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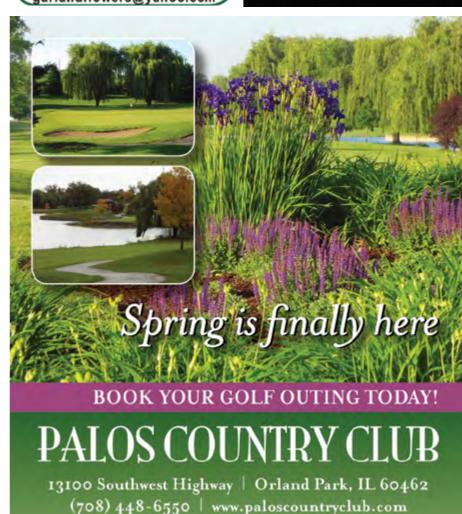


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### Careers



By James F. Fitzgerald, CPA

# oughts on how you

#### Time to Make a Career Move?

The summer months have always spoken of change to me. Perhaps the school calendar conditioned me to look at the summer vacation differently. When you returned to school you would move up to the next grade in grammar school, or the next year in high school or college. After the summer, your life would be different somehow.

Perhaps you feel similarly, like there is a change in the offing. However changing jobs just for its own sake never seemed to make sense to me. You should approach the matter of your employment in a manner similar to the handling of other major decisions in your life. First, you examine and write down the pluses and minuses of your current job as thoroughly and objectively as possible. Be as candid as possible, this information is simply for your own use.

If you do conclude that you are possibly ready to make a job change, you then need to take a couple of other steps: Confirm the assessment that your superiors have made about your future with the company. Tell your immediate superior that you are assessing your career at this time; then ask your superior for a performance review in the near future.

Be sure to prepare for this review by developing a list of questions/concerns that you have for your boss. You want to walk out of that meeting with some definitive information about how your performance is perceived. You may find that your superior and others think highly of your work, even though you have not been told that directly in the past. You should be sensitive to the reality that your superior is probably not well trained in the art of performance review, so be prepared to lead the discussion.

If you conclude, based on the performance review that you are well thought of and can expect to have a positive future with this company, that's great news. Armed with that information you must now decide whether or not you agree with the company's assessment of your future. If you decide to stay with the company, you should get back with your superior and let him know that you want to suc-

ceed and ask for his thoughts on how you can enhance your position. Then set aside your tentative plans for your departure till the following year.

Now let's explore the other possibility, you are NOT enthused about how your boss and possibly others in the organization value your contributions. Perhaps the reasons you joined the organization in the first place have changed. Discuss your concerns with one or two people whom you know and whose opinions you trust. Maybe you will decide it is time to go to the next step.

If that is the case, develop a plan of action on how you are going to leave this organization and find one that works better for you. Review your Accomplishments file; again, as critically as possible, assess their portability. Would another employer see those accomplishments as an indication of your excellent performance?

Use that review of your Accomplishments as a basis for preparing your resume. Look online for some examples of how others have written their resumes; formats and styles are constantly changing these days. But the golden rule for writing your resume is that you must state your achievements not just your responsibilities. Your potential employer wants to know that you bring some strengths to their organization, so don't be afraid to make them the highlights of your resume.

Many job seekers never really think through a critical point in the process, namely, why this new company should hire you. If you can't articulate the reason(s) why you should be hired, keep working the matter until you can. Again, a trusted friend could be helpful in providing insights into the talents and gifts you could bring to the new organization and a good audience for perfecting your "pitch".

Do not advertise your decision to leave within your

organization. If you do let others know of your decision, it may become more broadly discussed and your boss may give you the premature opportunity to leave your job sooner than you planned. On the other hand, you want to make sure every (trusted) contact you have knows four pertinent facts about you: what have you been doing, what do you want to do now, where do you want to share your skills (type & size of company, its location, the length of the commute) and some general idea of the income level you are seeking. Without those four basic facts, your contact (aka salesman) can't really be very helpful to you.

Once you are ready to leave, do it with style. Don't give your employer a list of dirty laundry items; it is likely to be seen as sour grapes. We live in a small world; you may need some references from your former employer. Why sour your relationship at this point? Leaving gracefully is a good way to start your next chapter on positive footing. Over my career, I have returned to two companies that I had previously quit and I have also done consulting work for another former employer. Good hunting. CARPE DIEM.

### FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION:

Always be yourself, express yourself, have faith in yourself, do not go out and look for a successful personality and duplicate it. - Bruce Lee.

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

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Irish American News "WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN GREEN!" August 2016

#### **Sharing a Pint**

By Scott Powers

The first time I shared a pint with Graham Couch I wasn't sure if I was going to

We were in Freeport, Illinois in 2002. Graham and I along with Jay Schwab were all hired at the same time as sportswriters at The Journal-Standard, a small daily newspaper. We would later be nicknamed The Young Guns; that's for another column. I believe we were sitting at a high-top table or possibly Graham's love for high-top tables has distorted my memory. I remember Graham talking a lot. He talked some sense, some nonsense and sometimes in between.

Me? I sat back and listened. It takes me a bit to warm up to people. I think I got that from my dad. Graham is the opposite. He's hot and ready like a Little Caesar's pizza at any time. That made me uneasy and skeptical of him.

God, I'm glad that didn't last.



when someone dies and I want to remember them. I thought this time I'd write it while they're alive.

Couch who is getting married.

There was a small group of us in Freeport who spent more time in a day together than apart. In the morning, we'd competed in 3-on-3 basketball games. In the afternoon and evening, we made each other better writers and put out a strong sports section during 10-hour work days. In the late evening and early morning, we got drunk and reminisced about our day. And then we dispersed and repeated.

Through that routine, Graham and I became good

friends. In time, both Graham and I departed Freeport and became even closer. We made our long-distance friendship work by making each other the person who we called to This is the type of column I usually pen get through long drives to games, when we

were bored at 12 p.m. and everyone else was working or when we were bored at 1 a.m. and everyone else was sleeping. Sportswriters tend to keep strange hours.

A decade-plus later, Graham and I have This is for and about never lived in the same city again, but we've my friend Graham talked nearly every day. Graham's future wife Elizabeth and my wife Anne could at-



test to that. I think Elizabeth has described it as "cute". For us, it's just routine. We bounce ideas off each other. We've talked through some good times and bad times. We agree and disagree about our sports views while living up to every sportswriter stereotype. Some of our talks make it into Graham's Lansing State Journal column. Graham still talks some sense, some nonsense and sometimes in between. Now, I interact. Although, it is best for the public for me to sometimes let his nonsensical takes fade away.

When we do get together, little changes. The venue is different, but the conversations remain the same. As Oscar Wilde said, "Ultimately the bond of all companionship, whether in marriage or in friendship, is conversation." We've traveled to Canada, the West Coast, East Coast and throughout the Midwest together and continued those conversations. We did so in Ireland as he attended my wedding.

What's relevant to my Irish readers is I've turned a man with British blood – his father's side comes from England - into a lover of Ireland. Guinness was easy for him to adopt. It took a bit to get him into Irish music. But now, Fairytale of New York fits any occasion for him. It's probably best his English grandmother doesn't know he loudly sings Go on Home British Soldiers with me in Irish pubs. That seems like the type of thing one could lose an inheritance over.

This column Sharing a Pint originated 10plus years ago. I've shared a pint with many over that time, but none I've enjoyed more than sharing a pint with Graham Couch. Congratulations,

Graham and Elizabeth.



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#### It's Milwaukee Irish Fest month!

So much good music has come rolling into the shop that I'm not going to be able to review it all in this issue. We'll talk about them in order of how I received them and get to as many as we can but first I want to say thanks to the folks

at the Irish American Heritage Center for the excellent fest they put on last month. You did a great job!

The first new cd I received since last issue was Cillian Vallely's new recording "the raven's rock" (www.cillianvallely.com). I knew this was going to be spectacular since Cillian has never recorded

anything that wasn't brilliant. He did not disappoint me either. There aren't too many uilleann pipers today that can hold a candle to Cillian's artistry. Joined by Niall Vallely on concertina, Caoimhin Vallely on piano, Sean Óg Graham on guitar, Paul Meehan on guitar, Ryan McGiver on guitar, Brian Morrissey on bodhran and Jeremy Kittel on fiddle, Cillian performs flawlessly on D & C pipes, D, F and low D whistles, and serves up a shining example of the finest instrumental music you could ask for. Put the CD on in the store

PIPE BAND

during a particularly interesting chin wag with several folk and watched as everyone slid into silence, concentrating on the music. Any music that can shut up an Irishman is powerful indeed and this is some of the best.

Second up is a CD that Uncle Bill Margeson reviewed last month, but, frankly,

it's so good that I think I'm gonna talk about it a little as well. The group is Connla (www.connlamusic.com) and the cd is "River Waiting" and it is every bit as good as Uncle Bill said. The band consists of Emer Mallon on harp, which does not get lost in the mix as many times happens, Ciara McCafferty on bodhran and vocals so sweet that you catch yourself leaning into the speaker to hear them better, Conor

Mallon on uilleann pipes and whistles and

doing a great job of it, Paul Starrett on

various guitars and, finally Ciaran Carlin new stuff come into the who absolutely shines on a very strong performance on flute. This is a very well balanced band of very strong and talented musicians. Theirs is a sound that we shall, hopefully, hear much more of in future. I look forward to seeing them tour next year. Festival promoters are you listening? Here's the hot new band for 2017.

> I have been a huge fan of the band Runa (www.runamusic. com) since the first time I saw them and I still am. Just when I think they can't possibly put out anything as good as the last cd, they blow me away with something even better. Honestly, I could sit all day and watch Cheryl Prash-

ker do percussion, she's just that good and, as far as I'm concerned, none better. Percussion is often times clumsy and overdone in Celtic music, "boom, chick, boom, chick" ad nauseum, the joke being that the drummer owns the van. Not with Cheryl. She performs complex rhythms with just the right amount of emphasis to highlight the other music without drowning it out. There's bunches of us who love to sit and watch this band perform, "runatics" the band calls us. When you take Cheryl's perfect percussion and add the heav-

enly voice of Shannon Lambert-Ryan, the expert guitar work of Fionán de Barra, the superb mandolin and voice of Dave Curley and the smokin' fiddle of Maggie Estes White, well...you end up with a listening experience that, for me, defines why I love this music and why

so I wasn't surprised they loved this one. You will too.

It's killing me that I only have room for one more CD, if you really want to see the

store and I'll show you, meanwhile I have to finish with this CD because it has been a long time since we've had a really, really great pipe band recording and this one has it all.

Greentrax Recordings (www.greentrax. com), the best recording company in Scotland, has released, get ready it's a long title, "Edinburgh City Police Pipe Band Revisited, Pipe Major Iain McLeod's Selection" and it's as good as the title is long. Back in the 60's and 70's this band was as good as it got and under the direction of Pipe Major McLeod, it was even better. Greentrax has dove into the archives and surfaced with those recordings that PM McLeod feels are the best examples of their performances. With the magic of current technology, they cleaned them up and put together a big old fat CD with some of the best pipe band music it's ever been my pleasure to listen to. You'll recognize many of the tunes that the Edinburgh Police





Band made famous and are played today by top tier bands the world over. Wonderful versions of military tunes like "Battle of the Somme" and "the Black Isle" are joined by more current tunes like "Banjo Breakdown", "Butter Fingers" and "The Conundrum". This is pipe band music like it's supposed to sound. All this lovely music was only available on scratchy old LP's (you remember those) but now it's all together here and we have a chance to hear one of the best bands, ever.

Hope to see everyone up at Milwaukee Irish Fest, we've moved this year South to the Grafton Street Market, so come by and say Hi. If not, we'll see you at the store 630-834-8108 or online

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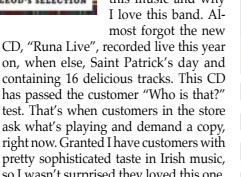
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3:45-4:00 Irish Dog Competition Awards 4:25-455 Shannon Rovers Bagpipe Band 515-5:45 Irish Dancers

6:00-7:30 THE CHANCEY BROTHERS

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1:20-1:35 Best Men's Legs in a Kilt Competition

2:00-3:20 DOOLEY BROTHERS

3:45-4:00 Irish Dog Competition Awards 4:25-4:55 Shannon Rovers Bagpipe Band

5:15-5:45 Irish Dancers

6:00-7:30 THE LARKIN BROTHERS

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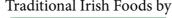
2:20-2:35 Irish Dog Competition Awards 3:00-3:30 Shannon Rovers Bagpipe Band

3:55-4:25 Irish Dancers

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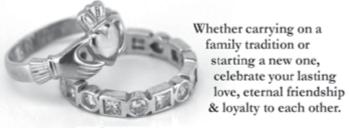
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# The Olympics Needs to Find its Soul

Like most sports enthusiasts, my first experience of the Olympics was as a kid and when the Seoul Games arrived in the summer of 1988, they landed like a beacon of fascination and delight upon my seven-year-old sensibilities.

Every school day, I would get up earlier than usual so I could saturate myself with new sporting codes and although I had no previous familiarity with many of them, such was my captivation, it was not long before I could tell my parallel bars from my high bars in gymnastics and my bowmen from my coxswains in rowing.

When you're a kid, it is bewildering to look at the strongest, the fastest, the most athletic people on the planet and it seemed all the more of a privilege as the sporting colosseum would only pass by once every four years.

During those weeks, the Games completely took over and in school, we would compete and race ourselves in a variety of sporting disciplines, as Olympic fever took hold. And as a kid, it was easy to believe in heroes.

The event the 1988 Olympics is most remembered for is the final the 100m sprint, which is remembered for all the wrong reasons.

Canadian Ben Johnson won the race on the track but afterwards his gold medal was stripped from him after he was caught with performance enhancing drugs (PEDs). He was and still is the villain of that race but its hero was American Carl Lewis, who was deemed the champion.

At the time, it seemed that sporting justice had prevailed. That the cheater had been exposed and the clean athlete given what he justly warranted.

However, in hindsight, that proved not to have be the case as Carl Lewis, the hero of the '84,'88 and '92 Games was also taking drugs in that final. That most of the other athletes were as well saw that final become infamously known as the 'Dirtiest Race of All Time.'

#### **PEDs**

It certainly didn't prove to be an isolated incident as Linford Chris-



tie of England, who had finished third in 1988, won Gold in the 100m at the Barcelona Olympics in 1992. In 2000, there was American female sprinter Marion Jones who cheated her way to four gold medals at the Sydney Olympics.

I mention Jones because in ESPN's '30 for 30' documentary "Marion Jones: Press Pause," the disgraced sprinter wasn't in the least apologetic about taking banned substances. Instead she admitted that her biggest mistake (wasn't taking drugs to cheat) but that she didn't listen to her lawyers before she lied to federal prosecutors about her performance enhancing drug taking.

our country's sporting reputation.

It is somewhat noteworthy that her attainments never get mentioned by the national broadcaster when the Olympics comes around and neither does she get credited with any sporting achievement by the television analysts in Ireland. Others countries and other broadcasters have been more forgiving with their own.

#### IOC

Undoubtedly, there has been institutional failures to stop or deter athletes from journeying in this deceitful direction. Many of the athletes still believe that cheating pays.

It is still the major issue that has



We know that PEDs aren't confined to sprinters as athletes have been caught doping all the way up to the 50km walk and there have been cheaters across most Olympic codes from weightlifting to cameoing and from judo to equestrian.

Neither is the problem country specific and although, the Russians are currently bearing the brunt of the blame, after whistles-blowers Yuliya Stepanova and Vitaly Stepanov told of the systemic doping in their country's sports system, it is a universal issue.

Ireland's Michelle Smith wasn't caught red handed, as she took home four swimming medals at the Atlanta Games in '96, it is still a glaring stain of embarrassment on

remained unsolved and it is eating away at the fabric of what the Olympics as a sporting establishment always strove to be about.

There have been strides with the holdover of blood tests to expose cheats retrospectively but in my opinion, it is not enough. Call me a cynic but that two of the three fastest men and two of the three fastest women on the planet in 2012 all came from Jamaica seems sinister to a kid who remembers deeply the final of '88.

The Olympics needs to find its soul and have heroes for people to believe in. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) needs to go further. Three ways they could help clean up the Games include:

1. They should ban every athlete who tests positive at any event from competing at every Olympics for life. Those athletes could still find redemption by competing at lesser tournaments but not at the Olympics.

2.Additionally, in my opinion, every athlete should be tested every time they compete at an Olympics. It should become the standard.

3.Also, if a competitor wins a medal and are found to cheat at any later sporting event, then they should have their medal taken away from them.

Unfortunately, I have very little faith in the IOC. When you look at some of the decisions they make in the name of the Olympics, it is easy to reason that as an entity, they are more interested in commercial interests rather than adhering to the integrity of sport.

I would argue that professional sports like golf or tennis have no place at the Olympics. The Olympics are a once-in-four-year-event that amateur athletes prepare in four-year cycles to qualify and compete.

For even the most patriotic golfer, the Olympics doesn't hold with winning any of the four majors in 2016 or even the Ryder Cup, the Fed Ex Cup or the Race to Dubai. I would doubt most golfers would prefer a gold medal to the 1.2million pay-check

Dustin Johnson received at winning the WGC-Bridgestone Invitational at Firestone last month.

Golf and tennis at the Olympics should be the realm of amateurs only.

That stance however, doesn't fit with the commercial interests of the IOC suits, who make decisions based on advertising dollars rather than on the integrity of sport or the spirit of the Olympics.

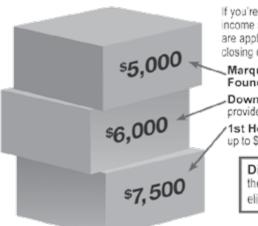
That the IOC recently made the decision to allow professional boxers compete for medals with amateur boxers again highlights where their moral compass is pointing. If it wasn't so serious it would be almost laughable, but not as laughable as the Olympic men's soccer tournament, where it is an Under-23 tournament (this part I don't have a problem with) where each qualifying country then gets to add three overage players for the Games.

This is an obvious example of decision which was made not in the spirit of fair play but rather to attract the television dollars that a Ronaldinho (Brazil) and a Lionel Messi (Argentina) could bring to the tournament respectively since 2008.

The Olympics continues to lose its soul and should heed and tender to its troubles before compounding apathy eventually turns into terminal indifference.

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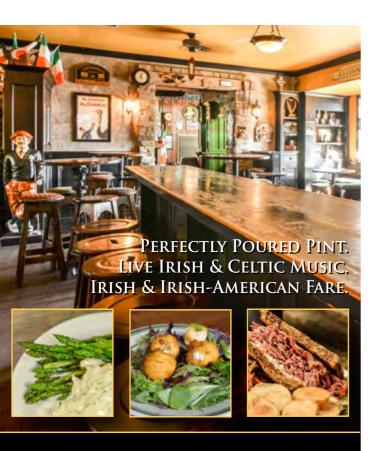
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### An Immigrant's Musings

#### Michael Leonard

#### **Brexit**

The fact that a narrow majority in the UK voted to leave the European Union serves as a warning shot to all those longing for a return to "the good old days". The sad part is, the narrow majority was achieved by false information and promises from the leave side. The most exaggerated of those claims being that the UK sends 350Million Sterling per week to the EU. This sum was plastered in large writing on the bus used to carry the main leave campaigners around the country. Even thought the remain camp argued that this figure was false and misleading, a whopping 47% in one poll believed it to be true. They did so, spurred on by the false promise that most of this money would now be available, post brexit, to support the national health system.

It is clear that many have regrets and did not intend to actually leave the EU but simply wanted to register their opposition to the ruling political class, who has clearly demonstrated that they have become very out of touch with the people they claim to represent.

The fact is, that instead of individuals gaining from the brexit, they will now be suffering a real loss in income. This is because the UK exports to the EU support more than four million jobs directly. Also, instead of receiving benefits from the EU funds, the UK will now face an increase in taxes to pay for health, education and rural programs that will continue to need subsidies.

Another headache for the British government is the fact that the people of Scotland voted overwhelmingly to remain part of the EU. This result has already given a boost to the Scottish movement for independence to have another referendum to leave the UK. And this will surely lead to the complete

In saying all that, let me be

this will surely lead to the complete his will break up of the UK as a whole.

clear, I'm not suggesting that the EU is a perfect organization it is not. It has many issues and needs reform on many levels if the union is to prosper and better serve the member states. Outside the union, the UK will have no say in the rules that shape the common market in the years ahead and that will be an enormous disadvantage to its economy.

It has been observed by many economists, that the UK would have been much better to negotiate a deal similar to what Norway has in place. This would have been a far better move in the long run.

The leave campaign succeeded by selling an image of the UK as strong and independent, one sadly based on a negative view of immigrants and harking back to the past, when all was well and the sun never set on the British Empire. That world, if it ever existed is long since gone never to be reclaimed.

One lesson from the brexit is think carefully about how you use your vote. That does not mean that change is bad, it simply means that the changes we make need to be based on solid principles, not on fluffy statistics and half-baked ideas.

#### **Two Traveling Angels**

Two traveling angels stopped to spend the night in the home of a wealthy family.

The family was rude and refused to let the angels stay in the mansion's guest room. Instead the angels were given a small space in the cold basement.

As they made their bed on the hard floor, the older angel saw a hole in the wall and repaired it. When the younger angel asked why, the older angel replied, "Things aren't always what they seem."

The next night the pair came to rest at the house of a very poor, but very hospitable farmer and his wife.

his wife.

After sharing what little food they had the couple let the angels

sleep in their bed where they could have a good night's rest. When the sun came up the next morning the angels found the farmer and his wife in tears. Their only cow, whose milk had been their sole income, lay dead in the field.

The younger angel was infuriated and asked the older angel, "How could you have let this happen? The first man had everything, yet you helped him." – she accused. "The second family had little but was willing to share everything, and you let the cow die."

"Things aren't always what they seem." – the older angel replied.

"When we stayed in the basement of the mansion, I noticed there was gold stored in that hole in the wall. Since the owner was so obsessed with greed and unwilling to share his good fortune, I sealed the wall so he wouldn't find it. Then last night as we slept in the farmers bed, the angel of death came for his wife. I gave him the cow instead. Things aren't always what they seem."

Sometimes that is exactly what happens when things don't turn out the way they should. If you have faith, you just need to trust that every outcome is always to your advantage. You might not know it until some time later...

Should you find it hard to get to sleep tonight, remember the homeless family who has no bed to lie in.

Should you find yourself stuck in traffic, don't despair, there are people in this world for whom driving is an unheard-of privilege.

Should you have a bad day at work, think of the man who has been out of work for many months struggling to feed his family.

Should you notice a new gray hair in the mirror, think of the cancer patient in chemo who wishes she had hair to examine.

Should you find yourself at a loss and pondering what is life all about, asking, "What is my purpose?", be thankful, there are those who didn't live long enough to get the opportunity.

Author Unknown

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

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#### 5 Ambassadors, Seanchaidhthe, and Pioneers: Reflections on the Musical Legacy of Mike Flanagan and His Brothers

I was contacted recently by Mike DePalma, the grandson of the Irish music legend, Mike Flanagan. He is at Baylor University, and wrote this fascinating bit on the Flanagan Brothers. If you love Irish music, read this! Fascinating. The BEST place for this sort of information is the Ward Music Archives in Wauwatosa. Wish we could be at the Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann in Ennis, August 14-22, 2016 for all this!

#### By Michael-John DePalma

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In mid-August more than 400,000 people will gather in Ennis, Ireland for the world's largest traditional Irish music festival—the Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann. Year in and year out, the Fleadh features world-class artists from Ireland and across the globe who are committed to cultivating an appreciation of Irish culture though traditional music, song, and dance. This year's festival marks the 60th anniversary of the first Fleadh in Ennis. One of the ways organizers of the festival will celebrate this important occasion is establishing an award to honor a great ambassador of traditional Irish music, Mike Flanagan of the Flanagan Brothers.

The Flanagan Brothers of Summerhill Terrace in Waterford moved to New York

A Comedy with God, Games, & Cooly Prizes

City in 1911, and a decade later Mike (tenor Music, Fintan banjo), Joe (diatonic accordion and piano), and Louis (jaw harp, banjo, and twin-necked guitar) became the most popular Irish performers in New York. The popularity that the Flanagan Brothers gained playing New York's dance halls, clubs, and bars such as Donovan Ballroom, the East 55th Street Lyceum, and the Imperial Lyceum drew major US record labels like Columbia and Victor, and the Flanagan Brothers quickly established themselves as the most prolific Irish recording artists of their day. According to Gerry Clarke, traditional Irish music collector and owner of Old Time Records in Galway, the Flanagan Brothers were featured on 154 sides, and they recorded at least eight others as the Irish Big Four between the years of 1921 and 1933. The remarkable body of work the Flanagan Brothers recorded sold well in America, Britain, and Ireland. The vast number of songs and skits the Flanagan Brothers recorded during their twelve years together is all the more impressive when considered in relation to the history of the recording industry in the early 20th century.

In The Companion to Traditional Irish



Irish music were in 1916 at Columbia Records. The 1916 recordings of James Wheeler and Eddie Hebron, an Irish banjo and accordion duo, predated the first American jazz century." Caricatures of the Irish as lazy, im-

Irish as irresponsible, flawed individuals a stereotype that had been portrayed in Europe on the British popular stage for a



Tradition

(1917), blues (1920), and country recordings (1926) and ushered in what many now refer to as the Golden Era of Irish Music. The Flanagan Brothers recorded soon after Wheeler and Hebron in 1921, and the Flanagan's music became synonymous with this thrilling period in music history. Reflecting on the centrality of the Flanagan Brothers' music to the Golden Era, Paul Brock, accordionist and frontman for the Brock McGuire Band,

moral, ignorant, anarchic, and superstitious were long perpetuated through vaudeville performances and through media outlets in the US and abroad. The Flanagan Brothers' music challenged such representations by celebrating the richness of their Irish heritage and thus provided listeners with a counter-narrative.

Since the first Flanagan Brothers reissue by Moloney on Topic Records in 1978, there have been several people who have been vital to the project of preserving the Flanagan Brothers' legacy and ensuring that their music will be shared for years to come: Harry Bradshaw produced The Tunes We Like to Play on Paddy's Day in 1996 on his label Viva Voce; Dick Spottswood created the full discography of the Flanagan Brothers' recordings for the Library of Congress; and Gerry Clarke has introduced countless listeners to the Flanagan Brothers' music through his collections at Old Time Records in Galway. Musicians such as Frankie Gavin (De Dannan), Mike Leonard (The Galway Blazers), and Paul Brock (Brock McGuire Band) have also played a critical role in sharing the Flanagan Brothers' musical legacy. The members of Mike's family, too, have been integral to the work of preserv-







#### The Mercy of Change

We live in exciting times. Politically, the world in turmoil, the thought of traveling anywhere outside of one's comfort zone is scary, and each day brings yet more disturbing news. When Britain decided to leave the European Union by slight margin of 4 percent, the effect was 'shock and awe'. For those of us who didn't believe they ever would do it, the decision was a painful reminder of how not to underestimate the power of democracy. While the majority of Northern Ireland and Scotland voted to remain, the English had just enough of an edge to make the unthinkable happen. Families were divided, there were calls for another referendum, and Cameron, the British Prime Min-

ister, resigned. The aftershock of to be felt. Over the next 2 years, as Britain dissolves its European partnership, there will be a general feeling of insecurity, and fear.

The bond that has held European nations together has been seriously challenged by this departure of a key player, and there are calls from other countries to follow the British lead, But there are others, like myself, who believe that this would ultimately do more harm than good. For me, the process of democracy is the fullest expression of political freedom. Whether we like the decision of the majority or not, we are bound to honour the choice of the many. Having said that, I equally believe that such decisions should not go uncontested. When a majority is swayed by fear and faulty political rhetoric, we

need to counter this approach with the facts. For many in England the threat of losing the effectiveness of the National Health Service, the influx of immigrants, and loss of control is exaggerated by extremists.

What this referendum showed this momentous decision is yet us was how out of touch politicians are with their constituents. The elected representatives erred in believing that they understood and had the confidence of their electorate, and, subsequently, this assumption was duly turned on its head when it came to Election Day. Now, the border between Northern Ireland and the Republic will become even more pronounced, as the gap between these two entities widens. The shared connection with the E.U has gone. The United Kingdom and Northern Ireland will operate outside of Europe, and this will inevitably affect relationships between those in the North and those in the South. How this will play out, only time will tell.

> In the midst of European instability, there is the ever-increasing threat to security. The recent

bombing in Turkey has continued to breed fear in the hearts of those of us who travel. Now, those perpetrators of violence view us as 'soft targets' that can be brutally disposed in order to make some sort of misguided sacred gesture. The terror produced by such acts is symptomatic of a larger problem that cannot be ignored. This violence comes from somewhere. It is not unrelated to the international policies of larger constituencies. Countries being targeted may have engaged in mistreating the rights of others, and as a result are reaping what they have sown. Some are experiencing the consequences of their actions. However, while this may explain in part the level of barbarity, it should never excuse it and if we allow ourselves to react in bigoted, prejudicial ways we only throw more fuel on the fire of racial hatred.

When people feel they are not being listened to, they respond in drastic ways.

We have seen in the past how the IRA took their campaign to England bombing London, Warrington and Manchester. This approach was motivated by frustration and desperation. Innocent people were killed, Irish men and women were wrongfully imprisoned, and ultimately this tactic did not achieve anything more than reinforce a

political stalemate. A new approach was needed, and that was the impetus for the Good Friday Agreement. If we react, as Trump would suggest, fire with fire then we create even more problems. The only way to defuse such aggression is to educate people with the facts. Fear mongers such as Trump, or those who advocate for Britain's departure from Europe, incite and legitimize sectarianism.

We live in a time that requires courage to stand against the knee jerk reaction of Trumphism. Many innocent people die in countries we deem as enemies, and yet we think them unlucky instead of victims. When it comes to creating a way forward we have to believe that the will of the people, the democratic creed, is the only way that we can ensure lasting peace. We cannot bring those who feel disempowered to the table by alienating them further. The victims of Orlando, Turkey, Belgium or Omagh deserve to be vindicated by a lasting justice that does not drive us to become the thing we despise.

If we choose to live by the sword, then the means will never justify the end, since the violence will never cease. We need to silence the fear mongers and find those who want to make peace a lasting

## Reflections on the Musical Legacy of Mike Flanagan and the Flanagan Brothers Continued from previous page

and history through the gathering, archiving, and sharing of photographs, news stories, and oral histories.

The establishment of the Mike Flanagan Award for Irish Banjo at this year's Fleadh and the placement of a Civic Trust Blue Plaque on the Flanagan Brothers' home in Waterford this summer are evidence of the important strides that have been made over the past four decades to preserve the Flanagan Brothers' musical contributions. It remains the case, though, that much of the Flanagan Brothers' material has not been heard in our modern era. Thus, future efforts, suggested Gerry Clarke, might focus on sharing the full spectrum of the Flanagan Brothers' music in the form of a complete anthology—a project that would require six or seven albums. Among those who are familiar with the Flanagan

ing the Flanagan Brothers' music Brothers' varied recordings and groundbreaking talents, there is Ireland to remain present for him widespread agreement that such

a tribute would be fitting. As Mike Flanagan waited among family and friends in Shannon Airport for his flight back to New York in the summer of 1984, he could not have imagined the many accolades that would follow in subsequent years. If he had known, he no doubt would have been pleased, but such thoughts would not have occupied his mind in that hour. Instead, his attention would have been on that which mattered most to him. Standing there in that moment, Mike knew that he was leaving Ireland for the last time. The sense of longing that he felt leaving home as a boy could not have been far off. Thoughts of his parents, siblings, and schoolmates—most now passed—too, must have surfaced as he waited. Amidst those memories, Mike *Baylor University*.

turned to the source that enabled and countless others for nearly seven decades, and he began to play. Paul Brock joined him on the accordion, Frankie Gavin took up his fiddle, and the three were in session. As they performed in the duty-free area of the airport, crowds en route to their gates stopped to listen. The absolute wonder of the moment is what those who were present recall most vividly. It is unlikely that the travelers who gathered that day recognized the sacredness of this offering. But for Mike, it was his parting gift. He devoted his life to honoring Ireland's history and culture through music, and on that afternoon, he played to

remember home one last time. Michael-John DePalma is an Associate Professor of English at

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# ooliganism

is an old apocryphal Chinese curse.

Looking around lately, you'd think we all might be on the wrong end of that curse. The world seems to be spinning faster and faster in search of work.

into a terrifying gyre of violence, racism, false prophets, mendacity and infanticide. And that's just from the Democratic candidate!

But is this the end of western civilization? Or is it just the beginning of the end? The world keeps on turning and the best we can do is to hang on and

pray to Almighty God for the best. to make it after the cargo ship on Yes, the world can be a very

scary place, but it has always been so. Look back to World War II and the "greatest generation" and you wonder how they survived the horrors of that time and the emotional and physical terror of man's

source of their obvious fortitude in those "interesting times?"

Faith, of course.

On Saturday night October 1st. The 2nd Annual Irish American Movie Hooley will screen A DOCTOR'S SWORD, the terrific film about an Irish doctor who survived just about every major horror of WWII.

Dr. Aidan MacCarthy was his name and this extraordinary film will leave you emotionally spent and so very proud to be Irish.

Tara Brady of the Irish Times said about the film. "The doctor was Aidan MacCarthy, one of a family of 10 chil-

"May you live in interesting dren from Castletownbere, Co Cork. From his youth, MacCarthy proved a capable fellow: a champion swimmer and the recipient of a Muster senior medal for rugby, he graduated from Clongowes, then UCC, before departing for London

Having signed up with the Royal Air Force, he survived the evacuation of Dunkirk in 1940, the fall of Singapore and four years in a Japanese POW camp on a diet of maggot and rice soup.

From there he was transported to Nagasaki – he was one of only 38 people out of 780 prisoners

which they were travelling was torpedoed – where he witnessed the atomic bombing of that city.

Dr. Aidan MacCarthy

His efforts during World War II did not go unrecognised: he received a George Medal for pulling five men from the wreckage of an

Medal. But being part of a more reticent generation, he seldom spoke of his experiences, or about the ancestral Japanese sword that still hangs in the family bar in Castletownbere

A Doctor's Sword follows his daughter Nicola as she journeys to Japan to discover more about its original owner. It's a tricky piece of detective work: some 60 years have elapsed since the blade came into her late father's possession.

Director Gary Lennon makes terrific use of Aidan MacCarthy's own testimony (recorded for an RTÉ radio documentary that aired just days after his death in 1995), archive footage and Ronan Coyle's imaginative animation to recount the extraordinary events of the doctor's life.

Even before the film closes in on Isao Kusuno, the 2nd lieutenant who previously owned the sword, we're embroiled in a gripping saga, guided by Aidan MacCarthy's calm, matter-of-fact narration; as capable as ever.".

A DOCTOR'S SWORD was an emotional experience for me to watch and I am thrilled to be able to present this film to our audience at the Siskel Film Center on Saturday, October 1st at 8PM. The line that clinched it for me is when the RTE interviewer asks Dr. MacCarthy how he survived, "Well, it's a

> combination really of my Irish Catholic heritage, my family background, and lots and lots of luck."

> Please join us in Chicago Sept. 30 through Oct. 2nd, at The Siskel Film Center, for the 2nd Annual Irish American Movie Hooley, where you can meet the producer Bob Jackson and other filmmakers premiering their movies that weekend.

> The Second Annual Irish American Movie Hooley is sponsored by 2 Gingers Irish Whiskey, The Emerald Loop, IAN, Hilton Chicago, Kitty O'Shea's, and McCann's Irish Oatmeal. For more information and updates about the schedule, go to

moviehooley.org. See you at the movies.



# **Getting to Know the Irish**

By Tina Butler



Who is Mary McAleese? (Mary Patricia Leneghan) She was the 8th president of Ireland, the 2nd female to be president and first president to come from N. Ireland. (elected 1997-2011) She was born in Belfast co. Antrim in 1951. She was the eldest of 9 children. She grew up in a violent time named the "troubles". Her family was Catholic and forced to leave their home by loyalists when the 'troubles' started. Gunman sprayed their house one night with 30 bullets thankfully the family was at a relatives house. Her father Paddy Leneghan was from co. Roscommon and her mother Claire McManus was from co. Derry.

When McAleese was a little girl the family priest visited the house and told her she could not be a lawyer because she was a girl. Her mother said, " you get out and you ignore him." Well she did end up becoming a lawyer contrary to the reverends words.

McAleese graduated with a law degree from Queens University Belfast. In 1975, She was appointed professor of criminal law and criminology of penology (study punishments of crime/prison management). Later she would become director of the Institute of professional legal studies. In 1994 she became the first female vice chancellor of Queens University. She worked as a barrister and a journalist for RTE. (radio telifis Eireann, national public broadcaster for tv & radio). The theme for her presidency was "building bridges", I really like her constructive idiom. It showed the need for reconciliation between the north and south. The term is a great visual phrase, For ex. if you were on your way to your best friends house and you saw a wall and barricades it would stop your journey and possible your connection to your best friend. A bridge is a connector and a bridge increases our possibilities. Some

important issues McAleese be-

lieved in included: social equality, anti-sectarianism, law (govt. and cannon law) and homosexual law reform. She opposed abortion and divorce. She is a member of the Council of Women World Leaders and was ranked the 64th most powerful woman in the world by

She married Martin McAleese (from Co. Antrim) former member of the Seanad, an accountant and dentist. They had 3 children, Emma, Justin and Saramai. Her son Justin spoke out about being gay and how he grew up feeling isolated and just wanted to fit in. McAleese said about the equality referendum that same sex marriage was a human rights issue. She has described her only son Justin as a devout Catholic who was bullied and made to feel lonely and she felt broken for him and what he endured as a teenager.

My heart aches for young men/ women like Justin because I grew up with being afraid too, but it was a fear of crowds. (enochlophobia) When I was young I didn't understand what I was feeling but if I had to go somewhere with a lot of people sometimes, I would sit in the car and wait for family / friends to come back from the event. It was a very isolating thing and maybe only a fraction of what men and women feel when they are gay and can't freely express themselves.

Positions that McAleese has held include: Director of ch. 4 television, director of N. Ireland electricity, director at royal group of hospitals, founding member of the Irish commission for prisoners overseas. In 1998 McAleese met the Archbishop of Boston Cardinal Bernard Francis law on an official visit to the USA in an interview she said Law told her he was "sorry for Catholic Ireland to have you as president. McAleese said, "I am president of Ireland and not just Catholic Ireland" One of her last official visits she went to Derry Presbyterian church. She

was the inaugural speaker at the first conversations across walls and borders event. She donated more than 60 gifts given to her over the 14 years of her presidency and worth about 100,000 Euro to the Irish state. McAleese along with her husband Martin won the Tipperary peace prize in 2012. The Irish times reported that she had voluntarily returned more than 500,000 in unused presidential allowance funds. McAleese has received many awards and honorary doctorates while president. She was awarded the American Ireland humanitarian award. She was awarded an honorary doctorate of law from the University of Otago, New Zealand. She became the 3rd living person to be awarded the freedom of Kilkenny, succeeded by Brian Cody and Seamus Pattison. She was awarded an honorary doctorate of law from Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts. She delivered the commencement speech to Fordham University. In 2013 a ceremony was held to rename a bridge on the M1 motorway near Drogheda as Mary McAleese Boyne bridge to honor her contribution to the N. Ireland peace process. McAleese said, "The immigrant's heart marches to the beat of two quite different drums, one from the old homeland and the other from the new. The immigrant has to bridge these two worlds, living comfortably in the new and bringing the best of his or her ancient identity and heritage to bear on life in an adopted homeland." A few other quotes I found interesting: "When the problems in Northern Ireland started, it was not a question of Protestantism or Catholicism, because the Catholic church was the only church at that time-it was a nationalist conflict." Harri holkeri

Loyalism or unionism Protestantism, or whatever you want to call it, in Northern Ireland - it operates not as a class system, but a caste system. Seamus Heaney

I think Mary McAleese was a trail blazer, hard working, and compassionate woman and left all of us a great example.

Gaelic for the month: Lawyer-dliodor

troubles-triobloidi

female-baineann Seanfhocail

Nil leigheas ar an gcathu ach e a mharu le foighne-There is no cure for regret but to

kill it with patience

If you have any questions or comments please Email me at: Molanive@yahoo.com



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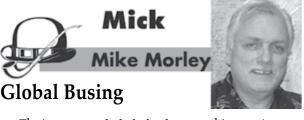


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Irish American News "WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN GREEN!" August 2016



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The internet exploded after last month's surprise vote by British voters to leave the EU, and The New Yorker, a favorite of one-worlder progressives, went nuts. On June 24, Benjamin Wallace-Wells titled his column "Brexit Makes" the U.S. the Last, Best Hope for Liberalism", explaining: "in England, the dividing line seemed clear: there was London, and then there was everywhere else... outside of London and, perhaps, Birmingham and the university towns, support for liberalism appeared to have evaporated almost altogether". It was clear to Ben the yahoos were restless.

With the massive blender of globalism quickly homogenizing communities, cultures and currencies, the upsets in American presidential primaries mirrored that discontent. Ordinary Americans (as opposed to those extraordinary beings residing in financial hub cities and academic cocoons) are sick of it. Even Hillary, who crowed that the Trans Pacific Partnership was "the gold standard" of trade deals, has sniffed the wind and flip-flopped like a sandal in a clothes dryer. Her new position: "I have been trying to learn as much as I can about the agreement, but I'm worried." She hadn't read it before? Surely her 'worries' will disappear November 9th.

Emanuel Celler of New York proposed The Immigration and Naturalization Act, Senator Philip Hart of Michigan co-sponsored it, and Senator Ted Kennedy of Massachusetts promoted it. In October 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed it, saying it's "not a revolutionary bill. It does not affect the lives of millions....It will not reshape the structure of our daily lives". That was 180 degrees off the truth.

From 1965 to 1970, immigration to the U.S. more than quadrupled. By the '90's, Europeans in the US populationover 50% in the 1950's- dropped to just 16%, with Asian up to 31%. Between 1965 and 2000, the largest number of immigrants were Mexican (4.3 million). By 2012 not one of the top ten countries of origin was European.

In 1990 yet another Immigration Act was introduced

by Ted Kennedy boosting legal immigration to 700,000, and favoring "underrepresented" countries to increase diversity. By Barack Obama's election the US population stood at one-third minority. Under current law and trends the US will be majority nonwhite in 25 years' time. Barack Obama has often said "America is not a Christian nation", or "no longer a Christian nation". He may be Wright. He announced his candidacy for President in February

2007. A month later The Los Angeles Times, a Tribune paper, the largest metro daily in the US, carried an opinion piece headed: "Illegal? Better if you're Irish". Readers learned: "There are an estimated 50,000 Irish illegal immigrants in the U.S.; 30,000 of them are thought to live in New York City. Today, this tiny corner in the northern reaches of the Bronx is perhaps the most heavily Irish-born neighborhood in New York, and advocates believe that as many as 40% of local immigrants are undocumented." It land certainly deserves to be considered for much higher was pointed out that some six million Mexicans made up over half the total of illegal immigrants in America.

The piece went on to mock the Irish immigration lobby for its boldness in printing tee shirts reading: "Legalize the Irish". Hillary had even held one up for a photo-op, and The Times felt she'd never be photographed with a tee saying "Legalize Mexicans". In the writer's opinion: "Irish illegals do have a slight advantage. It's all in the stereotypes — race-based, language-based, class-based." He talked to Bronx contractor Dermot Byrne: "From my experience, we're not singled out. If someone's driving down the street and they see five Mexican guys on one side and five Irish guys on the other, they're going to think that the Mexicans are illegal, even though it could be the other way around."

The writer concluded: "Irish immigrant advocates... consciously leverage this positive prejudice to their advantage... But whites' more favorable view of illegal immigrants who look like them may not translate to the... Pakistani-born cab driver who... said he generally found Irish immigrants to be nice, as well as good tippers. 'But they won't rent you an apartment around here if you're not Irish... They don't want to mix with other races.' "Damn immigrants."

The Times portrayal of white Irish immigrants as privileged and biased, enjoying positive prejudice in the US, to the detriment of non-white, non-European immi-

grants is not only laughable, but a despicable accusation, considering that a single illegal Irish immigrant in this country is "balanced" by 240 or more illegals from other parts of the world.

The imbalance is so glaring that even progressive Irish Central editor Niall O'Dowd did a surprise flip-flop, awarding a reluctant kudo in a June 22 opinion piece: "There are times when you have to say Donald Trump has a point about immigration policy. The diversity visa lottery (DV) results were made public and Ireland will receive only 76 visas, total."

Despite having more Medal of Honor winners, helping the Union stay together during the Civil War and inventing the Catholic health and school system, Ireland finishes way behind some interesting countries.

Ask 99 percent of Americans and they would say Irenumbers, not to mention all they have contributed to America. But such is the political correctness that Ireland are even comes in behind Mali, in Africa."

O'Dowd ended his short piece with perhaps another offhand Trumpism, saying the 1965 act "ended immigration except in tiny numbers from the countries that helped make America great".

76 for all of Ireland. That's not new. In 2016 the total was 96 Check the numbers yourself here - http://www. usagreencardcenter.com/winner-greencard-statistics-2016-DV2017.htm

Muslim-majority African countries won the jackpot: 44,564. Iran got 4501. Some parts of Europe were favored: Albania, Armenia and Azerbaijan together collected 3588. Russia, Ukraine and Uzbekistan, totaled 1107. But Norway, Denmark and Sweden combined received just 178. Communist Cuba and Socialist Venezuela were the big winners in South America- 2526. Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Panama and Peru combined were given only 129.

I call it global busing, but progressive Democrats always remind adoring audiences in reverent tones: "That's what we're about".

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# **Swimming Upstream**

By Charles Brady

#### There Was a Crooked Man...

The gorgeous Ashford Castle in County Mayo was singled out last month by 'Travel + Leisure' magazine as the best hotel in Ireland and that it's true I don't think that even the most cantankerous individual would begrudge the success of an estate that employs 365 people, mainly locals. There are literally whole generations who work there and it's nice to mention a genuine Irish success story.

However, one of the jokes that accompanied the announcement is that you would have to be as wealthy as a charity Board member to stay there. And like most of the jokes that I find funny, it is one coloured with bitterness and anger. For the sad fact is that in the last month the charity sector has – once again – covered an already tarnished image in something less than glory. (I'd use another description but this is a family magazine.) And as usual, it's all thanks to utter greed by those vain, posturing popinjays who pretend to be pillars of the community whilst in reality are nothing less than scum-sucking lowlifes with not an ounce of decency.

As chance and miserable bad timing would have it, the children's cancer charity that I do occasional volunteer work with -- 'Hand in Hand' – had been about to release a tale of disappearing funds that I felt had the potential to be a huge story.

And in this instance it was a case of a charity being sinned AGAINST.

This will yet be a big one. For the moment, though, it has had to take a back seat since that very week there emerged the jaw-dropping tale of corruption and swinish human greed that had taken place a bit of bitterness and anger. with 'Console', the suicide prevention charity that was headed by the



loathsome Paul Kelly and his ghoul-family. And you really have

to be ghouls of the highest order to take advantage of those who have lost someone to suicide

A sidebar first: I've mentioned the UK. And apart from the fact before that I believe that once a CEO is earning more than a normal sum of money then they have NO DAMNED RIGHT to call themselves 'charity' workers. Especially when we're looking at amounts that go beyond €100,000 or €200,000 or, God help us, €250,000 per year. If you want to say you're a routine business or just part of corporate Ireland, that's fine; but don't pull the wool over people's eyes by codding them into thinking that every cent they give goes to helping someone. You are being disingenuous at best and a scheming, lying, grasping toe-rag at worst.

The reason I speak so much about 'Hand in Hand' is that there IS no CEO. There IS a Board of Directors, all of whom are voluntary and none of whom claim as much as a cent in expenses. There IS a team of two who earn BETWEEN them €55,000 a year. And that's to organise help for families throughout the whole of Ireland. Nor is it one of those charities that simply duplicates or triplicates a service – another of my hang-ups – that others are doing. It is practical... and it is unique. It ALWAYS has its back to the wall in terms of cash --- and because of arrogant, walking lumps of venality like Paul Kelly and THOSE WHO HAVE COVERED FOR HIM all decent charities have now been splattered with the same muck and filth that he turns out to have been caked in up to his fussy-looking little moustache.

So yes, when I laughed at that joke it was tinged with more than

Console has done fantastic work over the years and there are many

out there who will testify to that. And those genuine people that volunteered and fundraised have been gutted; pure and simply gutted.

I spoke to one young woman who had been doing work 'on the ground' and my heart went out to her. People like her gave their time and energy to raise money for what they believed was (and is!) a decent cause, only to find that much of it was being used to maintain the nauseatingly lavish lifestyle of a family of swindlers who make the Sawney Beane cannibal clan look like models of decorum.

Trust me: if someone put a gun to your head and you found yourself in the unenviable position where you had to shake hands with Conman Kelly you would be checking both fingers and wristwatch afterwards.

In what Health Minister Simon Harris has described as a read that is 'harrowing', 'disgusting and disturbing' it has been learned that Kelly, wife Patricia and son Tim helped themselves to between €500,000 between 2012 and 2014 alone and spent in excess of €464,000 on credit cards – all charged to the charity. (There was at least one other family member involved but I have neither space nor stomach to go through them

Trips to New Zealand; designer clothes; luxury cars; fine dining. Nothing was too good for a family who only seem to have been short of owning shares in the Bates

I don't often throw roses at RTE but they have done a tremendous service in bringing this to light. Yet incredibly, it was already well known that this chancer had in the past pretended to be a member of a religious order (the only member, as it turned out) and – wait for this - had impersonated a DOC-TOR for three weeks in the 80s until he was caught. In fact, when asked this week if ex-Minister for Health James Reilly (sacked by the electorate; reinstated by Enda) had been told of this in 2011 he said that he might have 'heard something about it in the canteen'. Did you

ever hear the like? So the Health Service Executive

(who I wouldn't trust to tell me the time of day, never mind with a bag marked 'swag') merrily handed to him, with a whistle and a song, 12 million Euros over the 2006-2014 period – and I trust you're sitting comfortably - despite being now convinced that he was as dodgy as Old Nick on Walpurgis Night.

Still, what's a bit of \*wink wink\* skullduggery between old pals? Don't tell me the HSE didn't know what was going on – they're in this up to their oxters.

So with all this suspicion on him, what happens but that OF COURSE he got the People of the Year Award for 2014. Yep. And that would be the same award that is run by the Rehab Group, of which the ghastly Angela Kerins was the former CEO -- she of the egregious salary; who never saw a perk she could say no to; and who is currently in the High Court making out that she's the victim of...something or other. Oh, yes;

being bullied by the Public Accounts Committee. No kidding. She's the victim.

You must remember Angie: tried (and failed) to stop Irish American newspapers saying things about her that she didn't like? Fond of the odd free helicopter ride? Partial to perks provided by charity collections? Yes! THAT Angie...

Someone whispered 'First Amendment' in her dainty shelllikes and she turned her fire on soft-touch-Ireland instead, where we tiptoe around, afraid to look crooked at people who are robbing

Incidentally, Rehab wants Creepy Kelly to return his bookend 'in order to protect the standing and integrity of the awards'. Integrity and standing, no kidding. At this point words fail me - and there's something that my longsuffering friends don't hear too



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#### **Irish Books and Plays** in Review

Frank West

#### Immaculate Heart by Camille De Angelis

St. Martin's Press

This book is about the supernatural or paranormal. The author says that "there could be a psychological explanation for every paranormal occurrence in this story..."

Religious belief is personal, intimate, and volatile. I felt a responsibility to review Immaculate Heart because of the pervasive influence of Catholicism in Ireland's history and culture.

On a personal note, of all the priests I met in elementary school, high school, and college, I only recall four who were not Irish-Americans.

The author, Camille De Angelis, has written several novels about the supernatural. She is "a graduate of NYU and the National University of Ireland, Galway."

Immaculate Heart takes us into a world that is rational, then it quickly becomes irrational, and then book again. The author is so adept at this changes that the reader soon loses any sense of objective certainty. We are

rational people, who think in a linear way, but this book takes us into a non-linear world.

Twenty years after four teenagers claim to have seen an apparition, an American journalist visits the west of Ireland village where it happened.

Of the four teens (now adults), one says it never happened. One lives in Australia. One became a nun and one is in a mental insti-

the suspicion

that...appari-

tions are examples of man's

The diction-

ary says that

hysteria."



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religion is an organized system of beliefs... used to worship a god or a group of gods.

There are many motives for religious belief. You could say that humans need religious belief. Some desires of believers are:

-to feel that life has a meaning

-to alleviate the fear of death. If there is an afterlife, then we live forever.

-hope to have some control over nature, like praying to a god or saint for rain.

-morality: kindness, charity, compassion. Love for others.

Immaculate Heart encourages us to evaluate our beliefs.

#### Bishop's Delight

by Patrick McGinley New Island Books **Dufour Editions** 

BISHOP'S

DELIGHT

PATRICK McGINLEY

The central character in Bishop's Delight, is the fictional prime minister of Ireland. Two journalists compete to write a biography of the former, three-term Taoiseach. However, can the complexity of that vital and mercu-

> rial man be captured in a book?

One biographer says about that: "He was half a dozen men in one...man of action v. scholar—bibliophile; social charmer v. solitary—contemplative artist v. politician..."

Patrick McGinley has written ten novels. When I was a young man I read one, and found it enchanting, with imaginative characterization and a humane view of

De Angelis life. That applies also to the Bishop's Delight.

While reading this book, I repeatedly thought of playwright, Conor McPherson's comment: "If you write good plays, you ask more questions than provide answers."

McGinley is an intensely private person and never gives interviews. All I could find out about him is that he was born in 1937 in Glencolumkille, Donegal. He taught school for a few years before moving to England.

Bishop's Delight contains many obser-

vations about politics, politicians, and especially about the journalists who write about them.

The Prime Minister says: "The age of

decorum is dead. Modern journalists are happiest dishing the dirt...It's their high moral tone that gets me." Who do these journalists write for? He

observes: "the Irish are more superstitious than religious...They love the rogue...the cute hoor and the conman who thrives at the expense of the highly respectable and those who looked down on their neighbors."

There are many brilliant observations in Bishop's Delight that could be quoted. These are a few:

-Charles de Gaulle was the PM's hero: "if de Valera had half of de Gaulle's gifts as a politician and statesman there would have been no civil war and Partition of Ireland."

-"Ireland has changed. The civilized reticence of Dev's time is ancient history...We have a new generation of writers whose fathers never handled a shovel. They're all the offspring of accountants and businessmen, and write like accountants and businessmen. Dev was lucky, living as he did in the age of Frank O'Connor and Sean O'Faolain. Those men had their heads in the clouds, as literary men should."

-Interviewing a person for the biography: "He used to say that he should have been born into the nomadic life, sleeping under the stars...He admired the great adventurers. His heroes were Marco Polo, Shackleton and Scott. He liked to think that he had more in common with these men than with any politician...Small wonder that the Irish people didn't understand him."

-Watching the sunset with a friend of the biographer; "I've wasted my life on futile dreams." "No dream is futile. Our dreams keep us going...That sunset sums it up. Not quite perfect, but still unlike any sunset I've ever seen."

#### Wedding Bel Blues

By: Maggie McConnon St. Martin's Paperbacks, Amazon

Wedding Bel Blues is the first in a new series of mystery books that feature Belfast McGrath. I enjoyed this mystery and felt that Bel, as she is called by friends and family, will become a regular in the field of crime investigation.

She is 37 years old, has red curly hair, is below average in height, is observant, smart and chubby. Hers is a large Irish-American family that loves Irish music and dance.

Bel's parents own a large, historic manor that overlooks the Hudson River. It is located in the fictional town of Foster's Landing. It is

Continued on next page

#### It's Summertime, Cluttertime, Sum-Sum-Clutter Time

Did you ever notice how clutter seems and car. to double and triple during the lazy days of summer?

\* the car looks like a small third world nation is using it as a traveling dining room.

\* the heady fragrance of mildew wafts from soggy swimsuits and water gear tucked or dropped in odd places.

\* the back yard is sprouting rakes, toys, shovels, and bikes everywhere.

\* and the Clutter Gremlins must be visiting your children while they sleep because no child could possibly own as many toys as are scattered through the house, yard

Clutter isn't an illness; it's simply a habit. And by adding a new habit or two to your family life, you'll see your clutter

The first step in these habits is deciding where things should be put. "A place for everything ..."

Also, you may need to begin some new Family Rules, such as if someone's stuff is found where it doesn't belong, you get to decide its fate. For example, first offense, maybe you keep it for a few days, then



Family time for Collin, Kerry and Pat Doran at the IAHC Irish Fest.

MAGGIE

McCONNO

### **Wedding Bel Blues**

called Shamrock Manor, and is a popular site for weddings

and receptions.

After a broken engagement and cancelled wedding, Bel returned to Foster's Landing. Her job as a star chef in New York City ended at the

During the wedding of a close friend, she witnesses a murder, and sets out to solve it.

The author of this fasci-

nating mystery is Maggie McConnor. She grew up in New York City in a family that put great value on Irish music, culture and tradition. "She credits her grandparents with providing the stories of their homeland...as the basis for the stories she tells in her Belfast McGrath novels."

McConnor is working on a new Bel Mc-

Grath mystery. I'm looking forward to it.

These are quotes from the books:

"For me, if being the same size as my cousin, meant giving up my beloved Blue Moons and my favorite baker's chocolate scones...count me out."

"When hugging or any kind of emotional display of affection isn't in your family's repertoire, there's not much else to do but move on..."

A smug owner of a trendy restaurant says: "The Irish don't even appreciate good food."

Bel says: "You're a pompous ass...who thought you knew how to open a restaurant. The Irish love good food. And laughter. And life.?"

But after a second or third time, you might decide to keep it longer, then for a month (or even to get rid of it completely)

They will "test" to see if your new rules are real. You have to be tough at the beginning.

#### CAR CLUTTER

\* Put a large wastebasket in the garage for car trash. If no garage, tuck grocery plastic bags under the car seat for trash.

\* At the end of each trip, remind everyone to gather what doesn't belong in the car.

\* If you like to keep barrettes, scrunchies and small toys handy in the car, provide small containers. At the end of each trip, put everything in its place.

#### WET CLUTTER

\* Assign and announce a place for everything to go. Make it easy and handy such as

swimsuits into the washer or water toys go into a tub outside the door.

\* Offer a reward (favorite snack, trip to the movies or mall, new game) to everyone

puts away their wet gear for a week without being reminded.

#### YARD CLUTTER

\* Keep all yard and garden stuff together in one designated spot.

\* Repair broken tools; if you don't have time to fix it now, you never will. Get rid of it.

\* Set a timer for 5 minutes, gather up and put away the tools. You'll be amazed at what you can accomplish in five minutes.

Procrastinate No More

Clutter Buster

by Rita Emmett

19

TOY CLUTTER \* Make it easy for them to "contain" their toys. Assign places for toys to belong

If there are TOO MANY, take strong steps. Toss broken toys. Donate ones your children no longer use.

You know that YOU feel much better when there's less clutter. Well, guess what? Your family does, too.

By introducing a few new rules and habits, you can eliminate a whole bunch of that jumbled up stuff and you'll all feel lighter, freer and way more energized

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Tunes of Glory

Pipes & Drums

The Tunes of Glory are a competition, parade, performance and teaching pipe band from the western suburbs of Chicago based in Warrenville, Illinois. Their roster comprises over 20 active pipers and drummers, and a number of students. The Band performs in the Chicago area delighting audiences everywhere. Tunes of Glory is under the musical direction of Pipe Major Mike Heywood and lead drummer Joanna Lloyd.

# Larkin & Moran Brothers!

They are widely considered one of the most followed and sought after Irish/Celtic music bands in the Midwest. Shay Clarke of the Irish American News has said that 'The Larkin and Moran Brothers have a sense of fun and energy that is rare these days'.

#### John Condron

John, a perpetual favorite, is a Philadelphia born singer-songwriter, musician, & producer who currently makes his home in the Chicago-land area. The former front man for the power quartet "the benefit" has been spending much

of his time lately focusing on solo performances as well as performances w/ his new full band project "The Old Gang Orchestra". Recent shows highlight songs from his collection "...If Any or at All", released on the Flipside Works label in addition to material from his four previous studio albums.

Gavin Coyle

An accomplished singer and songwriter, Gavin's musical range covers both pop and folk music as well as traditional music from his native Derry in Northern Ireland. His performances often reflect this versatility as he mixes traditional and original compositions. In addition to being a guitarist, he plays several other instruments including the bodhran (an Irish drum) and the flute. Gavin's musical influences are a varied lot: Elvis, Patsy Cline, Beethoven, U2, The Velvet Underground, and John William

# Whiskey of the Damned

Their brand of Celtic Rock features Eoin McCarthy -Guitar/Vocals/Bagpipes, Gina Romantini - Fiddle/Mandolin/Vocals/Melodica, Matt Schuetz - Bass/Vocals/Drums, Andrew David Weber- Drums/ Vocals/Various other instruments, Brian Link- Accordion/ Piano/Trombone/Vocals, and

Marco Conley (Mark O'Connely)- Fiddle/Mandolin/Guitar/Banjo/Vocals.

# Society of County Will

# www.CountyWillIrish.net

The Irish American Society of County Will hereby pledges itself to the following ideals:

- \* To promote Irish culture in America and to preserve Irish-American Heritage
- \* To promote education, friendship, understanding and cooperation among members, and the community in general.
- \* To promote and cooperate in the general welfare work of the community.



**Gavin Coyle** 

Whiskey of the Damned Acoustic

**Keigher Dancers** 

John Condron

**Tunes of Glory** 

Hatfields and Friends

Whiskey of the Damned

Larkin & Moran

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22 Irish American News "WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN GREEN!" August 2016

#### Cross Stitch Classes

Have you ever wondered how to turn a blank canvas into a beautiful work of art? If you have ever thought about learning a new craft, now is the time to try it! Learn the fine art of Counted Cross Stitch and help

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keep alive a dying art. Counted Cross Stitch is enjoying a revival during this economic time. Small projects that you may give as gifts are very popular. Not only are they less expensive but they all include a little piece of yourself and your heart.

Learn to cross stitch

at Rampant Lion Celtic Traders on Saturday, September 10 from 10 am to Noon. Your class will include a Textile Heritage Key ring kit featuring everything you need to stitch it. Choices will be an Irish Shamrock, a MacKintosh Rose or a Celtic Knot. Two hours of stitching time will be guided by Gayle Baker, our in-house cross stitch teacher and stitcher. All you need to bring is a small pair of scissors. Fee for the beginner class is \$20.

From 1:00 - 3:00pm, we'll have an intermediate stitching class, where you may purchase a new Celtic Design cross stitch kit. We will help you get started on it right away and you can show off how much you accomplished when you get home! There will be several to choose from and they will also include everything you need. You may also bring in any cross stitch projects you are having trouble with, for some assistance. This intermediate class assumes some basic knowledge of cross stitch skills and please bring a small pair of scissors. Fee for the intermediate class is \$15 plus the cost of the kit. Snacks and beverages will be available during this class.

For more information or to sign up for either class, please email info@rampantlion.com or call 630 834 8108.

#### Celtic Showcase Chicago September 17-20

2 pm - 6pm Sat 17th Sun 18th 9.30am – 6pm Mon 19th 9.30am – 6pm Tue 20th 9.30am – 4pm

Celtic Showcase Chicago is a trade show not to be missed by craft, gift and jewellery retailers and more Held in the Embassy Suites in Chicago, the show features the best of Jewelry, clothing, hearldry from businesses across Ireland and Scotland.

Exhibitors consist of well established suppliers to retailers across the States as well as newcomers who are expanding across the Atlantic. In previous years, a trade show took place in the Embassy suites that hosted many of the same types of companies but this year new ownership is in place.

The show will serve visitors from Chicago and neigh bouring states and more. Peter Collins CEO of Baldonnel Ltd which now manages Celtic Showcase Chicago as wel as the successful long running Ireland Show in Secaucus says; "We are looking forward to introducing new initia tives to this show that will improve the experience for exhibitors and buyers alike".

It is a hub of exciting activity with networking oppor tunities and marketing seminars for retailers to connec to experts in their field.

Pre - Register now on celticshowcasechicago.com

Connect and chat with exhibitors on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/celticshowcasechicago

#### Chicagoland Sports Hall of Fame Introduces Class of 2016

The Chicagoland Sports Hall of Fame today introduced the Class of 2016 as well as the rejuvenation of the Annual Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. "We're very excited to be presenting the Hall of Fame Dinner this year at McCormick Place and very proud to bestow the Ray Meyer Award on NCAA Champion Coach Jay Wright of The Villanova Wildcats," said Charlie Carey, President of the Chicagoland Sports Hall of Fame.

> . The annual Chicagoland Sports Hall of Fane Induction dinner takes place this year for the first time on Chicago's majestic lakefront at McCormick Place on Wednesday, Sept. 7th at 7PM.

The Hall of Fame will also be inducting a pair of Chicago baseball legends: Carlton Fisk of The White Sox and Ryne Sandburg of The Cubs. Notre Dame legend and Super Bowl Champ with the Pittsburgh Steelers, Jerome Bettis, will receive the Gale Sayers Award; Blackhawks great Denis Savard will receive The Stan Mikita Award, and Green Bay Packer and Western Illinois Leatherneck Frank Winters will be honored with

the George Connor Award. Former Chicago Bear and 7-time Pro Bowler Lance Briggs is also being inducted.

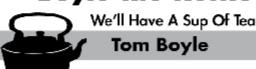
Other inductees from the world of hoops include Simeon, Illini, and Orlando Magic stalwart Nick Anderson and Proviso East, Minnesota Gopher and Cleveland Cavaliers legend Jim Brewer, DePaul Head Volleyball Coach and Lincolnway East star Nadia Edwards and former St. Laurence, and Andrew HS football coach Mike O'Neill , "voice of the Chicago Bulls" Chuck Swirsky, accepting the media award, and special recognition of Don Wilson, Chairman of Chicago's America Cup World Series, Pat Ryan, Chairman of Chicago's 2016 Olympic bid, and the late Mt. Carmel coach and longtime Hall of Fame advocate Howie Fagan.

Fox News sportscaster Corey McPherrin returns as emcee of the induction dinner. The event benefits the Chicagoland Sports Hall of Fame Charities, a 501c3 tax-exempt organization in Illinois honoring those who have distinguished themselves through their contribution to sports. Individual tickets are \$150 each and tables of ten are available. VIP cocktails are from 5:30-6:30PM with dinner and induction starting at 7PM on Wednesday Sept. 7th at McCormick Place West, 2301 South Indiana Ave, Chicago, 60016.

For more information or to purchase tickets please go to our website www.chicagolandsportshalloffame.com or call 312-341-3410.

August 2016 Irish American News "WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN GREEN!"

#### **Boyle the Kettle**





#### Sex Abuse

As stated in last month's column, many victims of abuse at the hands of a priest, turn to drugs, alcohol, and suicide.

Bill 1947 in the Pennsylvania legislation has gone to the house for a vote of concurrence before it goes to Governor Wolf's desk. The bill would reform the "statute of limitations." It would eliminate all statute of limitations for such crimes in the future, and extend limits for civil actions.

However, the bill no longer allows past victims to sue their perpetrators. One such victim, Sean Dougherty, named in the Altoona/Johnstown Grand Jury Report blames the church for having the "look back" provision stripped from HB 1947. He said the church and it's legislature arm the "Pennsylvania Catholic Conference" has the ear of lawmakers and the general assembly.

Sean Dougherty gave a very detailed and very graphic details of how Reverend George Koharchik, long term priest and pastor at St. Clements Church in Johnstown Pennsylvania systematically groomed Sean from the age of 10 in order to use him for his own sexual gratification.

you puke.

Taking the "look back" provision out of HB 1947 was a huge disservice to the community as none of the priests who molested children will be registered sex

offenders.

Sean Dougherty said, "they can live next to anybody, live near schools, and the state senate gave them the green light to molest again.

#### THE STORY SO FAR

In March, the state attorney general's office announced that a statewide grand jury alleges hundreds of children were raped by more than 50 priests in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown Diocese over 40 years.

The grand jury also uncovered the existence of a "secret archive," with documents it claims show former Bishops James Hogan and Joseph Adamec were at the forefront of a child abuse cover-up.

One victim, Brian Gergly, committed suicide after the defeat of the retrograde measure in the bill. That "took away all hope" for victims.

The movie, Spotlight, revealed the fact that there were 84 priests in the Archdiocese of Boston sexually abusing children. They were systematically transferred from parish to parish and never paid for their crimes.

whole thing and the then Cardinal Ratzinger, knew about it. The spineless Pennsylvania Senate The details are enough to make members should hang their heads in shame.

#### **ALL LIFE MATTERS**

The chaos abroad and here at home has become extreme. Some have said the Black Lives Matter movement is racist. On NBC's

You can take a bus to the MILWAUKEE IRISH FEST and leave the driving to someone else!

Margaret Coyle is taking a Bus to the Milwaukee Irish Fest on Sunday, August 21. For information call

Margaret 708-634-2277

Sunday Today Show a woman blamed it on what she called "modern day" Jim Crow Laws in reference to the Clinton era drug laws that were responsible for a great many young black men being sent to prison. Once you become a convicted felon your life changes forever.

What's the answer? Do we legalize and regulate drugs? It's a coin toss because somebody's still going to do it the old way, just as moonshiners did after prohibition.

Jim Crow Laws were state and local laws enforcing racial segregation. The mandate included segregation in the public schools, restrooms, restaurants and drinking fountains. President Woodrow Wilson segregated the U.S. Military and the Federal work places in 1913.

Today, the squabbling continues over the Presidential election. Donald Trump's campaign slogan, "Let's Make American Great Again," is found to be offensive to some people.

A young Black woman, 22 year old Krystal, wore a hat to work at Home Depot, that said, "American Was Never Great" as a response to Trump's statement. Krystal is a college student who has apparently been exposed to a lot of Left Wing propaganda. Once upon a time their was a saying, "America, love it or leave it!"

June 18th Islam radio, Chicago, Cardinal Law orchestrated the 1450 on the A.M. dial I stumbled upon a discussion regarding plans that the Mexican community is planning to boycott Home Depot because the founder, and principal stockholder is supporting Donald Trump. Such a boycott would hurt all of the employees at Home Depot if it turned out to be successful. The left leaning liberal community should take note that Home Depot is a major financial supporter of the LGBT community.

#### SUPREME COURT

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg has apologized for her indiscretions in her criticisms of Donald Trump. However, the damage can not be

For the record, I fully support law and order and the police officers who are in charge of maintaining law and order.

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### ALL ABOARD!



Irish American News "WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN GREEN!" August 2016





#### Market Predictions

24

Trying to determine how Wall Street will behave next week, next month, or next year is difficult. To do it with consistency is impossible. To predict the nearterm direction of the market, you need to predict upcoming earn-

ings seasons, central bank policy moves, and the direction of both the domestic and global economy to name a few. And if you can do that, you might as well forecast the future of the world.

Figuring out what lies ahead for equities is often a guessing game. Looking back, some very

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bold predictions have been made for the market – some way off the mark. More than a decade ago, a few analysts boldly forecast that the Dow Jones Industrial Average would climb to astonishing heights (Dow 30,000) – heights the index has yet to reach today. The first was investment manager Harry Dent, who, to his credit, had written a book called Great Boom Ahead predicting an amazing run for both the economy and the market starting in the mid-1990s. (Indeed, the S&P 500 averaged a yearly gain of almost 29% during 1995-99.) Dent's 1999 bestseller, The Roaring 2000s, posited that the Dow would top 30,000, perhaps 35,000 in the near future as maturing baby boomers poured money into equities. He was wrong. What happened instead was the so-called "lost decade," in which the broad market basically did not advance. As for the Dow 30, it ended the 2000s at 11,497.12.

Harry Dent changed his outlook

Tampa Bay Times that the blue chips would plunge to 3,300 by 2014 or earlier. The Dow finished 2014 above 17,800. For the record, Dent now sees a "bubble collapse" starting in 2016 or 2017, soon breeding "widespread civil unrest" in America.

In 1993, Forbes magazine published their cover story "Bearish on America" where Morgan Stanley analyst Barton Biggs urged investors to dump their domestic stocks in light of the economic policies favored by a new presidential administration. That ended up being bad advice since the compound return of the S&P 500 over the next seven years was north of 18%.

Perhaps the most famous doomsday call of all time occurred in 1979 when Business Week published a cover story entitled "The Death of Equities." Wall Street was emerging from its second awful bear market in less than seven years and the high inflation environment would cripple stocks. over time. In 2011, he told the The article cited a widespread loss

of faith among investors, asserting that "the death of equities is a near permanent condition." At the time the article was printed the Dow was at 875. Ten years later the Dow was north of 2600, twenty years later it was north of 10,900, and today were close to 18,000.

The point here is to take the words of the predictors with a grain of salt. Some have been right, but many have been wrong. Too many factors are involved in stock prices for anyone to accurately predict what happens 6 or 12 months from now. The best advice you can follow is to properly align your portfolio with your risk tolerance and goals and stop trying to predict market movements.

John is a CERTIFIED FINAN-CIAL PLANNER™ and President of Daly Investment Management, LLC a Registered Investment Advisor specializing in financial planning and wealth management. 930 E. Northwest Hwy Mount Prospect, IL 60056 Phone: 224-347- $2623\ www.daly investment.com$ 

#### **Enjoy Long Grove Irish Days September 3-5**

All eyes will be smiling when Long Grove Info Center. Each day, the historic shopping district of a panel of Children judges will Long Grove presents Irish Days, a choose a King, Queen, Prince and celebration of Irish culture, music, food and drink September 3-5 from 11am-7:30pm Sat. and Sun., & 11am-6pm on Mon. Admission & parking in municipal lots are free.

A Gaelic Tent in Fountain Square will promote awareness of Irish language and genealogy, and ongoing entertainment by top Chicago area Irish musicians, singers

Rory Makem, Shannon Rovers Bagpipe Band, Dooley Brothers, Mc-Nulty Irish Dancers, Gavin Coyle, Chancey Brothers, Joe Cullen, and Larkin Brothers

Representatives from the Irish American Heritage center will be on hand to discuss Irish cultural opportunities on the Northside of Chicago.

All dogs are Irish at Irish Days, and any dog can enter at the Dog Competition area by the

Princess.

Harrington's Catering and Deli will sell corned beef sandwiches, fish and chips, and other traditional Irish foods. In addition there will be an area selling Guinness Stout and other brews to quench your thirst. A Wee Ones Area will host storytelling, crafts, facepainting, and games for kids. A contest will and dancers. Performers include be held daily in Fountain Square to choose the "Best Men's Legs in a Kilt." Contestant's should wear their best kilt and preregister the morning of the event.

A townwide leprechaun hunt will take place daily as the popular "Where's Paddy?" competition returns. Long Grove shops will feature Irish days specials as the town rolls out the green this Labor Day weekend.

irishboutique.com/irishday or call Paddy's on the Square at (847) 634-0339.



Artist, Ed Cox, who does most of the beautiful artwork that is adorning the walls of the Irish American Heritage Center with his granddaughter, Maura, who is now helping him!



# Chicago Gaelic Dark

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

#### A Cháirde

For those of you reading the Irish American News early in August, there may still be time to register a significant child in your life for Gaelic Park's Irish Cultural Camp. The camp will be held August 9th through 11th, and children from five to thirteen years old will learn about Irish sport, dance, music, art, language song and calligraphy. Each day is full of variety, and snacks and lunch are included. Since the Camp began years ago kids have had lots of fun and parents have appreciated the value.

Information can be found on our website or the IAN website, or call us at 708-687-9323.

Other eagerly anticipated annual August highlights include the Chicago GAA hurling and football finals, All-Ireland semi-final telecasts, and Our Lady of Knock Benediction. I hope you can join us for one of these events, or for one of our Wednesday barbeques on the patio.

Slán go fóil, Bill O'Sullivan, President

# 2016 CGP Calendar of Events 2016 AUGUST

8/3 Monthly Musical Luncheon\* with Joe McShane

Ladies Auxiliary - Next meeting September 14

Monthly Musical Luncheon\* - Doors open at noon, hot lunch served at 1pm for just \$15 per person

\*Reservations Required 708.687.9323

Pub Trivia will resume on Tuesday evenings in October

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



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# the Carraig

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\* (weather permitting)



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Frank Bradley and Eamon Malone were presented with Plaques at Irish Fest 2016 to thank them for their leadership and commitment for 29 Years of Gaelic Park Irish Fest.



# Chicago Gaelic Dark

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





Chicago Gaelic Park

6119 W. 147th Street - Oak Forest, II. 60452 (708) 687-9323 www.chicagogaelicpark.org

# lpish Cultural Camp

August 9-11, 2016 9:30am to 3:00pm

At Chicago Gaelic Park

Open for children ages 5 to 13 years.

Focus will be on Irish sport, dance, music, art, language, drama song and calligraphy.

Cost \$80 per child, \$75.00 each for additional siblings Includes Lunch & Snacks



Hello Everyone! We are aettina ready for our fall production and can't wait to share it with all of you! If you would like to be a part

of the fun, please join us on the second Wednesday of every month at 7:30pm at Gaelic Park for one of our monthly meetings.

Also, check us out on Facebook at www.facebook.com/groups/ gaelicparkplayers or at www. gaelicparkplayers.org.

We look forward to meeting



Need a Birthday gift or just want to treat yourself, we have Gaelic Park O'Neills' Jerseys available in the Gaelic Park Front Office for \$60.00





Gaelic Park can be tound on **FACEBOOK AND** TWITTER!

TAKE A MOMENT AND "LIKE" US!



\*\*Please Circle Below 4 Areas of Interest to Your Child\*\*

Irish Language • Irish Sports • Irish Drama • Irish Dance • Irish Art • Irish Music • Irish Song • Irish Calligraphy

Gaelic Park's Irish Cultural Camp Registration Form

Address \_\_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip

Any Allergies? \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address

Emergency Contact – Name & Phone Number

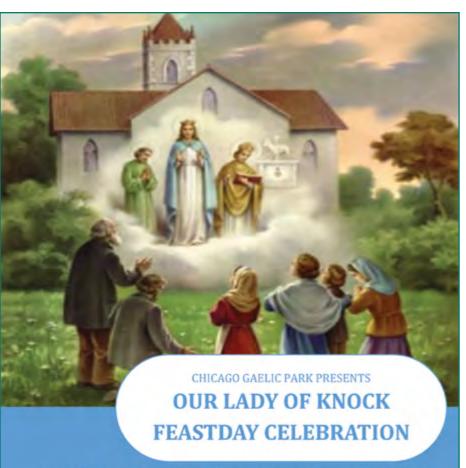
Mail registration form to: Gaelic Park - 6119 W. 147th Street - Oak Forest, II. 60452- Attn. Cultural Camp Make Check payable to CHICAGO GAELIC PARK



# Chicago Gaelic Park

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Benediction, Rosary and Procession to the grotto to be held on Monday Evening, August 15, 2016 at 7:30pm

Come and enjoy the evening with us. Bring a friend.

Refreshments will be served.

Chicago Gaelic Park • 6119 W. 147th Street • Oak Forest, Il 708-687-9323 • www.chicagogaelicpark.org

# Chicago Gaelic Park's IRISH HERITAGE IRISH HERITAGE IRISH HERITAGE NAVEST DAY Sunday September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Gaelic Park, 6119 W. 147<sup>th</sup> Street Oak Forest, IL 60452

THIS EVENT IS FREE! Fun for all the Family



Threshing Machine ~ Antique Tractors
Inish Music & Dancing

Farm Animals
Straw Pillow Fights
Wellington Toss



Youth hurling and football will start at 11am Threshing will start at 12:00pm
Food and refreshments will be sold throughout the day
Games for ALL AGES including ADULTS to start at 12:30pm include;
Straw Pillow Fight, Candy in the Straw Scramble, Three Legged Race, Sack Race, Dizzy Stick Race,
Barrel Race, Water Balloon Toss, Tug of War, Wellington Toss & Gaelic Sports Skills Test
(all times and events subject to change)

For More information call 708-687-9323 or visit www.chicagogaelicpark.org



Chicago Gaelic Park – 6119 W. 147<sup>th</sup> Street – Oak Forest, IL 60452 708-687-9323 www.chicagogaelicpark.org

# Save The Date

Friday September 16, 2016
The Carraig Pub's Annual Golf Outing

#### The Odyssey Golf Club

Shotgun Start 1:00pm \$100.00 per person

Cash Prizes, Dinner and Open Bar at Gaelic Park

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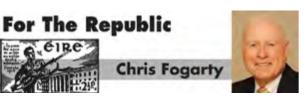
Mail to: Chicago Gaelic Park Membership, 6119 W. 147th St, Oak Forest IL 60452

phone: 708.687.9323 fax: 708.687.0120

www.chicagogaelicpark.org www.facebook.com/ChicagoGaelicPark

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there was still no governmental acknowledgment of them



DALLAS POLICE SHOT. A civilized people cannot tolerate the Dallas murders. Nor would a civilized people allow cops to murder with impunity. Yet murders are perpetrated by cops in Chicago and nationwide with impunity and with no media coverage while the Dallas cop-killer was executed on the spot. Obama and Speaker Ryan got "Breaking News" coverage by denouncing the Dallas murders while indicating zero awareness of killer-cops. National spokespersons talk merely of "coming together" as if killer-cops don't exist. After a series of Chicago police murders of young African-Americans I wrote the following here in May, 2015: A QUESTION for the non-criminal 95% of Chicago's police: Why not support the law instead of your criminal brethren? Don't you realize that by acquiescing to their crimes you are making yourselves their accomplices; painting bulls-eyes on your own backs? Despite so many murders by Chicago police



until the blatant, dash-cammed one of Laquan McDonald. BY NO MEANS are all killings by cops murders, but Mary and I have vigiled in recent years at sites of murders by Chicago cops. It was reported that while 15-year-old Dakota Bright lay on the ground, manacled, and with a bullet hole in the back of his head, the unnamed cop had kept the neighbors away by brandishing his gun at them until Dakota was dead. The night after that murder we marched with placards with a small group, nearly all African-American, from the crime scene in the 6700 block of So. Prairie Avenue to M.L.King Drive and thence to the corner of Emmet Till Road (71st St.) and back. No threats except many police SUVs along the way. While five of us stowed our placards back on Prairie a string of police SUVs crept slowly past and stopped a few doors north, parking on both sides of the street. That stretch of Prairie is oneway northbound, so to leave we had to drive between the parked police. I hoped to avoid them by driving through an intervening alley but another police SUV blocked it so I drove through the narrow space left between the police SUVs. I headed home to the north side. They followed. One drove behind or beside me. After a few miles I became alarmed and circled a few blocks but the cops followed. Only upon approaching downtown did it leave us in peace. WHAT BLACKS FACE is no secret. Any White can learn what Blacks face by merely raising a placard publicly in favor of the US Constitution against our gov't's Supreme Crimes or against any official crime. The cops soon begin their threats, assaults, and wrongful arrests. They no-show at the subsequent trials at 400 W. Superior. All we Whites need do to get the cops to treat us as such is to stow our placards. The moment we lower placards we are magically back in "The Land of the Free." Some 15,000 of us on Lake Shore Drive the night after Bush's 'Shock and Awe" attack on Baghdad knew his war was lie-based; but Chicago cops, few of whom actually served, treated us as enemies; assaulting those who had participated as they crossed Chicago Avenue drifting back downtown. The cops destroyed \$thousands in sound equipment, split heads, and wrongfully arrested 780. Chicago taxpayers later paid a total of \$6.2 million to more than 800 (mostly white) victims of police crime that evening.

SUPPOSE that 1) the police had been law-abiding that night, or 2) the news media had reported the facts of that protest instead of pro-war and pro-criminal-cop spin. But cops, nationwide proved criminal, and the nation's news media proved corrupt. That is how the Neo-Cons got their Supreme Crimes in Iraq, etc., as planned in their A Project for a New American Century. A key part of their Project is Full Spectrum Dominance; their planned conquest of all of Earth and space; far exceeding Hitler's crimes.

A U.N. REPORT estimates that, in 2015, a record 65 million people were uprooted, mainly in the Greater Middle East. Tens of millions of them crossed borders and became refugees, including staggering numbers of children, many separated from their parents. This is part of the cataclysmic results of that war that was planned long before its pretext; 9/11/01.

"CLIFF-EDGE" describes Chicago, Illinois, the U.S., and the world, economically, financially, and militarily. We are entering difficult times even at best. There are no easy answers; but for example, lies from the psychopaths must be seen as such. We must grasp that the Israeli/Neo-Con conquest of the world won't make us winners. Turning nations into rubble is the Supreme Crime. Moving nuclear warheads to the Russian border is likely to bring a first-strike response from Russia. Ringing Russia and China with real WMDs endangers life on Earth. It does not make us stronger. In classical Greece, its republican era, the label for anyone unengaged in political issues was "child." Let's be children no longer. WHICH BRIT REG'T starved your relatives?

See www.irishholocaust.org WHO ARE THE TERRORISTS? See www.terrorismireland.org

GFA BENEFICIAL? See, www.billymcguire.com, www. justiceforthecraigavontwo.com. Write to the framed Craigavon Two. They are Brendan McConville and John Paul Wootton, are abused in Maghaberry Prison. MI5/FBI; See www.chicagomole.org.

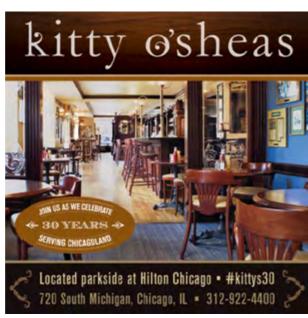
WRITE to Ireland's patriot/prisoners. For names, addresses contact maryosullivanpaa@gmail.com or 312/437-3175.Contact fogartyc@att.net or 312/664-7651. We recently erected another memorial over a Holocaust mass grave; near Ardee, Co. Louth. Please emulate.



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# From the Motherland

By Sean Farrel



#### **Britain Puts the Clock Back**

BREXIT. Occasionally an event of major significance occurs. After it things are never the same. In Ireland we've just finished celebrating the centenary of one such event – the Easter Rising. Hiroshima was another, the fall of the Berlin Wall a third, Nine Eleven a fourth. On June 23 arguably another such event happened when Britain, the world's fifth economic power, voted – narrowly – to quit the European Union. As I write the shock waves internationally, not least in Ireland, show no sign of diminishing. A new, ostensibly gung-ho government is in power in London, determined to push through with exiting, a process likely to take several years.

The inquests and recriminations are well under way. Europe's establishments and chattering classes, including in Britain itself, are baffled and dismayed. Britain was seen as a sometimes petulant but important partner, not only as one of the Big Four but also as providing an important counterweight in internal policy discussions, usually to be found on the side resisting further or speedier European integration. Its EU credentials were never in doubt even though it maintained a semi-detached position on key EU areas like the Euro and the Schengen common travel zone, stances it could more easily take given the financial clout of the City of London and Britain's position as an island.

Britain's increasingly vocal Eurosceptic wing, represented by UKIP and a sizeable minority within the Conservative Party, was ignored or discounted. Britain was regarded as too deeply embedded within Europe for trade, investment and social reasons, seriously to contemplate the leap in the dark that leaving constituted. The warning signs were ascribed to the same mixture of discontent, disillusionment, dissatisfaction with the status quo and vague xenophobia evident in a number of other member States, where right wing parties were starting to garner significant electoral support. All true, no doubt. What made the British situation unique was that, staggeringly, a country with little or no tradition of deciding important matters by referendum, was asked to vote a simple yes or no on a proposal to undo involvement in almost half a century of political and social construction and cooperation within Europe. The resulting Mother of all Protest Votes was then compounded by the (narrow) victors proclaiming there

could be no going back on the result.

The "Why" has been parsed and analysed since. The philosopher Roger Scruton, in a brilliant article in Prospect Magazine, has traced the alienation of the English working class in recent years, and their feeling that, above all, their sense of identity was being eroded. In a striking phrase he has identified a vital flaw in the EU as it is: "the European people have not been merely SUBJECT to a treaty, but GOVERNED by it." Add the hubris of a wealthy faction in Britain, convinced that the country would do better "going it alone." As far back as 1994 a junior British Tory Minister

explained this attitude in detail to me; depressing but prophetic. Taken together, and in a campaign notable for its chauvinism and churlishness as well as its deceitfulness, the mix proved a potent one.

The referendum outcome has shattered the comfortable Establishment near-consensus of a Europe moving steadily if slowly towards an "ever closer union" a vision which has sustained Europhiles

for over half a century. This cosy vision has it that the then EC, when Britain joined in January 1973, was little more than a post-war free trade area between six members, with one or two transnational dimensions, in coal, steel and a limited number of agricultural products. It had aspirations to be a lot more, and wording in its treaties to allow for organic growth. And, over the decades, it HAS grown, dramatically, sometimes lopsidedly, changed its name and now comprises a shaky and incomplete union of five hundred million spread over twenty eight countries. It has established a zone of unprecedented economic and prosperity across Europe with landmark standards in human and related social rights. A queue of countries waits to join.

With up to twenty eight countries, each with its own national priorities and particular requirements, for the EU getting to where it is has not been easy. Progress has been slow and tortuous. There IS a common currency – the EURO, but not all twenty eight are members. There IS a Common Travel Area - Schengen - but again some countries -Britain and Ireland - are outside. There are serious differences evident over national attitudes to the Refugee problem. There is serious economic imbalance between the wealthier North and the poorer South, something exacerbated by the 2008 Financial Crisis. Yet overall the consensus has it that Europe has muddled through and worked hard at solutions. The various landmark Enlargements, culminating in the 2004 admission of the Central Europeans, are testimony to the vibrant European idea. And significant progress has been made in making the EU more democratically accountable, a process that is ongoing. Throughout, Britain has been an important and valued component in the evolution of the Union.

That vision now lies in tatters. What happens next is unclear. We are now in a kind of phoney war situation. The process for exiting the EU, stuck in as an afterthought as Article 50 of the Lisbon Treaty, must first be initiated by the UK, with afterwards a two year "sunset period" to complete the separating process. How quickly the new British government acts to invoke Article 50 remains to be seen. Teresa May has appointed Brexiteers to lead the exit charge, which could be a Machiavellian tactic, though others see it as filling the posts with what remained after the purge of the pro-Europeans.

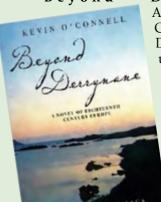
Thus far these have made predictable noises about negotiating bilateral trade deals with third countries. Yet eight of Britain's top ten markets, including Ireland, are EU or EEA members, accounting for the bulk of her exports. Britain already has thriving trade with all major third countries, on foot of existing trade deals negotiated by the EU Commission; whether any new deals will prove more fruitful or beneficial for Britain must be moot. There's no pot of gold out there that the evil EU has been withholding. A lot of similar hard economic realities are likely to be aired in the coming months as the small print of Britain's economic and social entanglement with the EU is picked over. And

politically there's Scotland, which voted 62% to remain, with every prospect of a constitutional crisis before long.

For Ireland the issues are profound. We have major concerns, quite apart from the economic ones which are potentially more serious for us than for the other EU members. The Common Travel Area – a vital element in our bilateral relationship with Britain – is under serious threat. The EU's one land frontier with Britain is within Ireland. Given the posturing of the Brexiteers over curbing immigration from the EU, that Border – and with it that special relationship – is now an issue. Arguably the Common Travel Area has sugared the bitter pill of Partition over the years and is part of the fabric underpinning the Peace Process. Is it possible that the casual passing whim of English voters will "do" for Ireland yet again? Perfidious Albion?

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#### Illinois' Best-Kept **Secret: Peoria Erin Feis**

What began as a municipal celebration of all things Irish 35 years ago, has now grown into Illinois' largest Irish festival outside the Chicago area.

And it's drawing international attention.

Peoria Erin Feis – set for August 26, 27 and 28 this year – has been attracting bands from all over the world for several years. It's a three-day extravaganza that features groups from Ireland, Scotland and Canada, as well as from points across the USA.

This year's lineup will feature:

- · Runa One of Irish music's new super groups, with members hailing from Ireland, Canada and the US.
- Daimh Lads from the West Highlands of Scotland, this group carries their Gaelic tunes with a progressive sound on a return trip to Peoria.
  - Ruaile Buaile From a small start in Offaly

to the world stage in only a few short years, they are set to become a household name on the festival scene around the world.

- The Elders These Kansas City, Missouri, favories bring music rooted in Americana and Celtic folk rock.
- Socks in a Frying Pan - Multi-award winners from County Cork return to triumph over Peoria again!

The organizers of Erin Feis have worked hard over the years to learn from the success of their better-known Celtic festival brethren. "We visited



Milwaukee's fest, Kansas City, Dublin, Gaelic Park – all the best. And we've adopted their best practices on a scale we can manage," said Even Co-Chairman, John Martin. "The result has been steady growth year over year, and people returning from across Illinois and out of state."

The organizers' loss of shoe leather has paid great dividends for Peoria's Irish Fest. It led to the creation of a separate Dance Stage, which has performers scheduled for all three days. The Cultural Village's offerings have grown exponentially in interest and depth; this year featuring an exhibit on Irish dominance in the boxing ring in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

One cultural twist this year is a focus on Irish in the movies, complete with a live Skype conversation with a Dublin-based movie director.

Gaelic games – always a highlight, even for those of an un-Celtic background – have been an Erin Feis staple for years.

Tastings of Irish whiskies sell out every year. Erin Feis will expand their offerings to a range of Scotches, all with a learned emissary who will educate the tasters' palates about the varieties offered.

Other activities include Irish cooking, Gaelic language sessions, Irish genealogy researchers, and both Catholic and Celtic worship services on Sunday morning.

But make no mistake: it's the music, food and drink that keep the audiences coming back to Peoria every summer. Over the long weekend, nearly 50 performances on 6 stages will have Erin Feis patrons spoiled for choice.





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# THE HERITAGE LINE IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER Chicago, Illinois



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#### **Social Scene and Culture Corner**

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

#### **Moya Brennan and Cormac** de Barra Salon Concert

Salon Concerts Chicago presents Moya Brennan and Cormac de Barra in the Fifth Province this summer.

Grammy award winner Moya Brennan is the lead singer of Clannad and has



enjoyed a successful solo career. She has sung on most of the world's great stages and has collaborated with such artists as The Chieftains, Paul Brady and Bono. She

is also part of the all-female traditional group, T with the Maggies.

Cormac de Barra is renowned internationally as a versatile harp virtuoso. He continually pushes the boundaries of the Irish harp through his work with a wide array of artists, including Hazel O'Connor, Julie Feeney and Clannad. He also tours and records with his brothers Fionán and Éamonn in the family group, Barcó.

The duo combines the simplicity, depth and beauty of the extraordinary skills which make them unique in their field.

The Academy of Irish Music Performing Group is the opening act.

The concert is Wednesday, August 17 at 8pm. Tickets are \$20 for adults and children and teens under 18 are free.

#### **Tea with Emily Dickinson**

Have tea with the Belle of Amherst at another of our Saturday Morning Teas.

Born on December 10, 1830, in Amherst, Massachusetts, Emily Dickinson left school as a teenager and lived a reclusive life on the family homestead. There, she secretly created nearly 1,800 poems and letters. Dickinson's remarkable work was published after her death—on May 15, 1886, in

Amherst-and she is now considered one of the great figures of American literature. Actress and historian Paddy Lynn will portray Dickinson and discuss her life and work.

The Saturday Morning Tea Series feature



performances of notable women in history and literature, while guests enjoy tea, sandwiches and desserts.

Tea with Emily Dickinson is Saturday, September 10 at 11am.

Tickets are \$25 and reservations must be made by September 6.

#### The Importance of Being **Earnest Staged Reading**

Shapeshifters Theatre performs a staged reading of Oscar Wilde's classic comedy, The Importance of Being Earnest.

Two young gentlemen living in 1890's England have taken to bending the truth in order to put some excitement into their lives. Their deceptions are discovered; threatening to spoil their romantic pursuits.

The reading is Sunday, September 11 at 2pm. Tickets are \$10 for general admission. A cash bar will be available and patrons can join a post-show discussion with the director and cast.

# The Artistic Vision of

Learn more about acclaimed Irish artist and illustrator Harry Clarke at a multimedia presentation in the IAHC Library.

Scholar Marguerite Helmers will focus on

Clarke's book illustrations, including his works that commemorate Irish soldiers from the First World War. Clarke is also known for his vivid and unique stained glass designs.

Helmers is Professor of English at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh and former fellow at the Humanities Institute, University College Dublin. She will sign her new book, Harry Clarke's War: Illustrations for Ireland's Memorial Records, 1914-1918.

The program is Sunday, September 18 at 2pm. Donations will be accepted at the door.

To purchase tickets for all Center programs, visit www.irish-american.org, call 773-282-7035, ext. 10 or buy at the door.



## **Harry Clarke**



Thanks

to all of the volunteers, music and dance performers, sponsors, vendors and YOU who attended the 31st annual Irish Fest on July 8, 9 and 10. It was a huge success and we look forward to seeing you at many

> more upcoming programs and events at the Center.

Irish Fest 2017 is July 7, 8 and 9, 2017!





# THE HERITAGE LINE IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER Chicago, Illinois



WWW.IRISH-AMERICAN.ORG

#### **President's Message**

We were truly blessed with the beautiful weather on the weekend of our 31st annual Irish Fest. It was a sun-kissed weekend with a gentle breeze throughout. We were also blessed with the army of volunteers who helped make the weekend a success. I want to sincerely thank the Irish Fest committee on their hard work. I want to thank all the

dancers and musicians who performed for the Fest. I want to especially thank our members, neighbors and friends who stopped in to enjoy themselves. Sunday began with a beautiful mass with Fr. Scott Donahue from Mercy Home and ended with the great music of the High Kings and the Chancey Brothers.

On the following evening I was re-elected as President of the Irish American Heritage Center. I am proud of this position and I thank the fellow Board members for their trust and their



continued efforts in making the Center succeed. I experienced a series of ups and downs that week. I learned that our Fifth Province Music Director is leaving as of August 4. Kathleen Keane came on the scene in January and rocked our world with the finest of Irish talent on display every Thursday night. She is moving on to more personal projects. I would like to thank

her for introducing me to all of those talented people. Thanks for hosting the Craic alongside of me. We plan on continuing the Thursday night sessions in the future. If you would like to host a session contact me at 312-735-6441. Things won't be the same without her but she pomises to make a return in the future.

The year has flown by just as this summer is doing. I hope you all have a safe and cool balance of the season. Thank you for supporting the Center in the many ways you do.

Eugene M. Cooney, President

# No Cover Free Parking the fifth province IRISH american heritage center

#### **AUGUST ENTERTAINMENT**

8/13 Píobairí 6pm

8/13 The Dirty Wellies 8pm

8/26 St. Stephen's Green 8pm



Thursday Night Irish Music Sessions: Aug 4, 11, 18 and 25; 7pm-9pm

#### **BECOME A MEMBER**

Chicago boasts one of the finest Irish Centers in the world. Become a part of it.
Running, maintaining and upgrading the Center is a big job that takes big commitment. Your membership helps make the Center happen.
To join call 773-282-7035 x10, visit www.irish-

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August 2016

Aug 5 Aug 6 Aug 13 Aug 17	Francis O'Neill Club Ceili Mor Open Mic PÍOBAIRÍ Moya Brennan and	Fifth Province Fifth Province Fifth Province	8pm 6pm 6pm
Aug 17	Cormac de Barrra Salon Concert	Fifth Province	8pm
Aug 19	Shamrock American Club Meeting	ShamAm Room	8pm
Aug 28	Genealogy Workshop	Library	1pm

#### **Regularly Scheduled Events**

	Regularly Schedule	a 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
Wed	Traditional Irish Music Session	Room 311	7pm
Wed	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	7-10pm
Thurs	Thursday Night Irish Music Session	Fifth Province	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

The IAHC Library will be closed for the month of August, except for Genealogy on Sunday, August 28, or by special appointment.

Call 773-282-7035, ext. 19 to set up an appointment.

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

Contributors: Meg Buchanan, Patrick Cannady, Theresa Choske, Karen Cook, Gene Cooney, Elzabeth Ellis, Ellen Folan, Michael Gibbons, Catherine Kelly, Mary Morris, Sheila Murphy

## Our Take on **Social Services**

By Paul Dowling



#### **Senior Group Meetings**

As usual our senior group meetings at both the Irish American Heritage Center and Gaelic Park have been suspended for the month of August. We will be back with an exciting new schedule of programs in September. We wish all those that come to our group meetings a very happy and healthy summer. We are available to anyone who may need our assistance throughout our summer break and can be contacted at the office on 773-282-8445.

#### Shedding New Light on a Dark Corner of Irish History

No doubt many readers will be aware of the Mother and Baby homes that operated in Ireland for a large portion of the 20th Century. The homes were designed to 'deal' with unmarried mothers and their 'illegitimate' children. Thankfully, we now find ourselves in less punitive times. More recently the Mother and Baby home have come to the attention of the general public through media coverage, books, and movies. Capturing the stories and experiences of the people who passed though

these institutions is an important undertaking of a new research program called Clann (the Irish word for family).

Clann is a joint initiative by Adoption Rights Alliance (ARA) and JFM Research (JFMR) which is being delivered in association with global law firm, Hogan Lovells. Its purpose is to help establish the truth of what happened to unmarried mothers and their children in 20th century Ireland, following the establishment of a Commission of Investigation into the operation of the Mother and Baby Homes by the Irish government. Clann formally launched on June 15, 2016 in Ireland.

This project is relevant to the 2000+ children who were adopted from Ireland to the USA between the late 1940s and early 1970s (the so called "Banished Babies"). Equally, it is relevant to the countless Irish natural mothers whose children were adopted (and, no doubt, some natural fathers), who made their way to and now live in the USA. Additionally, given the involvement of US-based adoption workers, social work-

and Catholic Charities personnel in handling the Irish-US adoptions, there may well be other important.

Clann's aims:

- To enable people who were affected by any of the 170+ institutions, organisations, agencies or individuals involved with Ireland's unmarried mothers to the public record.
- To ensure that the Commission of Investigation into the Mother and Baby Homes conducts the most comprehensive investigation possible and that it makes appropriate findings and recommendations.
- To arrange free witness statement drafting assistance to enable people to make a comprehensive statement to the Commission.
- •To compile a group submission on behalf of those affected by Ireland's treatment of unmarried mothers and their children.
- To create a permanent archive of the experiences of Ireland's unmarried mothers and their children via the Clann website, as a resource for individuals affected by the issues, and which will be available to the wider public for ongoing education and research.

The Coalition of Irish Immigration Centers (CIIC) and

ers, and child services agencies its membership throughout the United States, are assisting Clann in the distribution of this information to ensure witnesses whose testimony is that any individual who was involved with the Mother and Baby homes and wishes to tell their story, has the opportunity to do so, with the support and assistance of the Clann initiative.

"WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN GREEN!"

There is no obligation on any person who avails of assistance and their children to contribute through Clann to make their testimony public. In the first instance, you will be asked whether you would like to send your testimony confidentially to the Commission of Investigation. Secondly, you will have the opportunity to contribute your testimony (anonymised) to Clann's group report, but the choice whether to do so is entirely yours.

> For more information on Clann and how to avail of assistance in providing testimony or documentary evidence, please visit: http://clannproject.org/ or email info@clannproject.org

> Alternatively, please write to Rod Baker, Hogan Lovells International LLP, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London, EC1A 2FG, UK with your contact details. For more information on the process of testimony gathering, please see Clann's Information Form and also Clann's Guide to the Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes. For hard copies of these documents contact Clann at info@ clannproject.org or Rod Baker, Hogan Lovells International LLP, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London,

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#### Go Smiling to Your Funeral: Sam Delivers Every Morning

34

We make mistakes, we have our faults, and God knows some of us have more than our share, but when danger threatens and duty calls, we go smiling to our own funeral. James (Big Jim) Larkin: Irish

We learn to smile at obligation and cheerfully enter the struggle after every eight hours of sleep.

Most of us anyway.

I have always been an early riser and have remained relatively cheerful for all of my three score and four years. As a baby teacher, I was taught by Father Ken Yarno, CSV, Father Bob Erickson, CSV, Father Jim Fanale, CSV and Nick

Frogge, Dave Raiche, Rich Theresa Galvan, CND and

Helen Kavanaugh, CND to get up early, prepare my mind and pray. I got in the habit of writing for an hour before it was time to walk to Bishop McNamara in Kankakee, IL and teach the bairns.

My Dad and his brothers all worked two or three jobs, I was taught to work after school and all year long in factories, loading docks, as a janitor and selling clothes for Sy and Shlrley Blitzstein's Mr. Lee's Clothing at the Evergreen Plaza. I bartended on weekends and summers while teaching. Then I went to Graduate School. Work is healthy.

These days, I rarely see young kids shovel snow, cut grass, or deliver papers the way my generation and previous generations had done so.

I am not a crabby old crank, beefing that "Yung 'Uns Jest Doan No the ValYew of a Buck!" No I am a crabby old bastard who appreciates the dangers inherent

Novich, Jim on Chicago's streets and that flipping burgers at McDonald's is now an adult career choice and that \$15 per hour will Zinnani, Sr. feed families and put a roof over a man's head.

People grouse about millennials as lazy and Mexicans as somehow un-American.

I am by nature, schooling and inclination an empiricist. I say, If a tree falls in the forest and I am not around to hear it fall – Who Shives a Git?

I know what I have learned from my elders and betters, my studies and my

In order to keep me from being bigger a jerk than I already happen to be, I walk to St. John Fisher every morning and receive the Blessed Sacrament. I pray, prepare and somehow prevent Pat Hickey from pranking Toni Preckwinkle, or becoming a social activist.

I walk from my home in St. Cajetan's Parish in the Morgan Park neighborhood to St. John Fisher in West Beverly, a suburb of Mount Greenwood. It is a beautiful walk dominated by Talman Avenue. This stunning street, in my opinion, is most beautiful stroll in the 19th Ward. I live along the CSX railroad tracks on Rockwell in one of twenty identical raised ranch houses - almost universally kept up with and landscaped to make Martha Stewart giggle. My crib? Not so much. I cut the grass and trim the weeds and that is about it. However, I appreciate the work and effort that my neighbors dedicate their time treasure and talent in improving the environment and Talman Avenue is sensational between 107th Street and 103rd Street.

On these daily walks, I see lovely ladies jogging and lumpy guys like me walking – we give obligatory "H'war Ya?" and pass. I talk with an African American lady who has a spectacular Georgian on 105th and two racist dogs. The white toy poodle would cap my ass were she not constrained. We chat about our old neighborhood – me from Little Flower and she from Murray Park. We are usually interrupted by Sam.

Sam is a twenty-four-year-old Hispanic (Mexican Mom and Puerto Rican Dad) who delivers every paper to every subscriber in the 19th Ward. Sam is my friend.

I first noticed Sam when the snow covered Talman and he would pull up and painstakingly ensure that papers were properly placed. Nothing half-assed in this Mexican Millennial's operations. Sam is adept. He can toss a paper without stopping on clear days and never miss

his mark. he knows what it means to deliver papers. I never did. Too much effort. My cousins did and they got up before the birds and rolled The Herald American and biked about St. Nicholas of Tolentine Parish.

The routes are now handled by men. Sam and his father each work massive routes far from their home in Posen.

I asked Sam if I might do a column on him and took him to breakfast at Beverly Bakery.

I learned a bit more about Sam.

His name is Zamis Gama and he is a 2006 graduate of Bogan High School over in the Scottsdale neighborhood. His Mom and Dad gave him the Portuguese name meaning Little Alien. His folks took the name from a 1985 science fiction movie Enemy Mine. It is the story of an interplanetary war and two combatants shoot each other up - only the Alien guy is the birth mother. On that planet the guys get large with child, birth and also do all the combat. Must be some planet for the ladies

Zamis is the baby born of the Alien (Lou Gossett) and the human guy (Randy Quaid) promises to raise the baby as his own.

Well our Zamis, goes by Sam to us 19th Warders. Sam, I imagine, is not known to most of the south siders here, as he delivers long before most of us are awake, up and out.

I asked Sam about his interactions with his clients. He told me, "This is a very friendly neighborhood for the most part and the people that I have met seem to appreciate the work that I do for them. I deliver The Tribune, The Sun Times, The Southtown, The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, USA Today, and a few others. My job is to see that the right paper gets delivered to the right house at a reasonable time. I take my job seriously."

I asked Sam if he also goes to school. "Yes I do, I attended Daley College for a while and I am going back to community college for computer certification. I also do home repair, some programing and minor IT work. My Dad delivers in Hegewisch and works another job as well."

I asked him to rank his clients according to the papers they receive as to courtesy. "Everyone is pretty cool - all but the New York Times people. They complain regularly and have said a few nasty things to me, but mostly very nice."

Sam is a reminder that all work is noble and that the nobility is reflected in the energy, care and courtesy a working man shines out to world. Zamis Gama beams brightly.



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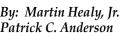
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#### **Healy Law**

Martin J. Healy, Jr.

Senior Partner





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

#### Staying Safe This **Boating** Season

For many, summer means boating season. Here in Illinois, from Lake Michigan to the various rivers and inland lakes, there are many options available to boaters of all ages. For all the enjoyment recreational watercrafts provide, there are also important safety considerations that must be remembered when boating this summer. There are nearly 12 million registered recreational vessels in the United States. In 2015 alone, the U.S. Coast Guard counted over 4,100 boating accidents, leading to over 625 deaths, more than 2,600 injuries, and approximately \$42 million of damage to property as a result of recreational boating accidents. Not surprisingly, most boating accident occur in the summer months. In 2015, over 55% of recreational boating accidents occurred in June, July and August, with over 40% of the year's boating fatalities occurring in those months. By following these tips and using your common sense, you can ensure your summer on the water is

#### Make sure your boat has an experienced and attentive

both safe and enjoyable.

According to statistics compiled by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and U.S.



Coast Guard, operator inattention, operator inexperience, improper lookout, machinery failure, and excessive speed were the top five primary contributing factors in boating accidents in 2015, and were responsible for nearly 48% of all boating accidents in 2015. In 2015, 50% of boating accidents involved operators with no boating safety education. 74% of deaths occurred on boats where the operator did not receive any formal boating safety instruction. Only 15% of deaths occurred on vessels where its operator had receive a nationally-approved boating safety education certificate.

Boating safety instruction for drivers is available through a number of courses approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA). Proper safety training decreases the potential for accidents and injuries.

#### •Be on the lookout for inattentive or inexperienced drivers.

In Illinois, individuals as young as 10 years old are legally allowed to operate watercraft operate a boat without adult supervision). Additionally, while some states do require a boating license or certification, in most states, including Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, and Indiana, no specific license is required for recreational boating. In Canada, all boaters are required to obtain a Pleasure Craft Operator Card, but no similar requirement exists in the United States.

Operator inexperience, operator inattention, and improper lookout combined to cause 34% of all boating accidents in 2015.

According the to Coast Guard, there were over 1450 reportable collisions involving recreational watercraft in 2015, either with other recreational vessels or fixed objects, and those collisions

boating deaths.

#### Don't drink and drive.

Alcohol use was the leading known contributing factor in fatal boating accidents in 2015 where the primary cause was known, accounting for 17% of deaths. For many, a cold drink goes hand-in-hand with a warm day out on the water. However, it is important to remember to drink responsibly, and to ensure that the driver of the boat is not intoxicated. Intoxicated boat operators are subject to penalties similar to those enforced against motorists who drive a car while intoxicated.

• Follow the rules of the road. Just like driving a car, there are rules of the road for operating watercraft. While it may seem that boat operators have unlimited freedom out on the water, there are rules that guide maneuvering in crowded waters, right of way, passing and being passed, proper lookout, speed, and other procedures that guide the safe operation of a boat. These rules are readily available on the internet through The BoatU.S. Foundation for boating safety and clean water and other organizations devoted to boating safety. Failing to obey the rules of the road was a contributing factor in 215 accidents in 2015.

#### • Bring maps if you are head-(although you must be 18 to ing out on the water, and do not become overly reliant on electronic devices.

Equipment failure caused over 360 reported accidents in 2015, including electrical system failure and engine failure. Many times, GPS devices, cellular phones and other electronic devices may not be reliable for longer trips or trips on larger bodies of water. Be prepared for electrical failure and equipment failure by knowing your route and planning your trip in

#### • Make sure to have plenty of life jackets on board

Any time you are on the water, life jackets are a must. 85% of drowning victims in 2015 were not wearing life jackets. Life jackets are particularly impor-

accounted for over 14% of all tant if your boat is 21 feet or crafts. Because some of these smaller, as eight out of every ten drowning deaths occur on boats less than 21 feet in length. In Illinois, boats must carry at least one Coast Guard-approved floatation device for each person on board. All children under 13 years old must wear a floatation device any time they are on a boat less than 26 feet long, unless they are below deck or in the cabin. Be sure to inspect the life jackets and floatation devices before heading out on the water. Like any product, life jackets are subject to wear, damage, breaking, or failure.

#### •Follow warnings and instructions when using jet skis and other smaller watercraft

Many jet skis, wave runners, and smaller personal watercraft pose different risks than larger boats. Many jet skis simply have too much power-producing capacity and inexperienced or younger drivers can easily lose control. Problems can go from bad to worse when the jet ski or watercraft does not automatically deactivate when the driver falls off. Jet skis are jet-propelled, and when users fall off or are thrown from the watercraft, water from the jet propulsion system can cause severe damage to body orifices and internal organs. Propeller powered watercraft also pose risks to those who may fall in the water near the vessel. Propellers caused over 150 injuries and 27 deaths in 2015. "Prop guards" are available to provide protection for some types of propeller-powered

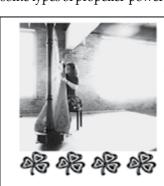
risks are unique to wave runners and smaller watercraft, it is vital to look for and heed the warnings that often accompany these vessels. Wet suits are highly recommended when using any type of jet-propelled watercraft.

#### Obtain boat insurance.

Unfortunately, boat insurance is not required in most states. That is why it is especially important that you protect yourself in the event of a boating accident. Boat insurance policies work just like many auto insurance policies with coverage for liability, property damage, collision, theft and fire. Underinsured and uninsured boater coverage is also available and will provide you coverage if you are in an accident caused by an uninsured boater. Boating accidents can cause property damage and serious injuries. Having a good boat policy ensures that you are not left holding a large bill in the event of an accident.

Remember these tips to keep everyone on your boat safe this summer. Taking just a few precautions can ensure a fun, accident-free time on the water.

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



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#### The Larkin Brothers 20 Years On

By Ryanne Gallagher Johnson

It all happened by accident.

Dan, Mike, and Joe Larkin, along with their friend Terry Moran, started playing music together in order to have 'something fun to do at parties'. Then one night twenty years ago, while they watched Joe Cullen and his wife perform at Gaelic Park, the crowd was asked if anybody wanted to join them on stage, so Mike went up to

sing. Afterwards, a woman approached him and asked if he had a band. "I said yes, and she asked me for a demo right then." And so began The Larkin Brothers and Terry Moran.

Although their start was a little improvised- they had to borrow equipment for that first demo (not to mention, they didn't even know what a demo was at the time), and Terry used a bathrobe sash in lieu of a proper banjo strap-, there was never any question that they'd be big from the beginning. March 1, 1996 marked their very first booked show, at a steakhouse, and afterwards they were invited back for three more. Most of their early performances were for bars and clubs around the city, and their first fest was Gaelic Park in 1997, followed by the Fox Valley Irish Fest. Since then,

it's been a quick rise, with shows performed in several other states, and a few overseas.

The early days started with just acoustic instruments, and a slightly different sound than what they have now, with Dan on rhythm guitar; Mike on bodhran, banjo, and guitar; Joe on harmonica; and Terry on mandolin guitar, tin whistle, and banjo, with all of them lending vocals. The late Mike "Murph" Murphy joined in 2000 as their first bass player, although he left the band for a short while soon after, and rejoined the group later, until his death in 2008.

In 2002, "The Larkin Brothers and Terry Moran" became "The Larkin and Moran Brothers" after Terry's brother Kevin joined the group as their full-time bass player.

"It was said to be a tactic by Terry to gain a blood ally against the Larkin's- who at the time ironically found difficulty in not killing each other. But really, it was suggested by Mike Larkin (that he) replace Mike Murphy on bass, as he'd left for a short period to start his band 'Leave'. When Murph returned, he opted to play mandolin, and the one time

folk quartet became a full-fledge

Celtic rock band." -Celticratpack.com

The 'twin towers of youth', Dan Larkin Jr. and Neal Sullivan (a cousin of the Moran brothers), were, up until recently, the newest members, with Dan Ir. offering his skills in lead guitar and button accordion since 2008, and Neal working a mean fiddle (in his early teens, he played the fiddle on the 'Band o' Brothers' track 'Drag Me Away') with the band since 2010. Neal actually played a little



Top: (l to r): Dan Larkin Sr, Terry Moran, Kevin Moran, Sean Dennis, Mike Larkin bottom: Neal Sullivan, Mick Larkin, Conor Larkin, Dan Larkin Jr., Tim Larkin. Not in: Joe Larkin

years, but it wasn't until he graduated that he was officially asked to join.

"I went to see them play at Navy Pier the first year I was out of college, and in between sets, I found Mike (to tell him what a great show it was), and he put his arm around me, and he took me into a corner of the room, and he said, 'You know, Neal, I've been asking you, and we left you alone in high school, and we didn't say a word to you in college, but you're out now, so no more excuses. We've got a show on May 1. Shake the rust off and be there, or I'll kill you.' It was the most loving death threat I've ever gotten," Neal fondly remembers.

In the last couple of years, the band has expanded further, with oldest Larkin brother Tim adding his bass, and the group's children rapidly becoming the next generation of musicians. Many of their daughters and sons have had stage cameos with the band, and have dabbled in playing during sched-

While only some of them are brothers in

blood to each other, they are all brothers in spirit. They speak to and of each other candidly and with cheek, and they're never shy about criticism or praise. Stories of pranks and jokes they've pulled during festival trips are abundant. "When we do (away) festivals, it's like going on a golf weekend with your brothers. You play an hour or two on stage, and you go out and play with other bands and goof off." And when you get them all talking at once, they sound like a big, loud, laughing family.

> With twenty years of performing under their belts, they've had a lot of memorable moments. And a few devastating ones. Shortly after Murph's death, they were scheduled to do a tour in Ireland. "When you look back, I think (doing the tour) helped a lot. Everyone was hit. Plenty of us had taken lessons from him... he'd show up and he'd script something up for you immediately so he could bounce something he was working on off of you. He was always working on something. In his basement, in his room, he always had charts everywhere. And he taught (music)."

> Of high points in the last two decades, Dan tells the story of the coolest show he thinks they've ever played. "The Larkins all went to St. Rita High school on the South

with the band in his high school and college Side, and so did Ray Manzarek from the Doors. For the 100th anniversary of the school in 2005, Ray Manzarek agreed to do a free concert with Robby Krieger. They called it "The Doors of the 21st Century", and they asked us to open up for them... We got to meet them after the show, and we were trying to give them (Larkin & Moran) shirts. We had a yellow shirt and a green shirt, and Robby took both of them, but Ray Manzarek goes 'I don't like the yellow." and Mike said 'it's free'. Then, right after that, for like a year or two, people were sending us pictures of Robby Krieger on the stage with the Larkin and Moran shirt."

> Their most recent tour took them to Northern Ireland for the first time, and really enjoyed the experience. When they travel, they open the trip to both fans and family. "We get enough to fill a bus... 40-60 people."

> Asked what the future holds for the -now enormous-band, they say, "It kind of runs itself." They're already booked through March of next year!

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### View From Ireland

By Maurice Fitzpatrick



#### Exit Through The Trapdoor

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The British political scene most resembles a split little pea just now. Whereas her European neighbours, far on the other side of the table, continue to contemplate a smorgasbord, breakfasting à la Française, sipping espressos and swilling Weizenbier. The British palate will just have to get used to a narrow, less flavoursome, menu.

The extraordinarily self-destructive decision by the British electorate for Brexit has been the news story of the year and will be a news story for years to come. The diplomatic catastrophe that Britain has visited upon itself with Brexit is even now not fully

did they campaign for it?

Having once reigned over an empire upon which the sun never set, Britain has failed to make the minimum adjustment required to accept its substantial but not paramount importance in world affairs, and the Brexit vote is a clear symptom of that denial. In Europe, because of its economic might, Germany is in control and Little England is a secondary power.

Ironically, Brexit hastens rather than delays Britain's decline. The remnants of the ramshackle United Kingdom confederation and the Commonwealth (a club you have to be member of to remember it still exists at all) are now in a terminal phase. "Rule Britannia", which became apparent to its proponents. Why a come-all-ye at the recent Eu-

ropean Cup Championship, chanted in between bouts of hooliganism, has now become the anthem of the dispossessed with chips on their shoulders. Brexit campaigners have managed, if not to make England great again, at least to make it great cartoon fodder for satirical magazines the world over. They have also deeply angered

their younger demographic who voted to remain—Vladimir Putin, of all people, was right to decry "the British government's self-assuredness and supercilious attitude to life-changing decisions in their own country". Boris Johnson's Brexit campaign landed young British people in the worst politico-economic crisis of their lives, and the most amazing thing is that Brexit was-to use a tennis term-an unforced error. Britons blithely slipped on a banana skin that they planted for themselves. Even the most optimistic analysis can hardly see this decision as a victory for anyone, not even for political opportunists. Solid leadership is very necessary now in England and it is very hard to see from where it will emerge.

Grexit last July would have made a lot of sense since the Greek electorate would have been voting for its interests. And indeed when it did vote for the Syriza party, which avowed to ditch austerity, Brussels visited the worst of its authoritarianism on the Greek "leader", who capitulated to the pressure. For the English, being outside the single currency and significantly his diplomats or the Northern

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less shackled by absurd austerity doctrines that characterised the European response to the economic crash of nearly a decade ago, the justification that the Greeks had to leave was significantly less present. English people quite simply voted against their interests.

One amusing consequence of Brexit on the island of Ireland is that we are all Irish now. A wave of Northern unionists have suddenly discovered their inner Irishness, and made a snatch for Irish passports (the passport office in Belfast cannot keep enough stock). Even Ian Paisley Jr. has swapped his father's "never, never, never" mantra on association with Dublin for a message of actively encouraging his supporters to become Irish: "My advice is if you are entitled to [a] second passport then take one. I sign off lots of applications for constituents." Second passport indeed—Paisley could not bring himself to state "Irish" passport.

There has been organised chaos in Ireland since the Brexit result on June 24th. Gerry Adams sounded duff notes on RTE radio that morning, intimating that a United Ireland was now achievable. To think that it could happen so easily. Good job, then, that a failed thirty year campaign of terror was not waged in its name, isn't it Gerry? Meanwhile, Taoiseach Enda Kenny wants an All-Ireland Forum to confront Brexit and declared his intentions to have one without consulting

Irish First Minister.

Border counties in Ireland are now plagued with all manner of unwanted developments. The steady stream of fuel buyers from the North will thin out; the strong euro relative to the sterling is prohibitive for tourists from the UK; contracts between businesses in the north and the south may need to

be renegotiated. And then there are the rene-

gotiations on a macro level with less favourable terms on offer. On BBC radio former Northern Ireland Secretary Therese Villiers offered this nugget: "I think we need a period to prepare our negotiating position and look at all the options, and I think have some informal negotiations with other European ministers." What negotiating position, what options and into which talks will Britain be admitted? Villiers, who welcomed Brexit and asserted that it would cause no change to the border situation, can avoid such questions—she has already been replaced by James Brokenshire as Northern Ireland Secretary of State in the new Tory cabinet. And the task of negotiating Brexit is now a cabinet brief onto itself, one placed on David Davis' desk.

The exit of a European country from the EU does not come out of nowhere. Europe's biggest error was introducing the single currency without mustering the political will to stand by it in the form of a sovereign federal bank. A second enormous problem is the way in which European Commissioners have taken over the running of Europe, increasingly acting without a mandate: the arrogance of President of the Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, in response to the democratic vote on Brexit is a good example. Thirdly, Angela Merkel's snapping of her fingers for other European leaders to attend her meeting in Berlin (and they did) after Brexit is a poisonous symbol of how domineering Germany has become in European governance—a tendency which will now exacerbate.

But the legitimate gripes that European nations have against the EU administration were not the root cause of Britain's exit. Britain has never been wholly committed to Europe. Over four centuries ago, Shakespeare foresaw the impulse towards Brexit. In Cymbeline the Bard characterised his country thus: "Britain's a world/ By itself". Small world though.



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August 2016 **Irish American News** "WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN GREEN!" 39

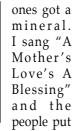
# **It Starts With A Song**

By Joe McShane

Hello Everyone,

Hope everyone is having a great summer. I really enjoyed playing the Irish American Heritage Festival. I got to play with my brother Nick, Joe Cullen and last but not least my son Declan. We played for an hour and a half and it seemed to just fly by. I would have stayed on stage all day if I was let. I also discovered that my neice Louisa has a mighty voice and plays guitar. If I'd known how good she was, we would have had her on stage along with us.

August is a big month in Ireland. The Fleadh Cheol is on in Ennis, Co Clare, this year. So as the song goes "if it's music you want go to Clare". The Fleadh is on from the 14th till 22nd August. Also it's the annual fair in Kenmore, Co Kerry on August 15th. Kenmore is a really beautiful town and there's also lots of traditional pubs and music to be found there. I remember when we were kids, on August 15 we used to go to Blackrock, near Dundalk. It was a really fun time. I remember standing on a stool in the Border bar, Kilcurry, Co Louth. Parents and uncles, aunts cousins etc, would stop off there for a bottle of stout on route and us young



a hat around and I got my first wages as a singer. The grand total of 17 shillings and sixpence was my pay. I was about 9 years old then, so I was really happily surprised to have been given so much money. I should mention that August 15th is a holy day in Ireland - Assumption of Mary.

Congratulations to Kathleen Keane and Geno Cooney and all involved in the Thursday night sessions at the Heritage Center. Also all the people that work so hard at the Center in general. It is so refreshing to see the Center doing so well now. We are very lucky here in Chicago to have two wonderful places like Gaelic Park and the Heritage Center.

Someone was asking me how did I get my son involved in music and when I look back I have to say I thank Gerry Carey (from Chicago Reel). His advice to me one night when we were heading to a gig was "I didn't force it on my kids but I played my accordion in the house and there was always music going on of course" Gerry's wife Mags has a wonderful voice, so their children were surrounded by music. Now their son, Kevin and daughter, Orla are outstanding

musicians. I remembered when my son was a baby I would watch him rocking too and fro. All children do this and they do it in time with the music. I guess as time goes on the timing goes off a little (thanks to social conditioning). I came up with a plan how to make it interesting for my son, Declan. So when he was 3 years old, I gave him a harmonica in the key of D. Then I put "Galway Girl" on a CD, which is in the same key. He had fun messing around sucking and blowing (it sounded pretty bad). After a few weeks I started to notice he was actually playing a lot of the notes like the CD. In less than 6 months he had perfected the solo for it. So in answer to the question, I reckon any child can do this and have fun and learn music at the same time.

I spoke to Margo the other day and hopefully they will be opening up the Mary Boyle case in Ireland. It's a sad thing when she had to go to other countries to put some pressure on. Hopefully, some justice will prevail in this very sad situation. The documentary is now on YouTube and is titled "Mary Boyle The Untold Story"

Well the kids will soon be getting their supplies for the start of school. One child in Park Ridge, who was going to be a 2nd grader, sadly passed away during the holidays. Kate Babich was enjoying summer camp when she collapsed and later died. Our whole suburb was shaken. When it was

purple, every tree, lamp post and school in our area was decorated with purple ribbons. So much so that the town completely ran out

of ribbon. I went to the funeral service at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church. Her 1st grade teacher told of how wonderful this little girl was and how she loved school so much. It was a service that was sometimes full of a kind of joy and yet deeply sad. After the service, I spoke to my dear friend Jordan Mogey. Before I knew what had happened, we had written a song. It's called "Purple Ribbons". It will be the song for this month. Will you please keep the Babich family in your prayers. As always be good to one another, Joe





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Purple Ribbons

© Copyright 2016 Joe McShane © Copyright 2016 Jordan Mogey Chorus

She wore purple ribbons, in her hair Purple coloured ribbons, now they're everywhere Hung on every lamp post Tied to every tree

An act of human kindness for all the world to see

I saw an old man crying I asked him what was wrong He said those purple ribbons, brought it on It was in that moment when I realised That little girl called Kate was that old man's grandchild

> She was only seven, just started school I read it in the paper, life can be so cruel How her folks are hurting

I can only guess

A mom and dad should never have to lay their child to rest

I went to the service all though I did not know The people there from Adam I felt that I should go Her teacher said a few words

'She was a shining star' I swept away a tear I wept and stumbled to my car Chorus

She wore purple ribbons, in her hair Purple coloured ribbons, now they're everywhere Hung on every lamp post Tied to every tree

An act of human kindness for all the world to see She wore purple ribbons, in her hair...

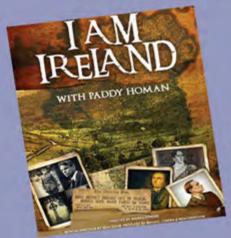


(l to r): John and Paddy Barry of Paddy's on the Square and the Irish Boutique, and brother, Jim Fitzgerald, enjoying the 85th birthday party of John Fitzgerald.

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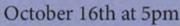
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Sunday!

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Friday! October 14th - 7pm iBAMChicago Gala Awards Dinner

honoring:

Ken Bruen,
(pictured)

Joel Daly,
Tommy Fleming
ames Fitzpatrick
James Fitzgerald



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Person of the Year
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Watch this space next month for the latest schedule! www.ibamchicago.com