



*2015 Rose of Tralee  
Maeve McSweeney*

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## Healy Law

Martin J. Healy, Jr.

Senior Partner



**THE HEALY LAW FIRM**

by Jack Cannon

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

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

### Appellate Court Protects Injured Worker

A recent Illinois appellate court ruling represents a significant change in certain workers' compensation benefits available for injured workers in the State of Illinois.

In the matter of Jackson Park Hospital v The Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission, a Local 399 stationary engineer suffered a serious on-the-job career changing knee injury which prevented her from physically performing the duties required of a stationary engineer.

### Wage Differential Benefits

Under the law, an injured worker in such circumstances typically qualifies for wage differential benefits under Section 8(d)(1) of the Act. Section 8(d)(1) states that an injured worker is entitled to wage differential benefits when (1) she is partially incapacitated from pursuing

her usual and customary line of employment; and (2) there is a difference between the average amount which she would be able to earn in the full performance of her duties in the occupation in which she was engaged at the time of the injury and the average amount which she is earning or is able to earn in some suitable employment or business after the accident. 820 ILSC 305/8(d)(1).

The law says that such an injured worker is entitled to two-thirds (2/3rds) of the difference tax free between the rate the old job is currently paying and the rate the new job is paying for the duration of the disability.

In Jackson Park Hospital v The Illinois Workers Compensation Commission, the employer took the injured stationary engineer back to work as a security guard but paid her at the same hourly rate as a stationary engineer which was \$23 per hour at that time. The security guard position usually paid between \$8 and \$10 per hour. The employer argued there was no wage differential because the injured worker did not suffer a wage loss. She was still earning the same hourly rate, even though she was now a security guard and not a stationary engineer. As a stationary engineer, the worker was required to address maintenance issues throughout the hospital, including HVAC, plumbing, electrical and other duties. The "new" security officer position required her to sit and watch monitors all day, watch the parking lot and sit in the lobby.

In situations like Jackson Park, the injured worker cannot switch employers as they are highly unlikely to find another employer that will hire them as a security guard and pay them the same hourly rate as a stationary engineer.

In our practice, we have frequently seen employers (or their insurance company) take such an approach in an attempt to avoid paying wage differential benefits. The injured worker is placed in an unpleasant position, e.g. the day worker is put on the night shift, the employee who lives on the far south side is transferred to Waukegan, etc. The hope is that the employee quits and settles their case early and for far less than the compensation due for the wage loss differential suffered.

### Appellate Court Recognizes Employment Realities

The Court in Jackson Park Hospital v The Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission recognized this problem and, hopefully, put an end to it. The court found that there are situations where an injured worker could be denied a wage differential award

simply because the employer pays the injured worker an inflated wage in an employer controlled job that does not otherwise exist in the labor market and which may be temporary in duration. If other employers would not have the employee with her limitations at a comparable wage level, the post injury wage cannot be considered an accurate reflection of the claimants earning capacity according to the court.

The Court said that although wages are indicative of earning capacity, they are not necessarily dispositive. The test should focus on the capacity to earn rather than the actual wage paid. As the court pointed out, "post injury earnings and earning capacity are not synonymous" because other evidence can show that "the actual earnings

do not fairly reflect claimants capacity." The analysis required consideration of other factors, including the nature of the post injury employment in comparison to wages the claimant can earn in a competitive job market.

If other employers would not hire the employee with her limitations at a competitive wage level, the post injury wage cannot be considered an accurate reflection of the claimant's earning capacity. Temporarily inflating wages cannot be the basis for defeating a legitimate differential wage loss claim.



Jack Cannon

The Jackson Park Hospital ruling provides a financial safeguard for the worker who loses their ability to work in a profession due to a serious workplace injury.

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**Musings of the 2015 Rose of Tralee**

On Sunday, March 22, 2015, I remember arriving at Chicago Gaelic Park dressed in business casual with my evening gown in tow and butterflies in my stomach. After several hours of interviews the Rose contestants changed into their evening apparel for their stage interviews. On stage, I sang "The Parting Glass" as my party piece. There was a lot of tough competition that night, as every young woman present was a leader in their community and proud of their Irish heritage. I was brought to tears when I was selected as the 2015 Chicago Rose of Tralee. I felt very humbled, excited, and so happy to share this night with my friends and family.

I was especially grateful that my parents, Tim and Julia, my grandmother, Shirley McSweeney, and my 95 year old grandfather Malachy Towey (from Co. Mayo) were in the audience that night cheering for me.

The next leg of the completion was the Regional's, held in May in Portlaoise, Ireland. I competed against over 50 women with Irish backgrounds, from all over the world including Bahrain, Australia, Abu Dhabi, and Luxembourg. I was delighted to be one of the 26 women that were selected to move on to the final level of the competition to be held in August in Tralee, Ireland.

I returned to Ireland in August. During the week preceding the televised stage interviews, the contestants were wined, dined and chauffeured around Dublin, Leitrim, Longford, Limerick, Roscommon and Kerry. The sincere warmth from the people that welcomed us into their towns was actually palpable. They could not have been kinder. I'm thankful for all the support

I received from friends, family, and Chicago Rose Center representatives who travelled to Portlaoise and Tralee to cheer me on.

Besides all the excitement and fanfare, the most precious things I have taken from Tralee are the friendships of all the wonderful Roses and Rose Escorts. I'm very proud to be counted in their numbers. We have already had several reunions. I traveled to the Ohio Rose Selection to sing the Irish National Anthem, "Amhrán na bhFiann." Over 50 of us met up in New York to march in



2015 Rose of Tralee Maeva McSweeney in Tralee, Ireland

The New York St. Patrick's Day Parade. Last February, 18 of us visited Belarus on a goodwill mission to help the children of the Vesnova Children's Mental Asylum who were affected by the Chernobyl Nuclear Disaster 30

years ago. The facility is funded by the Irish-based charity, Chernobyl Children International. I am thankful to the students of my elementary school alma mater, St. John Fisher, and my Rose of Tralee sponsor, Fado Irish Pub, who generously helped me reach my fundraising goal.

I have always felt fortunate, but I could never have conjured up the wonderful experiences I would have as The 2015 Chicago Rose of Tralee. It was life-changing in terms of the friendships, fun, travel, and opportunities. I will end my year as The Chicago Rose of Tralee on May 15, 2016, feeling inspired to encourage other young women to compete for this title. I wish the best for my successor, hoping she has as wonderful a year as I have had.

\*For more information, tickets to the selection, and Chicago Rose applications, visit [chicagoroseoftralee.com](http://chicagoroseoftralee.com).

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## Sharing a Pint

By Scott Powers



so simple. It was located deep in a rural area with narrow roads and few landmarks. Whenever we came about a human being, we stopped and asked for further directions. They were all lovely people, of course.

In time, we arrived to St. Brigid's, which was surrounded by even more fields than the last church.

No one was around, but the church was open. Built in 1816, the structure would have been the same in my family's time. Walking in, there was a feeling that rushing over me

that I was present in a space where my family had once been. There's something comforting about that.

We then stopped at a nearby cemetery. The headstones dated back to the early 1800s and some couldn't even read any longer because they had faded away. We split up. When I came across my first "Power" headstone, I shouted for my uncle. We would find three by the time we were done. Before departing County Wexford, we made one final stop at the John

F. Kennedy Arboretum. There on that land is where the town of Ballysop once sat. It's where we believe our family had rented land. All that remains from the old Ballysop is a brick wall covered by ivy and a few trees.

Throughout our search, there was a level of uncertainty we had to live with. It's likely none of the "Power" we

came across in the cemetery were related to us. We may never know if we were chasing the right Patrick Power or our family had been to either one of those churches or lived in Ballysop. Many of the records that would have been helpful were destroyed in a fire, and our family tree wasn't documented until now.

I may never definitively know if my family came from County Wexford. I just know County Wexford felt like home. Maybe it is because I wanted it to feel like home. True or not, I'm okay with that.

County Wexford is home to me.

Something about County Wexford felt like home. Maybe it's because I wanted it to feel like home.

In late March, I travelled to Ireland with my Uncle Dan, my late father's brother, and part of our trip was devoted to searching for our past.

My uncle had already put in years of legwork and traced my great-great grandfather Patrick Power – we gained an "s" somewhere – and my great-great grandmother Jane Shiel – who gained a "ds" somewhere -- back to Ireland. All signs pointed to County Wexford being their home before journeying to Chicago in the mid-1800s.

We decided to start in Wexford Town. I had booked us a room in St. George Guesthouse and prior to our arrival I emailed the guesthouse to see how early we could check in. I received a reply from the owner, Michael Power. He would be the only Power(s) we would come across not buried six feet deep.

Once in Wexford and after somehow having survived my first personal driving-on-the-right-side-of-the-road experience and naps were had, we met with Michael Dempsey, a

Wexford librarian, whose knowledge of genealogy and the area was invaluable to our quest. He pulled up county and parish documents, showed us maps, shared Irish history and all but dug up our family for us. Michael Dempsey is a Wexford treasure.

With some research done, we set out to explore Wexford County the following day. Until then, we had a few pints, met with some locals and had our first of many fish and chips. To cap off the day, I ventured alone to Mary's Bar, a place Black 47 frontman Larry Kirwan had recommended. And as Larry had explained, stepping into Mary's Bar is like stepping into the past. It's coziness and antiqueness coupled with a fine Guinness and the hospitality of owner Catherine and the regulars was the actualization of what I always thought of as the ideal Irish pub.

I awoke early the next morning, too early, as I was still adjusting to the time change. With a few hours until the full Irish breakfast would be served, I took a long walk. The sun was emerging, but the streets were still silent. It felt like the city was completely mine to explore for a bit. The only life I came across was a stray dog walking the streets and two cats perched on an old stone wall.

Driving 25 miles west, our first stop that morning was to St. James Church in Campile, one of two possible churches where our family may belonged to. Looking over the vast surrounding fields, you couldn't but wonder if these were the same fields my ancestors had viewed.

The woman who we met at the parish office thought our family likely was from another church in the area and directed us to St. Brigid's in Ballykelly. To get there wasn't



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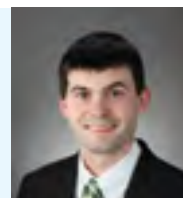
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### CIIS Legal Services

CIIS has recently hired a new immigration attorney. Our attorney is available to offer a wide range of advice and services. If you or a family member is in need of immigration assistance, CIIS offers a low cost/ sliding scale rate to the community. CIIS is available to assist with a wide range of immigration needs ranging from naturalization as an American citizen; family based petitions, consular processing, as well as services geared toward the undocumented. To speak with our attorney please call our office at 773-282-8445 or email her at mazimi@irishchicago.org.

CIIS will also continue to host free legal clinics for anyone who might have immigration questions. These clinics are currently being held once monthly by appointment only. Each clinic provides a client with a 30-minute face-to-face consultation with



## From the Executive Director of Chicago Irish Immigrant Support

By Michael Collins

our immigration attorney. Our next legal clinic is being held on Thursday May 12th from 5:30pm-8:30pm. We host these clinics on the second Thursday of each month. Please call (773) 282-8445 or email mazimi@irishchicago.org to schedule your appointment.

### 16th Annual Golf Outing

CIIS is hosting our 16th annual golf outing on Sunday June 5th. Our annual golf outing is our flagship fundraiser and provides us with vital funds to continue providing the high level of service that we are known for. Our golf outing will be held at St. Andrews golf course in West Chicago with a shotgun start

at 12 noon. The price for golfing is \$125 per-person, and for that price you receive a great afternoon of 18 holes of golf on St. Andrew's championship course including hole contests, great networking opportunities and a dinner reception and prize ceremony immediately following the tournament. Along with many games on the course, you can win a \$10,000 prize for a hole-in-one at a designated Par 3! So if you are a golfer please round up a foursome and we hope to see you on June 5th!

To register for our golf outing you can call our office at 773-282-8445 or email our director at mcollins@irishchicago.org

## MWRD Officials Study India's Water Treatment

A team of current and retired engineers and plant managers from the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) along with Commissioner Frank Avila traveled to the other side of the world to show how improvements in local water quality at home in Chicago can make a world of difference to the people handling water treatment in India.

The group of MWRD representatives participated in the trip that was organized and sponsored by the Rotary Club of Naperville and Bharathi Theertha, a non-profit organization that aims to improve the education, environment and health of the poverty-stricken in India and the United States.

"We are grateful for the opportunity presented by the Rotary Club of Naperville and Bharathi Theertha to impart our knowledge and share our experiences in the water treatment industry," said MWRD Commissioner Frank Avila. "We believe our message will resonate and make a lasting impact into helping improve conditions in India. We were proud to learn that the Metropolitan



*Commissioner Frank Avila and wife Sherry at the Taj Mahal.*

Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago is well-respected in India, and making this trip will strengthen both our reputation and relationship with these communities."

MWRD officials worked with water experts from local treatment plants in India along with Andhra University, the Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board and Green Brigade organization, both based

in Hyderabad, India, the Telangana State Pollution Control Board, Rotary Club 3150 of India and the Rotary Club of Visakhapatnam and student members of the India chapters of Engineers Without Borders and Rotaract clubs. India is experiencing a building boom in wastewater treatment facility construction, and organizers felt that such workshops will create positive awareness.

# Hooliganism

Mike Houlihan



I've been trying to limit my candor on Facebook ever since inadvertently insulting a friend's mother.

But of course Facebook friends are not real friends. They are mostly for our own self-amusement whilst goofing off on the internet.

And the Internet can be a scary place. That's why I never "accept" the friendship of those anonymous hot chicks who keep hitting on me. I know I'm gorgeous gals, but I ain't that stupid.

However, the other day I got a friend request that taught me a valuable lesson.

I was amusing myself on Facebook, throwing bombs at Hillary and linking to weird news stories from wacky tabloids, when I get a friend request. Who's this? Stephen Mullen, name doesn't ring a bell, so I check out his page, he's a young guy from Ireland. Well that's good enough for me.

Mr. Mullen proceeds to tell me he is visiting Chicago from Tuam and his dad suggested he try to contact some old friends. "Would the names PJ O'Dea or The Notre Dame Inn mean anything to you?"

Would they? PJ O'Dea, "the man from Clare", is a true GAA legend who played with 2 clubs in 11 cities and in four countries. He won his first county medal in 1939 and represented Clare in minor, junior, and senior hurling and also played senior football with Clare and with the Munster teams in 1951 and '52. He won an All-Ireland hurling medal and then emigrated to the US where he played hurling and football in Los Angeles, San Francisco, New York, and was the proprietor of the Notre Dame Inn here in Chicago for years. He's been my friend for over 30 years and is the narrator of the Irish epic film, OUR

### IRISH COUSINS.

Long story short, I put Mr. Stephen Mullen in touch with Mary and PJ O'Dea and the next day I'm picking him up at the Metra station to bring him to meet the O'Dea's on a beautiful Sunday afternoon.

As I sat in the O'Dea's living room and watched this young man tell the story of his father Frank from Knocknagur, and his fond memories of Mary and PJ, a Celtic



PJ and Mary O'Dea with Stephen Mullen (center)

connection was made. PJ had clippings for Stephen to bring back to Frank along with his best wishes. Later that day I took Stephen out to Queen of Heaven cemetery so he could visit the graves of his aunts Nell and Bridie and before dropping him back at his hotel I insisted we visit one more grave in Mt. Carmel cemetery.

On the way back he said, "My dad will be gobsmacked...it was a day of meeting extraordinary people like Mick Houlihan, PJ O'Dea and his wife Mary, the grave sites of my grand aunts, and to top it all off... along with all those great and fantastic people, the last place we visited was the grave of Al Capone!"

I figured if the kid was gonna see Chicagoland, might as well show him the sights.

Stephen's father Frank sent me a note the other day.

When Stephen was going to Chicago for a few days over the Easter he asked me if there were any of my old friends that he might look up. I told him as it was almost 44 years since I was in Chicago, that many of the people I knew then would be quite elderly and some may even have passed on to their eternal reward.

I mentioned a few names one of whom was PJ O'Dea and the Notre Dame Inn. PJ was so kind to me when I was in Chicago in 1972 and 73 as a college student on a J1 Visa.

I hadn't heard from PJ or had any contact with him since I left Chicago 43 years ago. Just imagine my amazement when Stephen, informed me that, thanks to you, he had located PJ, who was hale and hearty, and was able to visit with him and his good wife Mary. Stephen video recorded PJ and I was absolutely thrilled to hear him recall some of the events in Chicago when I was there 44 years ago. I was amazed at how vividly he recalled some of the incidents that happened in the Notre Dame Inn and on the football field almost a lifetime ago.

Mary, his wife, was the first person I met when I arrived in Chicago in '72. It was such a coincidence as Mary is originally from my parish Kilconly in Co. Galway.

I had such a brilliant time in Chicago, playing football with St Mels... and all the wonderful people I met - Mike Moran, Batty Boyle, Pat McGrath, Mike Scanlon, Mike O'Connor are a few that readily come to mind. I often think about them and wonder what became of them all?

One of my outstanding memories was celebrating in the Notre Dame Inn, with PJ O'Dea -a Clare man, and all those crazy Limerick men, after Limerick winning the McCarthy Cup in '73. Boy did they love their hurling!

Please pass on my best wishes to PJ O'Dea and his lovely wife Mary. Though I never had any contact with them since I left Chicago in '73 I never forgot their kindness to me all those years ago.

So there's the lesson, a simple act of kindness goes a long, long way in making real friends. An Irish welcome can last forever.

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# Swimming Upstream

By Charles Brady



## Lord, Make Me Perfect; Just Not Yet!

Forgive those who trespass against us... That's a big one, isn't it? That's a really big one. I'm not getting that at all. I'm trying; but I'm just not having much success.

It's exactly a year since I returned to the Catholic Church after 35 years of, if not quite playing for the other side, then definitely on the sidelines as the world's ugliest cheerleader.

So: how have I been getting on?

Well, one thing that has been reinforced for me is that a lot of people who call themselves Christians aren't very...well, Christian. And of course I'm going to have to include myself there for a lot of the time. Again, though, I'm trying. But that 'forgive those who trespass' business.... I've had grudges against people that I've held for forty years, which I don't think that anyone is likely to call healthy. But those grudges would feel abandoned and awful lonely if I got rid of them now. So that one's on the

long finger.

What I really do love is morning weekday Mass. As I said last year, it's just a great way to start off the

day, if you can manage it. And we are so lucky here in Oranmore, County Galway in having a priest in Father Diarmuid Hogan who actually makes that Mass interesting. It's never the same one twice: there are reflections on what is happening in the Parish; what has happened on that day in history; and even on what is happening in his own life.

And in amongst his gentle good humour, although he has probably celebrated the Sacraments many thousands of times, he imbues it with this profound feeling of Mystery at what we as a small community are witnessing as he breaks the bread.

Would it sound pretentious if I used the phrase 'we are bearing witness to'? Possibly; but that's how it feels. It feels important: hugely important. When he says the words 'entered willingly into His Passion' it's shivers down the spine for me every time. Obviously, I love words and I respect their power; and rarely have I heard five words that have moved me so enormously with their complex simplicity.

'Entered willingly into His Passion'. Willingly. I can't get my head around that.

And talking of words of Power: I wonder when the Mystery of Faith was changed. I remember it from childhood as: 'Christ has died; Christ has risen; Christ will come again'. When did that disappear from usage? Again, it seems to me a simple, straightforward statement that says everything.

And of course I really can't reconcile the Old Testament with the New. I wouldn't be at all interested in paying much heed to the cranky and often downright cruel side-taking God of the Old. I don't get that at all. And in the New, possibly my own view of Jesus is coloured by my - need? - to see Him as a revolutionary figure of great force and determination. After all, this was a man - and the whole point seems to be that he WAS a man in all ways - who took on both the mightiest empire that ever existed up until that time AND organised religion into the bargain.

Certainly, this isn't the wishy-washy cardboard figure that I was taught about at school. And again, the words -- those parables, that Sermon on the Mount! I think it's fair to say that the Christ that I have become interested in is more of a vivid warrior-poet-priest than that slightly anemic do-gooder that was brought to somewhat less-than-solid life in those classrooms of yesteryear.

Another thing that I have a problem with is going to Mass on a Sunday. This should in theory be the very best day to go, when the village comes together. Instead, I just find it a nightmare of spoiled children who have never heard the word 'no' from their parents. I just don't get it. I can only stare in complete bafflement at parents who beam approvingly whilst their sprogs show no manners of any kind.

Oh yeah, here we go -- cue the 'were you never a child yourself' brigade. Cue the witless 'ah sure, they're only children' enablers. Yeah, I was - and it would never have even occurred to my brothers or I to behave so disrespectfully in front of adults. Not because we were physically disciplined - we never were - but because we had learned by example; and that's something that is sadly missing in this politically correct 'let the little darlings do what they want' world.

So... I quickly discovered that Sunday wasn't for me. When you leave Mass muttering darkly to yourself about the possible benefits of sterilization then you know that you probably have a long way to go.

I'm also finding it hard to let go of my unholy feelings of glee when someone I

can't stand comes a cropper. Witness those two beauties from the Labour Party this week, Joan Banshee Burton and the Minister for Water Privatization Alan Kelly, a man with a face so smug that you would never tire of slapping it. Can you imagine the conversation between them over who would stand as party leader?

"Joan, even my own party colleagues hate me and won't second me."

"Oh Alan, I'm in the same boat. (Although hopefully this one won't sink on me.) I'll tell you what: I'll second you if you'll second me."

"Great idea, Joan. Let's do that."

Heaven help us, with these two surviving the election even as barely as they did, we really do deserve all that we get. It's been described as 'farcical' but when did a little thing like sheer mortifying embarrassment ever stop our lot?

Nah; there's no point in being hard on myself for that one. I'd like to think that the Christ himself would have had a laugh at the discomfort of these two power-hungry vultures.

So: there you go. One year on and I'm enjoying my return to the Church, although not much better of a person, perhaps. I'm trying; not very successfully, but I'm trying.

And finally... my jaw is so used to hitting the floor every time a politician opens his lying mouth that it is probably as strong as Conor McGregors' at this stage; but would-be Taoiseach Micheál Martin really took the biscuit yesterday. With his dudgeon turned to High he thundered:

"The future of Irish Water is not the single most important issue facing our country - but it is important and the election represented a decisive rejection of current policies.

"The post-election lobbying campaign by this state company is unprecedented in our history.

"It is a total waste of public money and of the legitimate balance of powers between parliament and state companies.

"Once Dáil committees are established we will be seeking an investigation into the cost and nature of this campaign."

Another investigation. Jesus wept. But the most startling thing about this is that six months ago myself and fellow water-charge protesters were being called troublemaking pariahs. At the rate things are going, in another week we'll be getting called heroes.

Politicians - don't you just love them?

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



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## Premier Music Headliners on Four Stages at Chicago Gaelic Park's Irish Fest

A full roster of Irish music nobility will be onstage over Memorial weekend as Chicago Gaelic Park celebrates 30 years of Irish Fest in Oak Forest. A Chicago area tradition for all ages, this indoor/outdoor Fest not only brings the best of contemporary and traditional Irish headliners, but also features a full carnival with rides, special events for children, Gaelic football and hurling, Irish Step Dancing competition, theatre, pony exhibits, and shopping all surrounded by food, refreshments and great fun at one low price. There will also be a tent dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the 1916 Easter Rising which will showcase the specially designed float that was in the St. Patrick's Day parades. In addition the Youth Living History Exhibit created by 3rd - 8th graders will be on display.

With non-stop music, free on-site parking, free carnival rides and early online ticket discounts, Irish Fest at Chicago Gaelic Park has become one of the country's premier musical events with some of the best and brightest talent appearing on stage this year.

**The Wolfe Tones** Currently celebrating over 50 years on the road, these legendary Dublin balladeers continue to be one of Ireland's biggest box office attractions. Having sold out prestigious venues during the past year across Ireland, U.K.,

Europe and the U.S., this rabble-rousing group has inspired many to fight against the injustices in Ireland with their poignant, powerful and unsurpassed style of music. In recent years, the Wolfe Tones have become the biggest selling artists in Ireland, and have sold more albums than the ever-popular U2. The Wolfe Tones also have had double and triple platinum albums. Their most recently released album "Child of Destiny" features 17 tracks including 12 brand new compositions. Festival goers will enjoy Wolfe Tones ballads such as On the One Road, Boys of the Old Brigade, Come Out Ye Black and Tans and the classic -Celtic Symphony.

### Socks In the Frying Pan

This multi-award winning trio from Co. Clare blends Irish traditional melodies with their own personal flair which has gained them critical acclaim and accolades including "New Band of the Year" by the Irish Music Association. With their modern traditional style, and energetic approach to music, this youthful group have become one of the most popular and sought after groups for every major Irish Festival in the United States.

### The Makem and Spain Brothers

The tradition continues with The Makem and Spain Brothers, the internationally known band that keeps the music alive and defines where Irish folk music is going. A host of various instruments and three male vocals using precise three part harmonies blend perfectly for what can only be described as a wall of sound. This band of brothers has played before millions of people in the U.S., Caribbean and Ireland. Along the way they were

highlighted in national PBS specials and on popular Irish talk shows. Rory Makem was born in Drogheda, Co. Louth and continues an Irish musical dynasty begun by his grandmother Sarah Makem, and his famous father, Tommy Makem. The Spain Brothers also learned Irish songs at their father's knee. Makem and Spain are at their best on stage where their talent and enthusiasm draw in fans that have never experienced the joy of folk music.

### More Special Appearances at Irish Fest

Irish Fest is also proud to present JigJam (Co. Offaly) the hottest new act on the Celtigrass music scene who has developed a new exciting energy fuelled sound, blending the best of bluegrass and Irish folk music. Also making their first appearance at Gaelic Park's Irish Fest is Lachlan, The Singing Pilgrims and The New Invaders. Returning festival favorites include The Screaming Orphans, The Fenians, The Elders, Chicago Reel, Paddy Homan, Larkin & Moran Brothers, Kathy & Andreas Durkin and Larry Nugent, Shannon Rovers Pipe Band, Pipes & Drums of The Emerald Society, and many more!

Chicago Gaelic Park is located just outside the Chicago city limits in Oak Forest. A full day pass to four musical stages, live theatre performances, full carnival with unlimited rides, free on-site parking and all the fun anyone can handle is only \$15-\$10 first hour only. Early online discounts can save up to 60%! Adults over 65 years and kids under 12 are only \$12. Youngsters three years and under are free. Online discount tickets, a complete Irish Fest performance schedule and directions are available at [www.chicagogaelicpark.org](http://www.chicagogaelicpark.org).


  
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Heroes of 1916 brought to life at Youth Living History Exhibit at Gaelic Park 4.17



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May is packed with programs, activities and social events at the Center. See below to learn about how you can get in on the action this month and enjoy all we have to offer.

### Paddy Keenan Salon Concert

Join us for another Salon Concert featuring musician Paddy Keenan. Keenan grew up playing the uilleann pipes and was a founding member of the Bothy Band. He has enjoyed a successful solo career touring the world and recording several important piping CDs along the way. Keenan's style contains technical brilliance,



fieri expression, humor and great invention. Patrick and Karen Cannady on uilleann pipes and fiddle will be guest musicians at the performance. The Academy of Irish Music will open the concert. The Paddy Keenan Salon Concert is Saturday, May 14 at 8pm. Tickets are \$20 for adults and children 18 and under are free.

### St. Brendan Voyage Film Screening

St. Brendan the Navigator is known as the patron of boatmen, mariners, sailors, travelers, watermen and whales. He was famed for his voyages, particularly a seven-year journey around 538, to the 'Land of Promise,' which he described in his epic saga, 'Navigatio Sancti Brendani Abbatis.' Modern scholars believe the 'Land of Promise' could have been North

America. In 1976, Tim Severin, expert on exploration sailed from the Dingle Peninsula to Newfoundland via Iceland and Greenland, demonstrating the accuracy of the places about which Brendan wrote. There will be a showing of Severin's documentary, *The Brendan Voyage* on Sunday, May 15 at 1pm. Tickets are \$10 at the door.

### Cumann na mBan – Mná na Réabhlóide Documentary

Celtic Women International and the Cultural Committee present a film screening of *Cumann na mBan – Mná na Réabhlóide*, a documentary by Gerry McColgan. The film tells the story of the early 20th Century Irish nationalist women and their efforts during the 1916 Easter Rising, War of Independence and Irish Civil War. Historians present their analysis of the women's activities, interspersed with dramatic reenactments, and reflections of the surviving women or family members. Parts of this film are in Irish, with subtitles. The film is Sunday, May 22 at 3pm in the IAHC Library. Donations at the door will benefit the IAHC archives.

### Shapeshifters Spring Reading

Shapeshifters presents another staged reading this June. This drama, *And Neither Have I Wings to Fly* by Ann Noble, follows two sisters in a small town in the east coast of Ireland in the 1950s. Torn between duty and desire, they confront memories of their beloved mother. The reading is Monday, June 13 and tickets are \$10 for each reading. The Fifth Province opens at 6pm for live music and readings begin at 7 pm.

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

## President's Message

Congratulations to our newly inducted class of the Irish American Hall of Fame. A phenomenal time was had by all attendees of the Gala on April 23. It was a record crowd this year and a special thank you goes to the Hall of Fame Committee on their hard work. It is quite an honor to be inducted into any Hall of Fame, but when that Hall highlights the commitment and passion of their life's work to enhance and cherish our Irish American heritage and history, it makes it that much more special. As a result of some fine Irish comedy and some great Sinatra crooning, we were able to raise more than \$5000 to update and rewire the workings of our library. We will soon be able to enter our rare books and collection on to the world wide web. A great job by our Library staff was very much appreciated by all of us. My favorite night of the year landed on April 1 in the Erin Room where hundreds of volunteers dined on corned beef and chicken and lis-



tened to the music of Joe Cullen and Kathleen Keane. We celebrated our "Appreciation Night" for our amazing volunteers. We honored those present in the Erin Room and those who were unable to attend. A moment of silence was had for all those who have passed. These volunteers are the backbone and mindset of all things happening at the Center. One dinner and a night out does not justify my appreciation for all you do. Thank you.

If you want to join our volunteer crew, contact new Volunteer Chair, Marty McDonagh at [martmcdon6@aol.com](mailto:martmcdon6@aol.com).

We are welcoming back to the Center many dance schools and Irish music camps. See our website to enlist your children into these wonderful opportunities. Visit [www.irish-american.org](http://www.irish-american.org) to enlist your children into these opportunities and become a member today.

Eugene M. Cooney, President

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# the Fifth Province

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

### MAY ENTERTAINMENT

- 5/6 Ceili Mor
- 5/7 The Joyce Boys
- 5/13 Gerry Haughey
- 5/14 St. Patrick Fathers
- 5/20 Jeff Ward
- 5/21 the Dooley Brothers
- 5/27 Joe McShane
- 5/28 Jue Cullen

All bands perform at 8pm.

Thursday Night Irish Music Sessions: May 4, 12, 19 and 26, 7pm-9pm



May Drink Special  
\$5 Guinness Nitro IPA Draft

### May 2016

May 2	Hearthstone Staged Reading	Fifth Province	Music 6pm Reading 7pm
May 6	Francis O'Neill Club Ceili Mor Paints and Pint Party Shamrock American Club Dance	Fifth Province Room 109 Sham Am Room	8pm 7pm 8pm
May 7	PÍOBAIRÍ	Fifth Province	6pm
May 14	Paddy Keenan Salon Concert St. Patrick Fathers Social	Room 109 Fifth Province	8pm 8pm
May 15	St. Brendan the Navigator Film	Room 309	1pm
May 17	Celtic Women International Meeting	Room 304	7pm
May 18	Tara Club Meeting	Room 311	10am
May 20	Quiz Night	Room 109	8pm
May 21	PÍOBAIRÍ	Fifth Province	6pm
May 22	<i>Cumann na mBan – Mná na Réabhlóide</i> film	Library	3pm
May 29	Genealogy Workshop Shamrock American Club Meeting Great Irish Books Club - <i>Faithful Place</i> by Tana French	Library Sham Am Room Library	1pm 8pm 1pm

### Regularly Scheduled Events

Mon-Fri	Gift Shop	First Floor Lobby	4pm-8pm
Tues	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	9am-Noon
Tues	Set Dancing	Room 111	7:30-9:30pm
Tues	Celtic Art Class	Art Gallery	7pm
Tues, Thurs, Fri, & Sat	Golden Diners Lunch Program	Kitchen	12:30pm-2pm
Wed	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	7-10pm
Thurs	<i>The Craic with Cooney and Keane</i> Radio Show taping	Fifth Province	6pm
Thurs	Thursday Night Irish Music Session	Fifth Province	tune workshop 6:30pm session 7pm
Thurs	Irish Heritage Singers Rehearsals	Room 304	7pm
Fri	Francis O'Neill Club Ceili	Room 111	8pm
Sat	Gift Shop	First Floor Lobby	10am-8pm

Library Hours | Tuesday and Thursday 10am to 2pm | Wednesday 4pm to 8pm | Saturday 10am to 2pm

### The Heritage Line Staff Kathleen O'Neill, Editor

Contributors: Meg Buchanan, Theresa Choske, Gene Cooney, Elizabeth Ellis, Michael Gibbons, Catherine Kelly, Kathy Kelly, Mary Morris, Sheila Murphy, Mike Shevlin, Maureen Smith

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## pH Factor

By Pat Hickey



### Barks Coleman A Guy Who Might Have Really Existed

*(actually I made him up when I saw a photo of an old garage band)*

Driving home from Leo High School yesterday, I took a turn west through the old neighborhood along 76th Street. I noticed a for sale sign on former the home of Terry "Barks" Coleman. Barks was the son of button accordion genius Maurice "Mossie" Coleman who immigrated to Chicago during the Irish Civil War from northwest County Kerry.

Mossie Coleman was a pathologically taciturn gentleman, who closely kept his own counsel, but otherwise spoke volumes when his huge fingers danced on the buttons of his vintage Salterell Le Bouebe with likes of Joe Shannon, John McGreevy, Eleanor Neary, James Keane, Sr, Frank Thornton, Jimmy Neary, Maida Sugrue and the great Terry Teahan at Hanley's House of Happiness on 79th Street, or AOH's Cannon Hall on Halsted and at every Ceile in Chicago.

Mossie worked as a stationary oiler/fireman at the old Audy Home which was a very good trade and bought the Georgian two-story home at 76th & Wood Street in 1955. Mrs. Coleman worked as a waitress at the Beverly Woods Banquet Hall in Morgan Park on the weekends and raised the four boys Terry, Austin, Brice and Maurice, who later went by Maury - eschewing the Turkey bird\* cognomen.

Terry was my age and we pal'd it up all through grammar school and into high school. Terry became "Barks," in 6th Grade when he came to school each day with a nasty, chest-deep cold and emitted massive Barks when he coughed and annoyed the perpetually annoyed Sister Doralese, RSM. "Barking, Barking Barking Terry

Coleman! Ye'll bark yer last on the next go round, my fine man! No room in the TB home for the likes of ye?" She was as pretty as she was nice.

Barks has that name, like every young person who grew up on the south side and had a handle attached by dint of some signal flaw, physical, ancestral, or moral to his/her presence on earth. Barks fit Terry Coleman like a glove, or cheap pants. He will carry that name into eternity.

Barks learned button accordion from his father and transferred his talents and skills to the Farfisa Mini-Organ in 1966 and played with a local garage band at dances, block parties and beer summits in the abandoned house Ronnie Graff and Al McFarland discovered over by Lindbloom High School. Barks Coleman was in demand as a musician and was picked up by Boss Sounds - five neat guys from Little Flower, Tommy More and St Sabina's parishes - That's Barks at the keys in the grease ball shades.

Barks could do all the requisite organ and piano riffs to the best

### Chewing on Becket at Artemisia

Artemisia, a Chicago Theatre that produces visionary, female-driven plays, presents the world premiere of Chewing On Beckett, written by Ed Proudfoot and directed by Steve Scott of the Goodman Theatre. Chewing On Beckett takes a shocking look at life in a dystopian wasteland as a female Beckett Scholar and her former student, turned caretaker, struggle to survive. Student becomes teacher and teacher becomes suicidal as the two women discover they are outsiders in their own culture.

The play's first full production opens at The Frontier Theatre in Edgewater on May 20th and runs through June 12th, with performances Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7:30 pm and Sunday at 6:00 pm, with an additional matinee at 2:00 pm on Saturdays.

tunes of 1960's. He could Paul Revere, Young Rascal, Wilson Pickett, Vanilla Fudge, Kingsman and Steppenwolf with the best of them. Or, I am very much mistaken, or making the whole thing up, or some such nonsense.

"In the South side of Chicago, the term "turkey bird" is often used to describe a person who was born in Ireland. Although both my parents were Irish American, my father was a "turkey bird," while my mother was born in the United States. My siblings and I often affectionately referred to our father and his Irish-born friends as "turkey birds." Neither my father nor his friends ever took offense to this term and, in fact, used the term themselves to define a person's exact roots. Recently one of my brothers was at a family party and started to discuss the origin of this term with a nephew (whose father also was born in Ireland). A woman, who is not of Irish heritage herself, but whose husband was born in Ireland, overheard the conversation and took great offense to the discussion. From where did this term originate? Is this term used throughout the United States? Has the nature of this term changed? Is it now considered offensive? Was it always offensive and my father and his friends just had thick skins?" Kathleen Klinger

Tickets can be purchased at [artemisiatheatre.org](http://artemisiatheatre.org) or by calling the Box Office at (312) 725-3780.

In Chewing On Beckett all the knowledge of the world has been scrambled due to a horrible mishap of "mash-up." Inspired by the knowledge that the Beckett estate strictly forbids women from performing in Waiting for Godot, this hilariously tragic story examines the hope and hopelessness of existence in a digitized, destitute and ultimately dehumanizing world, where only the love between two women can prevail. Artemisia's World Premiere of Chewing On Beckett is sponsored by Windy City Irish Radio, Mutual of America and funded in part by the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelly Foundation.

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# It Starts With A Song

By Joe McShane  
and Margo O'Donnell



went away but I had a little treatment and I am feeling a lot better now. It is a true saying "Your health is your wealth" and of that I am always aware.

On Monday May 2nd I will take part in a Charity Concert in our Church in Castleblayney with my dear friend "Big Tom" our true

"King of Country Music".

Our Church is in need of repair and it is always a pleasure to sing in "Gods House". I always feel humble when I sing in the Church and I look on it as my true home.

I am spending this year taking care of myself as I have not felt well in recent times. So it is time to recharge the batteries.

Irish TV have just released a great DVD of my fifty years in the music business and you can get it directly from Irish TV or there will be info on my website

www.margoodonnell.com.

On October 28th I will be doing the Margo get together in Killarney and I am really looking forward to it. A lovely time meeting up with all of my fans and friends.

Till next time Take care and stay safe. Over to you Joe

Love always Margo x

Thank you Margo,

I'm looking forward to doing a show together, which we will have already done by the time this issue comes out.

Well I was at the trial for the murderer who killed my dear friend Ray O'Gara and I'm glad to say he is now in jail paying for what he did. It was heartbreaking to watch Ray's Mom Colleen and brother Jonathon, having to sit in the court room listening to all the lies this guy tried to put across. Thankfully the judge saw right through it. And when the impact statements were read out, it almost felt like Ray was somewhere in the courtroom. He was one of the nicest people I've ever known. A great conversationalist, musician and friend. And it all happened because of the anger that we see way to much of these days. causing this person to kill a fellow human being and a wonderful one he was. R.I.P. Ray O'Gara, I will carry precious memories of you with me always.

Well I've been on planes, ferries and lots of roads over the last couple of weeks. I was delighted to be asked to open for the Nathan Carter Shows, in Scotland. I did an acoustic set with two outstanding musicians, John Pettifer on guitar and Jonathon Owens on percussion. We travelled on a luxury bus

with 14 other men and Nathan's 76 year old Grandmother who he affectionately calls Nan. This lovely lady could put any man to shame in a days work. She seems to never stop. Nathan has a fantastic band and road crew and its like one big happy family. It was a blast! I got some good conversations with him and he told me that he started playing accordion and singing at age five. At six he started piano lessons. He has matured into an all round entertainer in every respect, including a very warm personality. He has also become an accomplished songwriter. He and I have penned many songs together over the last couple of years. He has a brand new CD released right now. It's entitled "Stayin' Up All Night" which incidently was the name of his six weeks tour. I'm delighted to be a writer on two of the tracks on this album. "Liverpool" and "Island Town". (Island town is about Enniskillen, where he now lives). And "Liverpool" yes you guessed it. This will be the second song we've written about Liverpool, the other being "On The Boat To Liverpool" (written by Nathan, Margo and myself). We will include the words of the new one for this months song. My brother Nick is a co-writer on this song. I'll be doing an interview with him soon. Just want to say how sorry I was to hear of the death of my hero Merle Haggard R.I.P. I will be meeting his son Marty in a couple of weeks, in Ireland. Just before my return home to Chicago.

As always till next time, be good to one another.

Joe and Margo

## Liverpool

Written by Nathan Carter, Nicky James and Joe McShane

Verse 1

Dirty knees, young boys dreams, music everywhere  
Friendly ghosts, an old sign post, voices fill the air  
A smiling Nan, a babies pram come strolling down the street  
Its in me heart, I feel a part, of the Merseybeat

Verse 2

A soccer ball, an old brick wall, where children love to play  
Sad times, back in 89, on that fateful day  
Young and old, hearts of gold, on a marble stone  
Voices they still fill the air through, "You'll Never Walk Alone"

Chorus

Oh town of pride, upon the tide beneath the liverbirds  
Witty rhymes, Church bell chimes, through deep and loving words  
Oh the memories, so tenderly, running through my mind  
Liverpool, my shining jewel upon the Merseyside

Verse 3

Cavern nights, old street lights, guitars that gently weep  
Yesterday, seems so far away, from Penny Lane and Lime Street  
George and John although you're gone, your melodies will stay  
Imagine, oh I imagine, if you were here today

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## From the Motherland

By Sean Farrell



## A Centenary Celebrated

"Glorious Madness" The O'Rahilly called it. In military terms the Easter Rising was objectively doomed from the start. Even had the Volunteers risen throughout Ireland – which they didn't – for how long could a semi-trained militia have held out against a determined professional army, superior in men and armaments?

A hundred years ago this month fifteen of the Rising's leaders were executed soon after surrender (The O'Rahilly died in the fighting). General Maxwell, the buffoon who organised the "field general" court martials, i.e. trials without defence, jury, qualified judges or public access, thought a short sharp shock was required. 183 civilians were put on trial, of whom ninety were sentenced to death. The executions were only stopped by the hasty intervention of the British Prime Minister, Asquith, after he arrived in Dublin on May 12. By then the damage had been done and the slow fuse of a sea-change in Irish public opinion, very much mixed beforehand, lit.

The Centenary of the Rising was celebrated (early) this Easter. The major commemorative events, including solemn ceremonies honouring the leaders and the others who fell, as well as the largest military parade ever staged in Dublin, were sober and dignified and with an evident sense of national pride. Events were well attended and blessed with good weather.

The Celebrations were more restrained and less gung-ho than in 1966, the last landmark anniversary. The country has moved on in so many ways in half a century – and it shows. In 1966 Ireland was a different country, economically, socially, culturally and in the national mind-set. Many survivors of 1916 were still around fifty years later. The last surviving 1916 Commander, De Valera, was Irish President, while Taoiseach Sean Lemass had fought in the GPO aged 16. Memories of the War of Independence and the subsequent Civil War were still fresh. The country was just emerging from a lengthy period of national stagnation in which the chief political obsessions were Partition and relations with Britain.

THAT Ireland also had been at peace since 1923, had avoided the Second World War – unthinkable without the national independence which had its gestation in the events of 1916 – and had no recent experience of what bloodshed and armed conflict entailed. Fifty years on Ireland has fresh and ghastly memories of a generation of violence in the North that claimed close to four thousand lives and injured many more, and has overwhelmingly embraced a peace that promises reconciliation. This has led to a more mature and realistic appraisal of 1916.

The Rising changed matters – utterly – setting in train a chain of events that led to an independent Irish state. It's worth noting that the recent celebrations took place against a background of political wrangling here over how and by whom the next sovereign ( I emphasize

sovereign) Irish government will be formed following February's inconclusive general election.

Would that be the case had there been no Easter Rising? Would we be like Scotland today – or, indeed, Northern Ireland? And what else would/could have happened in the interim?

"What -Ifs?" are fascinating – for example, would Britain have faced down the Ulster Unionists had there been no Rising? – but ultimately just speculation. Whatever else one can say, as an end result of the process that began in 1916 we Irish are now masters of our own destiny and the issues with which we are seized, like health, housing, welfare and water, are First World Issues which we brought about and on ourselves.

How different to that Easter a century ago and to the setting – a somewhat backwater city, impoverished, riven by class and privilege and teeming with some of Europe's worst slums. Politically the cauldron was simmering, with every week bringing a roll call of dead and injured from the charnel house of the Great War, where as many as one thousand Irishmen of every hue died in each month of the conflict. Gallipoli had been a few short months before. And indeed, in the week of the Rising, which saw a total of 485 fatalities, 532 Irishmen were slaughtered in three days in the Hulloch gas attacks near Loos. There was crossover in death. Dublin Fusilier Private John Naylor died on April 29, the same day his wife Margaret was shot in Dublin crossing a bridge to buy bread for her children; she died two days later.

Until quite recently the Irish in the First World War were treated as invisible, official policy being to ignore or discount the huge numbers of Irish who had fought and died. The recognition of the sacrifice of those many thousands has been one of the signal achievements of reconciliation of the last decades. The dead Irish of the War certainly informed the Centenary celebrations as never before, reflecting the more thoughtful and inclusive approach of the present day. There is greater appreciation of the circumstances of the Volunteer split in 1914, with the majority following Redmond to enlist in what nobody thought would be a lengthy carnage, in the expectation that Britain would deliver Home Rule at war's end, while the minority set about organising a Rising.

Today's more inclusive approach generated a focus on attendant aspects of the Rising heretofore somewhat overlooked. Tom Clarke has now emerged from the shadows to vie with Pearse and Connolly as leaders. The 40 dead children of Easter Week – among the "collateral damage" of the 260 civilian dead (54% of the total casualties) – received much attention and were the subject of a best-selling book written by popular Irish broadcaster Joe Duffy. So also the nature and scale of the civilian casualties and destruction of central Dublin during Easter Week.

The role of women has now been accorded appropriate recognition. Some fought; others nursed the wounded, or cooked for and tended to the insurgents. Some brave women acted as despatch couriers. After the surrender 77 women were among those imprisoned in Richmond Barracks. To the well acknowledged role of Countess Markievicz has been added, among others,



Connolly's political secretary Winifred Carney, couriers Julia Grenan and Leslie Price, sniper Margaret Skinnider and Elizabeth O'Farrell, the nurse who accompanied Pearse when he surrendered, and who was for long airbrushed out of the famous surrender photo. Some thought was even given to the "other side," i.e. British soldiers and RIC casualties, who have been included (not without controversy) in a Remembrance Wall listing all the victims of 1916 and unveiled in Glasnevin Cemetery.

The motives and aims of those who fought varied. There was a general sense of idealism and patriotism and an undoubted hope that the Rising in Dublin would inspire a general revolt. This happened eventually – and decisively. Out of defeat came ultimate victory. In his superb "Easter 1916" Yeats asked of the Rising "Was it needless death after all? For England may keep faith." That England already HAD was the judgement of the Irish people. Not by granting Home Rule but rather by executing the 1916 Leaders, thus keeping faith with its long and bloody involvement in Ireland. As a nation today "we are where we are." But we ARE a nation – thanks to the men and women of 1916.

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## For The Republic



Chris Fogarty



CHICAGO HEROISM. A group of individuals have quietly done immense good here in Chicago since 1971. Chicago's public schools don't adequately educate some; especially African-Americans. Seeing need, two Sisters of St. Joseph, of the third order of Franciscans of Notre Dame, and Uptown radicals including Kathy Kelly, founded Prologue. As the nuns aged out, Dr. Nancy Jackson and Pa Joof expanded Prologue to some 800 enrollees in schools across Chicago. It successfully teaches drop-outs aged 17 to 24; those abandoned by the system and often neglected by their own parents. Prologue's graduates go on to colleges across the nation. What an achievement! What a boon to those saved, to Chicago, and to the nation! My Mary and I have been occasional volunteers and donors for the past two decades. DANGER! Prologue's existence is threatened by overdue payments from gov't agencies. "No funds available" say City and State. Obviously false. Our gov't's Crimes Against Humanity in Iraq alone will cost some \$3 trillion. Our taxes fund devastations creating refugee torrents not seen since WW2. Our military in some 140 countries are funded; so are our criminal encirclements of Russia and China; so were the banksters, to the tune of \$hundreds of billions. \$7billion went to establish a puppet regime in Ukraine. But our leaders say that we cannot afford to teach the young. NO RACISM? In 2015 303 African Americans were killed by American police officers and 178 Palestinians were killed by Israeli Defense Forces. The homicides increase daily. LEO H.S. alumni have kept their school operating for decades since the Diocese de-funded it. LOYOLA U. ETHICS? Just before Christmas, Fr Seamus Murphy, a Jesuit priest and philosophy professor at Loyola University in Chicago, argued that the (1916)

rebellion "passes none of the 'just war' criteria ... it had a pagan love of war and blood-sacrifice, and it attacked important political common goods." So ends an article in the (Belfast) News Letter newspaper; Jan. 2, 2016). For so long as Loyola U. employs Fr. Murphy why should respecters of truth look to Loyola for education? WE ALL REMEMBER gratefully the many priests, brothers and nuns who strove to inculcate truth. Yet, Fr. Murphy is not unique. Like a putrid stream through Irish history, Fr. Murphy evokes, for example, Bishop Moriarty of Killarney who, while British troops removed Ireland's food crops at gunpoint during 1845-1850, proclaimed his "pride to live in a country where a man will starve his own children to pay rent to his (English) landlord." -Or Bishop John Troy, Diocese of Ossory, who, on 21Feb1798, issued a letter to be read to all congregations in that diocese, condemning Americans for rejecting British rule, and the following October ordered all parishes to conduct a ceremony of excommunication of Whiteboys for resisting robbery of Ireland's crops by English landlords, "... to be published with the usual ceremonies of Bell, Book, and Candle Light at each of your respective Masses on Sunday next, 17th inst...." (See pages 39 to 41 of my book.) Bishop Troy's sentence of excommunication called for total shunning of the Whiteboys, a short life, destruction or destitution of their descendants if any, and condemnation to Hell for eternity. This, off the altars of all Catholic churches in the diocese of Ossory (county Kilkenny, much of Laois, northern Tipperary, and into Offaly). The Whiteboys and similar youths were then the only force protecting Ireland's Irish. The constabulary, militia, army, and judiciary, were all British.

LOYOLA U. is not Catholic-Chicago's only history-falsifier: a few years ago, despite massive

student protests, DePaul U. fired (denied tenure to) Professor Norman Finklestein, a son of Auschwitz survivors, for informing students of Israel's ongoing genocide of Palestine. (DePaul's Board of Regents includes a Zionist.) CITY PENSIONS? A real estate venture created by President Obama's onetime boss and a nephew of ex-Mayor Richard M. Daley squandered \$68 million it was entrusted to invest on behalf of pension plans for Chicago teachers, cops, city employees and transit workers, a Chicago Sun-Times investigation has found. The five public pension funds haven't made a dime on the investments they made nearly a decade ago with DV Urban Realty Partners, a company created by Obama's ex-boss Allison S. Davis and Daley nephew Robert G. Vanecko, records show.

MICHAEL MCKEVITT is free. He was in Portlaoise since before his 2003 frame-up for the MI5/FBI-arranged car-bombing of Omagh. McKevitt was convicted for Omagh though never charged with it, because the news media

Watch For A Special **1916** Commemorative Section in the June edition of Irish American News! Publisher Cliff Carlson will recap his momentous trip to Ireland in April of 2016, covering the Centenary 1916 events.

abetted the frame-up. The second or third sentence of every TV or newspaper report was "The RIRA bombed Omagh." We saw MI5/FBI Agent Patrick "Ed" Buckley at McKevitt's 2003 "trial" for the first time since defeating him and his fabricated evidence and perjuries in 1993 in Case US91CR911. I also escaped Buckley's frame-up of a triple-murder of people I'd never even heard of, when David Biro saved me by blabbing through his FBI cover into Life Without Parole. WILLIE RUSH (RIP) died suddenly, in Omagh, Co Tyrone on April 3 or 4. Rush was one of three FBI moles operating for years in

Irish-Chicago. When he left town the FBI interrogated those who had helped him.

WHICH BRIT REG'T starved your relatives? See [www.irishholocaust.org](http://www.irishholocaust.org) WHO ARE THE TERRORISTS? See [www.terrorismireland.org](http://www.terrorismireland.org) GFA BENEFICIAL? Write to Ireland's patriot/prisoners. For names, addresses contact [maryosullivanpaa@gmail.com](mailto:maryosullivanpaa@gmail.com) or 312/437-3175. Also to the framed Craigavon Two (Brendan McConville and John Paul Wootton). Contact [fogartyc@att.net](mailto:fogartyc@att.net) or 312/664-7651.

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First up this month and really wonderful is FullSet's new album, *Notes Between the Lines*. This is their third cd and best yet. A full range of songs and tunes. FullSet is part of a new wave of young, extremely talented Irish trad groups that bring a real energy and fresh interpretation to the music. They are wonderful in concert—and their studio cd's are every bit as good. We cannot recommend this one to you strongly enough. Superbly crafted arrangements, first class production, outstanding musicianship and lovely vocals that are truly Irish in the trad "feel" all combine for this sextet to have another stunner to their credit. This is an early contender for Vocal/Instrumental Album of the Year. FullSet is in the driver's seat now. A GREAT sound you recognize immediately as FullSet. Not an easy thing to do in trad, yet they have done it to perfection. Give it four stars. Wait! Give it five stars!! Check out their website, which is a great place to buy it: [www.fullsetmusic.com](http://www.fullsetmusic.com) All hail *Notes Between the Lines*!

Blurb from fiddler, Eileen Ivers' biography: "Grammy awarded, Emmy nominated, London Symphony Orchestra, Boston Pops, guest starred with over 40 orchestras, original Musical Star of Riverdance, Nine Time All-Ireland Fiddle Champion, Sting, Hall and Oates, The Chieftains, 'Fiddlers 3' with Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg and Regina Carter, Patti Smith, Al Di Meola, Steve Gadd, founding member of Cherish the Ladies, movie soundtracks including Gangs of New York, performed for Presidents and Royalty worldwide...this is a short list of accomplishments, headliners, tours, and affiliations. Fiddler Eileen Ivers has established herself as the pre-eminent exponent of the Irish fiddle in the world today." Mostly true!

Now she is out with a brand new album, her umpteenth, entitled, *Beyond the Bog Road*. While it is true that Eileen is a great fiddler, it has not always been true that many of her strangely eclectic albums have been all that good. This one, however, is great. It lives up to her talents. Here's why. There is a massive, massive trend in Irish music today to blend trad, bluegrass, country, mountain and cajun music all into a new musical dish. This was not, as some dullards proclaim, because of *We Banjo 3*. It has always, always been there. As America's greatest bluegrass guitarist, Tony Rice stated years ago, "This is all Irish." And, so it is.

The current frenzy for this amalgam may be said to have begun in 1992 with *The Chieftains*, Another Country album best seller. Featuring American stars from Ricky Skaggs to Emmylou Harris, the record was a smash artistically and commercially. There were a lot of derivative albums at that time. Then, as in all acoustic forms of music, the current fav faded. But, Irish music is nothing if not



## Tradition In Review

Bill Margeson



a rollercoaster, and today's current ride definitely, commercially favors this current sound. Summer festivals the world round, ranging from Milwaukee to Tonder, eagerly seek groups who can pull it off. Of all these, Eileen Ivers



sparkles like a gem in *Beyond the Bog Road*. Her playing, arrangements, production skills and years of experience are all out front. There are a ton of guest stars on every cut, it seems—and the selections range from trad to deep country. Very atmospheric. Hard to describe. Don't think that this vid from the album is what all the album is about. It is much more than that. This can serve as a 2016 snapshot of where the hottest of Irish music is now. Doesn't sound all that Irish to you? Listen

again. This is Irish to the bone, and includes almost all it's acoustic descendants. When all the current popularity for this musical approach fades, as it most certainly will, we will be left with this diamond of an album. Good on 'ya, Eileen Ivers.



Sundays at noon Chicago time, don't forget to turn into LiveIreland.com and hear Imelda Bhrogá's and my program, yes, on liveireland.com. It is the Bill&Imelda Show and is 90 minutes of real Irish music. It is the largest audience of any Irish music program in the world—which is all down to the popularity of LiveIreland. The show also features a chat room in which you can join regular chatters live from places all over the world during the program. Places like like Baffin Island, Argen-

tina, Holland, Idaho, China, Berlin, British Columbia, the Middle East, Ontario, England, even Philadelphia—all over the world! (We're told a pub in Newfoundland plays the show each week. More pints!!) We promise you'll have fun and hear some wonderful music. As usual, Imelda is in charge, but I get to tag along. Someone has to stop her from playing a full 90 minutes of Mairtin O'Connor, Jimmy Keane, The Jeremiahs and Connla each week! We will cover a far wider scope than just those four—promise! Please join us! (We are currently playing a lot of the two cd's reviewed here on the show this month.)

\*Ta!

## Our Take on Social Services

By Paul Dowling



Each month Chicago Irish Immigrant Support hosts senior group meetings at IAHC and Gaelic Park. See below for specific details on upcoming events. All senior meetings begin at 10am. There is no cost and refreshments are served. All are very welcome. If you need further information, please call our office on 773-282-8445.

Wednesday, 4th May 2016 – Recognizing a Stroke - IAHC

Over the years we have been fortunate enough to partner with Swedish Covenant Hospital to provide a series of healthcare related presentations given by their expert medical staff. This week we once again host Swedish Covenant to learn more about keeping ourselves as healthy as possible.

Wednesday, 11th May 2016 – How Music Can Improve the Quality of Your Life - Gaelic Park

Aishling Dalton Kelly will share information about Music and Memory. Music and Memory is a non-profit organization that brings personalized music into the lives of the elderly afflicted with dementia or other cognitive challenges through personalized digital music technology, vastly improving quality of life.

Wednesday, 18th May 2016 – Ireland's Foremost Artistic Family - IAHC Join us as we welcome back our resident Irish scholar, Theresa Choske, who will guide us on an exploration of the life and works of Ireland's most prestigious artistic families – the renowned Yeats family, including both W.B and Jack.

Wednesday, 25th May – Student Led Program- Gaelic Park Chicago Irish Immigrant Support offers training opportunities for students in Irish social work schools. As part of their learning experience we ask them to plan and run one of our senior group meetings. Today, we invite our latest students, studying at Trinity College, to take charge!

### Keep Healthy, Keep Connected

Last autumn I found myself back home on a whistle-stop tour of Ireland. Over the course of a week I found myself bouncing from Dublin to Wexford to Cork to Galway and back to Dublin again! Although I was able to squeeze in some time with family and friends the purpose of my trip was very much work related. Every couple of years we go to Ireland to meet with faculty and students of the various social work schools that provide the social work trainees to CIIS. Never one to miss an opportunity, I also made time to meet with other professional working in the social services field to see what I could learn from them that might be used to enrich our own social services programs here in Chicago. I met with people throughout the country all of whom were engage in very interesting and important work. Much of what I learned there has stayed with me, particularly something explained to me in a meeting with Dr Thomas Scharf who until the end of last year was serving as the director of the of the Irish Center for Social Gerontology. An area of great concern for him was the impact of

social isolation on seniors. Of course, it will come as no surprise to any of us that social isolation places seniors who may be susceptible to falls or have difficulty getting to the store or to medical appointment, at considerable risk. What we may not be aware of is that there is very strong evidence to support the idea that a lack of social relationships and social interaction can have a very significant impact on physical health and not just physical safety.

During my visit with Dr Scharf he suggested that I get my hands on an article in the Public Library of Science Medicine Journal that explores this very issue. Since then I did indeed find, read, and re-read this fascinating research. The article I is from 2010 and is entitled Social Relationships and Mortality Risk: A Meta-analytic Review. The findings are quite remarkable and make an excellent argument for all of be sure that we nurture the social connections we have as well as work to develop new friendships and networks.

Expressed most simply, the research found that those whose social networks were poorer were at greater risk of mortality. The research talked about the health impacts of social relationships in two ways. Firstly, social connections have a kind of buffering effect where friends and family have good positively influence our behavior and attitude in a healthy way. For example, those that are married or live with others appear to fair better in term of their health. Secondly, the research discusses how dependable social networks can offer practical and emotional support when adverse situations arise. Those who can draw on the help of others in a time of need are better able to cope with whatever crisis they may be encountering. This particular study suggested that even suggest that the quantity and quality of social connections can have as great an impact on the physical health of seniors as smoking and alcohol consumption. The journal article certainly made a very strong argument that to stay healthy is to stay connected.

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## Spring has Sprung and the Music's Arising

Along with flowers and lovely weather, a crop of equally beautiful CDs have landed on my desk, guaranteed to brighten any day, no matter how overcast. Before we get to those CDs, I just want to share the news about the Thursday night sessions at the Irish American Heritage Center. They were started in January by the lovely and talented Kathleen Keane, who also attends and plays at each one plus other world-class musicians that Kathleen talks into attending and a veritable flock of musicians who show up to play. I recently made it to my first session there when Jackie Moran was anchoring, what a night with bushels full of wonderful music, great craic and the usual roster of interesting folk who frequent the bar at the IAHC. For the price of a couple pints, I was treated to the "real deal", traditional Irish music played with love and passion. I was especially pleased to see the number of young players who were welcomed into the group by the more senior members and encouraged to give it their best, which they did with enthusiasm. This is what the IAHC is all about, keeping our traditions alive, teaching youth about their heritage and having a lovely time in the process. Thank you Kathleen Keane for all your work, you are a gem.

On to the new music and this month I have three must-have CDs to lavish praise on. Leading off is "The Last Bell, Rathcoole Sessions" by the Alan Kelly Gang and what a gang it is ([alankellygang.com](http://alankellygang.com)). Led by deft accordion work of Alan Kelly, the gang consists of Steph Geremia, whose work with

flute and whistle is only overshadowed by her dazzling vo-



cals, Alasdair White making his fiddle sing, Tony Byrne on guitar, Manus Lunny on bouzouki, Ewan Vernal on double bass, Jim Higgins percussion, Martin O'Neill bodhran and a host of other guest artists including the sweet-voiced Eddy Reader. The recording quality is well above average, thanks to the skillful work of Manus Lunny. The instrumentals sparkle, as good as any I've ever heard, with skillful arrangements by these outstanding musicians and the vocals are



an added treat. This is a difficult CD to write about while listening to, in that I find myself drawn to just sit still and listen, and isn't that the highest praise a writer can give a musician.

Hard on the heels of Alan Kelly Gang's CD, comes the arrival of Full Set's third CD, "Notes Between the Lines" ([www.fullsetmusic.com](http://www.fullsetmusic.com)). Full Set is as

tight and together as you'd want a traditional Irish band to be, superb instrumentals and delightful vocals. The band consists of 6 extremely talented players; Andrew Meaney on guitar; Eamonn Moloney on bodhran & percussion; Janine Redmond on button accordion; Marianne Knight on flute and lovely vocals; Martino Vacca doing a superb job on uilleann pipes and whistle and Michael Harrison on fiddle and cello. The new CD, on its first day in the store, passed the customer listening test when a customer entering the store said, "What's playing? I love it. Give me one." I just love recordings that sell themselves, though I'm not surprised at the quality of this new recording, since everything I've ever heard from Full Set was simply great. I have to admit I have considerable admiration for the fiddle work of Michael Harrison, he has a unique style that stands out in its clarity and precision. I predict great things for Full Set and enjoyable times for all of us lucky enough to get the chance to see and hear them in person.

Next is a band that blew my young mind away last year when they issued their EP, self-titled "Cúig". Though it was only 5 tracks long, the EP was long enough to convince me that the band really had something special going on and the future looked bright. Cúig ([www.cuigmusic.com](http://www.cuigmusic.com)) has issued their first full length CD, titled "New Landscapes" and believe me they have lived up to the promise they made with the EP. I like everything about this CD from the music to the cover (how did they get that sofa up on the mountain?). The band is young, very young, but what they lack in years they more than make up in talent. The band consists of Miceál Mullen on banjo, mandolin and tenor guitar; Cathal Murphy, percussion & guitar; Eoin Murphy on button accordion; Rónán Stewart on fiddle and uilleann pipes and Ruairí Stewart on several types of guitar. Mark those names well

*Continued on next page*

## Irish International Theatre Festival in Milwaukee

Milwaukee Irish Arts is proud to host this year's Acting Irish International Theatre Festival (AIITF) from May 24-29. Continuing its more than 25-year tradition of showcasing Irish works, this year's AIITF will bring together nine theatre groups from the United States, Canada and Ireland for one week at Next Act Theater to present a wide variety of exciting Irish theatre in Milwaukee.

As the host group, Milwaukee Irish Arts opens the festival on Tuesday night, May 24th, with its acclaimed production of Sean O'Casey's epic work, "The Plough and the Stars." Then following from Wednesday through Saturday, two shows per day will be performed by the visiting groups from Chicago, Rochester NY, Cincinnati OH,

Del Ray Beach FL, Alberta and Calgary in Canada and Dublin, Ireland.

Adhering to Irish theatre festival tradition, all performances will be assessed by experienced adjudicators, who share their evaluations with the cast and audience immediately following each show, making the offerings a learning experience for all.

Further information on the schedule of performances and the Acting Irish International Theatre Festival can be found at <https://milirisharts.wordpress.com/>. Tickets (\$15-\$23) can be purchased at the Next Act box office at 414.278.0765 or <http://nextact.org/rental-events/aiitf-2016/>. Subject to availability, discounted hotel rates are being offered by host hotel InterContinental Milwaukee [www.intercontinentalmilwaukee.com/](http://www.intercontinentalmilwaukee.com/)

## Spring has Sprung

*Continued from last page*

because I believe we'll be hearing a lot more from them in future. They play with tremendous energy, all instrumental and I defy anyone who's blood still flows in their veins to sit still while listening to this recording. This group really grabs the ears and I can't wait to see them in person. Luckily they're being managed by Colm Phelan, bodhran player with Goitse, and he's a man who knows his music. Get them over here Colm!

Finally I want to tell you about a local band's new CD. Relatively local, after all Milwaukee is just a short run up the road and the home of many good groups and the Grandfather of all Irish festivals. Tallymoore (Tallymore.com) is the band and their new CD is "Drive". Band members Sean Ward on mandolin; Dave Kennedy on guitar; Erin Hoffman on violin and Matt Voell on piano & guitar create some pretty entertaining music. I hate hearing bands that buy a Clancy Brothers album

and memorize it note for note and call themselves an Irish band. Tallymoore is NOT one of those bands!!! While they do like to perform the classics, they take the songs apart and craft arrangements that are exclusively their own and do a damn fine job of it. With three singers doing harmonies and a very strong fiddle, they create new and fresh takes on songs that we've heard a thousand times, but never like this. It's great stuff and for those folks that say nothing new's being done on this side of the pond, let them listen to Tallymoore, that should shut them up. One original piece on their CD really merits special notice, "I'm a Tommy Makem Man" by Dave Kennedy is a great new song and does prodigious tribute to the late Tommy Makem. Fun stuff and a very good band. I look forward to seeing them at the festivals this summer.

That's all for now, catch me in the store, 630-834-8108 on online at [store@rampantlion.com](mailto:store@rampantlion.com) Slainté



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## View From Ireland

By Maurice Fitzpatrick



## Echoes of Easter 1916

The centenary of the Easter Rising and the Proclamation of Irish Independence has been so comprehensively publicised in Ireland that another article about it is like tossing a snow ball into a blizzard. Seldom, if ever, have Irish citizens so completely

focused on a commemorative event; nowhere more so than in the main site of the Rising, Dublin, where for upwards on two years now bookshop shelves have been stacked from wall to wall with publications on the Rising—the role of labour, the role of women, the degree to which its objectives have been fulfilled, the locations in the city where it took place—every lens through which it is possible to view the event and its effects have dominated the media discussion. Multiple films and documentaries have been commissioned. And is it not right and proper that the beginning of a movement that established Ireland as an independent nation should be studied, analysed, amplified and understood?

Interpretation of the Easter Rebellion, both the immediate response to it in 1916 and now a century later, largely breaks down on the lines of imperialist and anti-imperialist proclivities. The view of John Redmond, whose Home Rule party was swept away by the Rising, was that any defiance of the government's rule was insupportable, and if that meant endorsing conscription to the British army during World War I, so be it. An uprising, by definition, is an overthrow of a pre-existing order and those who fervidly espouse that status quo are apt to find fault with it. As with Redmond in the 1910s, so with certain commentators now.

Then there is the rest of us: those in favour of the Rising, or to whom it made at least a lot more sense than did joining the wasteful WWI carnage in continental Europe. As the song, "The Foggy Dew", has it, "slavery fled" when a retinue of Irish patriots arose and asserted that it was "better to die 'neath an Irish sky than at Suvla or Sud-El-Bar".

Songs about the Rising are subject to the usual revisionist mantra: that they glorify violence and wreckage. One impulse to diminish and distort the Rising stands out in particular: former Taoiseach, John Bruton, claimed last June that the Rising had "damaged the Irish psyche". Arguably it is such analyses, and not the Rising itself, that do the damage. Happily, revisionist historians and critics have comprehensively lost in their bid to reduce the success of Easter 1916.

Revisionism has been covertly disseminated as well. Unfurled in front of the Bank of Ireland at College Green (formerly the site of Grattan's Parliament) in Dublin just now is a billboard sized poster of four Irish constitutional politicians: Grattan, O'Connell, Parnell and Redmond. Yet the Easter 1916 Rising was quite a remove from constitutional political order. Pearse's belief in

"blood sacrifice" and even in "purification of blood" (!) are irreducibly rebellious words and concepts. Understandably, a government whose recent electioneering slogan was "keep the stability going" would sooner hark to constitutional nationalism than to Pearsean radical separatism.

The billboard figures, three of them, achieved a great deal. O'Connell delivered the vote to the masses; Parnell delivered the return of land to the masses; Grattan headed up short-lived Irish parliament. But Redmond's presence on the poster is a travesty. Dublin City Council (the authority that erected the poster although the initiative likely came from higher up) explained its decision thus: "It was considered that they are as much a part of the historical narrative of Irish nationalism as anyone else". So they are. But the sleight-of-hand argument is cheap. It is indubitable that they are part of Ireland's historical narrative, but it is flatly incorrect to suggest that they are part of the Rising's narrative—most especially, Redmond is not.

At bottom here is an apparent misunderstanding that the verb to commemorate requires a clearly defined object. A commemoration is not a car boot sale of historical paraphernalia or some amorphous sense of the past tense, it is an examination and recollection of something specific. If it impossible for everyone to agree on the validity of the Rising, let us at least agree that the Rising is the subject of the debate.

America's role in the Rising has been fully recognised and rightly so. The Times in London in 1885 stated that "the Irish Question is mainly an Irish-American question" and that is most certainly true in reference to the Rising. The Proclamation of Independence read by Padraig Pearse states that Ireland "now seizes that moment, and supported by her exiled children in America and by gallant allies in Europe, but relying in the first on her own strength". Padraig Pearse was open about enlisting Ireland's American diaspora when he proclaimed the new reality for a subjugated people in 1916. New York University Professor of History Joe Lee has put it as bluntly as this: "No New York, No America, No Rising".

Given the level of distortion that has prevailed in some quarters it is appropriate to remember this much about the Easter 1916. It managed, for a brief but crucial moment in our history, to unify a group of nationalists, feminists, socialists, Protestants, Catholics, men and women by rallying them to the call of the right for Ireland to be ruled by the Irish. The leaders paid with the lives for taking that position. The exposure of Official British violence and brutality in killing the leaders was central to propelling a much wider tranche of Irish society into a struggle for independence which was successful, however imperfect, partial and divisive it was. The Rising is a hugely significant event, both in Ireland and as an example to far flung countries that wished to extirpate their masters. Such an incendiary and foundational event cannot be contained by sanitising rhetoric, nor can it ultimately be revised. It was done in the name of all of Ireland's children, whose descendants have in recent months acquitted themselves well in celebrating it. Despite the obstacles and diversionary tactics, the commemoration of the Rising has been an education and a fine expression of true patriotism.

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## Boyle the Kettle

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Tom Boyle



**1922** Traditionally we honor our servicemen in the month of May when we celebrate Memorial Day. This year we will look to the past and remember those who fought for Ireland's freedom from 1916 to 1922.

Captain Jack Lawlor, B Co 2, IRA North Kerry Brigade was killed on October 31, 1922 by the Irish Free State Army in Ballyheigue, Co. Kerry. He is buried in St. James Cemetery there. A monument was built at the place where he was killed.

The story as it is told in our family is that he was on the way

legend goes, my father who was 17 at the time, supposedly made his way to the caves under the cover of night to bring ammunition to the IRA men who were trapped there.

### Election Central

Trump, Bernie, Hillary, Cruz, Kasich! Have you had enough political theater? people who will vote for Trump are simply fed up with establishment politics. People voting for Bernie have a socialist bent, the "Robin Hood Syndrome" rob the rich and give to the poor, in other words more welfare. Hillary's checkered past may be her downfall. Ted Cruz should take

they had a bonfire in the cemetery at Kiltoomney which is a tradition on Easter Sunday. Further on in our conversation he told me that Bridie McCarthy Fitzgerald had been killed by a bull . . . the rain in Kerry is unrelenting!

### Michael Smyth

You might have known him as "Mickey." He was from Scotstown, Co. Monaghan. Mike was a good friend. I met him when I started volunteering at the Irish American Heritage Center in 1987. Mike was devoted to the Center, logging over 30,000 hours as an electrician. Few can match his record as a volunteer.

First and foremost, Mike was a great family man. He lost his wife Rose, a few weeks before he passed. The Smyth family lives on. His son, Vincent, and two daughters, Eileen and Noreen and their grandchildren are still with us.

Chicago Police Superintendent The new police superintendent, Eddie Johnson, is an African-American who grew up in Cabrini Green. The infamous public housing complex on the near North Side of Chicago. Did Rahm Emmanuel

pull another fast one? Did he cave in to the Black Caucus? Who turned him on to Mr. Johnson? The Police Board was by-passed. No surprise! Now the Hispanic community feels slighted. The iron grip of political correctness prevails. It looks as though from now on, we make all of our decisions based on the color of your skin . . .

### Witness Statement

*(continued from previous issues)*

Statement by Witness George Joseph Dwyer, Member of 'F' Company, 4th Battalion, Dublin Brigade, 1916

Conscription Crisis: During the conscription crisis some 20-30 rifles were transferred by us in a cab from Stanley Street to Miss Flood's of Bluebell. I cannot recollect were these for a big influx of Volunteers into the Company and from the original strength of 50 it increased to approximately 120. When this crisis had passed quite a large number of the men who had joined at that time left us.

British recruiting meetings held in James' street and the North Strand were broken up and ob-

structed by members of our Company. While there was no physical violence used the speakers and those who addressed the meeting failed to get a hearing as the Volunteers cried them down.

**Funeral of Richard Coleman:** Richard Coleman of Swords died in Usk Prison in Monmouth Shire, Wales on the 9th or 10th December, 1918. His body was taken to Dublin and he was buried in Glasnevin Cemetery where he was given a military funeral. My company took part in this funeral. We were ordered on this occasion to take small arms and ammunition as it was felt that the British might intervene and prevent military ceremonial. When the burial had been completed instructions reached us that we were to avoid double with the British if possible and that for this reason we were to avoid returning home by the front gate. We, therefore, left the cemetery by a rear entrance and were dismissed at Parnell Square. We didn't encounter any British military on our return journey.

*to be continued . . .*



Children in St. James Cemetary

home from the village when he was stopped by a Free State soldier who was drunk and abusive. Jack Lawlor took his rifle away from him, knocked him unconscious and went home. Later that night the Free State soldiers came and picked him up. He was put before a firing squad the next morning and executed in front of St. Mary's Church. His body was left in the road.

The story can be found in a book, "The Tragedies of Kerry" by Dorothy MaCardle, page 11. The story in the book is probably a more accurate version of what happened that night. You can also find the story of the events at Clashmealcon caves on page 54 of the same book. As

up bull riding! Governor Kasich seems to be a much more sensible person.

### Chicago Public Schools

Never has there been a more zesty political hamburger. They should all take a bite. Karen Lewis didn't help matters with her juvenile behavior comparing Governor Rauner to ISIS.

### Easter Phone Call

I always make several calls to Co. Kerry on the holidays. When I called Tom Boyle from Ballylanna he was over in Ballyduff at the plowing match where his son Patrick was competing. The conversation was brief. When I called Patrick McCarthy in Lixnaw he had a little more news. At sunrise

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## An Immigrant's Musings

Michael Leonard



### CENTENARY OF 1916

A number of people asked me why I hadn't offered any reflections on the 100th anniversary of 1916. Firstly, let me state that while I am reasonably well versed on the major points in Irish history, I do not consider myself to be an expert on any particular period.

With that caveat, I would like to make a few observations on the rising and some facts surrounding the events that are perhaps not very well known.

The seeds of the rising were sown in the twelfth century and watered by an every increasing occupation of and a suppression of its people, by the English in the centuries that followed. As the British Empire began to expand their influence the rights and wellbeing of the people of Ireland were trampled on with impunity. The English planters, having forcefully taken over the best land, forced the Irish people to live in areas where, as one of

my neighbors in Co. Clare used to say; "there wasn't enough to feed a Snipe."

This led to the situation whereby the vast majority of the people in Ireland were subsisting on very smallholdings of poor arable land. And when the great famine of 1845-51 hit (with the failure of the potato crop) the results were of such a disastrous proportion that have not since been witnessed in Europe.

The rising itself almost never happened due to the fact that two large shipments of arms and munitions arriving from Germany were scuppered. Rodger Casement had arranged the shipment and three days before the rising arrived by submarine and landed at Banna strand Co. Kerry. He had a recurrence of malaria and unable to travel to Dublin, he was arrested by the English at McKenna's Fort (an ancient ring fort now called Casement's Fort) near Ardferit Co. Kerry.

In College, I remember my history pro-

fessor informing the class that: A Swede and a Finn fought with the rebels in the GPO in Dublin. They were crewmen on a foreign ship and were happy to fight with the Irish.

The 1916 leaders were responsible for what many consider the world's first-ever broadcast of a revolution, when they sent out a message in Morse code which read: "Irish Republic declared in Dublin today. Irish troops have captured city and are in full possession. Enemy cannot move in city. The whole country rising."

It is clear to anyone who has done a little reading, that "The Proclamation" of Irish Independence, as it is known, was clearly influenced by the American Declaration of Independence. That is not surprising when one takes account of the fact that five of the seven signatories of the Irish proclamation had visited the

US. Thomas Clarke had lived in America for years and became an American citizen before returning to Ireland. Clarke was actually born on the Isle of Wight his father, a native of Co. Leitrim was a soldier in the British Army and that technically made him a British person fighting against the Empire!

As space is limited, I will leave you with a recommendation to watch the PBS series: 1916 The Irish Rebellion. This production by Notre Dame University; thoroughly researched and narrated by Liam Neeson is a must for anyone who wants to better understand "The Rising."

The following is one of my favorite poems from one of the leaders of 1916: Thomas McDonagh.

Should you have any comments, questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact me at: sliabhanoir@gmail.com

### Wishes For My Son, Born On St Cecilia's Day, 1912'

Now, my son, is life for you, And I wish you joy of it, - Joy of power in all you do, Deeper passion, better wit Than I had who had enough, Quicker life and length thereof, More of every gift but love.

Love I have beyond all men, Love that now you share with me- What have I to wish you then But that you be good and free, And that God to you may give Grace in stronger days to live?

For I wish you more than I Ever knew of glorious deed, Though no rapture passed me by That an eager heart could heed, Though I followed heights and sought Things the sequel never brought.

Wild and perilous holy things Flaming with a martyr's blood, And the joy that laughs and sings Where a foe must be withstood, Joy of headlong happy chance Leading on the battle dance.

But I found no enemy, No man in a world of wrong, That Christ's word of charity Did not render clean and strong- Who was I to judge my kind, Blindest groper of the blind?

God to you may give the sight And the clear, undoubting strength Wars to knit for single right, Freedom's war to knit at length, And to win through wrath and strife, To the sequel of my life.

But for you, so small and young, Born on Saint Cecilia's Day, I in more harmonious song Now for nearer joys should pray- Simpler joys: the natural growth Of your childhood and your youth, Courage, innocence, and truth:

These for you, so small and young, In your hand and heart and tongue.

## Irish Musicians Hold Benefit Concert 5-14

A benefit concert will be held on Saturday, May 14th at Chicago Gaelic Park which will help Doctors Without Borders and the Youth Student Irish Musicians Assistance Fund.

Master of Ceremonies will be Harry Costello. Tickets are \$15.



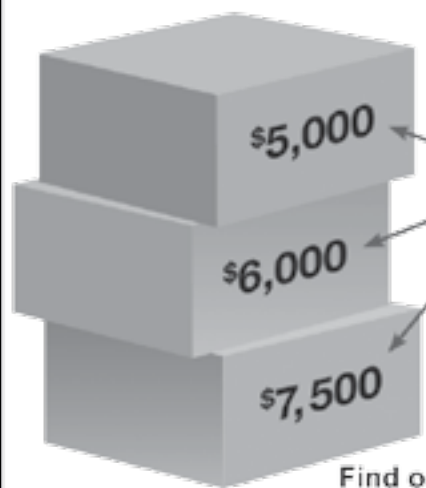
Show begins at 8pm. Gaelic Park is at 6119 W 147th St., Oak Forest, IL 60452 708-687-9323.

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Games start at 10 a.m.

Early Bird special, \$200 per team.

Food & Alcohol served all day.

Party following the tournament.

For more info: contact [jeffmumm09@yahoo.com](mailto:jeffmumm09@yahoo.com)

### IASCW Awards Three ILE Scholarships

The Irish American Society of County Will Scholarship committee recommended three Will County high school students for monetary scholarship awards payable to the Irish Life Experience program. 2016 recipients include: Max Kottman, Joliet Catholic Academy; Shannon Davison, Providence Catholic High School; and Brianna Bell, Joliet Central High School. All three will travel to Ireland through the ILE program in June 2016 for a 27-day tour including home stays, educational events, and historical sites of interest.

The IASCW has awarded over 45 Irish cultural & study scholarships since 1982. returning scholars attend the March St. Patrick's day dinners to present reports from their experience. All Will County high school students are eligible to apply. All Will County high schools are provided with application information in January of each year with February deadlines and early March finalist interviews. For more information see the IASCW web site.

### Inaugural IASCW Shamrock Rugby Football Club



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## A Slice of Ireland

By Cathy Cooney-Millar

### Liz McArthur

It's no accident that Liz McArthur is one of the funniest women in Chicago. She has been making people laugh her whole life. Growing up in St. Louis, as a child, she was the class clown to creating hilarious skits as a Girl Scout for her troop or in high school doing impersonations of Bruce Springsteen.

While attending college at Columbia University she majored in Theatre. She has been involved in many comedy troops such as Second City, Improv Olympics, and Annoyance Sketch Comedy groups.

Her Grandmother told her she is "Disgustingly Irish." Her heritage comes from Northern Ireland with family names such as O'Shaunessey's and Flavins.

She partners with Jill Valentine as Director and Producer for many local Chicago comedy events. They are the founders of the Women's Funny Festival held at Stage 773 located at 1225

W. Belmont Ave, Chicago. They started this venture in 2011 and it is considered to be all things funny! They review hundreds of submissions for individuals or groups who will perform in one of the 4 theatres June 16-17-18-or 19th. Comedians submit videos or CD



on their comedy and Jill and Liz review every one and choose who will be performing that weekend to live audiences. The comedy could be sketch comedy or Improv or

### Local Actors Bring The Chicago Haymarket Riot to Life

In commemoration of the 130th year anniversary, Chicago actors, BEN DAVID GARZA and ERIC J. COLEMAN, and DAVID MCGRATH, will be bringing to life an original theatrical performance of the events of the 1880s here in Chicago.

As we approach the Second Gilded Age, this revolutionary interactive period piece couldn't be more timely today. With the



THE HAYMARKET RIOT. THE EXPLOSION AND THE CONFLICT.

support of many talented local actors, this important chapter

funny dances or a puppet show! Whoever they choose to perform is the best of the best with unique and hilarious antics. This is a show you cannot miss!

Some future comedy is a musical sketch group which will be an Off Broadway which may include burlesque parody's that do off the cuff comedy. As you see their creativity is off the chart!

Liz states there is an increase of women's comedy with the likes of Tina Fey and Melissa McCarthy rising to the charts. Kimmy Schmidt on the show Unbreakable is another comedian that is making headway with her comedic performance on Netflix.

At the heart of all this, Liz wants to help women get into comedy. The Women's Funny Festival not only offers female performers a platform to showcase their talents but, just as importantly, provides a place to network and support each other's work. She is inspired by recent college grads getting into the industry. She is a true mentor helping to teach women about her experiences and help others reach their comedic success.

Check out Liz's internet site at:

[www.lizmcArthur.com](http://www.lizmcArthur.com).

Women's Funny Festival held at Stage 773 located at 1225 W. Belmont Ave, Chicago.

in the story of labor and the struggle for the eight-hour workday will be brought to life.

Performances:

April 30, May 4 (the anniversary of the event), May 7, May 14, May 21, & May 28th at 8:00pm.

All performances will be at the Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 N Knox Ave., Chicago.

David M. Hartley as Albert Parsons Tonya Simmons as Lucy Waller Parsons Free parking. Tickets: \$20 available at [www.brownpapertickets.com](http://www.brownpapertickets.com).

[www.bloodyhaymarket.com](http://www.bloodyhaymarket.com)

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called for one of many great prizes such as TVs, DVD players, Stereo equipment, large stuffed animals, gift cards, etc.

After the grand raffle, we will play games, which guarantees each



Our day will start with 10 am Mass on the Patio, with our main celebrant being Bishop Francis Kane of Chicago, as always there is no charge to our "special guests," but a nominal fee charged to all others attending.

The main highlight of our day is the Grand Raffle which will follow the Irish breakfast. Our "special guests" look forward to this event all year with anticipation of their name being

special guest three game prizes of their choice from tables, which are jam packed with great prizes. In the past, prizes consisted of electronics, sport clothing, hats, stuffed animals, DVDs, CDs, etc.

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Registration begins May 18th - June 18th 2016. To register please call: Maureen Bennett at 708-301-9773



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## Kilkenny Remains the Team to Topple

I remember a particular train of thought back in 2008. Kilkenny had won their third All-Ireland in a row after destroying Waterford by 23 points in the showpiece hurling final. In an unprecedented move, in possibly the history of sports, the winning manager, Brian Cody, was awarded the man-of-the-match as his side had vanquished that year's pretenders in the most one-sided final of recent times.

The thinking at the time was that when this generation of Kilkenny players, which included Henry Shefflin, Tommy Walsh, JJ Delaney, Noel Hickey and Eddie Brennan, had passed, there would be a more regular changing of the guard on the first Sunday in September when the hurling champi-

ons lift the Liam McCarthy Cup in triumph. Despite Tipperary's win in 2010 and Clare's victory in 2013, that logic hasn't come to pass.

With Cody yet at the helm, Kilkenny's dominance of the hurling landscape has continued. That they have done it with a new cast of players has been all the more impressive as only Eoin Larkin and TJ Reid remain constant from both the 2008 and 2015 final victories. Once again the Cats will head into the new championship season as favourites with the added incentive of another three-in-a-row within their sights.

It shouldn't be this way, argues former All-Ireland winning manager, Ger Loughnane, who questioned how a side, without the same number of great players

they had in the past, being able once again to dominate the hurling environs. He said it was especially so as this Kilkenny team are overly reliant on the scoring prowess of TJ Reid and Ritchie Hogan, the last two players to be awarded 'Hurler of the Year' respectively.

Though his comments were seen as incendiary in Kilkenny hurling circles as being disrespectful to the current champions, but they are not without merit. In last year's final, Kilkenny trailed an impressive Galway outfit by three points at half time. The previous year they needed a replay as Tipperary got to within a whisker of victory in the drawn final of 2014. What had been noticeable in both victories has been their ability to hurl at a higher intensity when the game looks like it can fall either side of a knife's edge.

Loughnane's comments were, in my opinion, by and large taken out of context as he just as effectively exposed the limitations of the chasing pack who have failed to wrestle the title from Kilkenny's grasp in recent years. It is true



*Kilkenny hurler Eoin Larkin, who serves in the Irish army, has been ever present on the successful Kilkenny sides of the past decade*

that the full back line seems more exposed when compared to when JJ Delaney manned the edge of the square and it is also true that their scoring has mainly come through Reid in the league this year. Despite this, Cody contin-

ues to unearth new players, with James Maher at wing forward and Robert Lennon at centre back likely to be highly involved come the summer.

Contenders - The two sides that

*Continued on page 33*

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# Mick

## Mike Morley



## Openly Catholic

Recently my spouse, Dorothy, brought to my attention an exchange between two TV commentators discussing the religious angle of a particular story. Interestingly, one newscaster prefaced her remarks with: "Well, I'm openly Catholic..." Now, I've heard the term "lapsed Catholic", "cafeteria Catholic", fallen-away Catholic, but "openly Catholic"?

The phrase brings to mind ancient Rome, where Christians were fodder for blood sport at popular entertainment media venues; or Ireland, with secret Mass rocks and priest holes during dark centuries of Protestant repression. More recent times, when British Prime Minister Tony Blair (sometimes rumored to be gay) resigned, he also "came out of the closet" to reveal- not that he was gay- but instead that he was secretly Catholic.

Blair must have learned his lesson for flouting canon law in prep school in 1966, when he was rebuked by Anglican Cardinal Basil Hume for attending Catholic Mass and receiving Holy Communion. In the Anglo world, unlike homosexuality, Catholicism is a severe impediment to social advancement. In the US, over 228 years since its founding, 44 presidents have been elected, all but one professing Protestantism. The lone Catholic was shot dead before he could seek a second term.

I rented this year's "Best Picture": "Spotlight", billed by its makers as "the true story behind the scandal that shook the world". Knowing the high priests of Hollywood, I expected and got little more than a rehash of painful events that occurred a decade and a half ago. The film

did use a different angle, the newsmen's perspective, but the story was the same- no hint of fresh approaches to the problem since the turn of the century.

Major media gushed, calling it "a landmark film", a "riveting true story". Its budget was \$20 million, and it raked in 4x that. Yet, without its lurid, over-worked subject matter, it was not much better than your standard 'newsie' flick, a yawner; a video victory dance around a wounded Anglo bogeyman- Catholicism.

"Spotlight" focuses on the pivotal role of Martin Baron "the first Jewish editor at the Globe", giving the impression the new boss simply picked the Church abuse story from a list without much forethought. But just prior to the 2015 Academy Awards Baron was asked about the movie and said he still regrets that one scene, "a product of my own anger that the years have yet to extinguish" was not in the movie. What fuels Baron's rage to this day is a speech made by Mary Ann Glendon, Harvard law professor and former U.S. ambassador to the Vatican, who told a Catholic conference in 2002: "if fairness and accuracy have anything to do with it, awarding the Pulitzer Prize to the Boston Globe would be like giving the Nobel Peace Prize to Osama bin Laden." Glendon said the Globe had created a "climate of hysteria the likes of which has not been seen in Boston since the Ursuline convent was burnt down."

Baron left Boston in 2013 to become executive editor of The Washington Post, which carried a story last year stating: "Researchers agree that the landscape today is dramatically different from the era 'Spotlight' depicts. The Catholic Church now spends tens of millions of dollars each

year on child protection efforts... the U.S. church is considered a global leader in prevention efforts."

One huge problem with media coverage of this story over the past 20 years is constant headlines using the sensational term "pedophile". Media giants deliberately and systematically link 'pedophile' with 'priest' in the public mind, ignoring the fact that the vast majority of historical cases involved not young children, not girls, but boys in their teen years. But if news stories were spun differently, it could soon dawn on readers to question why 'straight' priests were so attracted to males. That would risk a spotlighting a sacred media can of worms.

But the vastly larger problem with media coverage is focusing blame for a universal human disorder on the leaders of a single religion. The Globe's Spotlight team (all lapsed Catholics) claim their research showed the incidence of pedophilia among Catholic priests was the same as in the general population, 6%. (Other researchers have since estimated a much lower figure).

Baron and the Spotlight crew wrote 600 stories for their series believing that 6% of humans were pedophiles, indicating that of 323.3 million Americans, about 19.5 million might have this disorder. That's the population of America's five largest cities: New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Houston and Philadelphia combined! Yet knowing this, Baron and Spotlight went hard after American Catholic priests, population about 38,000, 6% of which (2,280) could have been 'pedophiles'.

You might say if you are attacking a big problem, it's just easier to start with a small population. And targeting priests who are represent sacred guardians of the flock is sensational- it sells papers and wins prizes. But where is the follow-up?

Did the Globe or other media giants field units to probe child abuse in other religions? Psychologist Valerie Tarico's claim that "more children are abused

by Protestant ministers than by Catholic priests" makes statistical sense.


Do you recall seeing lurid headlines about rampant abuse in the Jewish community by orthodox rabbis? Brooklyn has one of the largest Hasidic communities in the world and the NY Times was obliged to write a few stories on it. Former Mayor Koch even spoke out about it (in his blog), accusing Brooklyn DA Joe Hynes of giving the group preferential treatment in abuse cases in return for political support.

How about larger groups. Did The Globe or other big media culture crafters turn a spotlight on government funded groups like public school employees? Evidence was there since 1995, years before the Spotlight probe, in a study on school sexual abuse complaints made to federal authorities. Co-authored by

Charol Shakeshaft, it found that not one of the abusers was ever reported to police and only 1% lost their license to teach. The US Dept. of Education (DE) then commissioned Shakeshaft to do a major inquiry into the topic. She submitted a preliminary study, 'Educator Sexual Misconduct' in 2004, showing that "10% of U.S. public school students, or 4.5 million students, had been the victims of sexual harassment, rape or sexual abuse". She estimated: "the physical sexual abuse of students in [public] schools is likely more than 100 times the abuse by [Catholic] priests." But her major follow-up study on the topic was never funded. The DE quietly dropped the project.

If any of this is news to you, that's because your government and your media culture crafters don't think you need to know about it.

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## Terry From Derry

by Terry Boyle



### Theater Reviews

#### The Little Big World

Kudos must be given to the Irish Theatre of Chicago for having the guts to perform a work by lesser-known Northern Irish playwright, Gary Mitchell, and doing him justice. Belfast dramatist, Mitchell, is a rising star, who casts a spotlight on the troubles of working class Protestant family caught between family loyalty and tribal allegiance. By choosing Mitchell's work the Irish Theatre have proven that risk taking is part of the adventure of staging an innovative and challenging work. In a Little World of Our Own, the actors bring to life a family trapped between a rock and a hard place. When there are no easy decisions to make, there are equally no easy judgments to form. For this reason alone, the Irish theatre capture the moral dilemma of a family caving in on itself, as a metaphor for the post-conflict Rathcoole community.



Matthew Isler Ray, carries his role as protector and troublemaker with fire in his belly. His passion is

palpable. His interactions with Robert Kauzlaric, Walter, and Gage Wallace, Richard, are delivered with a razor blade edge. What one realizes when watching this tale unfold is how profoundly familiar the complexity is. Whether it's Rathcoole, South Chicago, or any other impoverish neighbourhood, the real enemy is lack of opportunity and economic hardship that comes with such limitations.

Don't miss the Irish Theatre's Company's U.S. Premiere of *Spinning*

May 25 – July 3, 2016

By Deirdre Kinahan

Directed by Joanie Schultz

Performed at The Den Theatre, 1333 N. Milwaukee Avenue in Chicago

#### The Few: Steep Theatre

The Few by Samuel D. Hunter is one of those plays that combine true grit with

heartfelt compassion. In wonderful performance that splendidly captures the rise and fall of despair and hope; the cast (Peter Moore, Dana Black and Travis Coe) take us on a journey into the wasteland of loneliness. Each actor perfectly touches on the fragility of human emotions as they each in their own way embody the deep need for human companionship, and encounter a lack of reciprocation. Set against a backdrop of 'personal ads' we watch the delicate interplay between lover and beloved; the worshipper and object of affection, that are completed with the tender threads the bind relationships together.

Director Brad Akin completes the superb team effort with his astute observations of human ambiguity, and contradiction. He choreographs each of the players to act out their subtext with precision. Hunter's below the surface realities are beautifully reconstructed in wanton sentimentality, lost hope, and brutal craving. All three actors, under the guidance of Akin, bring us into the almost, but not quite, desired connection with just the right amount of understatement.

Go to [irishamericannews.com](http://irishamericannews.com) to read Terry's special offering *Brian's Story* or to Amazon where it is titled *'The Designs of Silence'*

member you have it, you can't find it... because of all the clutter in your life.

Then it's not a good deal.

SUMMARY: when you use hard earned cash that could be better used elsewhere to purchase something you don't need or use that will add to your clutter which in turn adds to guilt, embarrassment, anxiety and shame, and takes up space in your life that you wish it didn't take up.

THEN IT'S NOT A GOOD DEAL.

Do you understand that you could go broke with all those "money saving deals"? There's no way to guarantee this, but many people report that when they begin clutter-busting and STOP buying "good deals", their clutter AND their financial debt starts to diminish and their energy increases.

NOW -- starting today -- every time you see a great bargain, it's time to start asking "When is a good deal not a good deal?"

Rita Emmett is a "Recovered Pack Rat", a Professional Speaker, and best-selling author of *The Procrastinator's Handbook*; and *The Clutter-Busting Handbook*.

Go to [www.RitaEmmett.com](http://www.RitaEmmett.com) for products on Stress Management, Procrastination and Clutter or to subscribe to her free monthly "Anticrastication Tip Sheet. You can reach her at 847-699-9950 or [REmmett412@aol.com](mailto:REmmett412@aol.com).

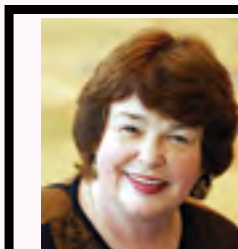
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## Clutter Buster

Procrastinate No More

by Rita Emmett

When is a Good Deal Not a Good Deal?

A rich person is NOT the one who has the most but is the one who needs the least.

--- anonymous

If price is the best thing about something, you should not buy it. Ever. — Peter Walsh

Last month we covered that clutter comes from 4 habits and the first letter of each habit spells SINS. Do you:

- Save things you don't need or use
- Insist on bringing things into your life you don't need or use
- Never assign a spot for things to belong
- Set things down to put away later

We've already addressed the "S" of SINS. Today we'll cover the "I" -- those good deals you INSIST on bringing into your life that you don't need or use

A friend -- because she loves "a good deal" -- bought a massage table from Freecycle for only \$10.

She is not (and is not becoming) a massage therapist. She does not have

HOWEVER she hates having debt and clutter. If you purchase a bargain you don't need or use, but you wish you had cash to: end your debts, start a college or retirement fund, remodel your house, live a better lifestyle or donate to a worthy cause, it's certainly not the best use of your hard earned cash. It's not a good deal. If your good deal doesn't have a place to belong or takes up room you can't spare

or prevents you from using something for its purpose (such as the dining room table.... or ...the floor), it's not a good deal. If that bargain contributes to clutter, makes you feel crummy and adds stress or embarrassment to you, it's not a good deal.

If that bargain is something that you don't need or use but somebody somewhere on this planet at some place in time might want it,

let's be realistic. You will probably forget that you have it or if you DO re-

one come to her home. She has not used it in years and doesn't plan to use it. But she loves it. Because it was a good deal.

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## Irish Books and Plays in Review

Frank West



### The Last Armada The Story of the 100 Day Spanish Invasion

By: Des Ekin  
Pegasus Books  
What an exciting read! This is an amazing story that is very well told.

The Spanish navy landed an army of 1700 men in Kinsale. They were to support the Irish nobles, Hugh O'Neill and Hugh O'Donnell in their war against English colonization. The nobles wanted to

preserve Gaelic society and keep Ireland independent of England.

The English knew that the victor in this war would control all of Ireland. They sent a large army, with huge siege cannons to surround the Spanish. This would prevent them reaching and supporting the Irish army.

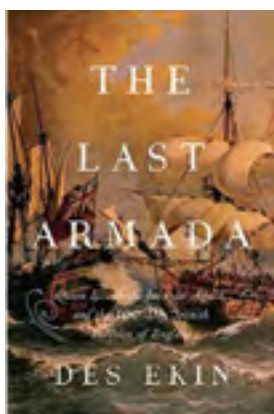
The story of the months-long siege is peopled by larger-than-life characters. They are commander of the Spanish army, Don Juan del Aguilar, Irish commanders, Hugh O'Neill and High O'Donnell, and commander of the English forces, Charlie Blount (Lord Mountjoy).

Who is the author who tells this extraordinary story so well and vividly? He is Des Ekin, born in County Down, worked as a journalist and rose to become editor. He has written four books. His book *The Stolen Village* was honored as book of the year. It is about the attack on a seaside Irish village by Barbary pirates. He lives in Dublin with his wife, son and two daughters.

There are many, many possible quotes. There are a few:

Among the Spanish army that landed were many priests, friars, nuns, and even bishops. The clerics enjoyed huge power. They immediately tried to order the

veteran soldiers around. Even when it came to military matters, they felt they knew best. "One priest was furious when Aguilar refused his military advice and told him that his function was to pray and hear confessions."



The Irish forces "were fighting a Catholic crusade, but most of the Catholic clergy declared against them." This was typical of bishops who supported England then, and for hundreds of years.

At the end of the one hundred day siege: "Aguilar came to terms with his English counterpart...An honorable man, he insisted on one particular conditions...although the English wanted to hang the Irish 'traitors'...Aguilar refused to hand them over." He said he would fight to the death rather than betray his comrades. And the Irish soldiers sailed off to Spain with Aguilar. What a man of nobility and strength of character!

### Barlow by the Book

By: John McCallister  
Portnoy Publishing DuFour Editions

A friend of the author gave a copy of this mystery book to me and I casually began to read it. By the second page, it had grabbed my complete attention.

Barlow by the Book is a mystery book, but it is also a charming look at life in a small town in rural Ireland. It is set in 1960 in Ballymena, where the author grew up. "The novel recounts many of his

own experiences and incorporates places he knows well," says the info sheet.

Barlow is John Barlow, sergeant of police of Northern Ireland, then called the RVC. "Station Sergeant Barlow is based on a real policeman of that name who strode the town of the author's youth like a Goliath.

What was life like then? I found it strikingly similar to the Chicago neighborhood where I grew up. There was a feeling of belonging, of knowing something about all of the neighbors and them knowing you. However, anything that was serious or dramatic was kept quiet, subdued and hidden.

Barlow is empathetic and kind, but lets no one know of his kindness. The book is humorous, but the humor is so understated that you really have to watch for it.

These quote will give you a flavor of the book.

A new policeman asks, "What are we looking for, Sergeant?" The usual not happening...growled Barlow..."

"Harvey (the local chief of police) almost cooed with pleasure. Being on first name terms with someone of the Colonel's antecedents meant a lot to him. The Pakenham estates on Kells Water dated back to the land grants of the first King James in the early 1600's. Barlow ached to know what had happened to the previous owners, other than rape, murder, and pillage."

The same Colonel, stopped on suspicion of pick-pocketing: "The Colonel stood with one hand on the roof of his car, looking across the fields. (His accomplice) the daughter's body shook hard and she fought back tears with a miniscule handkerchief. She refused with a look of scorn accumu-

lated over multiple generations of lording it over tenant farmers."

A haughty descendant of the gentry, when Barlow tries to help her alcoholic brother, says to Barlow, "Is this the best you can do for Edward Adair of the Adairs, one time barons of Ballymena?"

"Your family bled us dry long enough." "She stared at him coldly. Then stormed back to her car."

A police Inspector says: "Barlow, before I come to Ballymena, I asked around about you. Do you know that you're a legend up in RVC headquarters? Several inspectors said they'd started their careers under your tutelage. You taught them real policing."

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](http://irishamericannews.com)

### Wilde's Women

#### How He Was Shaped by the Women He Knew

By: Eleanor Fitzsimmons  
Overlook Press

Oscar Wilde was a popular playwright, as well as a poet, novelist, and essayist. He lived from 1854 to 1900.

Wilde was a brave person who championed ideas that were far ahead of the time.

Most of his goals are accepted today. Goals he wanted: equality

*Continued on next page*



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## Wilde's Women

*Continued from last page*

between men and women; more opportunity in life for women; more an end to social control of women by a patriarchal social structure. In general, he wanted greater humaneness and tolerance, and an end to English occupation of Ireland.

Oscar practiced what he dreamed of. He had "dozens of women friends...He traded witticisms with women, promoted their work, collaborated with them on theatrical productions, and drew inspiration from their

lives."

Who were those women? The author Eleanor Fitzsimmons gives us a very well researched look at the many women who had such a profound impact on Oscar Wilde. An aspect of the book that I especially like is how Fitzsimmons makes each woman become real by telling us interesting details about her. All of this she puts into perspective of the social structure they lived in. It is often called Victorian.

As the info sheet says, "the book is methodically researched, Wilde's Women gives the females in Wilde's life a voice in a time

where they can-at least be heard."

Eleanor Fitzsimmons is a researcher who specializes "in historical and current feminist issues." She is a regular radio and television contributor. She is a writer and journalist whose "work has been published in newspapers and journals including the Sunday Times, Guardian, and Irish Times.

Modern day women would certainly agree with Wilde's vision and foresight. In 1887, as editor of *The Women's World*, "he insisted, the publication would concern itself 'not merely with what women wear, but with what they think and what they feel.'"

Oscar was always a life affirming person. He never lost his enthusiasm and zest for life, despite his tragic end. English prosecutors condemned him to prison and to hard labor there. The hard labor ruined his health and he died shortly after release.

The world is a better place today because of Oscar Wilde's bravery. And it is an especially better place for women.

## The Life of Galileo

By Bertolt Brecht  
Theater Review  
by: Frank West

"Once there was belief, now there is doubt," laments a member of the Italian establishment of the 1600's.

There are several ideas presented in Brecht's play about the scientific revolution. Those ideas encourage us to carefully appraise reality. Quoting Nick Sandys, director of this powerful and dynamic play, it "raises many large questions about science, faith and truth..." He goes on to say: "Galileo is fighting for the freedom to think, to learn, to speak..."

I chose to focus on one; the control-of scientific knowledge, or as Galileo says, "Throughout Italy knowledge is in bondage."



From left, Tess Frazer, Annie Munch and Ariana Venturi in "Mary Page Marlowe," Tracy Letts's new play at the Steppenwolf Theater in Chicago.

Galileo wanted to share his discoveries and theories with all mankind; however, authorities in the Catholic Church didn't want to give my control of knowledge.

Scientific book and the Bible were printed in Latin, therefore priests were needed to translate and interpret them. The Church also believed that science should conform to religious doctrine!

You quickly see that situation will bring Galileo into intense conflict with the Church. His guiding principle was: "Doubt everything, until it is proven."

The Church's Inquisition warned him not to defend the idea that the sun was the center of the solar system. Churchmen believed the Earth was the center of the universe. Or as a character in the play says, "Why does man need to understand everything, why can't we just accept some things?"

In 1633, Galileo was investigated by the Inquisition. He was sentenced to prison, but this was commuted to house arrest for the rest of his life.

He was fortunate, because a few years before the astronomical theories of another scientist were considered heretical, and the Inquisition burned Giordano Bruno in a Roman plaza!

A big part of this beautifully presented play is Galileo's "Fight for the recognition of scientific fact," despite the suffocating religious and political hostility.

The Life of Galileo is presented at the Greenhouse Theater Center, 2257 N. Lincoln Ave. in Chicago through May 1.

Curtain times are Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 7:30 and Sunday at 2:30. Ticket prices range from \$42.00-\$52.00. The box office phone is 773-404-7336 or [www.remy-bumpo.org](http://www.remy-bumpo.org).

## Mary Page Marlowe

Theater Review  
by: Frank West

The focus of the play

Mary Page Marlowe is how we become who we are. We are formed partly by genetics, partly early childhood experience, partly the influence of persons, like our parents. The result is our view of ourselves. Our view of ourselves depends on how each of these things impacts us.

This raises the philosophical and religious question of free will. Are we "determined" by these factors? Can we alter our self-image?

As a child, Mary Page is humiliated by the thoughtless, cruel words of her mother. Her mother tells her she is a poor singer, and tells her to choose a simple song.

About this self-esteem or self-identity, the playwright, Tracy Letts says, "the question that hovers about all is identity. What is it that makes us who we are?" And he says, "While Mary Page is a mystery to us, she is also a mystery to herself...as we are mysteries to ourselves."

Tracy Letts is a Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award winner. His *Mary Page Marlowe* is directed by Anna Shapiro. She is also Artistic Director of Steppenwolf Theatre and has won Tony, Drama Desk, and Critics Circle Awards.

Mary Page Marlowe is being presented now through May 29 at Steppenwolf Theatre Company. The theatre is located at 1650 N. Halsted St. in Chicago. Curtain times are: Tuesdays, through Sundays at 7:30. Saturday and Sunday matinees at 3:00. Tickets range from \$20 to \$89. The box office number is 312-335-1650 or [www.steppenwolf.org](http://www.steppenwolf.org)

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The Continental Youth Championship is a four day tournament of youth Irish sports including Irish football, hurling and camogie. Sponsored by Ireland's Gaelic Athletic Association, the CYC extends the Irish sporting tradition throughout North America. The CYC returns to Chicago July 28 - 31, 2016 with more than 2,500 youth athletes representing dozens of North American teams, the CYC will be held in Chicago Gaelic Park in Oak Forest. Come out and cheer Chicago's three youth teams to the continental championships! Tickets for the Vegas Night can be requested at [CYCsponsorship24@gmail.com](mailto:CYCsponsorship24@gmail.com)



## Celtic Thunder Legacy September 24

Storming onto the main stage are international megastars Celtic Thunder, with LEGACY, a brand new show that celebrates the influence of Irish and Celtic

The Chicago Theatre box office or by phone at 800-745-3000.

LEGACY is a live show featuring a mix of lively, fast paced and upbeat songs "A Place in The Choir"



music around the world. The group will be coming downtown on Saturday, September 24 at The Chicago Theatre. Show time is 7:30pm. Reserved seats (\$75.00/\$65.00/\$49.50/\$32.50) become available on Monday, April 4 at 10am through Ticketmaster.com,

"Galway Girl" and "Raggle Taggle Gypsy" that represent the fun loving nature of the Irish and slower classic ballads "Danny Boy" "Noreen" and "Buachaille On Eirne" that portray a more nostalgic and romantic side.

Continuing their tradition of

paying homage to the musical culture and traditions of Ireland, Celtic Thunder's latest show is a depiction both their musical footprint over the past 8 years as well as their amazing heritage of Irish and Celtic music.

Formed in Dublin in 2007, Celtic Thunder is a multi-dimensional musical and theatrical ensemble celebrated around the world for emotionally powerful performances and a state-of-the-art production. Billboard magazine has named Celtic Thunder the Top World Album Artist (in 2008, 2009 2011 and 2015) while the group has had LPs placed in the World Album Top 10 every year since 2008.

Celtic Thunder features five male vocalists backed by the amazing 8-piece Celtic Thunder band, ensuring that Celtic Thunder LEGACY has something special something to offer to everyone.

Chicago appearance brought to you by Jam and Steve Litman Presents Visit the website at [www.celticthunder.com](http://www.celticthunder.com)

## Kilkenny Remains the Team to Topple

*Continued from page 28*

look most likely to stop Kilkenny's run are Tipperary and Waterford. Tipperary, despite not making the league semi-finals, had a productive league campaign. Ronan Maher looks to have cemented his place at centre back, while Michael Breen at centre field and John McGrath in the full forward line, both had outstanding spring campaigns for the Blue and Gold. If Tipperary's Seamus Callinan, John 'Bubbles' O'Dwyer and Patrick 'Bonner' Maher can recapture the form they have shown over the last two years, the Premier County look the best equipped to topple the champions.

Waterford have continued to impress after making a breakthrough in last year's championship. In 2015, Derek McGrath introduced a hoard of young talent into his side, including All-Star Tadgh de Burca, and they ended up as league champions and were unlucky not to add the Munster title to their credentials. However, in

their last campaign, they became over reliant on Maurice Shanahan for their scores, but the return of Pauraic Mahony from injury and the maturation of Patrick Curran and the Bennett brothers, Shane and Stephen, should help increase their firepower upfront. Should this come to pass, the Decies will be in All-Ireland contention.

It will be interesting to see if Clare manager Davy Fitzgerald can get his charges back to the form of 2013. After a successful league campaign that saw the Banner win promotion back to the top division despite a lengthy injury list, the litmus test will arrive in their Munster semi-final tie with Waterford. The winner of that fixture will have a Munster Final to play for in addition to having at least an All-Ireland quarter-final place guaranteed.

Cork had an awful league campaign, losing all five matches before surprisingly beating Galway in the relegation playoff. The

management cut stalwarts Shane O'Neill and Pa Cronin from the panel in recent weeks, but it remains difficult to see how they could mount a serious All-Ireland challenge.

Cork took on Tipperary on May 22 in Semple Stadium with the winners of that contest facing Limerick who won't fear either side after a good league campaign. The Treaty men introduced a host of the successful side that won the Under-21 All-Ireland last year.

Diarmuid Byrnes and Ronan Lynch have strengthened up the half back line, while Barry Nash and Tom Morrissey will look to help the outstanding Cian Lynch in attack. Another impressive move by manager TJ Ryan has been the deployment of Declan Hannon at full forward, with the Adare man topping the scoring charts for Limerick from the edge of the square.

Once again the big championship conundrum is Galway. Last year they were 30 minutes away



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from being champions. A player led revolt in the off-season saw last year's management team jetisoned and the players will have added pressure to perform in 2016. Despite some impressive league displays where Joe Canning has been at his imperious best, they managed to get relegated from the top tier of the league after losing the relegation play-off.

This year they look as a likely to exit early as they are to win the competition outright, but Canning will need help once again from

Cathal Mannion and Jason Flynn in attack while they will also need to stop conceding goals, which became their Achilles heel last year.

For Dublin, the form of Eamon Dillon has been particularly encouraging. While they could spring a surprise in the championship, is difficult to see the Dubs contesting for the ultimate prize such has been their inconsistency throughout the league. A semi-final berth would seem the limit of their ambitions.

## Do You Believe in a Silver Lining?

I believe that I have written about this subject in the past and called the article, "Be Not

Afraid" which is the title of one of my favorite hymns. It strikes me that it is a much needed theme for our current circumstances.

We are continuously bombard-

ed with negatives such as: we are too skinny or too fat; today's weather is okay, but it will be worse tomorrow; the stock market may have gone up today, but wait, the earning releases start coming out in a day or two; that last tornado missed your home town, but the turbulence is not over yet.

It seems to me that there are ups and downs in everyone's life. But as one financial expert on TV promises, his financial investment company guarantees that the value of your investment will not go down even if the market goes down, but your investment will increase if the market goes up. In short, your investment is safe with his company. To be clear, I am a financial investor, NOT a professional financial advisor: I claim no expertise in that field. I am really addressing our apparent need to feel safe. I have heard some (if not all) the current presidential aspirants say that the number one objective of their administration will be the safety of the homeland and its citizens. It seems we are consumed by the need for safety. But those who came to this country from distant lands took (and continue to take) all kinds of chances. They realize that life is very fragile but they are willing to accept the associated risks.

You will hear people say that they will not be traveling in the future because they are afraid of terrorists harming them. But many of my readers live in Chicago, where a lot of people get shot, weekend after weekend, many of them totally innocent citizens who simply were in the wrong place at the wrong time. Trying to avoid something you cannot predict is a waste of precious energy.

We need to celebrate people who enhance our society. Some of the much discussed "top 1%" have made enormous contributions to our country. Certainly Bill Gates (and numerous others,

## Careers

By James F. Fitzgerald, CPA



such as Michael Dell (Dell), Phil Knight (Nike), Mark Zuckerberg (Facebook) and Jeff Bezos (Amazon) have promoted tremendous prosperity and technology. It is easy to fall prey to the basic human frailty of envy and jealousy when hearing about people who make more money in a week than most Americans will make in a year. But if someone is truly doing what they believe will improve the world then should we not support them regardless of economic status, educational level or religious beliefs? Shouldn't improvement of the quality of life for all citizens of our country be what we hold as the gold standard and shouldn't we celebrate those working toward it?

Whether that is a CEO conducting business with the highest moral standards regardless of the cost, a local restaurant owner who is barely breaking even, but who gives all surplus food to homeless shelters or a recent college graduate who is funneling some of her funds into local charities, it deserves to be acknowledged and encouraged so others will emulate it.

There is no doubt that the compensation practices of the US business community need to be re-evaluated. But we should also refocus the narrative in our society; we should genuinely celebrate and support those who contribute to the betterment of the general population. We as a nation need to look carefully at ourselves. We should do that for the best of reasons. Follow those who are trying to create a better environment for all of us.

You will hear people say that the American Dream is a thing of the past. If you are willing to accept that as the new normal, then that might be the root of the problem. My recommendation is that you encourage your

children and grandchildren to think BIG and be supportive of them as they try to achieve their goals/dreams.

Introduce them to the writings of people like Marianne Williamson who wrote "A RETURN TO LOVE". Ms. Williamson said "Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us. Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous? Actually, who are you NOT to be?"

One of the most common complaints among people facing a near death experience is their belief that they did not take enough chances. They were not willing to take more risks; they always played it safe. How about you?

Support people who see the glass as being half full, not half empty. Encourage those who stretch themselves. You can impact very positively on others. Help them to see that their contributions enhance their own success. Counsel them to stay away from the haters and their negativity. Perhaps needless to say, but a positive mental attitude can be a real plus in virtually any organization. Why not give your own career a boost? CARPE DIEM.

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION. An Irish blessing: "Tis better to buy a small bouquet, and give to your friend this very day, then a bushel of roses white and red to lay on his coffin after he's dead."

James F. Fitzgerald is the president of James F. Fitzgerald & Associates, Inc., a Naperville, IL-based senior executive coaching & career transition firm.

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# Getting to Know the Irish

By Tina Butler



## A Terrible Beauty

Easter this year marks the 100 Anniversary of the 1916 Easter Rising in Ireland. My personal tendency is to see the lighter side of most things, however grim, and I strive to see both sides of any issue. But the repercussions of this historical chapter are still almost too painful to recount and they evoke powerful patriotic feelings. Maybe it's because I've grown up listening to so many stories about the Rising from aunts and uncles in Kilkenny and Mayo. It has meant so much to us that we have a framed picture on the wall of the 16 activists who were executed for resisting British rule. Yes, they were tough militant men but in our house we looked up to them as heroes. Most of this will be about honoring the memory of their sacrifice. The origin of the Rising was an attempt to resist British domination of Ireland, is well known. It culminated as an armed revolt in Dublin during Easter week in 1916. It was organized by a group of proud Irishmen seeking to establish an independent Irish Republic. It was the most momentous rebellion since 1798. The Rising began on April 24th and lasted 6 days. It first gathered strength when members of the IRB (Irish republican brotherhood) Irish volunteer force and Irish citizen army successfully occupied the preselected buildings around Dublin. What follows is a brief biography of these men who knew they would be executed for treason, if they lost their battle with England. But they fought back against overwhelming odds. Let's start with James Connolly. He was the driving force behind the movement. His execution still burns in our memory because he was so weak after being wounded by a British sniper, he had to be tied upright in a chair to make an adequate target for the firing squad. His parents

were from Co. Monaghan but he was born in Scotland. The priest who administered last rites, said that Connolly asked him to pray instead for the soldiers about to shoot him. No. 2 Eamonn Ceannt, from Co. Galway, ironically the son of a Royal Irish Constabulary policeman. (RIC) Ceannt did very well in school and was offered a civil service job but turned it down as it meant he would be working for the British. No. 3 Thomas Clarke, born in England but moved to Ireland when he was 7. Clarke's father from Co. Leitrim, was in the British army and his mom was from Co. Tipperary. Clarke, became skilled in explosives from his work on construction sites in the USA on Staten Island, NY. After returning to England, he put his expertise to work for the resistance by building bombs. He was captured and he served 15 years in prison. When he was released from prison he went back to Ireland and joined the Irish Republican Brotherhood. No. 4 Sean MacDermott born in Co. Leitrim, was 27 when he contracted polio. For the rest of his life he walked with a cane. The day before he was shot he said, "I feel happiness the like of which I have never experienced, I die that the Irish nation might live." No. 5 Thomas McDonagh, he was born in Co. Tipperary. His wife Muriel died shortly after he was executed due to heart failure. Their children became successful writers. No. 6 Pdraic Pearse, was the son of a man from England and his mom from co. Meath. Pearse was the IRB's Commander General, reputedly a key figure in the movement. He was the first to be executed. Pearse saw a pub on fire and the owner and his daughter flee with a white flag. But a British soldier shot them dead. There murder so moved Pearse he felt it was better to end the rising to avoid any further innocent deaths. No. 7, Joseph Plunkett,

born in Co. Dublin, contracted TB as a baby, he was said to have very high principals. Sadly, he was executed an hour before marrying his fiance in jail. No. 8 Roger Casement, was an English diplomat who was knighted for his human rights campaign which exposed the exploitation of workers in Africa and S. America. Casement's role in the uprising was credited with persuading Germany to supply guns to Irish rebels. He was arrested for Treason to the English crown. He was the only rebel that was hanged rather than shot. No. 9 Cornelius Colbert, born in Co. Limerick. He is noted for making symbolic the white paper pinned as a target to the bodies of condemned rebels. He requested the paper be placed over his heart. It's said the Colbert was executed for claiming he was a rebel commander, while in fact he was sacrificing his life to save the life of the real commander, Seamus Murphy who had a wife and kids. No. 10 Edward Daly, hailed from co. Limerick. Daly was the brother in law of Thomas Clarke. No. 11, Sean Heuston, from Co. Dublin, he held the Mendicity Institution (Ireland's oldest charity to feed

Continued on page 42

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# Chicago Gaelic Park

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## A Cháirde

I am writing this the day after our Youth Living History Exhibit, and I can't tell you how impressed (gobsmacked!) I was with the young people involved and their portrayal of Irish heroes from the 1916 era. Many thanks to them for their dedication and their passion in commemorating the 1916 Rising.

I'm not sure how May got here so fast, but I am looking forward to another great

summer festival season. First up is Gaelic Park's 30th Annual Irish Fest, which will be held on Memorial Weekend. We build the outdoor portion of the festival from the ground up each year, and by "we" I really mean the wonderful volunteers that we have. Thanks to them, we will be ready when thousands of our friends show up.

The festival field and building will be full of music, dancing,

theatre, games and fun, with enough variety to please everyone. Kids of all ages will enjoy the carnival, which features unlimited rides with festival admission. They will also enjoy the magicians, clowns, ponies and petting zoo. The Chicago Feis Irish Dancing Competition will be held on Sunday and Monday. As always, I am looking forward to seeing some new bands

and some old favorites, but the only one I will mention by name is the one that has been performing for over 50 years and is strongly identified with 1916, and that is the Wolf Tones. I'm very glad that the lads can join us on both Saturday and Sunday. I hope to see you at the Fest, too.

**Slán go fóil,**  
**Bill O'Sullivan, President**



## 2016 CGP Calendar of Events 2016 MAY

5/1	<b>Classic Carvery - Jery &amp; Kara Eadie</b>	3pm
5/4	<b>Monthly Musical Luncheon* with Joe Cullen</b>	
5/7	<b>Darkness Into Light 5K Walk</b>	5am
	<i>Register online at <a href="http://pietahouse.org">pietahouse.org</a></i>	
5/8	<b>Mother's Day* - Ray Gavin</b>	3pm
5/11	<b>Ladies Auxiliary</b>	
5/15	<b>Classic Carvery - Joe Cullen</b>	3pm

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<b>Tuesday Evenings Ceili Dancing</b>	Lessons 7pm/Ceili 7:30pm
<b>Sunday Evening CGP Radio Live WCEV 1450 AM</b>	7-8pm



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Fri	May 6	Joe McShane	8:00pm
Sat	May 7	Gerry Haughey	9:00pm
Fri	May 13	TBA	
Sat	May 14	Joe Cullen	8:00pm
Fri	May 20	Katie Sullivan	8:00pm
Sat	May 21	Billy O'Donoghue & Larry Nugent	9:00pm
Fri	May 27	<b>IRISH FEST</b>	8:00pm
Sat	May 28	<b>IRISH FEST</b>	9:00pm

Chicago Gaelic Park  
6119 W. 147th Street • Oak Forest, IL  
708.687.9323  
[www.chicagogaelicpark.org](http://www.chicagogaelicpark.org)

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# Chicago Gaelic Park

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



## Gaelic Park Commemoration of the 1916 Easter Rising



## Celebrate Mother's Day at Gaelic Park

**Sunday May 08, 2016**

**Make your reservations now!**

Enjoy a wonderful all-you-can-eat dinner buffet with soup, an extensive salad bar, prime rib, baked ham, chicken vesuvio, a potato bar with all the toppings, vegetables, and penne pasta with marinara.

The children's station features chicken tenders, French fries, corn and mostaccioli. A "Build Your Own" Ice Cream Sundae for dessert, with all of your favorite toppings!

Musical entertainment by Ray Gavin

Dinner is served from 3 to 6pm, entertainment lasts until 8:00pm

Reservations are required—and must be paid in advance

Adults \$26.00, Children 4 to 12 \$12.00

Admission includes dinner and entertainment—Cash bar

Call 708-687-9323 for reservations.



Chicago Gaelic Park—6119 W 147th Street—Oak Forest, IL 60452—www.chicagogaelpark.org



A huge thank you to our wonderful audience for making our Spring 2016 show, *The Shadow of a Gunman* by Sean O'Casey a success! Our spring production showcased familiar faces as well as new ones and we would like to thank them all for their wonderful performance. We hope they "break a leg" as they compete this month at the Acting Irish International Theatre Festival competition. They will be performing on May 28th at 8pm at the Next Act Theatre, 255 S. Water Street, Milwaukee, WI. The directors are Barney Farrelly and Taryn McKenna.

We look forward to announcing our fall production soon to all of our loyal audiences.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Gaelic Park Players, the meetings are held the second Wednesday of every month at 7:30pm at Gaelic Park or contact us via the website [gaelicparkplayers.org](http://gaelicparkplayers.org).

All are Welcome!



*From Right to Left: Sabrina Magnan, Mike Kelleher, Katie McKirdie, Marty Donovan and Mike "Meek" Azarkiewicz*



*From Right to Left: Sabrina Magnan, Katie McKirdie, Mike Kelleher, Marty Donovan and Mike "Meek" Azarkiewicz*



# Chicago Gaelic Park

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



## Chicago Feis at Gaelic Park on Memorial Day

Gaelic Park will host the Chicago Feis 2016 (Irish Step Dancing Competition) on Sunday May 29th and Monday May 30th, 2016, in conjunction with Irish Fest. Over 500 dancers are expected to participate in the two-day competition.

Categories for dancers are beginner, advanced beginner, novice, open and adult beginner. Competitors in the prizewinning category must win a first place in all five dances in order to progress to preliminary championships. Preliminary championship dancers must win two 1st places in order to qualify for the open championship category.

Chicago Feis founded in 1959, by the late Dennis Dennehy, is one of the longest running Feiseanna in North America and has now become an important part of Irish Fest.

Registration begins each day at 7.00am with competition starting at 9.00am until 3:00pm. On line registration is now open at [www.quickfeis.com](http://www.quickfeis.com) and will close on May 14th, 2016 unless cap is reached before then. For more information on the Chicago Feis, visit the website [www.quickfeis.com](http://www.quickfeis.com) or Gaelic Park at 708-687-9323 or visit [www.chicagogaelicparkirishfest.org](http://www.chicagogaelicparkirishfest.org)

## Family Friendly Prices and Activities at Irish Fest

Unlimited carnival rides, great entertainment and all kinds of fun exhibits for one low admission price of \$10.00 for adults and \$8.00 for kids (during the first hour of each day) has got to be one of the best in the southland all summer. Throw in a petting zoo, dog and horse exhibitions, a stage dedicated to the wee folk and you have a great holiday adventure for one low price. The leprechaun stage has all kinds of magic acts, face painters, red hair and freckle contests and even a bonnie baby contest.

Irish Fest is not just for the youngsters, however. This indoor/outdoor festival will feature over forty acts including The Wolfe Tones, The Fenians, Socks in the Frying Pan, Infinity, Chicago Reel, and The Elders. The Performing Arts stage located in the main building in the Celtic Room on the 2nd floor includes great one act Irish plays.

The low admission price includes all the entertainment, unlimited carnival rides, parking, Irish step dancing competition, and various Irish exhibitions. The festival hours are Friday, May 27th from 4pm to 11pm,

**INDOOR/OUTDOOR FESTIVAL**

**Chicago Gaelic Park**

**IRISH FEST**

**2016**

**MEMORIAL WEEKEND May 27, 28, 29, 30**

**Four Days of World Class Irish Musical Talent**

**IRISH FOLK LEGENDS**



**The Wolfe Tones**



**Socks in the Frying Pan**



**The Fenians**

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**Unlimited FREE Carnival Rides!**

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*Food and Refreshments*  
*Petting Zoo*  
*Irish Bred Ponies and Dogs*  
*Gaelic Football and Hurling Games*  
*Magicians • Puppets • Juggler • Clowns*  
*Irish Import Shops and Tea Room*

**Chicago Feis Irish**  
**Dancing Competition**  
**Sunday, May 29th • 9am-3pm**  
**Monday, May 30th • 9am-3pm**

 [www.ChicagoGaelicPark.org](http://www.ChicagoGaelicPark.org)   
Sponsored by Chicago Gaelic Park (A Not-for-Profit Organization).  
Schedule subject to change.



**The Elders**



**Infinity**



**Screaming Orphans**

Saturday, May 28th, from 2pm to 11pm, Sunday, May 29th, from 1pm to 11pm (Mass at 11.30am) and Monday Memorial Day, from 1pm to 8pm. Daily admission is \$15.00 for adults, and \$12.00 for seniors and kids aged 4-12 years. Each day has a reduced admission of \$10.00, and \$8.00 for kids and seniors during the first hour. Online

discounts include a four day pass for only \$28.00 when purchased by May 27th and receive an additional 10% discount if purchased by April 30th.

For further information and additional on-line price discounts visit the web site at [www.chicagogaelicpark.irishfest.org](http://www.chicagogaelicpark.irishfest.org) or telephone (708) 687-9323

## Johnny Macs Traditional Irish Cottage

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### Cottage Features

Off road parking\* Ground floor accommodation

\* Ground floor bedroom

\* Pub/shop < 5 min walk \* Washing machine \* Smoke-free \* Garden / Patio

Hairdryer \* Fitted kitchen with dining area \* Iron and Ironing Board

\* Electric oven & hob \* Microwave \* Fridge \* Washing machine

One family bedroom with 1 double bed & 1 single bed

One adult bunk bedroom \* Bathroom with bath, shower over, basin & WC

Sitting room with electric fire & sofa bed \* TV with basic Irish channels, DVD

Oil central heating, electric fire in sitting room

Selection of books & DVDs \* Fuel & power included

Bed linen & towels included \* One well-behaved dog welcome

No smoking \* Off road parking for 4 cars

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JOHN PLUNKETT  
INTERIORS

## Irish Shops Struggling for Survival

By Jen Shea

Passersby took knit fabrics from a metal stand crammed with sweaters outside the shop, days before Ireland's national holiday.

Its proprietress, who immigrated from Belfast, watched from the glass counter in a corner. At the Chicago St. Patrick's church that Saturday, she had spotted city officials and even the mayor, she said, attending mass to be noticed. But the sidewalk near her store offered few customers. Three women paused to browse over a weekday afternoon to evening. Neon construction debris and sandbags skewed the path out front.

"Further back was much better," said Anne McKeown, who launched the store 25 years earlier. She relocated to Evanston less than a decade ago. "The economy here is still hurting."

McKeown speaks with an Irish lilt. Clad in almond wool cardigan and tartan skirt, she scanned the shop with sharp eyes framed by neat red hair and spectacles on a beaded string.

Her shop's gentle pale green walls and white beams peeked out from closet-height shelves, all of them packed with imported clothes -- children's tartans, called kimonas in Dublin, cashmere and tweeds. Scarves on wood hangers lined the back wall opposite green and white lights strung in the window. Near a wicker basket, a birch stand by the counter displayed Celtic pashmina and silk with designs from the Book of Kells. On the glass case was a bowl stocked with small leather wallets, each of them stamped with Celtic symbols.

McKeown has four grandchildren, and she keeps pictures next to her at the counter. Her daughter has returned to Ireland in recent years to vacation.

"I'm known for my hand-knitted stuff," she said. "Knit by two needles. That's very important." Most is imported from artisans who knit the items for tourists, without machines.

She held up a wool traveller's cloak. They call it a cape in Ireland, she explained.

"They don't wear them much in Ireland. They don't even wear Irish sweaters in Ireland," McKeown chuckled. Her phone rang. "Excuse me, dear."

When she resumed her account about the materials, McKeown said Ireland artisans had been strained by the recession. She can tell from exports to shops like hers. "No, they won't complain about that," she said. But it was obvious.

"A lot of people have closed down their shops," McKeown said. "We have to pay so much on duty."

Gaelic Imports is among the survivors. The north side store opened in 1957. Mary Ann Jones has owned it since 2003.

"There are definitely fewer Irish stores in the area. I think small shops that relied solely on gifts had a difficult go of it," Jones said.

Her store sells crystal and similar imports, and food from Ireland (unless it's baked). Irish soda bread, which she cooks at her store, is most popular for St. Patrick's Day.

Jones said since 2009, consumers have had less disposable income. "That certainly affected profit margins," she said.

The financial crisis hit exporters in Ireland, as well as neighborhood markets in U.S. cities. Stores like theirs had to outlast the effects of both.

Ireland applied for a bailout from the European Union (EU) and the International Monetary Fund in 2010. Three of its main banks were nationalized. By 2012, Ireland had divested all but a 15 percent share in Bank of Ireland. It retained a nearly 100 percent stake in Permanent TSB and Allied Irish Bank.

McKeown said she'd witnessed the results, as economic developments from recent years trickle down. Her sister lives in Northern Ireland. Exporters there use the pound sterling ("That makes them more expensive," she said), and Ireland uses the euro. But exporters in Ireland struggle almost as much as businesses in the UK and U.S.

"They can't even get loans now to build houses," she said.

She and her family visit Ireland, and she maintains her connection to the immigrant community.

For Ireland, March 17 is more tourist draw than event for local consumers, despite being dubbed the national holiday there.

"They don't really celebrate St. Patrick's day in Ireland as much as they do here," McKeown said.

According to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport (DTTAS), 644,500 tourists visited Ireland in March 2015. Ireland's central statistics office counted 8.64 million total visits from overseas in 2015, and 7.6 million in 2014. That contributed 5,530 million euros and 4,714 million euros to the Ireland economy, respectively.

"The celebrations held in Ireland prior to 1996 paled in comparison to those held abroad," spokesperson Monica Quinn said.

Tourism Ireland, which promotes the country abroad, now sells the day as a festival. "The 2015 St. Patrick's Festival added over 73 million euros to the economy," Quinn said.

Revenue from overseas tourists has in-

creased every year since 2010. Many people visit Ireland during the summer, most tourists in July, August and September. The majority are from the UK, the U.S., Germany, Belgium and France.

Tourism averages four percent of the gross national product, according to Tourism Ireland, 59 percent of that visitors from abroad.

The country's most lucrative exports are pharmaceuticals, chemicals and computer products. Exports were over 18.6 billion euros in 2015, according to recent reports.

"Indigenous exports are also at record levels," Quinn said.

Ireland exited from its 85 billion euro EU bailout in December 2013. By several estimates, nearly 400,000 people emigrated from 2009 to 2013.



"Ireland's economy is still suffering, but I was just there in February and things seem to be improving," said Jones.

Researchers at the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI) said Ireland consumer sentiment dropped early this year. The ESRI, a Dublin nonprofit that is funded by Ireland's government, released its KBC/ESRI Consumer Sentiment average in March.

They charted an increase in neutral sentiment from February. The ESRI statement identified concerns around the labor market, buying climate and economic conditions.

A European Commission (EC) spokesperson said the EC monitors "implementation of its recommendations," and consultants visit Ireland each quarter.

"On the situation in Dublin, the figures speak for themselves," the EC's Ruth Deasy said. "Ireland still has a large public debt to make payments on and remains vulnerable to external shocks."

Ireland's 12.5 percent corporate tax rate renders it the most profitable country in the world for multinational conglomerates. Its banks have foundered as they offload assets

from the Irish property sector. In late 2012, the EU nearly bought out the government's share of banks through the European Stability Mechanism.

"Banks are deleveraging," Irish Examiner correspondent John Walsh said then. "They will be looking to increase their deposit bases and shrink their loan books, which means they won't be lending."

Ireland hit its deficit reduction goals and was the first country to leave the bailout. Its performance since has garnered praise from international observers.

The country ranks eighth on the Index of Economic Freedom (IEF), released by the Wall Street Journal and the Heritage Foundation on February 1 this year.

"The situation is still under stress," Heritage researcher Anthony Kim said. However, "its economy is now one of the fastest growing in the eurozone."

Likewise the banking sector, where the state has yet to divest its shares. "If divestment in these banks can occur soon in a speedier fashion, that will be another positive sign for the Irish economy," Kim added.

The Heritage Foundation is a 501c3 think tank in Washington that gets funding from conservative foundations. Its IEF, by the Institute for Economic Freedom and Opportunity, gauges 186 countries on ten metrics. They are freedom from corruption, property rights, government spending, and business, fiscal, financial, investment, labor, monetary and trade freedoms.

The IEF released this year lauded Ireland's "cuts in public-sector wages and restructuring of the banking sector." In 2015, the country had 4.8 percent economic growth, \$7.7 billion foreign direct investment and 11.6 percent unemployment.

Cecilia Carroll launched Celtica Gifts in September 2013. Imported food and jewelry are the most popular products. Carroll sells Galway Crystal, Royal Tara items and wool clothes from Ireland, and she said she did well the St. Patrick's that recently passed.

"There are certainly fewer import stores around now than before," Carroll said.

For Ireland, the emigration trend has reversed over the past few years.

"They've moved back, if anything," McKeown said, about people with families from Ireland. Her sales of fabrics in green tick up around March. But these days, she sells more at festivals and shows.

Anne's Irish Knits, 502 Main St Evanston IL 60202-1815 847-864-2103; Celtic Gifts, 1940 W Montrose Ave., Chicago IL 60613 773-784-7712; Gaelic Imports, 6346 W Gunnison St, Chicago IL 60630 773-792-1905.



# The Food Flight Taking RTÉ's Taste of Success Global

RTÉ's The Taste of Success, is back and this year the show is going global with 'The Food Flight'.

The search is on for the next batch of innovative food entrepreneurs to bag a prize worth a cool €100,000 and the chance to see

In a nutshell, if you know of anyone Irish and a born chef - for whatever reason, is living abroad - get them to apply for the show. We will fly one lucky person home from anywhere in the world to compete in the competition. So, you get a loved one home for a visit and they might win €100,000 - you can't say fairer than that!

This competition is open to anyone who

classic? Are you a professional chef with a signature dish? Are you a baker with the best buns? Is your idea worth €100,000? If so, and you fancy seeing YOUR product on supermarket shelves nationwide - we want to hear from you!

The winner will walk away with a guaranteed contract with Lidl Ireland which will see their product on shelves in over 140 supermarkets nationwide.

And this year, you can win even if you aren't entering the competition yourself!

If you know someone who is hiding their pilot light under a bushel, encourage them to take the plunge. If they apply, mention you in their application AND make the roadshow - you win a €250 voucher to spend in Lidl.

You can download an application form here - RTE.ie/thetasteofsuccess



their product in more than 140 Lidl Ireland stores nationwide.

This year RTÉ and The Taste of Success sponsors Lidl Ireland are casting the net as wide as possible by launching a new way to enter the competition with 'The Food Flight'.

has a wonderful food product. It might be your granny's delicious bread recipe; a tasty new jam; or a sauce combination you've concocted or your special occasion dessert. **Do you have a new amazing recipe?** Are you an amateur chef with a twist on a

# Major Quiet Man Treasures Unveiled at the John Wayne Birthplace Museum May 27-28

By Brian Downes, Director, John Wayne Birthplace & Museum

Fans of the beloved John Wayne/Maureen O'Hara film classic The Quiet Man will not want to miss the dedication of the iconic sidecar (or jaunting car) which appeared throughout the 1952 Academy Award-winning motion picture. The display is made possible through the generosity of Maureen's O'Hara's grandson, Conor FitzSimons, who said his grandmother was determined that the John Wayne Birthplace was the ideal facility to exhibit this prized keepsake from her favorite film of all time.

Quiet Man devotees will recall that, in the movie's opening scenes, Barry Fitzgerald meets John Wayne

at the train station with this very sidecar and re-acquaints the returning American to the picturesque landscape of his native Ireland. The cart also figures memorably in the chaperoned courting scenes between Wayne and O'Hara.



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It had been rumored for years that the sidecar was in storage at Maureen's home in Ireland, a rumor confirmed by her grandson who recalled playing on it as a child. But in Maureen's travels to various homes around the world, at some point it went missing.

Miraculously, when the late actress made her final move to Idaho to be close to family, it reappeared among her most treasured keepsakes.

Idaho, especially in the dead of winter, is a long way from Iowa and transporting the vehicle from the far side of the Rockies to the Midwest was a big challenge. Fortunately we were able to call again on Birthplace

donors Craig and Katie Warfield who operate Elite Expediting, a Des Moines transport company. (Elite is the same company that transported John Wayne's station wagon from California early last year.)

Braving wind, rain, snow, ice and fog, the courageous Mr. Warfield, made the 3 day white-knuckle drive over the mountains and across the plains and delivered the relic in tip-top condition.

Another cherished family heirloom which will be on display is Maureen's gorgeous Connemara shawl which appeared countless times throughout The Quiet Man and which was lovingly kept in her home for many years after. Please join us at the 2016 John Wayne Birthday Celebration for the unveiling of these outstanding treasures from Hollywood history

[www.johnwaynebirthplace.museum](http://www.johnwaynebirthplace.museum)

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PROUD MEMBER OF:



## A Terrible Beauty

*Continued from page 35*

the poor) on the river Liffey. The priest who performed last rites for him said Heuston's last words were, My Jesus, Mercy!

If it's hard for you to read these words, they've been even harder for me to write. I've had to stop and take a break from this work a few times. No. 12 Thomas Kent, Co. Cork, he was said to be a very religious man. He didn't actually take part in the fighting but was executed because he had intended to take part and an English soldier was murdered at his house. The English tried to humiliate Kent, they paraded him through the city barefoot and tied his hands behind his back. In 2015, Kent's body was exhumed and he was buried at St. Nicholas church. President Higgins attended the funeral. No. 13 Michael Mallin, Co. Dublin, had served in the British army in India/Afghanistan. But Mallin left the army after he saw how badly they mistreated people. He had a son named Joseph, who is a priest in Hong Kong and, to this day, is the last surviving child of the 16 men. Michael felt great remorse to leave his wife and 5 children destitute and without support. His final note to his wife said, "Darling, please pray for all the souls who fell in this fight Irish and English. No. 14 Major John McBride, Co. Mayo, married the legendary Maude Gonne. (beloved of W.B.Y) But she and McBride eventually divorced. He is lauded as a patriot. However, not without controversy, as he reputedly abused her. No. 15 Michael O'Hanrahan, from Co. Wexford, his brother Henry was sentenced to penal servitude for life. And lastly No.

16 Willie Pearse, brother of Padraic Pearse, he was a talented sculptor, it was said he barely played a role in the rising it was his surname that condemned him. After he was court martial he exaggerated his involvement so he could stay close to his brother Padraic. Historical records say that 485 people died during the rising and more than 90 rebels were sentenced to death. But most had their sentences commuted. Eamon De Valera, former president of Ireland participated in the rising but his life was spared, perhaps because he was born in New York and the British feared offending America. The 16 men who organized the Rising signed a document, An Poblacht Eiran (Proclamation of the Irish Republic) in signing this declaration they knew they were signing their own death warrants as they would be executed if the rebellion failed. The 16 men were not given a proper burial they were thrown in a hole in the

ground. The Proclamation was read by Patrick Pearse outside the GPO (General post office) it was about what the Rising stood for, Irish independence and equality for all.

In 1916 the proclamation of the Irish and 1919 Irish declaration of Independence were never recognized by England but given symbolic priority in 1922. In 1932 the Irish government unilaterally amended the states status constitution act. On may 3, 1933 the government abolished the 1921 Anglo Irish treaty. The Republic of Ireland act of 1949 formally left the English commonwealth. Looking back the Irish public's reaction to the rising wasn't all that favorable. Average citizens were upset that so many buildings were destroyed. As the 16 men were going before firing squad some people spit on them. But after the executions public opinion turned and sympathy for the 16 took hold over the entire country.

In retrospect the historical importance of the rising cannot be underestimated. Although the Rising was quickly quelled, here's the point about how it succeeded, despite its apparent defeat. It was the single most important catalyst that helped bring about the Irish free state and subsequent independence. You might even say the 16 lost the battle but won the war. The Rising succeeded in using physical resistance and moral outrage to galvanize republicanism in Irish politics. Songs were sung for the leaders of the Rising. Funds were instituted for their families. Republican flags popped up everywhere. The Rising was a major factor in Sinn fein's victory in the 1918 parliamentary elections and Ireland's subsequent decision to NOT sit in the UK parliament.

Over the next few months, there will be several commemorations, events and initiatives around the world, honoring the centennial of the Easter Rising. Notre Dame University has produced a documentary titled, "Easter 1916". Belgium will have several lectures on Padraic Pearse. Brazil is hosting an Irish film festival. And in Washington D.C. May 16-June 5, the Kennedy Center will sponsor a festival of Irish Arts, celebrating a century of Irish culture. To get a poetic sense of the uprisings importance and its emotional impact that has never waned, many will honor the uprising by reading W.B. Yeats' legendary poem, "Easter, 1916" in which Yeats coined the memorable phrase, "A terrible beauty is born." I suggest you read it, because this beauty lives on in the hearts of proud Irish throughout the world, who choose never to forget where we came from and the painful sacrifice that was made to establish our independence.



# Kerry GAA Supporters Club Chicago May Events

## Golf Classic and Dinner

Sunday, May 22 @ 12:30 pm

Where: Silver Lakes Golf Country Club

14700 S. 82nd Ave, Orland Park

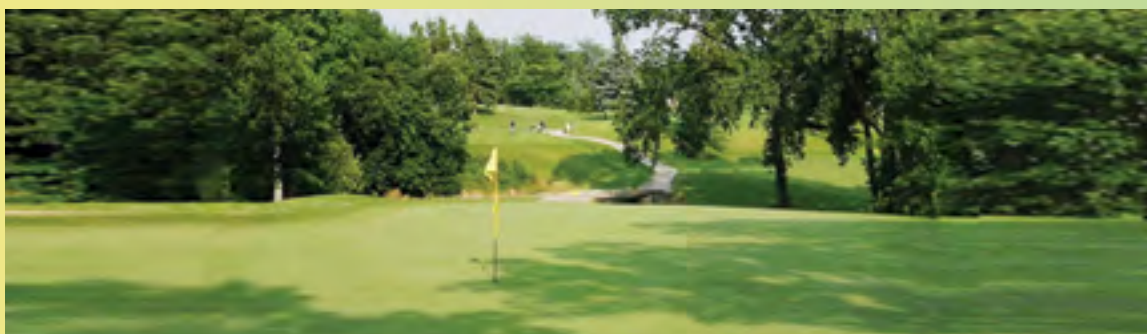
12:30 pm Shot Gun Start / 4 ball scramble

*Golf and Dinner: \$125 per person includes*

- 18 hole round of golf and golf cart
- Buffet dinner and cash bar

*Dinner Buffet Only: \$50 \*\*only 100 tickets available\*\**

- Winners and spot prizes
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**Kevin O'Keefe 516-287-1720**

**Public Relations Officer:**

**Therese O'Sullivan 708-653-6789**

*The Kerry GAA Supporters Club Chicago was founded in the fall of 2014 in support of the Kerry County Board, Ireland. Our goal is to raise money for new training facilities, promote the GAA, and support youth development.*



# Chicago *Rose of Tralee* 2016



*Sunday - May 15th*  
*2:00-6:00 p.m.*  
*Chicago Gaelic Park*  
*6119 147th Street*  
*Oak Forest, Illinois*



*Purchase your tickets:*  
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