buttons down his coat.  
Oh, some like magic made by wands,  
And some read magic out of books,  
And some like fairy  
spells and charms  
But I like magic made by cooks!

May you always have  
Walls for the winds,  
A roof for the rain,  
Tea beside the fire,  
Laughter to cheer you,  
Those you love near you,  
And all your heart  
might desire!

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**THE HERITAGE LINE**  
**Irish American**  
**Heritage Center** Chicago, Illinois



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**Singers Present Concert**  
**Featuring Songs of**  
**Heroes and Home**



Pull up a chair to listen to an afternoon of Irish choral music at the Irish Heritage Singers' annual concert. Paul Matijevic directs. The Irish Heritage Singers are the resident choir of the Center. The concert features arrangements of songs about Irish life and strife, including music by Phil Coulter, Percy French and other favorite songwriters.

The program also features patriotic

songs commemorating the Irish in WWI and the 1916 Easter Uprising. The concert is Sunday, November 8 at 3pm. The Erin Room doors open at 2pm so you can enjoy a refreshment before the concert. Tickets are \$15 for IAHC members and \$20 for general admission. Children ages 5-12 are \$5.

To purchase tickets, visit [www.irish-american.org](http://www.irish-american.org), call 773-282-7035, ext. 10 or buy at the door.

**Fall Mass and Breakfast**

Celebrate the Thanksgiving season at the Center with our Fall Mass and Breakfast. Mass will be celebrated by Father Mick Madigan of St. Patrick Fathers in the Auditorium, and a full Irish Breakfast follows in the Fifth Province. Stay for the Chicago Bears game at noon.

Fall Mass and Breakfast is Sunday, Novem-



ber 22 with mass at 10am and breakfast at 11am. Tickets are \$10 in advance for adults and \$12 at the door. Children 12 and under are \$5. To purchase tickets, visit [www.irish-american.org](http://www.irish-american.org) or call 773-282-7035, ext. 10. Reservations are highly recommended.

**St. Catherine,**  
**a Woman For Our Times**

Sister Nancy Murray, OP will bring to life the Dominican Saint Catherine of Siena, with her one woman show.

Originally named Caterina Benincasa, she was the 24th child born into her family in Siena, Italy, in 1347.

She later became a lay member of the Dominican Order. Catherine cared for terminally ill patients, ministered to those on death row and provided spiritual direction to men

and women.

With simple props and a large imagination, Sister Nancy portrays Catherine as the colorful, strong saint that she was.

The performance is Sunday, November 15 at 2pm. Tickets are \$15. Light refresh-



ments will be served. To purchase tickets, visit [www.irish-american.org](http://www.irish-american.org), call 773-282-7035, ext. 10 or buy at the door.

**Irish American Hall of Fame**  
**Trivia Night**

Test your skills at the annual Irish American Hall of Fame Trivia Night fundraiser, in support of the Hall of Fame and the Center.

Trivia questions will cover the Irish American Hall of Fame categories: Arts and Humanities, Public Service, Business and Industry, Sports, Education, Religion and Science, plus current events and



pop culture. The cost is \$150 per team and teams must have no more than 6 people. There will be a split-the-pot raffle, a cash bar and a silent auction.

Trivia Night is Saturday, November 14 at 7pm. To register, visit [www.iahof.org](http://www.iahof.org)

or call the Center at 773-282-7035, ext. 10.



# THE HERITAGE LINE

## IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

Chicago, Illinois



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### President's Message

As we approach the Thanksgiving season I want to warn you of all the "thank you's" that I owe to the wonderful people who continue to warm my heart.

I want to thank the many members who came to the meet and greet party at the Fifth Province on Sunday, October 4. A special thank you to Fr. John McNalis who celebrated Mass. We were then treated to an amazing breakfast



catered by Harrington's. The Center gained 43 new members that day. And the building inhaled a breath of fresh air as members young and old from near and far enjoyed the day. Many prayers were said for the Bears as well, and were answered when the Bears beat the Raiders that day. It was a perfect finish to a wonderful event.

I was sitting next to a new member on my right at the Fifth Province. He mentioned that he purchased a tin whistle while touring Ireland and

asked what kind of lessons the Center provided. Well, the luck of the Irish was at hand, and sitting on my left was Pat Cannady who offers music lessons at the Center. I introduced the two, and I think both will be happy.

A reminder to all that the Fifth Province is open on Sundays for the Bears games. We will have a November Mass and Breakfast and details are in this newsletter.

After three hard working years, I am sad to report that our Chief Financial Officer is stepping down. Mike Frericks was offered another job much closer to home. We wish him well in his endeavors.

Once again iBAM! was a

tremendous success. The building was filled with lovers of Irish music, art and literature. We thank Cliff and Cathy Curry Carlson and their team for all the hard work they put into the event.

We begin what we hope is a busy holiday season at the Center with such upcoming events as the Christmas Bazaar, and concerts and programs we have planned for the rest of the year.

Most importantly, we are in the middle of our Annual Appeal campaign for donations to the Center. You should have received your Annual Appeal mailing. If not, please contact the office and we will mail you one. We rely greatly on your continued

support and generosity. Remember that our founding member Pat Burke and his wife Peggy match \$25,000 every year for the Annual Appeal. Thank you for your wonderful act of giving. Please be kind in your donation, as the future of the Center is at stake when we are approaching the harsh winter months.

Until December, the members of the Board of Directors wish you all a very warm and safe Thanksgiving season.

Eugene M. Cooney  
President

### Annual Appeal Continues

Our Annual Appeal campaign continues this fall at the Center. We have received many generous donations from our members and friends and will continue this campaign into Spring 2016. Each year, Pat and Peggy Burke pledge to match up to \$25,000 for the Appeal. We thank you for your anticipated generosity and will list donors through the March 2016 issue.

#### CENTER CHAMPION (\$1,000-\$2,499)

Anonymous  
**PATRON (\$250-\$499)**  
Bob Curley  
Tom and Margi Rice  
Meghan and Mike Roach  
Nancy Mulrooney  
Catherine Thompson  
Kevin and Noreen Metcalfe  
Mary P. Carr, In memory of Dorothy and Anthony Carr  
Patrick F. Flaherty  
Noreen M. McGinley, In memory of Jim and Isabelle McGinley

#### ADVOCATE (100-\$249)

Patrick Agnew  
Fr. Jack Clair  
Leo and Kerry Montes

Miss Helene R. Hembreiker, In memory of my dear Irish mother,  
Clara Frances  
Stephen Goldspiel  
Ed and Mary Cox  
James T. Schaefer  
P.J. and Mary O'Dea  
Bridget Hurst  
Barbara A. Simon  
Thomas F. and Jeanette R. Mahoney  
Rev. James F. Moriarty  
John and Jane Murray  
Terrence and Kathleen Kennedy  
Rev. James J. O'Brien  
James Boyle  
Richard M. Locke  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Cremins  
John and Maureen Berry, In memory of John T. Maloney  
Simon and Margaret O'Donnell  
Mary Garrity, In memory of Jim Garrity  
Jean Anne Kennedy  
Eileen Sullivan  
Michael P. Atkins, In memory of Margaret Hogan  
Mary Monahan, In memory of Joe Monahan  
St. Patrick Fathers  
Mr. and Mrs. P. Moran  
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Lawrence Martens  
Lorraine and Thomas Moriarty  
William and Janet Dunn  
Kathleen J. Moore, In memory of Charles and Margaret Swaine  
The Honorable James M. Sheridan

Martin J. Hughes, In memory of James and Beverly Hughes  
Patrick and Linda Fallon, In memory of Margaret Mary Fallon  
Mary Mullen  
Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Zacharia  
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Mellon

### Christmas Bazaar

Get in the holiday spirit with the annual Christmas Bazaar at the Center. The Bazaar is Sunday, December 6 from 9am to 3pm and includes Mass, breakfast, a craft and bake sale, and visit from Santa Claus. Mass is celebrated in the Auditorium at 10:30am, with music by the Irish Heritage Singers. A traditional Irish breakfast follows in the Erin Room.

Tickets for breakfast are \$8 for adults and \$4 for children and reservations are required. There is no charge to browse and shoppers can enjoy the craft sale with Chicago artisans. An Irish-American quilt will be raffled off. The Bake Shop sells tea, coffee, homemade pies, bread, scones, cakes and cookies. Santa Claus

visits from 1-3pm and will pose for photos with each child.  
To purchase tickets for the

breakfast, call 773-282-7035, ext. 10 by November 30 or mail the attached form.

Join The Irish American Heritage Center Sunday, December 6, for Mass at 10:30 a.m., followed by an Irish Breakfast in the Erin Room. Reservations are required.

Adults . . . \$8.00  
Children . . . \$4.00

To reserve tickets, send check payable to: The Irish American Heritage Center. Tickets will be reserved for pick up on December 6. Mail check and reservation form by November 26 to: The Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 North Knox Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60630.

### Christmas Mass

and Old-Fashioned Irish Breakfast Celebration  
December 6, 2015

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Tickets: \_\_\_\_\_  
Adults: \_\_\_\_\_ Children: \_\_\_\_\_





# THE HERITAGE LINE

## Irish American Heritage Center

Chicago, Illinois



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### November/Early December 2015

November 1	Chicago Bears Football Game	Fifth Province	Noon
November 2	Staged Reading: <i>Lonesome West</i>	Fifth Province	7pm
November 4	Tara Club meeting	Room 304	10am
November 6	Francis O'Neill Club Ceili Mor	Fifth Province	8pm
November 7	Shamrock American Club Social	Sham Am Room	8pm
November 8	Irish Heritage Singers Fall Concert	Erin Room	3pm
November 9	Chicago Bears Football Game	Fifth Province	7:30pm
November 14	Hall of Fame Trivia Night	Erin Room	8pm
	St. Patrick Fathers Social	Room 109	8pm
November 15	Chicago Bears Football Game	Fifth Province	Noon
	St. Catherine of Siena Performance	Room 109	2pm
November 17	Celtic Women International Holiday Party	Room 304	7pm
November 20	Shamrock American Club Meeting	Sham Am Room	8pm
	Quiz Night	Room 109	8pm
November 22	Fall Mass and Irish Breakfast	Fifth Province	10am
	Chicago Bears Football Game	Fifth Province	Noon
November 27	Galway Fellowship Dance	Fifth Province	8pm
November 29	Genealogy Meeting	Library	1pm
	Great Irish Books Club - <i>Norah Webster</i> by Colm Tóibín	Library	1pm
December 6	Christmas Bazaar	Whole Building	9am
	Bazaar Mass	Auditorium	10:30am
	Bazaar Breakfast	Erin Room	11:30am

### Regularly Scheduled Events

Tues	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	9am-Noon
Tues	Set Dancing	Room 111	7:30-9:30pm
Tues	Traditional Celtic Art Class	Art Gallery	7pm
Tues, Thurs,			12:30pm-
Fri, & Sat	Golden Diners Lunch Program	Kitchen	2pm
Wed	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	7-10pm
Thurs	Irish Heritage Singers Rehearsals	Room 304	7pm
Fri	Francis O'Neill Club Ceili	Room 111	8pm

### Christmas with Makem & Spain

Spend the holiday season with old friends and Irish Fest favorites; Makem & Spain. These three acclaimed performers embrace and uphold the legacy of Tommy Makem and the Clancy Brothers, while making the music their own.



The concert features classic holiday songs, new arrangements of old favorites and original tunes. Christmas with Makem & Spain is

Friday, December 4 at 7:30pm. Tickets are \$20. To purchase tickets, visit [www.irish-american.org](http://www.irish-american.org), call 773-282-7035, ext. 10 or buy at the door.

*No Cover* *Free Parking*



## the fifth province

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

NOVEMBER ENTERTAINMENT

11/6 Ceili Mor  
11/7 Seamus O'Kane  
11/13 Salon Concert  
11/14 St. Patrick Fathers Social  
11/20 Joe McShane  
11/27 Gerry Haughey



*November Drink Special*  
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Valid for the month of November 2015 only.

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Chicago, IL 60630

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



**The Heritage Line Staff** Kathleen O'Neill, Editor  
Contributors: Shelby Baron, Theresa Choske, Gene Cooney, Michael Gibbons, Catherine Kelly, John Mahal, Natalie Miller, Mary Morris, Sheila Murphy, Pam Marshall Taylor, Mike Shevlin

## Katie Grennan: Dancing to Her Own Tunes

by *Ryanne Gallagher Johnson*

Kathleen, or Katie, Grennan has been strongly connected to the performing arts of Ireland from an early age. With gorgeous talent in both the fiddle and Irish dance, a competitive flare, and a sharp



musical ear, she spent years honing her skills and finally melding the two to turn herself into a double threat in the Irish performing arts community. Now with her own Irish dance practice album out and an upcoming schedule of fiddle playing for the renowned Trinity Academy on the books for the next year, the future is looking mighty bright for her.

Born the daughter of an Irish immigrant in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, her introduction into Irish music began at the age of four with classical violin. At age eight she transitioned into Irish dance at the Burke Dance School (now the Burke-Conroy School of Irish Dance). She climbed the competitive ranks and qualified for her first world championship in Ireland at age twelve, going on to continue qualifying every year thereafter during her dance career. Beginning with her Worlds qualifying days, she also started helping her teachers out with leading classes, thus spawning her love for teaching and mentorship. "I always loved making dance not something just for me," she says. "But something that I could mentor kids in and pass along."

Katie's connection with the midwest Irish community and Chicago began when she attended the University of Notre Dame for her double major in Accounting and Psychology. While at school, she had a desire to continue broadening her experience in the Irish performing arts, so she linked up with the Trinity Academy, which has a major performance

component as well as a high standard of competitive dance.

"When I was going to college, I didn't want my experience to end with local or International competitions, I wanted to be able to perform," she explains of choosing Trinity over the numerous other Irish dance school opportunities in the Chicago area.

Upon graduation from the University of Notre Dame, Katie competed in the North American Irish Dance championships one final time, and after another top 10 finish, she shifted her focus towards teaching and performance. She sat for the official Irish Dance teachers examination (T.C.R.G.), administered by An Coimisiún le Rincí Gaelacha, the highest governing body in Irish dance. She passed with high honors and scored a coveted 100% on the music portion of the exam.

She was a lead instructor at Trinity until she moved back to Pittsburgh for Graduate work, where she is now an instructor at her old dance school. "While I was in Chicago, I mostly taught dancing. Now that I'm in Pittsburgh for grad school, I'm still continuing to teach dancing back where I started, at the Burke-Conroy School, but I'm also lucky that I've got a bunch of fiddle students on board. What I really enjoy doing is teaching dancers who also play the violin, and really helping them transition their inner knowledge of Irish music as dancers as well as how they play the violin and meld the two like I've done over the years, so they can understand how to play fiddle music too. I have about 7 students right now. Most of them are in Pittsburgh, but I have a couple in Chicago that I teach through Skype."

Now with her own Irish dance practice album, "Between Worlds," she's imparting her vast knowledge of both instrument and performing to those who are just starting out in the Irish dancing world.

"I wanted it to be an album that was appealing to everyone to listen to, but it's main purpose is to be a practice album that can be used in the classroom for anyone who is just starting out, whether that be a five or six year old child or an adult who is learning new steps or brushing up on their skills. All the step speeds are the exact speeds that dancers can practice their steps to. Within the Irish dancing world, there are certain standard speeds

that you compete at, and that's how I tailored my album. The speeds fall within the guidelines."

The album was a collaborative effort with her students. She'd bring her fiddle to class and at the end of each group, she'd play a selection of tunes from a set, and she'd have her students vote on which ones they would like to dance to more. The groups ranged in age from five to late teens.

The album artwork (created by Dan MacDonald Studios) symbolizes the place she was at in her life at the time - rooted in Chicago but facing eastward as she prepared to move out on tour with Trinity to Portugal and Ireland to visit family and then relocate to Pittsburgh for graduate coursework.

She also explains that the album title has many layers of meaning to her. Broadly, it applies to dancers as they practice "between the world of championships", of they are competing at that level.

But also, she expands, "All dancers from a young age learn how to bounce back and forth between many commitments and groups of people as they balance school, other extra-curricular activities, and dancing. This "phenomenon" is something I've experienced as I've moved throughout all periods of my

to begin my graduate studies at Carnegie Mellon."

While practice albums aren't a rare thing, finding one by a fiddle player in the Chicago area is. "At every major Irish dancing competition, there are always 8-10 hired musicians, and the most highly regarded ones all have their own CDs for people to buy and practice to, (but) most practice albums to come out in the last ten years are from musicians, accordion players, that are located in Ireland or England. There's a couple that are based out of New York or Ohio, and they're mostly all accordion players, so I wanted to do something a little bit different. There's a lot of fiddle players at the local competitions that you see in Chicago or around the United States, but there haven't been a lot of current fiddle albums that are designed for practicing."

Moving forward and in the future, Katie says she's focusing more on music than dance. "An Irish dancer's shelf life is pretty much tapped out in their mid-20's. I've kind of transitioned more into focusing on the music. This whole album was to get my feet wet, and I hope to continue to develop my playing skills and work on more albums in the future. Each year I play at more and more Irish dancing competitions, so that's what I



*Katie and students at Feis*

life - as a child, teenager, college student, and adult. "Worlds" to me means the cities I've called home (Pittsburgh, South Bend, Dublin, Chicago - not in that order), countries (US and Ireland), and identities (student, musician, dancer, teacher, working professional). At the time of the album release, it symbolized the transition that was about to occur between Chicago and Pittsburgh as I moved back to Pittsburgh

hope to keep doing. I'll be playing with Trinity Irish Dancing Company a lot this upcoming year starting in January, so we have a lot of exciting gigs coming up, both local and International. I'd say that's the next thing on the horizon for me."

For more information about Katie, you can visit her website at [katiegrennan.com](http://katiegrennan.com).

Her album, *Between Worlds*, can be purchased through iTunes.



## An Immigrant's Musings

Michael Leonard



### 50th Anniversary of The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965

Last month was the 50th Anniversary of the Hart/Celler Immigration bill, which for many was a giant watershed in the history of this nation's approach to immigrants.

This legislation changed the ground rules on who is allowed to come and be a part of this great nation. Up until 1965 it is fair to say that this country's immigration laws were heavily weighted towards attracting people from countries in Western Europe. This all changed in '65 with the opening up of the US to the rest of the world. This in practice meant that Hispanics and Asians were the ethnic groups that benefitted most from the change in the law. In effect countries like Ireland lost out as the '65 law imposed a maximum quota of twenty thousand people per annum.

Many things have changed in the ensuing fifty years; not least the needs of the US labor force and the changing fortunes of the largest economic driver in world commerce. For all of the downsides of the Immigration and Nationality Act, it did attempt to provide a more open and equitable system for those seeking to enter the US. In passing the '65 law the country's legislators, perhaps were influenced by the civil rights movement and its desire to create a level playing field for all those who would call America home.

We are "blue in the face" from point-

ing out all that is wrong with our immigration laws today. It is painfully obvious that the need for reform has never been greater. Pope Francis in his address to the US Congress in September; reminded our elected officials that: "In recent centuries, millions of people came to this land to pursue their dream of building a future in freedom. We, the people of this continent, are not fearful of foreigners, because most of us were once foreigners. I say this to you as the son of immigrants, knowing that so many of you are also descended from immigrants."

And finally, the Pope offered very wise advice to the members of Congress on how to deal with the issues surrounding immigration reform when he urged them to treat the undocumented: "with the same passion and compassion with which we want to be treated."

#### A Way to Happiness

An old man lived in the village. He was one of the most unfortunate people in the world. The whole village was tired of him, he was always gloomy, constantly complained and always was in a bad mood. The longer he lived, the more bile was becoming and the more poisonous were his words. People avoided him, because his misfortune became contagious. It was even unnaturally and insulting to be happy next to him. He created the feeling of unhappiness in others.

But one day, when he got eighty years old, an incredible thing happened. Instantly everyone heard the rumor: "An Old Man is happy today, he doesn't complain about anything, smiles, and even his face is freshened up". The whole village gathered together. An old man was asked:

What happened to you? Nothing special - he answered. - Eighty years I've been chasing happiness, and it was useless. And then I decided to live without happiness and just enjoy life. That's why I'm happy now.

Should you have any comments, questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact me at:

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## High Kings, Great Fun

by Nora Lally

Photos by Stacy McReynolds

Years from now, when my daughter and her friends are having the "what was your first concert conversation," my guess is that most of the girls will answer:

our way through the suburban streets on errands and other adventures. It didn't take long for her to discern a few favorite songs, which she requested over and over (and over and over). "Galway to Grace-land" she loved, although I suspect that she mostly liked that the heroine in the song dressed in pink. "Red is the Rose," appealed to her, too, and in between

front of a clapping-along audience.

I knew the song because I was raised in a house where Clancy Brothers and Tommy Makem records spun on the record-player in the living room. Hearing that song, sung by those four lads, transported me to that living room, with my eight siblings bounding about, and my dear parents imploring us to



The High Kings at iBAM Chicago 2015- from left Darren Holde, Finbar Clancy, Brian Dunphy and Martin Furey

"Taylor Swift." My Katie, though, will tell her friends that "The High Kings" were the first band she saw in concert.

And her friends will say "Who?"

Worst-case-scenario, she will tell them The High Kings were an Irish band her mom dragged her to see.

Hopefully, though, she will tell the truth, that when she was nine years old, her mom and her grandma took her to see The High Kings at Chicago's Irish American Heritage Center and, she loved every minute of it. Except the bagpipes, she thought they were way too loud.

Katie was introduced to the music The High Kings a few years ago when my Irish-nice cousin, Kathy, came from Ireland for a visit and brought us one of their cds. In the days and weeks after that, Katie and I played that cd in the car as we wound

mouthfuls of fish crackers, she sang along with gusto.

I first met The High Kings a few years before that, on a Saturday night when the wee Katie was sleeping and my husband, John, was on one of his long shifts at the

for-heaven's-sake-sit-still-so-we-didn't-scratch-the-record.

While watching the concert, I began texting my sister, Kate, a play-by-play of what I was seeing. "They are playing 'Marie's. Wedding.'...now 'Will Ye

Go Lassie Go.'...now 'The Parting Glass' -- with bagpipers. Who are these men, and why are they trying to kill me?"

Being PBS and all, every so often there was a break in the music to solicit donations, the gift for doing so being the music of the featured band, The High Kings. Mystery

solved, at least part of it. I now knew who they were. I didn't know why they were trying to kill me with the sadness I



fire department. While flipping through the too-many channels on the t.v., my remote froze on the PBS station when I heard the lilt of a familiar Irish tune sung by four young men planted on a stage in

Continued on next page

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## High Kings

sometimes feel living hundreds of miles to the west of my mostly-Cleveland-based family.

As the concert went on, I sat crying on my couch, the music like a soundtrack for the memories dancing through my head. I remembered my own first concert (and second, and third and fourth concerts) at the Lakewood Ohio Civic Auditorium, where every March the 11 of us would get dressed up and take our seats to see The Clancy Brothers and Tommy Makem, and in later days, the Makem and Clancy duo. At those concerts, I enjoyed the songs, didn't understand most of the jokes, and got to sit next to my mom, who kept time with the music by tapping her hand on my little arm resting on the arm rest between us.

Truth be told, Liam Clancy was my first celebrity crush. Another confession -- I've had a bit of a crush on his nephew, Finbarr Clancy, since that time my friend and I saw him play at a bar in Philadelphia. It's possible that we also snuck into the dressing room to meet him (and by "meet him" I mean "giggle goofily and say brilliant things like 'You're one of THE Clancys,' as if that information was a revelation to him), but I won't say for certain.

At last Sunday's concert, I managed to refrain from sneaking into the dressing room, even though I did see that same Finbarr dash into a room off the main hallway after finishing rehearsal. Had I talked to him, I might have told him I'd already been done in with tears as I stood outside the auditorium doorway on the second floor listening to them practice their big finish.

The concert, itself, was fantastic. A surprising bonus for me was that I enjoyed at least as much watching those around me watch it. There was the guy in front of us who looked more punk-rock than Irish folk, but who sang along with the best of them. A couple seats over from him sat the lad in the flat cap who knew every word to every song and who, with the way he tapped out the rhythms, looked like a musician in his own right, absorbing the performance through his pores. On my left, also singing, sat my Mayo-born mother-in-law who still talks about the time she saw Sean Dunphy in Dublin.

And on my lap, sat my Katie. During "Red is the Rose" I heard her singing along the words she learned in the back-seat of my car years ago. No offense to The High Kings, but to me that was the sweetest sound of the evening.



### Daly Investor

By John P. Daly



## Retirement Mistakes

Much has been written about the classic financial mistakes that plague start-ups, family businesses, corporations and charities. Aside from these blunders, there are also some classic financial missteps that plague retirees. Calling them "mistakes" may be a bit harsh, as not all of them represent errors in judgment. Yet whether they result from ignorance or fate, we need to be aware of them as we plan for and enter retirement.

Leaving work too early. The full retirement age for many baby boomers is 66. As Social Security benefits rise about 8% for every year you delay receiving them, waiting a few years to apply for benefits can position you for greater retirement income. Some of us are forced to make this "mistake". Roughly 40% of us retire earlier than we want to; about half of us apply for Social Security before full retirement age. Still, any way that you can postpone applying for benefits will leave you with more SSI.

Underestimating medical expenses. Fidelity Investments says that the typical couple retiring at 65 today will need \$240,000 to pay for their future health care costs (assuming one spouse lives to 82 and the other to 85). The Employee Benefit Research Institute says \$231,000 might suffice for 75% of retirements, \$287,000 for 90% of retirements. Prudent retirees explore ways to cover these costs -- they do exist.

Taking the potential for longevity too lightly. Are you 65? If you are a man, you have a 40% chance of living to age 85; if you are a woman, a 53% chance. Those numbers are from the Social Security Administration. Planning for a 20- or 30-year retirement isn't absurd; it may be wise. The Society of Actuaries recently published a report in which about half of the 1,600 respondents (aged 45-60) underestimated their projected life expectancy. We still have a lingering cultural assumption that our retirements might duplicate the relatively brief ones of our parents.

Withdrawing too much each year. You may have heard of the "4% rule", a popular guideline stating that you should withdraw only about 4% of your retirement savings annually. The "4% rule" isn't a rule, but many cautious retirees do try to abide by it. So why do some retirees

withdraw 7% or 8% a year? In the first phase of retirement, people tend to live it up; more free time

naturally promotes new ventures and adventures, and an inclination to live a bit more lavishly.

Ignoring tax efficiency & fees. It can be a good idea to have both taxable and tax-advantaged accounts in retirement. Assuming that your retirement will be long, you may want to assign that or that investment to it "preferred domain" -- that is, the taxable or tax-advantaged account that may be most appropriate for that investment in pursuit of the entire portfolio's optimal after-tax return. Many younger investors chase the return. Some retirees, however, find a shortfall when they try to live on portfolio income. In response, they move money into stocks offering significant dividends or high-yield bonds -- which may be bad moves in the long run. Taking retirement income off both the principal and interest of a portfolio may give you a way to reduce ordinary income and income taxes.

Avoiding market risk. The return on many fixed-rate investments might seem pitiful in comparison to other options these days. Equity investment does invite risk, but the reward may be worth it.

Putting college costs before retirement costs. There is no "financial aid" program for retirement. There are no "retirement loans". Your children have their whole financial lives ahead of them. Try to refrain from touching your home equity or your IRA to pay for their education expenses.

Retiring with no plan or investment strategy. Many people do this -- too many. An unplanned retirement may bring terrible financial surprises; retiring without an investment strategy leaves some people prone to market timing and day trading. These are some of the classic retirement planning mistakes. Why not plan to avoid them? Take a little time to review and refine your retirement strategy in the company of the financial professional you know and trust.

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

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## pH Factor

By Pat Hickey



## Winds Bring Columbian Exposition and Obama Presidential Library

Chicago is called the Windy City, not because of the mistral gusts cutting down from Canada and picking up force over the plains and moraines of the great Midwest to sickle down citizens in its Loop, or along the Gold Coast, but because of its gas-bag boosters and elected City Hall chair holders. Chicago became a warehouse for grains, hogs, beeves and Bessemer products, as well as the trading pit of America, because of finger jabbing loudmouths and hucksters.

These gold-plated Rubes actually had a product to sell and jobs for the train-loads of immigrants and Southern blacks who would crab-claw their neighbors out of the barrel of poverty into the middle class over the subsequent decades of what Henry Luce would describe as the American Century.

The American Century was prosperous. With prosperity, the American middle class enjoyed the time and leisure to take up the requisite navel-gazing to question the values and historical importance of that American Century. It was determined that American meant grasping, xenophobic, self-congratulatory racism and classism.

The new century is global and no one was more global than Barack Obama.

**His library will be built on a foundation of windy platitudes and usury – not capital.**

As the Columbian Exposition celebrated the audacity of prosperity, while excluding Wild Bill Cody's celebration of conquest of the North American continent in what amounted to not so political correctness as 19th Century snobbery, Charles Schwab, John Whitfield Bunn, Charles Wacker included homey depictions of the lands left behind by the very immigrants they were currently exploiting to make America's steel and railroad (the Irish Village, the Russian shtetl and even the African kraal) and to show off the Krupp weaponry that would slaughter their children on the Western Front in a very few years.

The Columbian Exposition pointed

to the future from the foundation of products being made at the time. The people making those products exploited people, opportunities, natural resources and minutes ticking down on the clocks everywhere. They did not think globally until they actually made something – Armour not only made packaged meats, but produced, glues, oils, fertilizers, combs, buttons and marshmallows from out every ounce of every cloven, or hoofed beast on four legs.

These robber barons were, nevertheless, required to purchase and development of the marshes, dunes and swamps along the south side Lake Front of Chicago, the finger-jabbing boosters bucked up for the costs themselves and stuffed the gaudy silken waistcoats of the City Council's Hinky Dink Kennas and Bathhouse Johns and still had products to put on display. They had something to show for all of the winds blown.

The Windy Boosters of the Turn of the Century had something blowing fortunes. The Columbian Exposition celebrated the things people produced, There was a lot of there, there.

Not so our 21st Century Global hucksters. Like the 44th President himself, the Obama Library is a tower of rhetoric.

The Future is rhetoric and the most futuristic President in American history

### President Obama.

Obama and his boosters 'plan' to raise One Billions Dollars in private funds. In mean time Washington and Jackson parks, built and paid for by 19th Century plutocrats from the packing houses, the grain elevators, the steel mills at the command of Daniel Burnham and given freely to the people of Chicago –in perpetuity, until the City Council 47-0 vote for the Obama Presidential Library that is –have become University of Chicago assets to be traded for aspirational investments for dubious outcomes.

The Obama Library will celebrate Barack Obama and his rhetoric.

In short, The Windy City boosters of New Millennium have no there, there.

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## The Irish Rover

By James McClure



### Me As Atticus: But Which One?

This column, when devolving into personal bloggery, has been a fairly significant chronicle of how a generation of us baby boomers have struggled to survive the perils and pitfalls of recessionary trends that left us without jobs or careers, hope or dreams.

For now, Dear Reader, be of good cheer as not only do I have my print and broadcast journalism careers back in full swing and haven't had a food pantry meal in a full year, I also have developed a fun sideline of acting in live radio dramas and on the stage in my financially secure and substantially free time.

And so now comes the rev-

elation that I will be taking on the role I've always wanted even before it existed... in a stage play version of *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Atticus Finch. Father figure to several generations and a riddle to be unraveled in these days just past the troubling release of *Mockingbird* author Harper Lee's second book, which was actually her first, about a Maycomb Alabama where it's 20 years later and Atticus is a racist knocked a few pedestals off his longtime deity as a defender of all freedoms against hate and evil.

Two facts come to mind as I enter the final preparations to prepare Atticus Finch for the stage in Kenosha come the first three weekends in November. First is that one reviewer has written that no one has ever had the audacity to take on the role Gregory Peck made his own with a 1962 Oscar for the movie made of the 1960 book about 1935 Alabama. Second is that Peck is as much connected with the role as the role is with Peck.

The first rule one learns in high school theater class is never to watch the movie first if your play was made into a motion picture. The idea is that your acting won't devolve into caricature or mimicry.

But the simple fact is that for many people Atticus is Peck and vice versa. I intend to not disappoint them, but also challenge them. Challenge them to see a three-dimensional character. One as much of the movie as of the novel, which the play most closely follows.

You'll hear plenty of familiar lines, yet slightly different. In most cases they are directly out of the book.

And what of the controversy that is Harper Lee's second novel, *Go Set a Watchman*? The novel, actually written as osten-



sibly a first draft of *Mockingbird*, was set 20 years later and an aged Atticus actually engages in some racist activities and statements. Indeed some of our Greatest Generation parents, while teaching us fair play, equal rights and anti-bigotry, weren't above the rare and regretful ethnic joke in foreign fare restaurants or shouting "Look at that little N.... or Colored Boy run! ...as an NFL player raced toward the goal line.

Indeed some of the statements of Book Atticus seem less than PC...at one point referring to grown man Tom Robinson as "that Boy."

Beyond controversies contrived or real, the fact is Atticus strikes a deep chord in us as a childhood we remember,

a father adored, a faith in doing the right thing no matter what the cost.

It is my sincere hope that the best things you see in Atticus will be reflected in my performance, and the warmth, humanity and tenderness of the relationship between Lawyer Finch and daughter Scout reflect what Harper Lee once called a love story between daughter and father.

I invite you to come on up, over or down to Kenosha just halfway between Chicago and

Milwaukee. I'd love to meet you afterward and hope sincerely you will experience a fantastic evening in the company of the excellent actors I've been working with every night in rehearsal.

Like my Dad on many a Midwestern night, "Atticus would be there all night," and there when one "waked up in the morning." I hope and pray the performance does the same. Email: IrishRoverJim@aol.com

The Lakeside Players will present *To Kill a Mockingbird* at the Rhode Center for the Arts in the heart of downtown Kenosha, Wisconsin. 514 56th St, Kenosha, WI 53140 (262) 657-7529 Order online at

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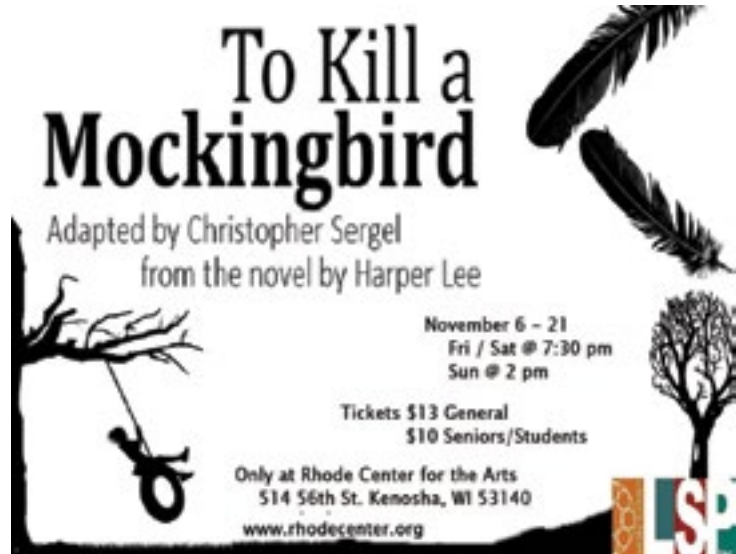
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by searching "membership" at [chicagogaelicpark.org](http://chicagogaelicpark.org). I hope to see you at the park in November, either at the Mass, the play (*Troubled Bachelors*), Thanksgiving Dinner, the Carraig 5K Run/Walk, the Classic Carvery or in the Pub. And best of luck to all those who choose to participate in our Super Fundraiser, which offers a \$45,000 Grand Prize.

Slán go fóil,

**Bill O'Sullivan, President**

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*RR = Reservations Required 708.687.9323		

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<b>Ceili Dancing Tuesday Evenings</b>	Lessons 7pm/Ceili	7:30pm
<b>Pub Trivia Tuesdays</b>		7:30pm
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Fri	Nov 6	Gerry Haughey	8:30pm
Sat	Nov 7	Rico Quinn	9:00pm
Fri	Nov 13	Ray Gavin	8:30pm
Sat	Nov 14	Richie Z	9:00pm
Fri	Nov 20	Kieran Byrne	8:30pm
Sat	Nov 21	Bernie Glim	9:00pm
Wed	Nov 25	Jimmy O' and Rhonda Lee	9:00pm
Thur	Nov 26	Joe McShane	
Fri	Nov 27	DJ John Gill	9:00pm
Sat	Nov 28	Billy O'Donohue and Larry Nugent	9:00pm

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# Chicago Gaelic Park

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



*Troubled Bachelors* opens on Friday, November 6th at 8:00 pm and will run for three consecutive weekends. The dates are Friday, November 6th at 8:00 pm; Saturday, November 7th at 8:00 pm; and Sunday November 8th at 3:00 pm. The second weekend is Friday, November 13th and Saturday, November 14th at 8:00 pm; and Sunday, November 15th at 3:00pm. The closing performance dates will be Friday, November 20th and Saturday, November 21st; both performances begin at 8:00pm and the final performance will be Sunday, November 22nd at 3:00pm.

The Pub Grub Special will be offered again for our Friday and Saturday performance dates, located in The Carraig at Gaelic Park. The tickets for the Pub Grub will be \$22, which will include your theatre and dinner ticket. The pub dinner will be one item off the Pub Grub menu along with one pint or a glass of wine. On Sunday's performances, there will be a Classic Carvery, which will immediately follow the performance in the Emerald Room. The Classic Carvery ticket, which will include your theatre and dinner ticket is \$27.00. The Carvery is delicious as well, and will consist of your choice of soup, full salad bar, meat, potato, vegetables, coffee, tea, and dessert. All individual play tickets are \$12 and can be purchased at Gaelic Park's Main Office, located at 6119 W. 147th Street, Oak Forest, IL 60452. Please contact Gaelic Park to reserve your tickets at (708) 687-9323.

*Troubled Bachelors* is a three act comedy play, and one you will not want to miss! The play is set in rural Ireland in the 1940's and revolves around three bachelors who are threatened to lose their Council cottages to larger families in Ireland if they do not wed within three months. The "troubled" bachelors weigh the pros and cons of married life and the cast will have the audiences laughing out loud with their dilemmas.

The Gaelic Park Players are very excited about this cast—Larry Coughlin (*Philadelphia, Here I Come*), Tom Kearney (*A Wake In The West*), Liam Brick (*The Butterfly of Kellybegs*), Maggie Murphy (*Philadelphia, Here I Come*), Sabrina Mangan (*The Muesli Belt*) and Jacqueline Ashcroft (*Try Anything Twice*). Also appearing are two actors who appeared in Spring 2015 's *The Maiden Aunt*, Barney Farrelly and Luke Simone, along with newcomers Ken Evans, Emmett Baron and Kevin McKirdie.

Please join us and stay for the craic because it will be a mighty one!

The Players look forward to seeing you!



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**Galway Christmas Party**  
**Sunday, December 13th**  
**2:00 P.M.**

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Thanksgiving Weekend

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**CGP Fundraiser Committee**

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# Chicago Gaelic Park

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Chicago Gaelic Park's

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**Thursday, December 31, 2015**

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Buffet Dinner 5:00pm

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Adults Champagne Toast 6:00pm

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Thursday, December 31st, 2015  
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Set, Céili  
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## Irish Books and Plays in Review

Frank West



### SACRIFICE

by Phillip Freeman  
*Pegasus—Amazon Partz of Review*

The book has so many great quotes about Irish society that I wanted to write another part of the review.

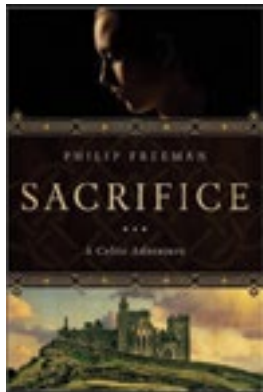
This is a comfortable mystery book. Why comfortable? Because the characters are so real that I felt I knew them.

The main character is Deidre. She

is tall with red hair and about 30 years old. She is intensely bright, observant, decisive, and empathetic to people. She was raised in the Druidic tradition of spirituality and became a druid.

SACRIFICE is set in the Ireland of the early middle ages—about the 500's AD.

Several nuns have been killed and the evidence suggests a druid might have done it. Druids



are peaceful people however, but maybe there is a renegade druid. Because Deidre is both a druid and a nun, she is appointed to find the killer.

A feature of the book I especially like are her observations of the uncontrolled hand and eye movements and other physical habits of people. We see someone's walk, a nervous tick, the way they gaze at us, etc. These tell of inner feelings and hidden emotions,

they help us know if someone is telling the truth or hiding it.

This delightful book was written by Phillip Freeman, who earned a Ph. D. at Harvard and now teaches at a college in Iowa.

Freeman says, "SACRIFICE—like ST. BRIGID'S BONES before it—is based as much as possible on what we know from the literature and archaeology of ancient Ireland, but it is a work

of fiction."

A beautiful theme in SACRIFICE is that of the openness and tolerance of society in ancient Ireland. These quotes show that.

-A druid says, "Our people had never persecuted followers of Christ...At the worst they would encounter polite indifference...or more likely an invitation to dinner from a friendly druid to discuss the larger questions of spirituality."

-An open-minded priest of the beliefs of druids and that of Christians are compatible: "There are many druid teachings such as the dignity of the individual, compassion for the poor, and an emphasis on others rather than oneself that are very similar to the teachings of the Gospel."

The same priest comments: "...there is too much talk about eternal punishment in Christian circles. Jesus hardly mentions it...He was much more concerned about how we live this life."

What a tradition of tolerance we Irish have! We can be very proud of it.

### Battleground: The Battle for the General Post Office — 1916

by Paul O'Brien  
*New Island-Dufour*

"As the Volunteer column came abreast of the GPO (the General Post Office) the command rang



out, 'Company halt, left turn.' Then came the command 'the GPO charge!' The Easter Rising had commenced."

The date was April 24, 1916—the day after Easter. The British were taken by complete

surprise. Many British officers had gone to watch the horse races at the Curragh!

"On Easter Monday only 1000 mustered with a further 800 reporting for duty later that week...They showed remarkable military competence during a week of severe fighting. Though lacking in suitable weapons, the years of training in urban combat, the familiarity of their

areas of operations and the high standards of the junior officers all contributed to a force that managed to withstand a week-long attack by one of the most powerful empires in the world."

What motivated these men and women to make this superhuman act of bravery? They had heard stories of the horrors of the Famine (their relatives had lived through it). There were many recent evictions (Evicted people were put out on the roads to face almost certain death). There had been thousands of evictions in the 1890's. The tenements in Dublin were horrific. This quote is from THE EASTER RISING: "Over two thousand families (about six thousand people) lived in single rooms with no heat or light or lavatories. Disease was widespread...the death rate in Dublin was higher than in Calcutta..."

The British government's cruel indifference to the Irish people were to blame. The Irish soldiers of 1916 must have felt deeply about that, and they saw clearly who the enemy was.

"The Easter Rising of 1916 and the War of Independence that followed had a profound influence on the shaping of modern Ireland. The great influence on public opinion that brought about these changes can only be explained in their context of 1916 and its impact on Ireland and its people."

Padraic Pearse had talked about the need of a "blood sacrifice" to prompt the quest for independence. He saw the future clearly when he told his soldiers: "Be assured that you will find victory, even though that victory may be found in death."

### Play Review East of Eden

by JOHN STEINBECK  
Reviewed by Frank West

What does it mean to be human?

Steppenwolf's production is superb. "EAST OF EDEN is an American epic, grand in scope yet deeply personal, that asks if it is possible to escape the mis-

*Continued on next page*



*East of Eden performed at Steppenwolf Theatre now through November 15. 1650 N. Halsted St.*

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takes of previous generations and choose our own course." In a sentence: Do we have free will?

About the play, John Steinbeck said: "And so I will tell them one of the greatest, perhaps the greatest story of all- the story of good and evil, of strength and weakness, of love and hate, of beauty and ugliness. I shall try to demonstrate...how these doubles are inseparable..."

Throughout the play, Steinbeck tells that story with compassion and empathy for humanity.

EAST OF EDEN is a great epic that deserves the amazing acting skills of Francis Guinan, Alan Wilder, Tim Hopper and Kate Arrington as it does the grandeur and imagination of the set, the lighting and the sound. All this was brought together into an almost magical whole by director Terry Kinney and associate director Aaron Snook.

John Steinbeck wrote EAST OF EDEN in 1952. He wrote 27 books, among them: Of Mice and Men, The Red Pony and The Grapes of Wrath. They are part of the literature of Western civilization.

The focus of his works is the disparity of the "haves and have not," the plight of the people disposed by economic upheavals and how the deck is stacked to favor the wealth and powerful. Written long ago, the play is intensely meaningful today. Throughout the story, Steinbeck constantly shows the dignity, courage and kindness of human beings.

Born in 1902 in Central California, where he lived most of his life before his death in 1968. Most of his work is set in central California. He remained courageous and optimistic despite the brutal injustices he observes.

This superb production will be presented by Steppenwolf Theatre now through November 15. The theatre is located at 1650 N. Halsted St.

Performance times are Tuesdays through Sundays at 7:30, and Saturday and Sunday at 3:00.

Ticket prices range from

\$20.00 to \$89.00. The box office phone is 312-335-1650 and Steppenwolf.org.

A reader of my article-JAMES CONNOLLY: VISION OF FUTURE IRELAND in the October issue called and corrected where

I had said Connolly was born. He was born in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Brian Friel wrote plays that are parts of the culture of Western Civilization. He passed away in October.

In a statement about his passing, the Irish Theatre of Chicago said: "Farewell to a master story teller." Also in that statement is this quote from TRANSLATIONS: "It is not the literal part, the 'facts' of history that

shapes us, but images of the past embodied in language."

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

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## Tradition In Review

Bill Margeson



It could be argued that one of the biggest news items for Irish music is the fact that LiveIreland.com in Dublin has changed its entire website, updating it to a far more modern and expansive approach to all things Ireland. It could also be argued that I'm telling you all about this because radio partner, Imelda Bhroga and I have a weekly show on the Irish powerhouse. That would be true. (We have no financial interest in it. Damn!) But, it is also true that when it comes to Irish music, LiveIreland is, unquestionably, the 900-pound gorilla in the room.

Musically, it has been the biggest thing in the music for about the last 12 years. It still stuns me that there are Irish musicians who do not know of LiveIreland. Being a "professional" means you do what you do for money. As a professional, you should know of the biggest and most important marketing device in your profession. The listenership for the site worldwide, independently audited, runs 30-40 times any other site. Worldwide, LiveIreland (LI) is it. Several groups such as Danu use it to intro their new albums globally. Started by Dubliner, David Lattimer and some friends 12 years ago, it has grown exponentially since.

As it went from strength to strength musically over the years, it languished in terms of its website and identity. The homepage did not keep up with changes in the market, and began to resemble a blog more than a website for a powerhouse musical entity. This was due mainly to the fact that Lattimer has several irons in the fire in Dublin. This has left little time to tend to the site as far as all the upgrading needed. And, besides, with numbers like LI has achieved with emphasizing just the music, there was no compelling need to do so, marketing-wise.

That all changed when Lattimer made the decision to really get after a new vision for the site, and it is on full view right now. Certainly, music remains at the center of it all—that is the foundation, to be sure. But there are now daily, new articles covering everything from cultural Dublin explorations, historical walks, bicycling news, and a huge host of other topics, such as the re-emerging Irish housing market. Best tourism values, exchange rates, great deal alerts abound. The whole waterfront. Coming are top of the hour, brief newscasts along with high-def webcams around Dublin and other Irish locations. The site also remains the epicenter of the rapidly growing Irish bitcoin market.

The music is, of course, 24-7-365. One of the most knowledgeable people in the Irish music world, Alan O'Leary owns Copperplate Distribution in London

and hosts the best Irish music program in the world for the trad lover, The Copperplate Show each Sunday at 2:00 p.m., Chicago time. Imelda and I host each Sunday at noon, the cleverly entitled show, Bill & Imelda Show. Catchy, eh?

There is self-promotion on view here, obviously. But, if you really love and care about the music, you must know about LiveIreland.com. Now, it is as pleasing to the eye as to the ear. Imelda and I are on 90 minutes each week, but there is a vast display of other music during the week, constantly. All the stats now show huge, immediate increases in folks visiting the site daily for reasons other than solely to hear the music. The music covers the full variety of styles, though The Copperplate Show and Imelda's and my shows remain firmly trad to the ground!

LiveIreland.com is, indeed, a big deal. How did it succeed where so many others failed? The music, obviously, and Lattimer's insights into the listenership and market trends. The server demands have been costly and huge, but there you are. Many, many more developments soon

on the way, including some major sponsors coming on board now. This is a site to watch, and listen to. If you love anything about Ireland check it out. If you love Irish music, load it on your 'puter's favorite list. Seldom do you get to see AND hear the future simultaneously in any art form. LiveIreland.com is the major domo. Go see why.

Speaking of great Irish music

programs, are you listening to Maryann Keifer's, Ireland Tonight? 9:00 p.m. each Monday on WDCB, 90.9 fm and streaming on wdcb.org A great program with LOTS of news each week, from this maven of the trad scene! Fun! (Imelda and I follow at 10:00 with House Party. All about bluegrass, Cajun and Americana.) Now, you are hip to the happenings, the craic, the suss! Get busy!

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Lunch at the golf course included
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Lunch at the golf course included
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  [www.CelticComplexion.com](http://www.CelticComplexion.com)  

## Lexia Kennedy Wins World Award

Lexia Kennedy, 11, a student of Murphy Roche School of Irish Music edged out competition from Ireland, England and the US to place 3rd in fiddle airs at the world title for Irish music competition, held in Sligo, Ireland.

Medaling in the Fleadh Cheoil na hEireann, also known as the All Ireland, is the most sought after honor in Irish music. Qualification took place in Cincinnati, Ohio, in May, when Lexia placed first in both fiddle dance music and fiddle airs, against a very strong field of violin players. To qualify as a competitor for the All Ireland, players must place first or second in their instrument within their age category at one of seven qualifying events (four in Ireland, one in Britain, two in the US). This is Lexia's third trip to the world title, having competed in singing, ensembles, as well as fiddle, previously.



Lexia has studied fiddle with Murphy Roche since she was 4 years old. From early on, it was evident that she was a remarkable player with a deep love for the music. Her instructor, Kell Chole, is Director of Murphy Roche School of Irish Music. "Lexia is a very special musician, her music is full of soul and when she played her airs at Fleadh Cheoil na hEireann, that sensitivity and depth was very evident in her playing. Her understanding of the music was mature beyond her years and the adjudicators rewarded that."

Maurice Lennon, recording artist and a former All Ireland fiddle champion himself, says, "For me, one's music is often a reflection of the personality of the

performer. Lexia Kennedy's music has the vitality and sweetness that reflects the tenderness of her years. A huge talent - the world of traditional Irish music is very much enhanced by her love of its tradition which spans many, many hundreds of years. Lexia is a future Irish and World champion in the making."

One of the reasons for Kennedy's suc-

cess, according to Chole, is the fact that she has immersed herself in Irish music. "Lexia has a repertoire that most adults would be jealous of; she's able to play and lead sessions competently and is a consummate performer. At the same time, she's well grounded and always willing to share her knowledge with other students. She is a key player within Murphy Roche School because even at her young age, she is well able to coach her peers in tunes and bowing skills, which makes their learning process even more fun."

Two years ago, Kennedy won Murphy Roche's most prestigious award: Most Promising Young Musician. That was obviously a foretaste of her success to come.

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## From the Executive Director of Chicago Irish Immigrant Support

By Michael Collins

## Update: Obama's Executive Action on Immigration

One year ago, President Obama announced his executive actions that aimed to give almost four million undocumented immigrants safety from immediate deportation. Immigration activists thought that this would be a major stepping stone to the ultimate goal of comprehensive immigration reform. The celebrations surrounding the President's announcement on November 21st 2014 were short lived. A Federal District Court judge in Brownsville Texas enacted a hold on the executive actions by filing a lawsuit signed on by 26 states who seek to overturn the President's order. This hold came only months before the changes were due to take effect. Unfortunately, this action was followed by a federal appeals court ruling in the Fifth Circuit, in New Orleans, which upheld the injunction enacted by the Texas judge. Upon the latest ruling in May, it was clear that this was going to be a long road before families get the immigration relief that they need.

Fast forward a few months and there has still been little movement forward. This delay in the courts could prove costly for President Obama. The longer these actions are delayed in the courts, the less people are able to register. This ultimately makes it easier for a future president to overturn the actions. In other words, if millions of people sought relief through President Obama's executive action, it would be harder for his predecessor to reverse his decision. It is clear that this is no longer the case.

The lengthy delay in the court proceedings is unprecedented. The three judge panel of the appeals court in New Orleans, which is deliberating this case, is taking much longer than the initially predicted "within 60 days". The three judge panel is now rapidly approaching four months of deliberations. This delay is, in essence, a victory for the 26 states that have signed onto the injunction. The closer that this case gets pushed back to the 2016 presidential election, there is increased likelihood that it could be overturned. The best possible outcome for President Obama at this stage is to have the case move from the appeals court to the Supreme

Court before next year's presidential election. The earliest predicted date that this will happen is the summer of

2016 (just a few months before the 2016 election). The administration remains prepared to implement President Obama's actions once the court proceedings are resolved. However, the lengthy court proceedings have certainly damaged the effectiveness of the program. While immigration activists wait for a resolution to the courts injunction, they must turn their attention to combatting the unfortunate anti-immigrant rhetoric coming from the Republican Party. CIIS and our partners at the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights remain ready to assist as many people as possible as soon as the injunction is lifted.

### CIIS Update

I'd like to extend a big thank you to everyone who attended our fundraiser at the Gideon Welles pub on October 16th. This was a very fun night and it is wonderful to see so many people come out in support for CIIS. CIIS will also be hosting a speaking event at the Gage Restaurant on March 4th surrounding the impact that Irish immigrants have had on the US. This event will also focus on the historical impacts regarding Irish immigration to the US and current issues that face immigrants and the diaspora.

CIIS is also working the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights on a Citizenship workshop. This workshop is for anyone that is interested in becoming a US citizen. The workshop will take place on Saturday November 14th from 9am-12noon. No appointment is necessary, although it is recommended. For more information on this workshop or to register please visit [www.ilisready.org/events](http://www.ilisready.org/events).

CIIS is continuing to host legal clinics for anyone who might have immigration questions. These clinics are currently being held once a month by appointment only. Each clinic provides a client with a 30-minute face-to-face consultation with a fully qualified immigration attorney. Our next legal clinic is being held on Thursday December 10th from 5:30pm-8:30pm. We host these clinics on the second Thursday of each month. Please call (773) 282-8445 or email [mcollins@irishchicago.org](mailto:mcollins@irishchicago.org) to schedule your appointment.

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.

**Wednesday, 4th November** at IAHC AND **Wednesday 11th November** at Gaelic Park -Discovering Ireland's Ancient Hound – Chicago Gaelic Park

The Irish Wolfhound is a regular character in the ancient myths and legends of Ireland and today we get a chance to get much better acquainted with these majestic creatures. We are joined but Claire and Douglas from the Great Lakes Irish Wolfhound Association who will be bringing along some of their Wolfhound friends.

**Fall Senior Trip** – Wednesday 18th November 2015- Milwaukee Irish Fest Center

This fall join Chicago Irish Immigrant Support as we venture north to Milwaukee. The world-famous Milwaukee Irish Festival has been delighting crowds of Irish music enthusiasts since 1981. Due to the huge interest surrounding traditional Irish music, 1992 saw the establishment of the Ward Irish Music Archives houses one of the largest public collection of Irish music in America. The entire collection ranges from the early 19th century to modern singers and bands including Bing Crosby and U2. The archives consists of more than 50,000 pieces, including Irish recordings; paper ephemera such as postcards, sheet music and song books; instruments; photos; concert memorabilia; rare 78s, 45s and LPs; and even music recorded on wax cylinders! If you need an education in Traditional Irish music while enjoying the company of others, be sure to join us! There will be coach pickups at Chicago Gaelic Park and the Irish American Heritage Center. For reservations please call Paul Dowling on 773-282-8845.

### International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day

Sunday 22nd November is International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day, when people affected by suicide

## Our Take on Social Services

By Paul Dowling



loss gather around the world at events in their local communities to find comfort and gain understanding as they share stories of healing and hope. Since 1999 events have taken throughout the country to commemorate the loss of loved one to suicide and to offer support to those left behind. To find a local event near you, visit [survivoraday.org](http://survivoraday.org).

Chicago Irish Immigrant Support is pleased to officially announce that we will also be continuing the work we started last year in hosting the first **Darkness into Light Chicago 5k walk/run**. Darkness into Light Chicago was a collaborative effort between Chicago Irish Immigrant Support and dedicated volunteers from the Irish community to raise awareness around suicide and self-harm. The first year was a great success and despite adverse weather conditions we enjoyed a wonderful event. Darkness into Light Chicago 2016 will take place on Saturday, 7th May. Mark your calendars.

### Kevin Bell Repatriation Trust

This month I was delighted to learn a little about a wonderful Irish organization that supports emigrants and their families in time of tragedy and great need. The Trust provides financial assistance to the family of loved ones who have died suddenly or tragically overseas, so they can bring the bodies of the deceased home to Ireland. For more information about the trust and its objectives as taken from the Trust's website at

[kevinbellrepatriationtrust.com](http://kevinbellrepatriationtrust.com).

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## Maureen O'Hara Passes Peacefully in Her Sleep at 95

It is only fitting that one of the brightest stars to light up Hollywood should have a storybook ending, by passing peacefully in her sleep at the age of 95 on October 24, 2015.

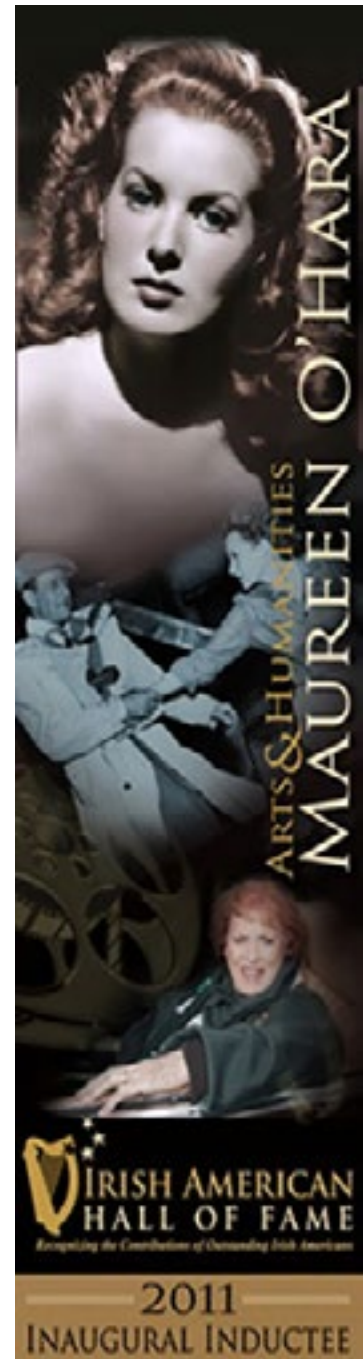
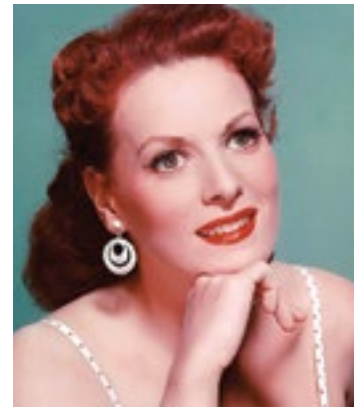
Maureen O'Hara, born Maureen FitzSimons; 17 August 1920, in the Dublin suburb of Ranelagh was a Hollywood icon, an Irish

patriot, and an inspiration to many throughout her life. As much as she could she did things her way. She used her good looks, her Irish wit, charm, and backbone to carve out a career spanning over 60 years.

She lived, loved, and was loved in return. May she rest in peace.

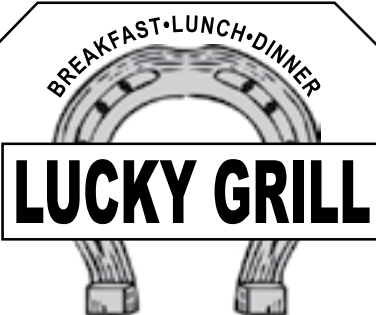


*Pictured here are playwright Frank McMahon who passed away this year, Maureen O'Hara, and one of her dear friends, writer Morgan Llywelyn.*



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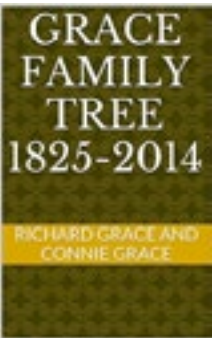
# Grace Family Tree

So you're Irish and your name is Grace. Or maybe you're part Irish, and there are Graces in the family... somewhere. Curious?

Grace Family Tree 1825-2014 is a compilation of "unconventional snapshots" of 150 individuals. Unconventional, yes, they are tabular; snapshots, yes, they are short biographies and easy to read.

This new eBook details one branch of the Grace Family Tree: Micheal [note spelling] and Mary and their eight children, born between 1856 and 1879. Micheal served in the Civil War in Company B, Michigan 4th Cavalry Regiment, 1863-65. This branch documents easily—from Hastings, Michigan, ca. 1856 to Chicago, Illinois, ca. 1900 to 1960.

The youngest child of Micheal and Mary was Francis Edwin Grace, born in 1879. He married a Higgins daughter, and they were blessed with Alice Mary and Richard Francis. Alice Mary married a Ward (in fact, she married him twice) and Richard Francis married Louise Koko (Kokotkiewicz). Their son, Richard Edward, married Consuela Cummings Fotos—



and we are your authors. Senior members of this branch lived for over fifty years on the south side of Chicago, between 66th and Cottage Grove and 80th and Euclid Avenue. The parish church, Our Lady of Peace, remains at 79th and Jeffery, and the favorite family theatre was the Avalon on 79th Street near Stony Island.

There is also a litany of "Grace" family branches that

have come about by marriage: Higgins, Richards, Hegwein, Tompkins, Prendegast,

Koko/Kokotkiewicz, Gajewski, Baran/Baranowski, Grabbe/Grabowski, Tomasek, Collins, Cummings/Cummins, Fotos/Fotopoulos, Gretencord, Zielke and many more.

Go to amazon.com and search books for Grace Family Tree 1825-2014. Click on book cover. A larger cover will appear at left: "Look Inside." Digital List Price \$2.99 Free wireless delivery to your Kindle or iPhone

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# View From Ireland

By Maurice Fitzpatrick



## Brian Friel's Final Act

Seeing pallbearers convey playwright Brian Friel's coffin of wicker to his grave in The Glenties, his mother's village, on Sunday October 4th against the backdrop of bevel hills, heather and Montbretia wildflowers, brought many preoccupations

of the man and his work into one frame: gaiety and tragedy, celebration and loss, home place and exile were in gentle contrast.

Brian Friel's life as a dramatist began after a series of false starts, writing in other media. A newspaper columnist as young man, he seemed comfortable in gossip and self-revelatory idiom

before he became a regular short story writer for The New Yorker in the days when to do so almost provided a living. He also wrote some radio plays. Friel, like his father, was an active member of the Nationalist Party in Derry City in the 1960s and he seemed destined for a life of teaching, writing and making a contribution to local politics. Instead, local politics were unrecognisably recast by the 1960s generation in the North and so, too, was the young Brian Friel to change enormously.

Tyrone Guthrie, the visionary theatre director who believed in establishing theatres away from the metropolis, saw Friel's potential and invited him to the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis for four months as an observer in 1963. This period provoked in Friel "some kind of explosion in the head". Friel had brought his family to America and witnessed the workings of a professional theatre, thought about exile and emigration, Ireland and modernity. Out of all this, he turned out a play, Philadelphia, Here I Come!, the following year, which bore out Tyrone Guthrie's intuition that Friel was a playwright of world stature.

Friel's dramatic ingenuity was apparent from the first. In Philadelphia, Here I Come! Friel splits his protagonist, Gar O'Donnell, down the middle, into two characters: the one, a sulky and lonely man, facing the prospect of leaving his father behind to die when he depart from Donegal for a new life in Philadelphia; the other, an exuberant inner version of the self, a mouth in a world of inarticulacy, a mixture of pathos and exaltation. Here are two selves torn, old Ireland and the new United States, the past and the future. It mould-breaking play in Irish dramatic tradition and a rave on New York's Broadway.

Much as international success lifted Friel, it also helped to ground him. A few years after Philadelphia opened, he moved from Derry City to a house in Donegal where he would write about his ongoing concern with

what has been called the "global": the worldly import of local matters.

Friel found in Ballybeg (literally, small town) a metaphor that formed much of the dramatic context for his work. Occasionally in Friel's work, Ballybeg can be anywhere in rural Donegal. At other times, it clearly mutates from one part of the county to another. In Dancing at Lughnasa, dedicated to the memory of "those five brave Glenties women," Friel clearly writes about his mother's home place. In Translations, as Friel's diary on May 14th, 1979, states: "Went to Urris today, the setting of the hedge-school in the play-in-the-head...no response to this remote, bleak, desolate strip of land attenuated between mountain and sea". Take a trip to Urris, almost the northernmost tip of Ireland, and see the landscape that inspired Friel: not only is it majestic; its sense of enclosure, of being beyond the mountain and nearly swallowed up by the sea remains.

But Urris/Ballybeg, the fact that it was Irish-speaking when Translations was set (1833) and English-speaking in the 20th century was to provide Friel with one of his greatest inspirations about Irish identity and the division within our society. In a television interview to promote Translations, the woman who later became the first Irish president from the North of Ireland asked Friel to explain the implications of language in a divided Northern Ireland as he understood them. Friel replied: "Loyalty, treason, patriotism, republicanism and homeland [are] words which we think we share and which are, in fact, barriers to communication."

Out of Translations came one of Friel's most lasting contributions to Irish theatre, the company he founded with Stephen Rea to create a way for art to address the Northern Irish crisis: Field Day. Friel was quite explicit about the need for artists to help to create "a cultural state, not a political state. And I think out of that cultural state, a possibility

of a political state follows. That is always the sequence". Field Day expanded to become a literary publishing enterprise and spawned many other plays. Its archive in the National Library of Ireland is by turns deeply serious and hilarious, as Friel himself was in person and as his plays are often.

After he left Field Day in 1990, Friel became difficult to access. Interviews dried up completely; it was clear that he had no wish to be interviewed and had no time for the limelight. Yet Friel's modesty and shyness did not preclude many a tussle with theatre directors. He formed the view early in his career that the role of a director in the production of a play was overblown; by the height of his career, he wished he could almost dispense with them. When they tampered with his text he was apt to make them pay for their interference. This was something that the Artistic Director at Florida's Sarasota's Asolo Repertory Theatre discovered last January. A production of Philadelphia, Here I Come! there, which cut three characters and eliminated two intermissions and generally interfered with the play, was summarily pulled by Friel.

In the end was his beginning. Donegal, where Brian Friel holidayed as a boy and lived for most of his life, and also had a holiday home, is his natural resting place. Of his four grandparents who hailed from Donegal, two were illiterate and two could speak Irish only. Like the title of a volume of oral history Friel edited, The Last of the Name, he embodied both the end of an Irish-speaking oral tradition and the reinvigoration of that into a new tradition of world class drama. For that, for the thirty plays he has left us with and for many other achievements, Brian Friel was a remarkable figure.

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## Piping It In

Jack Baker



## Covenant Hospital Saves My Life, Again

It pays to have a great doctor and my guy is Dr Derek Kelly. After serving a residency at National Children's Hospital Dublin he moved back to Chicago and Swedish Covenant Hospital

Where he's been busy making my life better ever since. He keeps an eye on my blood, which is how he found out I was di-

abetic and he monitors my PSA levels which is how he discovered I had prostate cancer.

After peeling me off the ceiling after I had heard the news, he hooked me up with Dr Alan Chernoff, a urologist of no small repute, who led me thru the testing process which verified Dr Kelly's

prognosis. As soon as the festival season was over, two days after IBAM to be precise, (if I acted a wee bit strange there, now you know why) Dr Chernoff used his skill with the Davinci robot to remove my prostate. Naturally I had the work done at Swedish Covenant Hospital, they have the best doctors and the best staff who all do their best to make a troubling time

more pleasant and less stressful. In the past I had never run into a grumpy staff member and this time was no different. I have, unfortunately, a fair amount of experience with other hospitals with my parents. It was never as positive an experience as all that I have had at Swedish

where you're treated with respect, talked to like a person and taken in like a family member. I want to thank the staff for helping me through this pretty scary time, you made it real and I am eternally grateful. I didn't get everybody's names and for that I apologize but for those whose

names I remembered to note I want to give a shout out for your kindness and skill. So here's to Linda Rosado, RN; John Knecht, RN; Kisha Halbert, CNA; Noel

Chave, CNA; Janise Lloyd, Food Service and Haidee Haidari, RN – God love you, every one.

### Back to the festivals and music.

Was pleased to see Louisville Irish Fest change their music policy this year. In the past they've closed the show on Saturday night with a "Celtic Rock" band. This year the festival chose to close with a high energy trad band, the . Well, it was a great decision. People stayed later, especially families, more beer, food and ice cream was sold and people danced! They people also praised the music which was a nice change from previous years.

At Louisville this year we discovered a gem of a local band, Lachlan ([www.lachlanmusic.com](http://www.lachlanmusic.com)).

Two young men, Matt Hill and Josh Bailey, who have been performing together for a

couple of years now with a level of talent you rarely see. Josh is a piper, a rare multi-talented piper who sparkles on uilleann pipes, highland pipes, low whistle and flute, his partner Matt plays whistle and guitar and sings with a lovely voice that adds facets to songs you've never heard the like of. They met while looking for a session to join and that again reinforces

my belief in the benefits of session music. They have one CD called "January Winds" that they put together on the cheap because that was all they had. In spite of it's lowly origin, the CD showcases well the talents these two possess and makes me eager to hear what they come up with next. I knew I

was in for a treat when they opened their set with a version of "Mason's Apron" that had jaw hanging open in appreciation. A good portion of their set and CD consists of original tunes which were damned impressive as well. These boys can write as well as play. I hope some of

the local establishments give Lachlan the chance to play the Chicago area, I know they'd love to play here.

My last CD to talk about is one that I've waited for all summer and it was well worth the wait.

"The Penny Wager" is the latest release from Open the Door For Three ([www.opentheedorforthree.com](http://www.opentheedorforthree.com)) and it is as fine a CD as you could want. Pat Broaders, Liz Knowles and Kieran O'Hare are three of the finest musicians to play and on Bouzouki, fiddle and pipes/whistle, respectively they create beautiful music. Pat Broaders' voice adds to the mix and for my money he's one of the best voices.

This is the kind of CD you can use for Christmas presents for those friends who are not quite well schooled on true Irish music. This will tip them the right way and show them what Irish music is meant to be. The three musicians blend their instruments together so well that it could be an entirely new instrument, lovely and rare and thoroughly enjoyable. Their first CD was a must have and I'm afraid this one is as well. It is so good

to come home to this music. After a season listening to torturous renditions of Galway Girl and the Wild Rover performed on out of tune instruments, to come home and listen to Open the Door For Three is balm to my soul. Thanks Pat, Liz and Kieran for bringing me home.

That's it for now, back to healing, hope everyone can make it out to the Christmas Bazaar at the Irish American Heritage Center on Sunday December 6th, we need you there, this year like never before.

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## Can Soccer Recapture the Irish Heart?

I remember very well the time when the Irish soccer team was the centre of the universe on the national sporting consciousness.

It was when Jacky Charlton's unheralded green army first took on Europe and then the world and it was a wonderful era to journey from being a child into a young man. It was a spell when the Irish soccer team would compete with the best and win on a regular basis.

There were great days littered across that stretch.

At our first appearance in a major soccer competition, Euro 1988, we had Ray Houghton's looping header that saw us beat our historical rivals and tournament favorites England, 1-0, at their native sport. It was

a landmark moment that caused the Irish public to sit up and take notice of the men representing our country with great distinction.

That moment was followed by that wonderful goal from Ronnie Whelan that saw us draw with the might of the USSR before a late Wim Kieft goal in the final group game gave Holland, who went on to win the competition, passage to the semi-finals in our stead.

By the time we qualified for our first World Cup in 1990, the country was enraptured with the 'Boys in Green.' Irish soccer sticker albums were the currency of schoolyards up and down the country and every other song on the radio seemed to be

one soccer anthem or another. The players themselves like Paul McGrath, John Aldridge, Kevin Moran and Mick McCarthy had become more iconic than even the great music and movie stars of the time.

At Italia '90, our small island in the Atlantic Ocean reached the quarter finals and only lost out to the hosts Italy by a single Toto Schillaci goal, but despite this loss, the Irish supporters banded around this team with even greater zeal and fervor.

Four years later, Ireland, ranked fifth in the world, opened their next World Cup campaign at USA '94 with a 1-0 victory over a terrific Italian team that boasted great players such as Franco Baresi, Paulo Maldini and Roberto Baggio. By this juncture, Ireland competed against the top teams more in expectation than in hope. However, two years later the Charlton era ended against the Dutch in a European play-off in Liverpool.

For a team that didn't come



*Shane Long out-manuevers Jérôme Boateng to get his goal*

home with any medals, in hindsight they were all winners. For they were a side that always displayed a terrific attitude that resonated with the Irish supporters.

During the late 80's and early '90's, this squad of players gave the Irish people, both home and abroad, a reason to puff our chests out that little bit fur-

ther. In many ways they gave the country back its pride and self-belief. It was perhaps the foremost reason why we loved that team.

To be able to compete with the best on the international stage redefined for a generation what it meant to be Irish.

*Continued on next page*

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## Thanks for Giving Gala 11-14

The 2015 Thanks for Giving Gala will be held on Saturday, November 14th at Venue Six10. This is the fifth annual event hosted by the Concern Leadership Network, a group of service-minded professionals who support Concern's mission through outreach and fundraising events. Over 230 guests attend the event to enjoy heavy hors d'oeuvres and an open bar from 8:00 p.m. — midnight. The event features a raffle and silent auction supporting Concern's work around the world. This event is cocktail attire. This year, we are honored to present Anna Stork, Co-Founder of LuminAID, with the 2015 Spirit of Concern Award. The ticket price is \$125 and sponsorship opportunities are available.

This event will support Concern's programs that are in need of critical funding. Concern

works in the areas of health, education, livelihoods, and emergency response in 29 countries around the world. Concern aims to respond efficiently and effectively to populations caught up in natural disasters and conflict-based emergencies, providing life-saving resources, including food, shelter, water and health care. Concern works in partnership with local communities to enable them to manage their own development. Your support of this event will provide urgent assistance to those who need it most.

November 14, 2015

8pm — Midnight

Venue SIX10, South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL, United States

For more information, please contact Kim Majewski at [kimberly.majewski@concern.net](mailto:kimberly.majewski@concern.net) or 312-431-8400.



Former President of the Ireland Network, Imelda Gallagher and her husband John McEneaney at the 2014 Thanks for Giving Gala

## Can Soccer Recapture the Irish Heart?

And at the time we thought the journey would last forever.

### New Generation

It is 20 years this November since the Jack Charlton era ended and during that span, Ireland have only reached two international tournaments, the World Cup in 2002 and the Euros in 2012. The former was overshadowed by the Saipan affair, which saw a public falling out between star-player Roy Keane and manager Mick McCarthy. The latter competition saw Ireland lose all three group games albeit against superior opposition.

It has been a lean number of years for Irish soccer and what has been lost in the interim is the public connection between the players and the man on the street. They have been largely replaced in the hearts and minds of the Irish youth by their rugby brethren, who live in Ireland and

challenge the best teams in the world on a consistent basis.

However, last month Irish soccer had its best night in many a year when they beat the world champions Germany in a competitive fixture thanks to a wonderful goal from Shane Long. The Tipperary man sped onto a long pass from substitute goalkeeper Darren Randolph, controlled the ball with one touch before powering it past the most celebrated goalkeeper on the planet in Manuel Neuer.

With 20 minutes still remaining in the contest, Ireland ground out a famous win after a late onslaught from the Germans.

The victory was as unexpected as much as it is cherished and the moment has once again given the Irish soccer public a timely boost.

That result ensured the Republic of Ireland made a play-off for next summer's European Championships in France. This two

legged home and away tie will take place in the space of four days in mid-November.

Although the side doesn't possess a celebrated world-class talent, it has some excellent players in Seamus Coleman, James McCarthy, Robbie Brady and Wes Hoolahan, who ply their trade week in and week out in the Premier League. Like the champions of yesteryear, they are also a side epitomized by a terrific application that makes them greater than the sum of their parts on paper.

This new generation has a wonderful chance to rebuild that former connection with the Irish sporting public. If they qualify in their play-off this month against Bosnia and Herzegovina, who hold Edin Dzeko and Miralem Pjanic of Roma within their ranks, they can compete with the best teams in Europe with a renewed confidence and these players can become eternal heroes for the forthcoming generation.

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## The Fighting Corboys

Edward Dunne Corboy, 50th president of the Irish Fellowship Club of Chicago, (whose maternal grandfather was the first president of the Irish Fellowship Club, Governor Edward F. Dunne), was destined to lead an adventurous life.

World War II broke out when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor, and men from all walks of life answered the call to duty.

While growing up, Edward F. Corboy, was taught by Mercy nuns, then moved on to Loyola Academy, and Loyola University. He was selling advertising full-time while he attended Loyola University. He paid the occasional visit to Sieben's Brewery back in the day and also worked as a life guard on Chicago's beaches.

He enlisted in the Navy ROTC program at the Eighth Regiment Armory at the foot of Randolph Street. He was sent on a one month cruise, August 17, 1940 from New York to the Caribbean, and then to Panama to determine if he was suitable for further training. He was later assigned to the midshipmen's school at Abbott Hall on the Northwestern University campus in Evanston, IL.

The ship he would serve on, the U.S.S. Atlanta, was launched and christened on September 12, 1941. The ship was christened by Margaret Mitchell, the author of *Gone With the Wind*.

The U.S.S. Atlanta was a cruiser as was her sister ship, The U.S.S. Juneau.

Lieutenant Corboy was trained as a fire control officer. December 7, 1941 was fast approaching, and soon after the Juneau

was bound for Pearl Harbor, arriving in April 1942.

They joined Admiral Halsey's fleet and were at the Battle of Midway where we lost the aircraft carrier, Yorktown.

Known as the Mighty A, the U.S.S. Atlanta was in the fight at Tulagi, and the Solomon Islands. The final fight for the Mighty A came on Friday, November 13, 1943 in the Savo Sound off the island of Guadalcanal. The battle began at 1:45 a.m. A large Japanese armada of 29 or more ships carrying 30 to 40,000 troops entered Savo Sound in an attempt to recapture Guadalcanal.

With the smaller number of ships the U.S. Navy

won the battle but paid a heavy price. The U.S.S. Juneau was badly damaged and later would be torpedoed by a Japanese submarine. The Fighting Sullivan's, five brothers from Iowa, went down with the ship. The U.S.S. Atlanta was damaged beyond repair, and had to be scuttled.

Lieutenant Corboy was awarded the Silver Star for his actions during the battle. Out of 45 officers on the Atlanta, 19 were killed and 7 wounded. Out of 700 enlisted men, 139 perished, 76 were wounded and 14 were missing.

When the ship was scuttled Lieutenant Corboy swam ashore and stayed at Henderson Field for about 3 weeks. Two of Ed Corboys' brothers also served. Brother Mike was an Annapolis graduate and served in the Navy. Their brother Stu was a Marine who served during the Korean War.

"Well here's to good honest fighting blood," said Kelly, Burke and Shea. In the years to come, Edward F. Corboy was instrumental in getting O'Hare airport named for Medal of Honor winner, Butch O'Hare.

### BLACK CAUCUS

Chicago's Aldermanic Black Caucus wanted to have Chicago Police Superintendent, Garry McCarthy, fired because African-Americans are senselessly killing each other on Chicago's Southside. Who created the gang culture? Who is really to blame?

## Boyle the Kettle



We'll Have A Sup Of Tea

Tom Boyle



Putting the brakes on this problem begins in the home. If your child is in a gang, the parent has to know. If your child has a gun, turn them both over to the police.

What has the Black Caucus done to establish themselves as role models? Do they speak in schools? Do they hold job fairs? Do they clean up neighborhoods? Do they have abandoned buildings demolished? Just what is it that they do?

Several months ago, I reported that female Chicago Police Sergeant working in Englewood, told me most of their calls were for domestic violence. When I asked is it husbands beating wives? The answer was sons beating mothers! No father in the house, no discipline, and this is what happens.

### REV. MARCO MERCADO

"Tears rolled down the face of our Lady of Guadalupe," when it was revealed Reverend Mercado was essentially defrocked by Archbishop Blase, Cupich. The Reverend Mercado was the Rector of Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine at Maryville in Des Plaines, IL. Reverend Mercado had an inappropriate relationship with a man.

There's no doubt many gay men in the priesthood, that's okay with the Vatican as long as they remain celibate.

Congressman, Luis Guitierrez, was the first to vouch for Reverend Mercado. He had invited Reverend Mercado to be his guest when Pope Francis addressed Congress.

Recently, an all night vigil was held for Reverend Mercado by his Hispanic congregation. Reverend Mercado has been very active in the pursuit of Immigration Reform.

### BARBARA BYRD BENNETT

The former CEO of Chicago Public Schools was caught for arranging kickbacks from a company she used to work for. She gave them a 22 million dollar "no bid" contract. Bennett formerly held similar positions in Cleveland and Detroit, and her dealings in Detroit are now being investigated.

Did she get the job in Chicago because it was politically correct to hire an African-American woman for the job?

She entered a plea of guilty to wire fraud and is expected to be sentenced to seven and a half years in prison. Maybe

she can share the cell with Sandi Jackson. It's a safe bet she'll be out of jail before Blagojevich.

### SGT. GELLER

My friend, Rick Geller, sells art at the Lake County flea market. Rick recently retired from the Racine Wisconsin police department. In the course of his time as a police officer, Rick was involved in a raid on a home in Racine where someone was selling dope. During the raid they found no drugs in the house where Caron Butler lived, but they did find over an ounce of cocaine in the garage. The S.W.A.T. team wanted to arrest him even though he didn't fit the description they had of the dealer. Sgt. Geller's investigation found that he only had eleven dollars in his pocket and was working at Burger King. If he was a dealer he probably would have had a large amount of cash on him. Sgt. Geller told his Lieutenant that they should "let him go" and not charge him. That was a turning point in Caron Butler's life. He is now starting his 14th year playing in the NBA! He has earned a place on the all-star team twice, and gives back to the community whenever he can.

Caron Butler and Sgt. Rick Geller recently spoke before the U.S. Conference of Mayors in San Francisco, and last month they paid a visit to Washington D.C. for the "White House Champions of Change-Building Bridges between Youth and Law Enforcement," where they both met Vice President Joe Biden. Rick told me that when Vice President Biden shook hands with him, he passed him a Vice-Presidential coin. Biden has only given out two others during his administration.

Caron Butler has just published a book titled, "Tough Juice," his life story. If you buy the book, I'll see if I can get Sgt. Geller to sign it for you!

### PATRICK KENNEDY

Former Congressman, Patrick Kennedy, has written a tell all book, "A Common Struggle," about his own struggles with drugs and alcohol. He has apparently revealed some family secrets, including the fact that his father, Senator Ted Kennedy, was in his opinion, an alcoholic. Patrick said the deaths of John F. Kennedy and Robert F. Kennedy was a devastating blow for his father, Ted.

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## Clutter Buster Procrastinate No More

by Rita Emmett

### Those Jobs You Hate to Do

So often, when I'm presenting a Keynote at a conference or leading a training seminar, people ask "How can I start liking to do something I hate to do?"

The answer is: You don't.

Sure, there are tips that help. Play upbeat music while you clutter bust. Chat on the phone while loading the dishwasher. But those just help to ease the boredom or pain, they don't actually motivate you to LIKE the dreaded task.

Here's the secret:

Come up with a reward that means A WHOLE LOT to you, and that you'll do practically anything (even a hated task) to get that reward.

For example, I start each day doing my most disliked job. I have one coffee before starting. BUT that second cup is my reward, and I don't get it till I complete whatever that hated task is. I might never LIKE doing it, but I want that second coffee so much that it motivates me to get almost any job done.

My friend Georgia treats herself to a long distance call to her best friend when she completes cleaning the house. Georgia says she may never WANT to clean her house, but she WANTS so badly to talk to her friend so the thought of that call gets her to accomplish anything.

Bob, a salesman who travels, used to procrastinate about his expense reports because he did not like paperwork. Now his goal is to turn in that report every Friday and if he does NOT complete it, then he does not allow himself to watch TV that night. Doesn't even let himself turn on the news. Bob says that this reward system has taught him self-discipline.

When he began, he didn't think there was ANYTHING that would get him to stop his procrastination. Then he decided to try the reward system. At first, Bob didn't allow himself to have dessert when he failed to hand in his report. BUT when he DID complete the task, he treated himself to a chocolate sundae.

His organizational skills and his cash flow increased. Sadly, so did his weight. Then he started thinking of what he

called "his self-discipline muscle". Just like working out at a gym, you might start off feeling weak, but the more you work at it, the stronger you become. And he knew the more he used a reward, the



more disciplined he would become. So he simply changed his reward to TV.

He feels that now he might no longer need the reward system because handing in his expense report has become a habit, but he is not willing to risk sliding back into his old procrastinating ways.

Bob says, "It's a game. I COULD watch TV or whatever, but I don't let myself unless that report is handed in. And relaxing in front of the TV at the end of a week works for me, it is something I really want to do, and I hate it if I don't allow myself to because I didn't reach my goal."

Right now, pick out something you've been putting off and think of a reward you want badly enough that you'll force yourself to accomplish your goal. If one reward doesn't work, try another till you find one you want so much, you'll accomplish even those jobs you hate.

Rita Emmett is a "Recovering Procrastinator", a Professional Speaker, and best-selling author of *The Procrastinator's Handbook*,

Go to [www.RitaEmmett.com](http://www.RitaEmmett.com) for info on Stress Management, Procrastination and Clutter. You will find books, CDs, DVDs and Online courses..

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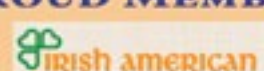
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PROUD MEMBER OF:



# Swimming Upstream

By Charles Brady



## If We Should Weep When Clowns Put on Their Show...

I'm pleased to report that as of this morning I have renewed my love affair with Isabel Dalhousie, the Edinburgh editor of the 'Review of Applied Ethics'. We had a bit of a falling-out at our last meeting, but I'm delighted to tell you that she is back to her old self and I regained my admiration for her once more whilst she guided me through 'The Novel Habits of Happiness'.

Isabel is the heroine of ten books by Alexander McCall Smith and I have devoured them all since first stumbling across them.

They're a million miles from what I would normally read and it's hard to pinpoint just what I find so addictive about them. I suppose that in a way they are a bit like Life: nothing much happens except that everything happens. They are deceptively light and you could easily go through one in a sitting. But make sure to have a pen and paper with you as you will be coming across endless snippets of lore that you will want to check on later.

Isabel is always so calm and measured in her responses that I (who suffer from a more volatile temperament, particularly when it comes to our inordinately large number of corrupt politicians) have come to depend on her to calm me down. When crossed by self-serving political types I'm not very tolerant at all. So I was pleased when she pointed out to me yesterday that Chesterton believed that tolerance went with having no convictions.

Having no convictions. How that rang out this week as we were presented with a budget that was designed to try to make people forget the savagery that has been imposed on them over

the past years by Fine Gael and their Labour lapdogs. And they're likely to be happy because we do have notoriously short memories when it comes to politics, tending to replace one corrupt set of gougers with another in a sort of never-ending 'Groundhog Day'. And since some people have with myopic willfulness, taken the €100 bribe from Irish Water (which they will give back tenfold in the years ahead) they will no doubt be impressed with the €3 here and the €5 there, completely forgetting in their craven, tongue-lolling gratitude all that was stripped from them in the first place.

Another thing that Isabel reminded me of yesterday was a dictum from one of her first philosophy teachers:

There are very few circumstances -- very few -- when paternalism is justified. You should not keep the truth from people.

And she told me this at just the right time since our nanny-state national broadcaster, affectionately known as RTÉ Pravda, was embroiled in an instructive little row.

Finance Minister Micheal Noonan and his ghastly little sidekick Brendan Howlin were due to enthusiastically pat each other's backs on 'Today with Seán O'Rourke' when -- according to a report by The Times (Irish edition) journalist Ellen Coyne, who witnessed the altercation after being shown into the wrong room -- one of Noonan's advisors told the producer that both ministers would be doing the soft-shoe shuffle right out the door unless questions from those nuisances, the Irish Public, were made available to them for approval beforehand.

Sharing a backbone and inde-

pendence of thought with that of your average jellyfish, RTÉ naturally enough gave in and made sure that the ministers were only given stuff that they could handle -- and even then the pocket-sized sleeveen with the King Kong-sized ego, Howlin, apparently almost managed to mess it up.

Despite squeals of denial from the RTÉ Propaganda Damage Limitation Department, The Times' editor Richard Oakley says that they are standing by their story.

I wasn't there, I'm sad to say; but having witnessed over the last twelve months the deliberate disinformation that they have broadcast in relation to the Irish Water protestors I would be inclined to believe Satan himself before I would blithely accept a single word that RTÉ whispered into my shell-like. In any case, they're saying (and I don't doubt it is) that it's standard practice to have questions prepared in advance and handed to the team (!) of advisors for the Department of Finance.

Of course, this makes sense in a country where we have a Merkel-approved leader like Dame Edna Kenny who literally cannot even give a television appearance -- not even with a script in his hand, which he invariably holds upside down. (OK; I made that last bit up. Now watch it actually happen one day!)

Needless to say, Fianna Fáil finance spokesman Michael McGrath was HORRIFIED to discover that there were such carryings-on, since his lot is notoriously clean and morally pure of heart when it comes to doing anything underhanded. In fact he was SO shocked that he thundered that it was 'beyond belief':

"Perhaps naively, I always believed that this annual phone in was a genuine, spontaneous engagement between the people and the Ministers in which anything about the Budget could be asked".

That's odd. RTÉ say that it has been "standard practice for years". Either no one told Fianna Fail back when they were in

power or those are winged monkeys flying out of McGrath's ass.

My Isabel's favourite poet, W. H. Auden once wrote: "If we should weep when clowns put on their show..." I'm pretty sure he wasn't thinking of political chancers at the time, but that's what this lot brought to mind for me this week.

*I always reply to anyone who takes the time to email me, even if it is in disagreement. So I just want to apologise today for losing some recently whilst I (and a lot of others) were getting some seriously dodgy-looking stuff. One in particular which got inadvertently deleted was from a reader (I THINK in Chicago) who had taken Irish citizenship and was hoping to move here in 2016. If he reads this, I'm curious as to*

*why he's coming to a place that so many young people are emigrating from in search of work. I could do with a Good News story!*

*In the meantime, there are a couple of seriously iffy things going on here at the moment that I don't have space to go into. I'll leave you with a link to one:*

*<http://www.wicklowwatch.com/corrupt-inner-santum/bar-racudamajor-council-scandal/>*

*Counsellors, TDs and good old-fashioned cronyism. How our masters must hate this new-fangled digital age where they can't just confine and control stories as in the mainstream days of yore.*

*You can contact me at [chasbrady7@eircom.net](mailto:chasbrady7@eircom.net) or visit my blogs on [www.cbsays.com](http://www.cbsays.com) & [www.charleybrady.com](http://www.charleybrady.com)*

## If I Could Tell You

By WH Auden

Time will say nothing but I told you so,  
Time only knows the price we have to pay;  
If I could tell you I would let you know.

If we should weep when clowns put on their show,  
If we should stumble when musicians play,  
Time will say nothing but I told you so.

There are no fortunes to be told, although,  
Because I love you more than I can say,  
If I could tell you I would let you know.

The winds must come from somewhere when they blow,  
There must be reasons why the leaves decay;  
Time will say nothing but I told you so.

Perhaps the roses really want to grow,  
The vision seriously intends to stay;  
If I could tell you I would let you know.

Suppose all the lions get up and go,  
And all the brooks and soldiers run away;  
Will Time say nothing but I told you so?  
If I could tell you I would let you know.







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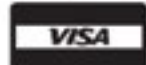
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There are certain things that come with the territory of being an Irish travel specialist...a sometimes irrational thought that you could best serve your clients by actually living in Ireland, that your expertise also makes you a connoisseur of fine Irish whiskeys and the pouring of a proper pint, and having to be objective when asked certain questions by your clients. One of those questions would be, "where's your favorite place in Ireland?" To be fair, I love every square mile, and if offered I would gladly transplant myself to any piece of it. With that said...and maybe it's because I'm writing from here at the moment...I have a soft spot for Kinsale and West Cork. At this stage, because I've been staying in the same cottage here for several years whenever I need a respite from life, I feel as though I'm a local, and I've been made to feel as one. So, here are my insights into this special part of Ireland.

Here in the southwest of the country, you'll find (to some's surprise) palm trees and home to some of the most stunning Blue Flag Beaches in Ireland (Owenahincha, Inchdoney and Garrettstown Beach to name a few), as well as the "gourmet capital of Ireland" (Kinsale) and plenty of craic. West Cork is a region well known for its flora and fauna, seascapes, mountains and valleys. So, let's start the tour...

Kinsale is known as the gateway to West Cork. It's an idyllic spot where sailboats bob in its harbour waters, the colourful shops have unique items on offer, and there are great meals to be had in any of its restaurants --- most notably, those in the "Good Food Circle" (for more info visit: <http://www.kinsalarestaurants.com/>).

But, it's the locals and the

craic that keep me coming back. What I consider to be my "local" here, The Spaniard, is the true quintessential Irish pub. Within its four walls that date back to 1650, the "scene" is set for a daily performance of life in its finest form. You may very well walk in as a member of the audience, but will likely leave as one of its players. The warmth of the fire is only outdone by the warmth of those gathered around it...



there's Michael (or "Tough" to his friends) who could well be the Head of the Welcoming Committee, along with Noel & Carol, Rory, Francis, Denis, Rob, Richard, Alan, Ken, Helen & Joe, Mark, and Don to name but a few of the supporting cast. Behind the bar you'll find Ian and Patrick manning the taps, and in part, are the directors of the performance, when they aren't doing a bit of performing themselves. At one recent "performance", I overheard a gentleman telling the story of a local man who went into the pizzeria in town and ordered a large pizza, when the man behind the

counter asked if he'd like it cut in the 4 or the 8 pieces then... your man answered, "why just the 4, I could never finish the 8". And, that is the kind of nonsense that begins to make sense when you're here. As Rory explained to me..."it may or may not be true, but it really happened". If you make it to one of these award-worthy "performances", do yourself a favour and book a table for a post-show dinner at the restaurant...the food is equally deserving of accolades. And, in fact, was awarded the coveted Georgina Campbell/Jameson Whisky award.

As for attractions to be seen within Kinsale, there is Charles Fort - a star-shaped military fortress that was constructed

offered to do it for him instead, if the groom would agree to stand his post. The sentry was delayed, and the groom told his bride to return to their quarters while he awaited the sentry's return. The groom, standing with the sentry's musket, fell asleep waiting. When the bride's father, the Commander of the Fort, came upon what he supposed was the guard and discovered he'd fallen asleep at his post, shot the man dead as his punishment. When he realized he had actually just killed his new son-in-law, the commander threw himself off the ramparts. A short while later, the bride went looking for her groom, discovered both he and her father dead, and threw herself over as well. To this day,

it is said, you can see her walk the ramparts.

Desmond Castle in the town centre was built by the Earl of Desmond c. 1500. Originally built as a Customs house, the castle also served as a prison in the 18th century (it is known locally as the French Prison) an ordnance store during the Battle of Kinsale (1601) and as a workhouse during the Great Famine. It now houses the International Museum of Wine documenting the unique history of Ireland's wine links with Europe and the wider world.

One of the lesser known attractions, just outside of town,

but well worth the visit, is the Kinsale 9/11 Garden of Remembrance. This memorial was established by a local woman, Kathleen Murphy, who worked as a nurse for over 30 years in New York City. She planted a tree for each of the 343 firemen, including their chaplain, Father Michael Judge, who perished on 9/11. On each tree, you will find each firefighters name, some trees bearing personal mementos, photos, and prayers left behind by family members and friends. It is a place of great reflection and a monument to the strong bond between the Irish and American communities thanks to Kathleen's generosity. Directions from the Tourist Office in town: take the Pier Road/R600 out toward the bridge, cross the bridge staying on the R600 for a total of 2.6 km. After you cross the bridge, it will be your first right and down about 1.5 km).

A few tours I would recommend considering to acquaint yourself with the rich history and the charms of Kinsale would be one of the historic walking tours departing mornings from the Tourist Office in town. Offering a delightful perspective from the water, there is also the harbour cruise offered in season, and weather permitting. There are also the evening ghost tour and a tour of the Kinsale Brewery that might be of interest.

If you're the active sort, you'd be spoilt for choice...golf at the world-renowned Old Head; charter a fishing boat; take the scenic Scilly Walk to Summercove stopping at The Bulman Bar for a great lunch and take the high road back for fantastic views overlooking the town; kayak, windsurf or horse-riding at one of the nearby beaches, to name just a few.

If you love a good festival there are several throughout the year. The Rugby 7's over the May Bank Holiday weekend, the Regatta Fest over the August Bank Holiday weekend, and the Kinsale Jazz Fringe Festival over the October Bank Holiday

*Continued on next page*



## Terry From Derry

by Terry Boyle



failed to connect with each other.

40 years ago, I did not feel this psychological connection to Friel's work. I

was too young, and, dare I say it, immature, to fully grasp the complexity of his insights. It takes a genius to make simple things profoundly perplexing, and yet he could. Failure in language and memory haunt each of his plays in harrowing ways, and still we beg for more. As a young man, I was too impatient with a playwright who demanded too much from me. I wanted to think about the big existential questions about God and death, but I couldn't be bothered with the profundities of

despair, Friel gives us that wonderful moment of liberation when chaos is celebrated in the wild, uninhibited, dance.

Friel's work is that of greatness in small things. He uses small lives, small incidental features in our lives to expose the cracks. Much has been written about his, and his work, and nothing that I've said so far is new to those who love his work, but it's simply yet another pair of hands applauding a man whose work will continue to be loved for a long time. We who feel the submerged hope of those like Private Gar (Philadelphia, Here I come!) will wonder how the artist can read the human heart so precisely, and yet still entertain us.

As a dramatist, he was experimental. He loved to play with the limitations imposed by the dramatic medium and effect new and exciting ways to tell a story. Whether it was dramatizing the interior monologue – or alter ego – or

breaking the flow of a story, Friel wrote plays that celebrated the theatrical experience.

His plays produce the magic of live theatre and keep you rooted to your seat wondering why you ever watch television. While this may seem like an exaggeration, and it is for dramatic effect, there is something to the uniqueness of the theatre that cannot be replicated by any other medium, and it's the work of Friel that makes this obvious.

His passing will be celebrated. He will have many eulogies from friends and statesmen and women, but there will be others, such as I, who never knew him, but loved his craftsmanship. There will be those of us who will mourn the fact that Ireland may not produce another playwright who can make the simple profound, and who exposes the cracks of our lives with such compassion, and humility.

## The Cracks of Our Lives

Many of us will remember the passing of notable persons in our lifetimes, but among those who have left this earth, only a few will have actually touched us directly. When I heard of the recent passing of Brian Friel, I was saddened. My mind wandered back to four decades ago when I first saw *Translations* in Belfast. And, while I was not sufficiently sophisticated enough to ap-



Brian Friel

preciate artistry of his work, there was something then that drew me in and continues to draw me in to his beautiful legacy of dramatic works. There is something to be said for an artist's work if he can still fascinate you after 40 years.

I think it's very rare to find a playwright that captures the fragility of human relationships as skillfully as Friel. The text and the sub-textual messages sing of failed human potential. Each scenario with its troubled waters, stirred by failed attempts to bridge the gaps between families and friends, is presented to the audience with pity and compassion. Perhaps Friel's desire to create works that reflect the cracks of our lives elicits a general sympathy for the flawed human condition. We laugh with them, cry with them, and in the end find ourselves suffering when they

human interaction.

Friel pushes us to go beyond thinking about the meaning of life, and makes us reflect on the ordinary things that make us happy and sad. His directness lies with the intimacy that he effects in presenting us with fully developed characters struggling to hold onto the illusions that life tends to rip from all of us.

Who can forget those wonderful Mundy sisters in *Dancing at Lughnasa* as they try and hold onto each other against the new changes in the world? Unmarried, and longing for romance they rely on the order of their lives to keep loneliness and the madness of desperation at bay, they banter, play, and conform to society's expectations until they can no longer stop the cracks from appearing. Against the weight of such

## Come By the Hills

*Continued*

weekend. If you're a "foodie", then the annual Gourmet Festival in mid-October would be a treat. Just remember, if you're planning on staying in town during any of these fests, advance room reservations would be a must.

As I feared....I've run out of space for this column and that was with a judicious review of what I wanted to share...there is so much more here to see and do...you just have to see it for yourself! So, please look for my next column where I finish exploring West Cork. Exploring it for yourself will be getting easier soon, as Cork Airport just announced its first transatlantic service direct to/from Boston beginning next May with Norwegian Air, and plans to extend service to New York in 2017. Hopefully, more U.S. gateways will be added to offer visitors easy access to this beautiful region.

Go dté tú slán - "May you go safely", Mary Ann

*I invite all queries, suggestions, and comments. Don't forget if your question is chosen to be answered in my next col-*

*umn, you'll receive a \$25 dining voucher to Peggy Kinnane's in Arlington Heights!*

*You can reach me at  
travelwithmaryann@gmail.com*



# It Starts With A Song

By Joe McShane  
and Margo O'Donnell



cupied. They were maybe trying to make me feel better because of the ones that were happy doing there drawings. But we all agreed

that this is a great way to have the children take in some very valuable culture and social skills. I remember when my son Declan was around three years old, we took him to a drum class at the Old Town School Of Folk Music. Declan was pretty hyper and would crawl around and pretty much do it his way. Then the teacher said to me "Joe, don't ever think because a child looks like they are not taking part that its not sinking in. Its quite the opposite. They are like a sponge, soaking it all up". I grew to realize he was very right. Thank you iBam for all you do.

Singing to children is one of my favorite things in life. When I was at home in Ireland, on the last Thursday of every month. I would play along with our band of the time "High Noon" We would play for the local handicapped children and grown up's. They would make you feel like you were the new Elvis Presley. It was a wonderful feeling to see such genuine happiness from these very special people from God. One young lady with the most beautiful blue eyes would always stand by the stage swaying with the music and looking right at me with a smile I still see in my mind. One night after playing at the dance I went home and sat down with pen and paper. A song just flowed out of me in about 10 minutes. It was inspired totally by this lovely young child. We will make it the song for this month. It's called "The World Through Your Eyes"

I want to congratulate my son Declan, who passed the audition for the ILMEA Orchestra placement. He was one of 2 students from Lincoln Middle School to get through. He plays the double bass. He is also now playing piano in my, maybe I should say our band. He'll probably be mad with me for mentioning this but his Mom and I are very happy about it. and as Forest Gump would say "That's all I gotta say about that"

I recently lost a wonderful friend here in Chicago - Patsy Gallagher, from Arranmore, Donegal. I always looked forward to meeting up every few weeks to have an afternoon bottle of Miller Lite with him. Farewell Patsy and thank you for a beautiful friendship and all those great conversations. I'm sure I speak for many, "you will be missed very much" R.I.P. Dear friend.

Hello everyone,

Since last month, my fifty years tribute show has been screened on Irish TV. For all those who didn't get to see the show live, they were able to sit and enjoy it, in the comfort of their own home. Everyone said they loved it and I'm not going to be humble here, I loved it to. It was so nice to see and recapture the love I felt from everybody on my special night. I have spent a lot of time with my good friend Big Tom. We talked together about times past and the wonderful memories we share of the showband business and the wonderful people we met along the way, on our musical journey. Tom and I share the same fans and boy! they are loyal. Tom and I live quite close to each other, so we spend a lot of time together

Bridie Gallagher, the ballad singer from Donegal and the original "Girl From Donegal", passed away 2 years ago. Her son Jim, put together a book of her memoirs, which I had the pleasure of launching in Letterkenny, a few days ago. Before Bridie died, she phoned me and said "I want you to take over my crown as the girl from Donegal". So I was so honoured to launch the book in her memory.

Past times, have again crept into this piece of mine but past times meet the future. Until next month, I send my love from Ireland.....Margo

Thank you Margo,

By the way if anyone would like to get a copy of the book it's called Bridie Gallagher "The Girl From Donegal". Written by her son Jim Livingstone. I certainly will be buying a copy. The very first song I learned was "A Mothers Loves A Blessing" by Bridie Gallagher. I learned it from listening to Ceali House on Radio Eireann, which we listened to every Saturday night.

Well October was a wonderful month. Myself and my son Declan, got to play music for the children at this years iBam.

What a wonderful experience to see the kids singing along and dancing. We brought along some tambourines, shakers and drum sticks and we had a ball. Some of the children carried on with there drawings and other things that were there for them to play with. We all had a great time. I had a conversation with the two lovely ladies, Theresa and Michay, that spent the whole weekend keeping the children oc-

## The World Through Your Eyes

Written by Joe McShane

### Verse 1

Thank you for your company and the time you spent with me  
My ignorance has faded and its now I can see  
I've learned a lot about my life just talking here with you  
Its plain to see that you were blessed with  
innocence and truth

### Chorus-

Some say you don't understand a thing that's goin' on  
But you always look so happy when every day is done  
They say you're always walkin' round looking at the sky  
but I'd love to see the world my friend by looking  
through your eyes

### Verse 2

Its funny how the rest of us can think we're always right  
While your innocence my friend will let you sleep at night  
While you're walking round and smiling no one ever see's  
you frown

The rest of us are busy running one another down

### Verse 3

Well thanks once more for spending this your  
precious time with me  
And I hope that every morning you'll waken up to be  
Just as happy as you are right now and it will always keep  
But I'll leave you now I see your big blue eyes  
are needing sleep

### Chorus

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## For The Republic



Chris Fogarty



WILL IRELAND ever be free? The Irish everywhere are being told by "Ireland's" gov't to celebrate 1916 because "it delivered Ireland's freedom - end of story." How odd. Last year RTE (26-County State TV) broadcasted themes for 2016's centennial. It featured rock music, Bono, Queen Elizabeth, etc., but omitted the actual Rising and its heroes including the executed Pearse, Connolly, McDiarmuida, et al. The children and grandchildren of the Rising's heroes/participants, expressing concern about skewed commemoration plans, were officially informed; "You will attend only if we invite you." To date, "Ireland's" gov't bans key facts from centennial events; requiring Pro-Brit propaganda. "Republican" participation will be mostly limited to the Gerry Adams group that led the GFA's surrender to Britain of the 6-Counties, the largest surrender of national territory in history absent catastrophic military defeat. That gift of territory to Britain was arranged by our Neo-Cons to get "the international community" (mostly Britain) to join their planned war crimes against Islam.

IRELAND'S 4TH OF JULY, its Independence Day, is January 21. On that date in 1919 Ireland's newly sovereign gov't approved its new Constitution in Dublin's Mansion House. That gov't's authority derives from the landslide, islandwide 1918 election. Ireland's Republican Brotherhood wrote that Constitution in Dublin at 29 Parnell Square, Vaughan's Hotel at the time. How revealing; that official "Ireland" designates a Shelburne Hotel room "The Constitution Room," because it was there that King George's "Irish" Constitution was written, while it allows 29 Parnell Square, containing Ireland's true Constitution Room, to become derelict. How Anti-Irish is "Ireland's" gov't? Let's examine its deeds.

"BY THEIR FRUITS..." "Ire-

land's" Consuls General promote the "famine" lie (it was genocide). They opposed freedom for Joe Doherty, obstructed justice for the tortured and framed Birmingham Six and Guildford Four, and collaborated openly with Brit officials against Ireland and Irish-America. The Consuls General opposed enactment of the MacBride Principles in Springfield, then Chicago's City Council, and finally D.C. Irish-America won; the Consuls General lost. State Rep. John McNamara, MacBride campaign leader, referring to "Ireland's" Consul General, called it; "Betrayal from the most unexpected quarter of all."

IRISH-AMERICA observed with shame the deeds of "Ireland's" gov't. While Frs. Faul and Msr. Murray flew from Ireland to D.C. seeking justice for the tortured-into-confessing Birmingham Six, "Ireland's" Ambassador Donlon persuaded Senators to shun the priests, so the Birmingham Six remained imprisoned for the next fifteen years until international outrage forced the Brits to exonerate and free them.

IS "IRELAND'S" GOV'T unique in covering up a multi-million genocide of its own people? It conceals the removal of Ireland's abundant food crops by 67 regiments of Britain's then-empire army totaling 130 regiments. It promotes the smear of "an eternally-needy Irish peasantry who improved the world's gene pool by dying off of Terminal Stupidity, having fallen into a lethal trap of their own making by growing only one failure-prone crop." Worse; official "Ireland" has managed to spread that falsehood into American academia. "Irish" academia used to deny that Irish food was exported while its growers starved. Once their denial became unsustainable they fabricated a new lie to accommodate the food removal; that Ireland's English landlords were "Irish;" and "the food removal being voluntary, no British regi-

ment participated." Thus "the rich Irish starved the poor Irish." I once asked Consul General Sheridan to discuss Ireland's Holocaust on Saturday Irish radio. He responded by having Mike O'Connor's daughter ban me. "Ireland's" gov't purges truth-tellers.

IRELAND'S BEST, its patriots, are in its prisons. My Mary collected signatures from well-wishing Chicagoans on Christmas Cards again last year, mailing them to 99 IRA POWs, of which slightly more than half were in Portlaoise, and the rest in Maghaberry excepting one woman each in Hydebank and Limerick. Portlaoise authorities deny adequate medical treatment to framed POW Michael McKeivitt who has kidney cancer. Maghaberry authorities similarly abuse its Irish POWs, especially John Paul Wootton and Brendan McConville; both framed. So what "freedom" ought Ireland celebrate in 2016?

"IRELAND'S" GOV'T abets British mass murderers in Ireland.

It refuses to prosecute named murderers of 33 in Dublin/Monaghan. Ditto of 29 in Omagh, 15 in McGurk's Pub, 14 on Bloody Sunday, 11 in Ballymurphy, 6 in Loughin Island, etc. All were Irish civilian noncombatants. The perpetrators were British military/police and their surrogates including (in Omagh) Chicago's FBI. All of these atrocities, perpetrated by gov't agents, have been given a pass by "Ireland's" gov't that promotes "a celebration of freedom" in 2016 instead of a commemoration of a brief, long-since suppressed sovereignty.

COMMEMORATION, not celebration, is what's appropriate for 2016. Irish-America has the integrity to solemnly commemorate the sacrifices, statements, and deeds of Ireland's Founding Fathers and to recognize that Ireland is not free today. We will recognize 1916 as an heroic event achieved by immortals, a national freedom that lasted from January 21, 1919 until

King George V imposed his royal Oireachtas on Ireland soon after he declared Ireland's elected gov't "an illegal assembly."

Today, London and Brussels rule "Ireland" on behalf of Neo-Cons and banksters whose \$70billion in bad-loan losses are foisted onto Ireland's taxpayers, few of whom had dealt with banksters.

DON'T MISS [www.justiceforthe-craigavontwo.com](http://www.justiceforthe-craigavontwo.com).

WHO ARE THE TERRORISTS? See [www.terrorismireland.org](http://www.terrorismireland.org).

GFA BENEFICIAL? See [www.michaelmckevitt.com](http://www.michaelmckevitt.com), [www.billymccguire.com](http://www.billymccguire.com)

WHICH BRIT REG'T starved your ancestors? Read "Ireland 1845-1850; the Perfect Holocaust, and Who Kept it 'Perfect'."

MI5/FBI CRIMES. See [www.chicagomole.org](http://www.chicagomole.org).

WRITE TO IRELAND'S PATRIOT/POWs. For details contact [maryosullivanpaa@gmail.com](mailto:maryosullivanpaa@gmail.com) or 312/664-7651. Same Tel. for me, or [fogartyc@att.net](mailto:fogartyc@att.net).

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# Getting to Know the Irish

By Tina Butler



Who was Eamon De Valera? He was the 3rd president of Ireland and one of the most influential and paramount figures in 20th century Ireland. When I was young my dad taught me a rhyme that his mother (Mary Byrne, Kilkenny) taught him. "What's the news, what's the news? DeValera sold his shoes, to buy ammunition for his men." Little did I know I would be sharing this rhyme with others. (side note, there is no office of Vice president of Ireland and in the event of premature vacancy a successor must be elected in 60 days. (De Valera was in power around the time of the 1916 Easter Rising, but I will detail this event later) De



Valera was born in Manhattan, NY, in 1882 to an Irish mother, Catherine Coll (co. Limerick) and Juan De Valera (from Spain). His father Juan unfortunately, died when De Valera was only 2 years of age leaving Catherine in poor circumstances. Catherine had her brother Ned take De Valera to Ireland. He was raised by his grandmother Elizabeth Coll and her son Patrick. Catherine re-married but never had De Valera brought back to the States. Unlike, the American Law, to become a president of the U.S. you need to be a natural born citizen, it's one of America's eligibility requirements for election. I suppose that was intended to protect the country from foreign influences

but in Ireland you don't have to be born in the country as in De Valera's case but of course you need to to an Irish citizen.

De Valera was educated at Bruree National School, Co. Limerick and CBS, Co. Cork. At age of 16 he won a scholarship to attend Blackrock College in Dublin and he also attended Trinity College. He went on to become a professor of mathematics and lectured in various colleges in Dublin.

He joined the Gaelic league in 1908, he had a love for the Irish language. One of his teachers was Sinead Flanagan, they fell in love and married in 1910. (However, there were occasions when De Valera contemplated religious life like his half brother, Fr. Thomas Wheelwright) De Valera and Sinead had 7 children, 5 sons, Vivion, Eamon, Brian, Ruaidhri and Terence, and two daughters named, Emer

and Mairin.

His political career spanned over half a century from (1917-1973) He served multiple terms and head of government and head of state. He also led the introduction of the constitution of Ireland. He founded Fianna Fail. (Republican Party) The aims of this party were to have Ireland a Republic, to restore the Irish language, develop a social system where there is an equal opportunity for all, to have a fair system of land distribution in Ireland, and to make Ireland as self-sufficient as possible. He was Taoiseach (prime minister) 1932-48, 1951-1954, 1957-1959. He was elected president in June, 1959. Assessments of De Valera's

career have varied, he has often been characterized as stern, devious and unbending. The talented biographer Tim Pat Coogan claims De Valera's time in power as being characterized by economic and cultural stagnation while Diarmaid Ferriter argues that the stereotype of De Valera as an austere backward figure was manufactured in the 1960's and is misguided.

In my book it's inestimable how much he helped and changed the country I think he was a respectful, vigilant, and decisive man who was brave and shaped Ireland at a time of great change and repositioning.

Before he was even inaugurated and he was still the Taoiseach, he wrote King Edward VIII of England, that he planned to introduce a new constitution. Bunreacht na hEireann (Constitution of Ireland) It was to be the creation of an office De Valera provisionally intended to call President of Saorstát Eireann (Uachtaran Shaorstát Eireann) A man with a plan even before he got in, this is serious leadership! The constitution contained reforms and symbols intended to assert Irish sovereignty. These included: a new name for the state, Eire (Ireland), a claim that the national territory was the entire island of Ireland, thereby challenging England's partition settlement of 1921, the removal of references to the king of Ireland and the replacement of the monarch's representative, recognition of the special position of Roman Catholicism, declaration that the Irish language is the national language of Ireland, the use of the Irish language to stress Irish cultural and historical identity. I wonder how that letter was received? I do believe the pen is mightier than the sword! De Valera received many visitors including Charles de Gaulle (18th president of France) and John Kennedy, sadly five months later De Valera would attend JFK's funeral in

DC. De Valera was re elected president in 1966 at age of 83. In 1966, the Jewish community in Dublin arranged the planting and dedication of the Eamon De Valera forest in Israel, near Nazareth in recognition of his consistent support for Ireland's Jewish population. In 1969, 73 countries sent goodwill messages to NASA for the historic first lunar landing. De Valera's message sent on behalf of Ireland read, "may god grant the skill and courage which have enabled man to alight upon the moon will enable him, also, to secure peace and happiness upon the Earth and avoid the danger of self-destruction". Wow, what a powerful message and one I keep repeating! De Valera received honorary degrees from universities in Ireland and abroad, rightfully so. After 14 years as president he retired from office in June, 1973 at the age of 90. He was the oldest head of state in the world. De Valera died on August 29th, 1975 at age of 92. He was buried in Glasnevin cemetery after a state funeral. In memory Atha Dara has a song titled, Eamon De Valera.

De Valera's portrait is on the cover of the 1940 issue of TIME magazine.

"If there is to be any hope of prosperity for this country it's by reversing the policy which made us simply the kitchen garden for supplying the British with cheap food!" Eamon De Valera

### Gaelic for the month:

Mhamo-Grandma

Ceannaire-Leader

Seacht-Seven

Seanfhocail for the month:

Ni dheanfaidh smaoinemh an treabhadh duit (Thinking will not do the ploughing for you)

If you have any suggestions/comments please email me at:

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## Careers

By James F. Fitzgerald, CPA



### Game Plan for Your New Job in 2016

Even if you are gainfully employed, but unfulfilled in your current position, you can be conducting a sub rosa job search, so you will be working someplace else in 2016. An experienced consultant once told me a long time ago that BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT is a 24/7 commitment, he was always looking for new business opportunities. You might want to keep that same thought in mind as you encounter potential job possibilities.

There are 10 key ideas to remember in this process:

1. Decide on the starting date of your position. Decide also what are the dimensions of that position i.e. responsibilities, growth opportunities, compensation, etc.

These thoughts will help you set your compass and regulate your flow of energy.

2. Make a commitment to yourself for at the very least a minimal amount of effort each and every week. Without commitment and follow through, this process is simply a game without a purpose.

3. Remember there are only three fundamental ways to find a job: First, through personal contacts, Second, by targeting companies and Third, by reaching out to the whole array of third party connections i.e. social media such as LinkedIn, employment web sites, search firms or other recruiters, perhaps even alumni organizations.

4. Make your list of personal contacts as long and complete as possible. Include everyone you can think of: your doctor, lawyer, accountant, insurance agent, classmates, workmates, current and former neighbors; anyone who cares about you. Don't rely on your own memory only, brainstorm with your closest personal contacts.

5. Design and implement a program for following up with personal contacts. Social media sources are likely to surface contacts long since forgotten because they moved away or went to another company. Remember, the fact that you haven't seen or talked with an old friend in a long time doesn't mean that he or she has stopped being a friend of yours.

How many individuals will you speak with personally each week?

Even more important, how many of these individuals will you meet with each week? If only for a quick cup of coffee—face to face contact has a magical effect.

Stick to the program—but don't become a slave/victim to the program. If you have a week from hell, maybe you made no contacts—don't waste the next week lamenting your failure of the previous week. As the kids say, get after it!

6. Find ways to meet and interact with important people. They know more people and they can influence others more easily. If Mr/Ms BIG suggests that someone

see you it is more likely to happen than if some "small fry" suggests it. Hasn't that been your experience in the past?

7. Decide what information you are going to share with your personal contacts. Here are four prime suggestions:

Describe what you have been doing for a living.

Outline the role/position you are seeking and why you think you can succeed in such a position.

Provide an "idea" of your compensation level. How can a person help market you if they don't know if you are priced as a Volvo or a Ferrari?

Remain open as to geographical preferences. State your interest as positively as possible, even if you are not really enthused about relocation. You don't want to put up any red flags (read "barriers"/"negatives") until the last possible moments. Consider location as an element in the decision, not a deal breaker.

8. You can make discreet inquiries with target companies when you have located a personal contact. You simply focus your attention/remarks on your achievements and enthusiasm.

Let the contact "see" you bringing that energy to their company. Of course, a gentle reminder regarding your enthusiasm for new challenges (READ new position, new company) isn't going to hurt your unstated candidacy. Similarly you

can advance your job search with some selected third party contacts if done discreetly. Ask search consultants for their confidence in the matter of your search.

Recognize that if you flood the employment web sites with your resume, there is a good chance that your current employer will learn of it. You are simply rolling the dice.

Some readers might not be enthused about my focus on the value of personal contacts. Given the incredible effect of social media they may be reading the future more clearly than I. On the other hand, don't many people go to LinkedIn to locate old friends or colleagues (indeed one might say, past personal contacts).

9. Maintain your enthusiasm for your current employer. Go the extra step. Don't give off any negative vibes or the company may move on you before your timetable. You will feel better about yourself and your circumstances if you are setting the tone rather than someone/something else. Energy and enthusiasm clearly enhance your job search in virtually every aspect.

10. Do not allow yourself to verbalize your annoyance with your current employment situation. No one wants to hear it: friends and family members can't change it, they can only sympathize with you. Now two are crying in the beer, not just you.

Looking for a job can be stressful. So take some time to enjoy the process; choose to view everything as an opportunity. CARPE DIEM.

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION: All great leaders have had one characteristic in common: it was the willingness to confront unequivocally the major anxiety of their people in their time. This, and not much else, is the essence of leadership. John Kenneth Galbraith, American economist and diplomat.

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# Hooliganism

Mike Houlihan



*"It's déjà vu all over again."*

The O'Brien family is resurrecting Reilly's Daughter Irish Pub in Oak Lawn at 111th and Pulaski, where they operated for 27 very successful years.

Boz O'Brien tells me, "The day we signed the agreement was the day Yogi Berra died."

Déjà vu indeed.

Long considered the most popular watering hole in Chicagoland for anybody coming of age in the final three decades of the last century, Reilly's Daughter spawned a satellite pub in Midway airport in 2002. The family will continue to run that location as well as engaging the next generation of revelers with food and booze, as well as a celebration of their fabled traditions, charity events, live entertainment, and neighborhood advocacy for families all over the south side and Chicagoland.

Boz was 24 when he got his first liquor license. He has sold a lot of beer since then, rivers of it. Reilly's once did 500 cases of Miller Lite a week. Terry Hayes, of Hayes Beer Distributors, tells me, "They were a great bar for us, always created a lot of excitement. They were our largest account by volume, our largest on-premise retailer in the 80's and 90's."

Tip O'Neill stopped into Reilly's on his travels through Chicago back in the day. Mayor Rich Daley was practically a regular and so was almost the entire '85 Bears Super Bowl team. Notre Dame coach Lou Holtz did his TV show live from Reilly's. Many of Chicago's biggest labor leaders were once bouncers and bartenders at Reilly's. A young Hawaiian fella named Barack Obama took a leak in the men's room.

There are a zillion stories of raucous nights in this saloon that sits on the border of Chicago along Pulaski. Boz boasts, "We've got 400 parking spots and there's a cemetery across the street and they never complained about the noise once."

Boz's son Brendan was born into this maelstrom. Brendan's baptismal party was at Reilly's and he's been hanging around ever since.

One St. Patrick's Day when Brendan

was three, he somehow got lost in the crowd. The place was bumper to bumper and somebody lifts Brendan up over the mosh pit in the beer garden and



shouts out "Pass him to Boz!"

Boz tells me, "He crowd surfed all the way to the bar and he had this big smile on his face as if it was the time of his life. So he's always had a natural affinity for the business."

Does he ever.

Boz says, "We had Christmas with Santa every year and Brendan would always force me to go up in the helicopter with him and Santa, but I was scared stiff of flying. You do stuff for your kid you wouldn't do for yourself. So he was always here."

When Brendan was 16 and finally got his driver's license, he'd be working clean-up and was often pressed into service to drive guys home from the bar. "I loved it until I kept hearing the same story over and over again."

Boz sez, "I always thought he was the only ten year old with 40 year old friends."

"When I first came back last week and it was the first day we had the keys and ... I just kept shaking my head, just can't believe this, I was walking behind the bar like I did so many times and we were talking sports and politics and I felt like I was 30 years old again. And then I turned and glanced in the mirror... and

I knew I wasn't 30 years old anymore, not with that guy staring back at me."

Maybe not, but the Irish Diaspora's culture is preserved through tradition.

Brendan says, "So that's it Houls, carrying the torch, father to son, growing up here my whole life, learning the business and being around him all the time working side by side."

Talk with this father and son and you find yourself sharing their mutual pride of each other. The good vibe is conta-

old traditions like the live turkey on Thanksgiving, the Irish Coffee and Soda Bread contests and hope to have Johnny Lattner's Heisman Trophy on display for the Grand Opening.

Hundreds of folks have stopped by to reminisce while work goes on getting the joint ready for opening. So many, in fact, that they've had to lock the door. Boz laughs, "Everybody has been so gracious and excited to have us back. One guy called us,

'Is this gonna be the original Reilly's?'

Yes it is.

'Who is this?'

Well I'm Boz O'Brien.

'Wow, I thought you were dead!'

He is far from it and Brendan has learned from the master. "There's a reason we were filled for 27 years, what he did and the things I've learned from him, keeping that going takes work. It's the family atmosphere, it's generational. The people he had as regulars, I want their kids, the descendants of the people who hung out here."

Boz philosophizes with the words of Coach Lou Holtz advising a dying young man years ago, "The only time I'm afraid is when I'm unprepared. If you're squared away with God and squared away with your family, you have nothing to be afraid of."

The wisdom of Boz, "He couldn't have said it any better if he were Thomas Aquinas."

These wise men are aiming for the middle of November to open and Reilly's will definitely be rockin' by Thanksgiving.

Thomas Wolfe, you're wrong. You can go home again.

gious. These are professional publicans, good company, both of them.

Brendan is now 32 and has been running Midway's Reilly's Daughter. They've experienced a 47% growth spurt in revenue over the last five years according to Crain's Chicago Business. Brendan is more experienced than Boz was when he started back in '76.

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## From the Motherland

By Sean Farrell



## The Final Throw of the Dice?

Two tragedies, next year's budget and uncertainty over the general election date made for an interesting time politically in October. The tragedies in particular brought into focus the fact that there is more to life than politics and economics.

The first was a disastrous fire at a Traveller halting site in South Dublin which claimed the lives of eleven, including some very young children. Public shock at the deplorable living conditions at the site was compounded several days later when a proposed temporary halting site nearby to house those rendered "homeless" by the tragedy was opposed by local residents, who, as I write, continue to block access.

There can be few not already aware of the living conditions of many Travellers, with the attendant implications for social disadvantage; it remains to be seen whether these deaths will prompt remedial action. The stance of the local residents underlines that NIMBYism is alive and well and flourishing in Ireland; and that will be a tough nut to crack. One protester remarked that he didn't see many hands raised to have them living nearby.

The next day an unarmed Garda was shot dead by a Republican dissident when answering a domestic incident in Omeath, near the Border. The murderer used a Glock pistol and critically wounded his partner before killing himself. It transpired that he was out

on bail charged with IRA membership. The murder caused outrage and raised questions about the granting of bail, the adequacy of protection

for what remains an unarmed police force and the adequacy of policing in Border areas where guns are plentiful and smuggling and organised crime by paramilitaries endemic.

Both issues, writ on a national scale, are likely to be among those to be aired during the forthcoming general election campaign. Lobby groups for the homeless have been pointing up the growing homeless crisis around Dublin in particular, with hundreds, including families with children, housed - at public expense - in temporary accommodation like hotels and guest houses, the situation created by a lack of affordable housing. Add in the inadequacy of accommodation available to Travellers, the meagre quantity of new housing under construction and planned and the anticipated arrival of more refugees and asylum seekers and the whole issue of housing is likely to generate much political heat, and many political promises, this side of the election.

Crime will also feature on the doorsteps. The inexorable rise in, and growing savagery of, burglaries by gangs operating across the country - an unforeseen curse of an expanding motorway network - has generated considerable public disquiet. October's budget has promised more police - an essential - but there remains considerable public dissatisfaction over both the easy availability of bail and the leniency of sentences handed down to those found guilty. There is also a perceived need to tackle as a priority organised crime in border areas.

It remains to be seen, however, what impact either

issue will have in terms of swaying voters in an election likely to be dominated by mundane bread and butter issues like jobs, taxes and disposable income.

The General Election is set for the New Year, probably late February or early March. Yet for several weeks speculation was rife that it might take place this November. Speculation began when a mid-September poll showed Fine Gael at 28%, back at its support level of six months before, and Labour at last back in double figures at 10%. These figures were still well short of those needed to gain re-election, with Labour in particular lagging at half its 2011 support. However with Fine Gael support at 75% of its 2011 figure, and seemingly steady, and with the promise of a giveaway budget to come, noises began to emanate from Fine Gael to the effect that it might be better to go early, soon after the budget, lest some banana skin crop up over the winter, even if this meant cutting Labour adrift.

The curious logic behind this was that Labour were unlikely to improve very much before March - if they did it would be a bonus - that opposition parties would be wrong-footed (waiting until March gave them five months to prepare), and that in the aftermath of a giveaway budget Fine Gael would be able to set the election agenda concentrating heavily on the achievement of turning the economy around and the need for continued stable government. Given there appeared no realistic alternative government, the expectation was, presumably, that even a reduced Fine Gael, combined with a reduced Labour - which had nowhere else to go - plus one or two of the newer smaller parties and/or amenable independents would be enough to win.

Even more curious was the belief, underpinning this, that, with the economic indicators all positive, and rising employment to boot, the electorate would recognise, ap-

preciate and reward the government for the economic recovery. Ministers, Backbenchers and Candidates suddenly appeared in the media parroting the line of recovery and stability. The Taoiseach, heretofore firm that the Government would run its full term, seemed to equivocate. There was consternation in Labour, which wanted to hang on in the hope of regaining some support after a post budget boost and which appeared to be edging towards some form of (mutually beneficial) voting pact with Fine Gael. The bookies priced a November poll at 3 to 1 on.

There was much wishful thinking here. Voters may want stability. They may see signs of recovery. But they are not stupid. The Irish reality is that virtually nobody earning under €60,000 gross has felt economic recovery in the form of more disposable income. This category includes most of the ordinary punters. To go for an election before the benefits from a giveaway budget are actually felt in people's pockets bears out the capacity for politicians to self-delude, particularly if they are comfortably off and cocooned from reality. Then, for whatever reason, a dawning of reality, wiser counselling, or pressure from Labour, the Taoiseach had a rethink and backed off. The election will be in 2016.

The Budget days later was virtually anticlimactic. Most of it had been leaked beforehand. There was something for everyone, including a major cut in the Universal Social Charge levy, and small hikes in state pensions and child benefit. After years of taking, "for this relief much thanks." The benefits to come into effect on New Year's Day, apart that is from the one bit of bad news, a 50 cent hike in cigarette prices, effective immediately. That cigarette price rise may ultimately boost public health; in the short term it will certainly boost the already considerable cross-border smuggling trade.

The country is now in election mode, with a lengthy campaign ahead. For the moment the initiative is with the Government, the strain between the partner parties gone and the opposition somewhat in disarray. This may change. Irish Water remains a festering sore. A crisis unforeseen may blow up. But not so far. A telling sign perhaps was that, for the first time in years, there were no protests outside the Dail on Budget Day. The Government can now definitely set the election agenda. Stability anyone? Re-election anyone?

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Last month Catholic Charities released our Fiscal Year 2015 Annual Report, Connected by Hope. We chose the theme "connected by hope" because it gets to the essence of Catholic Charities. Whether someone is a donor, board member, volunteer, staff member, or receiving services from Catholic Charities, hope is the thread that weaves all of our lives together. People become involved in Catholic Charities because they have hope: hope for a changed life, and hope in the power of Jesus Christ to transform lives. We are connected by hope.

This year's Annual Report theme is especially meaningful following Pope Francis' visit to the United States. He gave Catholics, and indeed our entire nation, a profound feeling of hope. Throughout his visit, he reminded us of our interconnectedness as part of the human family, and empowered us to feel that each of us can and should make a difference in the lives of our fellow brothers and sisters. He made us feel connected by hope.

I see first-hand how we truly embrace that feeling of interconnectedness in the Archdiocese of Chicago. Catholic Charities is blessed with wonderful people who contribute their time, talent and treasure to care for those in need. Thanks to our supporters, last fiscal year Catholic Charities had the privilege of helping more than one million people through 150 programs at 164 service locations. With each life touched, we provide not only immediate relief, but also assess the situation from a holistic perspective, get to the root cause of suffering, and offer a plan for a better life. We fill each person up with tremendous hope for the future, and as any volunteer or staff person can tell you, they fill us up right back.


Pope Francis urged Americans to reach out to people living at the margins of society; to lift them up and let them know they have not been abandoned or forgotten. Part of Catholic Charities sacred mission is to do just that—to go to communities with high crime, high unemployment, deep-seated poverty, and great need. This past year we were able to open five new locations throughout the City of Chicago. Our service expansions are done with intentionality and discernment. When we decide to open a new program location, we do so with care, ensuring that our services are compassionate, professional, and representative of the hope and light of Christ.

One of Pope Francis' most poignant moments was when he was speaking to the

**A Word With Monsignor Boland**  
 The Voice of Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Chicago

**Reverend Michael M. Boland**

Administrator, President and CEO



homeless served by Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington. He reminded them that God does not abandon them, he suffers with them and with every person who is facing painful or unjust situations. God is indeed present in all those who suf-

fer, and in each loving hand that helps them on their journey to a better life. The Pope thanked the volunteers and supporters of Catholic Charities, and reminded the crowd that "Jesus keeps knocking on... the doors of our lives." Jesus appears to us not with "flashing lights and fireworks," but "in the faces of our brothers and sisters, in the faces of our neighbors, in the faces of those at our side...He keeps calling us, opening our

hearts to charity." I am so grateful that Jesus has opened the hearts of so many people in the Archdiocese of Chicago who volunteer or donate to Catholic Charities. We all must work together to fulfill the mission of charity in the Archdiocese of Chicago. I invite you to view our FY2015 Annual Report at [www.catholiccharities.net](http://www.catholiccharities.net). As you read, it is my greatest wish that you feel connected by hope—connected to Catholic Charities' mission, connected to those we serve, and connected to Christ, who is the true source of all hope and healing.

## 1916 Proclamation

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## Colbert Live, Far From Limerick

By Jennifer Shea

"My great-great grandfather sailed from Limerick with but two goals," said Stephen Colbert. "One, get a job digging the Erie Canal, and two, party in L.A. I am proud to fulfill his dream."

Colbert greeted his Oscar Wilde Award this February with characteristic wit. The U.S.-Ireland Alliance prize, presented in Los Angeles, kicked off a year that ends with his CBS premiere as the host of "The Late Show."

The launch drew 6.6 million viewers and claimed the top spot in Chicago markets. It was a bright autumn for the Northwestern alum and Second City veteran, who stepped away from the klieg lights after his mother's death in 2013, and said goodbye to Comedy Central last December.

"I loved it," said Second City executive director Andrew Alexander, who watched the premiere. Alexander met Colbert during the latter's Second City stint from 1985 through 1994. "There's definitely a Stephen Colbert that we knew. He really loved the silly."

Colbert's portrait adorns Second City, next to Chris

Farley and Steve Carell, who joined Colbert later for "Even Stephen" skits on "The Daily Show." Friends from Chicago said Colbert was one of Carell's understudies in the Second City touring company.

Anne Libera is the director of comedy studies at Second City. She told CBS that she rescued Colbert from what was reportedly a passionless gig at Blind Faith and carpentry work on the side.

"Anne was closest to him," Second City publicist Robin Hammond said. "Andrew Alexander, Kelly Leonard and Alison Riley also worked with him."

His "Late Show" launch included former Florida governor Jeb Bush and actor George Clooney. (This August, Colbert told the Beverly Hills crowd at a Television Critics Association conference that he's a frequent guest at Clooney's Italian villa. "Someone please let him know that as well," he said. "Because he will not open the gate.")

Despite his 2011 superPAC and joke candidacy, Colbert said he's moved away from political themes. "I'm not that interested in politics and I get less and less interested in it

every day," he said last November, at a fundraiser for the Montclair film festival with Carell.

That might be more compatible with CBS, which has a broader audience than Comedy Central. It's also a shift from the persona who took to the stage and told a White House Correspondents Dinner crew to speak directly into their NSA-bugged place settings. "Write that novel," he said at that 2006 event. "You know, the one about the intrepid Washington reporter with the courage to stand up to the administration. You know - fiction!"

For every guest who suggests Colbert retains those concerns, "The Late Show" also represents unapologetic commercialism. Comedy Central vice president Steve Albani said that isn't much of a change for Colbert. Comedy Central "has an integrated marketing division which does integrate clients into show content," said Albani, about products pushed separately from commercial breaks. (Audiences may disagree - at least on Comedy Central, Colbert and Jon Stewart could mock the products.)



**Stephen Colbert is an American comedian, writer, producer, actor, media critic, and television host. He currently hosts the late-night television talk show *The Late Show with Stephen Colbert* on CBS.**

Albani said that between "The Daily Show" and "Colbert Report," Colbert won nine Emmys. He was hired as a "TDS" correspondent in 1997, before Stewart replaced Craig Kilborn.

"The 'Colbert Report' character was a spin-off from the correspondent character he developed while at 'The Daily Show,'" Albani said.

While the anchor of that show, Colbert hunted for shamrocks under a neighbor's shed and interviewed New York Archbishop Cardinal Timothy Dolan. Off air, the 50-year-old father of three taught Sunday

school in New Jersey.

"If Jesus doesn't have a sense of humor, I'm in big trouble," he said to Dolan.

The final show of the "Colbert Report" had 4 million total viewers. According to Albani, that was "the most in its history." It aired last December.

"I was surprised that he was able to maintain that character for eight years," said Second City's Alexander.

At the U.S.-Ireland Alliance awards ceremony this February, Colbert used humor and candor.

"The United States has a strict policy of give us your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to be free," he said. "Ireland has just as strict a policy of no take-backs. They're yours now."

Alliance president Trina Vargo was at the ceremony. She said Colbert's great-great grandfather did sail from Ireland in the 1830s. "Colbert told the audience that his mother's family's from Roscommon, and his father's family [is] from Tyrone," she emailed. "When he was 14 years old, he and his mother went to Ireland."

Irish artist Colin Davidson was also honored. In 2014, Davidson had gone to Jerusalem to paint a cross-section of the people who live there.

Colbert seemed to have adjusted to CBS by early October.

"The biggest difference between Second City and 'The Late Show' is the format," said Second City's Hammond. "SNL is much closer to the Second City format. 'The Late Show' is driven by Stephen Colbert as Steven Colbert."

His September premiere almost skipped the audience, however. Colbert told viewers that a barrage of technical glitches nearly blocked them from sending the first show to the network.

"I'm still not sure what the problem was," he said. "But if you're seeing this at home it means we fixed it."



The Irish Musicians Association recently awarded scholarships to music students in the Tara Room of beautiful Gaelic Park. (l to r): Jim Thornton, Conor Sheldon, Lexia Kennedy, Robyn Jedlicka, Tim McGinness (IMA Chairman), Gina Danaher (IMA Secretary)

## Lasting Legacy of Civil Rights Campaigners Unveiled

World renowned civil rights campaigners, John Hume and Ivan Cooper, have been immortalised in one of the iconic Bogside murals, unveiled in the city today.

The mural, which has stood for nearly two decades and tells the story of the Civil Rights campaign, has also been fully restored with funding from the Housing Executive.

Both Ivan Cooper and John Hume, co-founders of the SDLP, were leading figures in that campaign.

It is one of seven murals, painted by the Bogside Artists, in what has become known as the People's Gallery – an internationally recognised tourist attraction drawing thousands of visitors each year into the city.

Speaking at the launch this afternoon, the Housing Executive's Head of Income and Communities, Jennifer Hawthorne, said: "The mural paints a picture of what can be achieved through non-violence and democracy. It is representative of a shared future which contributes to a more peaceful and inclusive society.

"The restoration of the murals by the Housing Executive and, Derry City and Strabane District Council is the first step in creating a more vibrant and safe community that are welcoming to all."

John Hume, a Nobel Peace Prize winner, said: "The Civil Rights Movement in Derry in 1968 had people from all walks of life and all traditions and was totally anti-sectarian and non violent.

"I am delighted to be here today to see the refreshed mural which the Bogside Artists have completed which honours all those who were active in these marches. I wish to convey my sincere appreciation to them and to all those who worked tirelessly to make this happen. I hope the People's Gallery goes from strength to strength."

Ivan Cooper, who was played by the actor James Nesbitt in a film about the Civil Rights movement, said: "It is a great honour for me to be remembered in this way and I believe the anti-sectarian message which this mural sends out is as relevant today as it was in the 1960s and 70s.

"I have very affectionate memories of



*Mural in Bogside launch Ivan and John*

*John Hume and Ivan Cooper at the launch of the refreshed mural.*

*Photo: Mural in Bogside launch with John Hume and Ivan Cooper, Vincent Coyle, Jennifer Hawthorne, Housing Executive, and Bogside Artists, Kevin Hasson, William Kelly and Tom Kelly*

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We will be setting up interviews over the next few weeks and looking for successful candidates to be in their new positions ASAP.

the Bogside, I moved here as a 12-year-old boy. When I was older John Hume and I spent many hours in the local fish and chip shop talking into the small hours and putting the world to rights."

Speaking on behalf of local residents, Vincent Coyle, a Civil Rights campaigner who is also featured on the same mural, said: "The People's Gallery is an internationally recognised art and tourist site, which also serves as a deterrent to vandalism and sectarian graffiti. We have good working relations already in all cross community sectors especially schools and colleges who see the importance of the historical visual narrative.

Head of Culture with Derry City and Strabane District Council, Linda Williams, said: "I am delighted that following the approval of funding by Council's Business and Culture Committee for the refurbishment of the People's Gallery by the Bogside Artists these iconic works will be preserved for generations to come.

"The series of murals document the city's history in a moving and compelling way and have become synonymous with both the Bogside and Derry's urban landscape. They are a major visitor attraction and their restoration is a vital component in the telling of our story of The Troubles and the civil rights movement."



# Mick

## Mike Morley



## Rebel's Reward

I am pleased to have been part of a small group, the "Fenian Memorial Committee of Chicago" that researched and raised funds to place a fitting marker over an Irish patriot and former swordsman of Her Majesty's 5th Dragoons, buried and forgotten in an unmarked grave on Chicago's south side: Fenian Martin Hogan.

Hogan and other Irishmen, many of whom 'took the king's shilling' and joined the British Army, also heeded John Devoy's call to arms to free Ireland of Britain's despised and despotic rule. But like many Irish risings before and since, their cause was betrayed and its soldiers tried for treason.

Many originally sentenced to death were instead transported to Fremantle prison and penal colony in Australia as convict labor, suffering for years until rescued and freed in a dramatic 1876 escape, engineered in America by Fenian John Devoy and Clan naGael.

Hogan's memorial was held Saturday morning October 10 at his grave, section 24, Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Chicago.

Father Dave Dillon of Chicago began with a benediction.

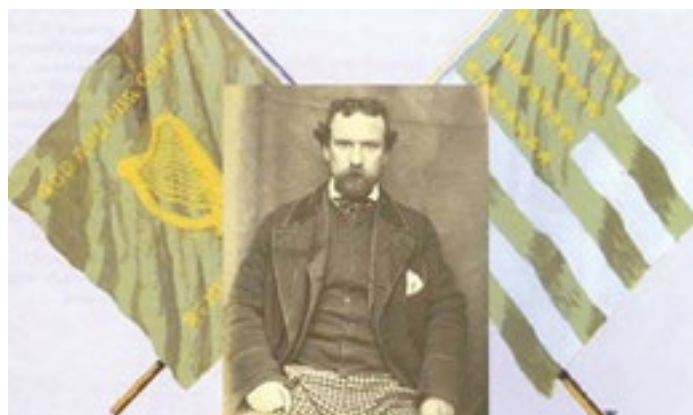
Professor Ruan O'Donnell of Limerick University spoke then, pointing out that Hogan was born just 4 years after Catholic Emancipation in 1829 which made him "part of 80% of the population no longer legally classed as third-class subjects; yet they continued to be disfavored in their own country. There was no national government. There was no parliament in Dublin.

"If we had simply been downtrodden and our horizons limited by a hostile, sectarian power—that would have been bad enough. But by 1845 to 1850 we were struck by the calamity of 'an Gorta Mor', the Great Famine, a genocide that wiped out a minimum of 1.2 million people when Hogan was a boy... There was no democratic road to justice in Ireland. And when you are faced with a matter of life and death, something has got to be done.

"Hogan was part of the fifth column organized by John Devoy (working) to organize about 15,000 members of the British imperial forces who were also sworn Fenians. ...Hogan was an

elite of elite. He was in the 5th Dragoon Guards. ...Every single regiment of the British army was infiltrated by the Fenian Brotherhood. ...somewhere between 40 and 60% of the British imperial forces was Irish anyway. ...There'd never been a more sophisticatedly organized revolutionary movement in the world than the Irish Republican Brotherhood / the Fenian Brotherhood, later known over here as Clan na Gael. They're the same organization. ...they're working towards the one objective: a democratic Irish Republic.

But a series of setbacks led to a



Martin Hogan  
1833-1901  
FENIAN SOLDIER FOR IRELAND

crackdown on the Fenian Brotherhood in September 1865 and Hogan and others had to go on the run. Captured and tried, the British, in order to make examples of the men, sentenced them to "transportation" to Australia, a punishment which had been phased out a dozen years earlier. "Normally, you went out; you weren't coming back. That hurts your friends and family. That damages communities and demoralizes those who would raise the sword against British tyranny in Ireland."

"Hogan is noted as the first to act in a defiant manner against his captors, just like his contemporary Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa... these were people who could not be broken. They would have to be killed before they would bend to British will or authority. ...His own comrades in this country realized that something had to be done. Essentially Clan na Gael came to the rescue." They put up some \$25,000 to finance what was to become perhaps the most dramatic prison break in the history of the world. The plan involved "both coasts of America, a trip across the Indian Ocean"... It's an incredible story."

Looking down on Hogan's marker O'Donnell said: "...this is the resting place of one of them who was not in the lime-

light in the manner which other Fenians were. But this is the man for whom men like John Boyle O'Reilly and John Devoy would risk their life and their liberty to spring. They did this because they believed in brotherhood, they believed in the Republican cause, and they believed that Ireland one day will be an independent Irish Republic."

Another educator, George McLaughlin from Rhode Island spoke: "...Joseph Martin Hogan, the Limerickman, the master swordsman, the British Dragoon, the Fenian, the worn-out prisoner, nearing the death of his soul, stood not alone, but with his comrades who spent years in the purgatory of Western Australia, Fremantle prison. He stood with those comrades on the deck of the Catalpa, which was the guardian angel of their freedom. He stood with his comrades on the shores of a new strange world of freedom, America.

Today, we stand with Martin Hogan and we give him his just due, his honor; his memory restored by a small symbol—a slab of black granite, engraved with the Catalpa's image, which, in 1876, was his salvation. And today, we forgive brave and loyal Martin Hogan his trespasses, whatever they were. This is the least we and all lovers of freedom can do. And we ask Our Lord to fully embrace him.

We dedicate this stone to Martin Hogan on behalf of all the good proud Irish-Americans here in Chicago and the Irish-American community of tiny Rhode Island where, James McNally Wilson lived out his life. ...We offer this stone from all of us but especially on behalf of Martin's old and loyal comrade, James McNally Wilson."

A family heirloom, the Catalpa's ship's flag emblazoned with the initials of its owner, John T. Richardson, father-in-law of Captain James Anthony who steered the ship from New Bedford to Australia for the amazing rescue, was unfurled by James Ryan, Captain Anthony's great-grandson.

Committee member Dierdre Fennesy praised her brother Niall for his research which revealed living relatives of Martin Hogan. Richard Willix, Hogan's great-grandson, along with his sister Darlene, thanked the committee for its work: "It's the rebels. That's the ones we sing about

*Continued on next page*



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## Rebel's Reward

in the bars. It's the John Connollys, the Sean O'Farrells and them. Those are the ones we learned to remember. And you folks have given me – a rebel! ...that was ready to give his life for his country, Ireland. ...So when I go to the bars, the Doc Ryans' and the Brian Borus', I can say 'I'm legit. My great grandfather was a rebel!' And he stood up and put

his life on the line for his country, so we could be standing here like this, with him underneath us. So thank you Martin Hogan, Thank you Niall for giving me an ancestry. And I think my sister feels the same way."

Singer Joe Monahan ended the ceremony with a version of what was said to be Martin Hogan's favorite song: 'My Old Kentucky Home'.

Watch a great 55 minute dra-

matization of the freeing of Hogan and his five companions on YouTube: "The Catalpa Rescue".

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## Liz Carroll and Mark Howard Receive Award From Lawyers for the Creative Arts

In a sold out luncheon—a first in many years for the Lawyers for the Creative Arts—Founder and Artistic Director of Trinity Irish Dance

in Chicago influenced their art forms.

Carroll has received major honors for her work as a fiddler and composer. In 1975, at

with Ireland's Cumadoir TG4 award for traditional Irish music.

"I've been writing Irish music since I was 5 or 6," said Carroll, who grew up on Chicago's South Side. "My dad (the late Kevin Carroll) played the accordion around the house. He's from Ireland, and my mom (Eileen) is from Ireland, so I didn't go off course at all."

In the opening remarks, The Honorable Orla McBreen, Consul General to Ireland, discussed the notoriety of Irish Dance, stating, "The extraordinary thing that Mark [and Liz Carroll] have done is that they have preserved the essence and energy of Irish music and dance bringing it forward at a time when it wasn't always popular or profitable to do so. McBreen concluded her remarks by thanking both Howard and Carroll for not only "preserving and promoting," Irish heritage but also, "giving back and making it a stronger form and tradition than they found it."

"In the case of Mark's work, everybody knows and has heard of Riverdance ... if Mark hadn't been pushing the boundaries [of Irish Dance] some years before-- Riverdance would have never happened."

McBreen concluded her remarks by thanking both Howard and Carroll for not only "preserving and promoting," Irish heritage but also, "giving back and making it a stronger



Radio Personality Rick Kogan and Irish Dance Company owner Mark Howard

Company and Trinity Academy of Irish Dance, Mark Howard was recognized by the association for his contribution to the Chicago arts scene alongside friend and colleague Liz Carroll—award winning Irish fiddler. Lawyers for the Creative Arts in the past has been instrumental in assisting the notfor-profit Dance Company. Rick Kogan, Tribune Reporter and WGN Radio Host moderated the discussion with Howard and Carroll discussing how living

age 18, she won the senior division of the All-Ireland Fiddle Championship (and one of the few Americans to do so). In 1994, she received a National Heritage Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts for her influence on Irish music in America, again as a performer and composer.

Liz was nominated for a Grammy in 2010 (for her duet recording, "Double Play," with guitarist John Doyle). In 2011, she was the first American-born composer to be honored

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Liz Carroll

form and tradition than they found it." The luncheon concluded with Howard's 2014 Gold Medal team performing The Dawn, a piece that has been lauded throughout Irish dancing for its innovative choreography because it chal-

lenges the traditional female trope in Irish dancing (which places them in subordinate roles to their male counterparts) and instead projects a new understanding of what women's identity and roles within Irish dancing can be.

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