



**BE AWARE!
IRISH ARTIST AT WORK**

**JOHN DAVID MOONEY
IN HIS STUDIO**



photo by larry debuhr
Chicago Gaelic Park Irish Fest pages 2, 9, 10

**IRISH AMERICAN HALL OF FAME AWARDS
GALA DINNER JUNE 10 (CENTER SPREAD)**

Chicago Gaelic Park

IRISH FEST

2017

MEMORIAL WEEKEND May 26, 27, 28, 29

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The Fenians

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Friday, May 26 - Gates Open at 4pm
\$8 admission 4pm-5pm only!

Saturday, May 27 - Gates open at 2pm
\$10 admission 2pm-3pm only!

Sunday, May 28 - Gates open at 1pm
11:30am Mass - \$10 admission 1pm-2pm only!
9am-3pm Chicago Feis Dancing Competition

Monday, May 29 - Gates open at 1pm
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The Extraordinary Art of John David Mooney

By Terrence Boyle

HAD I the heavens' embroidered cloths,
Enwrought with golden and silver light,
The blue and the dim and the dark cloths
Of night and light and the half-light.

W.B Yeats

To those who are familiar with this poem of Yeats will know how important colour, light, and half-light are to making this sensitive disclosure of personal feeling work towards creating a thing of beauty. For the poet light and hue, are deftly communicated through language whereas for the artist, John David Mooney, the physical properties of these two components are poetically employed to visually stimulate the heart and soul; a rare accomplishment that makes this Chicago artist stand out among his contemporaries. The universality of Mooney's creative muse is richly demonstrated in his popularity.

I first met Mooney, earlier this year, at a poetry reading. To my shame, I had not heard much about him or his work. However, my initial perception of him changed when I visited his gallery on West Kinzie Street. The modest, and unassuming person I had met over a few glasses of wine suddenly became magnified as he began to enumerate the caliber of his successful undertakings. Mooney, in 1997, had been commissioned to transform the Chicago Tribune tower into a light sculpture to celebrate its 150th anniversary and the effect was incredible. On the first night of the display one million people witnessed the tower come alive with beautiful shapes and colours. In the bustling urban landscape, the 'familiar', well-known landmark was beautifully transformed. As if by an enchanting spell, the artist changed the urban landmark into a transcendental experiment of light and colour, and thus revealing its soulful beauty lit from within. The effect of such a monumental task was

just one of a number of notable undertakings.

In 1994, while he was the artist-in-residence at the Vatican Observatory at Castel Gandolfo,



John David Mooney in his Chicago gallery.

Mooney brought a new light, and a new understanding to the existing works of antiquity. Combining astronomy with an artistic sensibility, the artist is able to reinvigorate, embellish, and change our understanding of the past. Mooney has taken 'fire' (in this case natural light) from the gods and created 'new artistic and cultural expressions'. His unique touch invites us to look afresh at these ancient structures with a sense of wonder. The stargazers of the past and their myths are rejuvenated with the addition of new technologies so that when the gods of the past are merged with the

miracles of modern science the effect is astonishing. A symbiotic relationship between the past and the present is established without diminishing any sense of mystery. The 17th Century pool of Neptune, aglow now with the addition of red, floating lights once again shows the power of the cosmos, with its many secrets, and draws us out into the night sky in search of other stories. When Mooney embellishes an older, familiar structure, he draws us into the heart of the building, exposes the living soul

reverence to the universe in a way that his Celtic ancestors would applaud. The influence of his Irish ancestry is quite clearly felt in his fascination with the movement of light. His international acclaim for transforming large public works and his ability to re-cast existing buildings into something transcendent bears the marks of a poet.

Mooney's credentials as an artist are remarkable. He has had an illustrious academic career, holding positions in the United States and Europe. Mooney was named a distinguished professor and critic at the University of North Carolina, and distinguished professor and scholar at the University of Southern Indiana. He has been presented with honorary doctorates from Purdue University, Dominican University, and Lyon College. Added to which, he has been the recipient of more than eight fellowships from institutions such as the National Endowment for the Arts, the Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts, the Royal Society of the Arts, and the MacDowell Colony. Mooney's work is in numerous private and public collections, including the Museum of Modern Art in New York, The Art Institute of Chicago, and major museums in Europe. His accolades are numerous, and show the importance of his work.

Ecclesiastes states that 'there is nothing new under the sun', however, it could be argued that the sun's daily movement through the heavens makes everything new. The shades, shadows, and colours of our world are constantly changed by its light, and it is this quality of the natural world that is revealed in Mooney's art. So, whether it is refracted, collected, or purposed in a unique way, the artist's work maximizes the various plays of daily light to show the changing moods, seasons, and experiences that we have become so familiar with. In this way, he connects us with our ancient past, and how the Celts observed the transformative nature of the sunlight. Mooney's extraordinary ability

to draw us into the daily interplay between light and colour is truly fascinating, and carries with it a Celtic sensibility that expresses his Irish heritage. In everything he does, he stages his art, and the everyday movement of light, with such theatricality and precision that the experience becomes almost mystical. Mooney's metaphysical preoccupations are not limited to his sculptures. His paintings also illuminate the journey inwards and outwards, towards understanding and beyond, as they tease us with the seen and unseen.

The metaphysical poet's need for words that can surpass and transcend their own literal meaning, though still anchored to what is known, is also inherently present in Mooney's love of transcendence. His watercolours, 'Mounds and Mountains' collection, perfectly and joyfully, play with the metaphysics of the known and the familiar. The 'mound' of flesh in the female form is erotically, yet skillfully, presented in the series of nudes. Colours swirl and change, but our attention on the female genitalia never shifts. The sexual nature of the form is elevated by the artist as the mound of flesh refuses to give up its mystery.

The watercolours of the mountain are hypnotic. For while we see diversity in the varying shapes, colours and brush strokes, it remains essentially the same mountain. Through its different shifts in tone and light the multifaceted paintings reveal more than the object being observed. The mountain stands as a natural place of wonder, an icon of nature that inclines the poet and the observer to search upwards beyond the seen, to move away from the physical realm and see the inner soul of the world. The 'Mounds' and the 'Mountains' take on their muse-like properties once we immerse ourselves in the painted waters of artist's imagination. Immersed in the private vision of an artist can be enthralling, but Mooney is no recluse. His work is collab-

Continued on next page

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Artist John David Mooney

orative, and connects the world around him.

Mooney's unique touch of involving others in the initial process of brainstorming demonstrates his commitment to the 'public accessibility of art'. With the aid of interns, the local community, and academics, ideas are pooled together, organically. When these discussions begin to 'coalesce' in the imagination of the artist they are later realized as a site specific work or art that is the culmination of a man who listens to those around him. This grassroots style of using the collective voice of others for inspiration shows Mooney's commitment to empathetically engage with his immediate audience. The location, its history, even its astrophysical space is intrinsic to the creation of the final piece.

In the early 1970s, Mooney called upon an international team of physicists, engineers, and computer scientists to work in conjunction with other artists. The result was the "Visual Systems Research" Group, an innovative team that pushed the boundary between art and science. His work brings together the arts and sciences in a visual celebration of knowledge and understanding. This interdisciplinary approach, highly experimental in nature, integrates these knowledge bases beyond the usual, casual academic meeting of minds. The traditional rhetoric

used to define, and highlight the differences between the sciences and arts is blurred and obscured in this learning process. Mooney has for years been pioneering this new approach to art and science, that has yet to be realized within the academic community. If you want to see it in action, then visit the John David Mooney Foundation and witness it first-hand. You will see what can be achieved when the finest of minds work together for a common goal.

Chicago is fortunate to have such a progressive artist as Mooney. His work, intrinsically metaphysical, inspires us to see beyond our limited view of bricks and mortar of the everyday experience and into the very essence of who we are; spiritual beings.

While this short article certainly does not do justice to the importance of his art, it is my hope that others will enjoy and appreciate his collection here in the city and elsewhere. It may have started out as a coincidental meeting over a couple of glasses of wine and the sharing of a few poems but it has opened my eyes to the work of an exciting new and dynamic artistic force that will continue to challenge us as to how we envisage ourselves and the world around us.

To see more of John David Mooney's work visit: <http://www.mooneyfoundation.org/>

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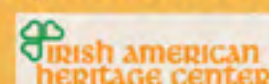
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McGuinness and Adams for 2018 Nobel Peace Prize

By Sabina Clarke

As we approach the 20th anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement and with the global response to the death of Martin McGuinness and his legacy undisputed—now is the time to nominate Martin McGuinness posthumously and Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams as the joint recipients of the 2018 Nobel Peace Prize.

The Norwegian Nobel Committee has a less than stellar record regarding The Troubles and its Peace Prize awardees.

In October 1976 the Nobel Committee awarded the Prize to Betty Williams and Mairead Corrigan, founders of the Peace People's movement. The award was tarnished by the two women quarrelling about who would keep the prize money. They also lost credibility with their own people by failing to condemn state violence with the same ardor that they criticized the IRA. These circumstances led to the disintegration of the Peace People movement.

In October 1998 the Nobel Committee—on the heels of the historic April 1998 Good Friday Agreement—again recognized Northern Ireland by awarding the Nobel Peace Prize to John Hume, the

Social Democratic & Labor Party, SDLP Leader and David Trimble, the Ulster Unionist Party, UUP Leader for their "efforts to find a peaceful solution to the conflict in Northern Ireland."

The Committee reasoned that since there was "one from the Catholic side and one from the Protestant side"—no



Martin McGuinness.

one would be alienated. This decision disappointed many since it seemed not only simplistic but flawed since it totally excluded Sinn Fein.

In Ireland there were bets on the following combinations: John Hume by himself; John Hume, David Trimble and Gerry Adams; and David Trimble and Gerry Adams—but never just Hume and Trimble.

So, there was great expectation in both Ireland and the U.S. for Adams getting the Nobel Peace Prize. When he did not there was shock abroad and shock in the United States. Ed Moloney, journalist and author and expert on the Troubles has stated that there would have been "no peace process without Gerry Adams."

I remember well that morning in 1998 anticipating with others that Adams, who was to speak at the Union League in Philadelphia later that day would be included in the Award and that we would be there to cover it. And I recall our disappointment and still hear Adams' words that echoed thru the packed room—the sincerity of which no one could deny—when he tried to comfort the crowd by saying that he did not care about prizes and that the only prize—the important prize—was peace.

For more than 40 years, Gerry Adams (portrait by Megan Lawlor) and Martin McGuinness have been inseparable as trusted friends and comrades.

Growing up in Belfast, Adams experienced firsthand—the bias, blatant discrimination and bigotry towards Catholics. He came from a strong republican background.

McGuinness grew up in Derry in a staunchly Catholic family that was not political. He turned to republicanism after witnessing the government's repression of the nationalist community. And he was second-in-command of the Irish Republican Army, IRA, on Bloody Sunday when British soldiers murdered peaceful protestors marching for Civil Rights. His response was visceral.

At his 1973 conviction he said, "We have fought against the killing of our people. I am a member of Oglaiha na Eireann, (IRA and very, very proud of it."

As early as 1972, both were recognized by the British and secretly flown to London to participate in what turned out to

be abortive talks with then Secretary of Northern Ireland Willie Whitelaw; and by the mid-1980's they were acknowledged as the key people in the Provisional republican movement.

Sinn Fein's outreach for peace began in the 1970's with talks between Gerry Adams and Father Alec Reid, the Redemptorist priest and into the mid 1980's with Gerry Adams' outreach to John Hume which resulted in the crafting of the Hume/Adams Joint Document for Peace.

While pursuing the rocky and dangerous road to peace, Sinn Fein adopted the dual strategy of the armalite and the ballot box—but an end to violence was always the goal. As revolutionaries turned politicians, they were vilified by former comrades who called them traitors for having compromised and they risked being assassinated while they argued that compromise through democratic means was the only way forward.

McGuinness appeared to be always content to stand in Adams' shadow. However, the worldwide response to his passing has changed that. His legacy now stands firmly with Adams—both recognized as world leaders who helped end decades of murders and violence that took more than 3,200 lives.

Through their joint commitment to a peaceful solution, what was once considered an intractable conflict has become a template for peace and reconciliation around the world.

Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness risked their lives and their careers for peace.



Gerry Adams. Portraits by Megan Lawlor.



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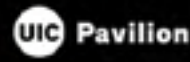
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A Cháirde

Another tax season is in the books so I can now turn my attention to our 31st Irish Fest. Fortunately, others have been focusing on the fest all year so we can bring Chicagoland the best celebration of Irish entertainment and culture. Please join us over the Memorial Day Weekend for the first major Chicago area festival of the summer.

In addition to featuring a wide variety of Irish music and theatre on our indoor and outdoor stages, we are bringing in local favorite rock and country artists. Our Friday night lineup, for example, includes The New Invaders, The Neverly Brothers and American English, as well as Bernie Glim and Country Roads. Later in the weekend, South City

Revival will perform.

We'd like to welcome the U.S. National Collegiate Hurling Championship to Irish Fest. This will be the first time that this event will be held at Gaelic Park, and we look forward to thrilling competition as college teams from across the country play the world's fastest ground game.

Our festival is a great place to meet with family and friends, and our low admission price includes parking, unlimited carnival rides, full access to all stages (including dance competition stages of the Chicago Feis), and access to the hurling championship. See you there!

Slán go fóil,
Bill O'Sullivan, President

2017 CGP Calendar of Events 2017

MAY

5/3	Monthly Musical Luncheon* Jerry & Kara Eadie	Noon
5/7	Sunday Classic Carvery with TBD	3:30 pm
5/10	Ladies Auxiliary Meeting	
5/14	Monthly Mass and Breakfast	10:00am
5/14	Sunday Classic Carvery with Ray Gavin	3:30 pm
5/26-29	Memorial Day Weekend Irish Fest	

Monthly Mass and Breakfast is the 2nd Sunday of the Month

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

*Reservations Required 708.687.9323

Pub Trivia Tuesday Evenings	7:30pm
Monday Evenings Set Dancing	7:30pm
Tuesday Evenings Ceili Dancing Lessons 7pm/Ceili	7:30pm
Sunday Evening CGP Radio Live WCEV 1450 AM	7:05-9pm



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Fri	May 5	Joe Cullen	7:30pm
Sat	May 6	Ray Gavin	8:30pm
Wed	May 10	Frank Rossi	6:00pm
Fri	May 12	Joe McShane	7:30pm
Sat	May 13	Jerry & Kara Eadie	8:30pm
Fri	May 19	Gerry Haughey	7:30pm
Sat	May 20	Bernie Glim	8:30pm

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND IRISH FEST
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Irish Fest Schedule

FRIDAY, MAY 26th

\$8 Admission 4pm-5pm Only!

EMERALD STAGE

4:15-5:45pm - GERRY HAUGHEY & SEAN O'DONNELL
6:00-6:30pm - McCORMACK-FAY DANCERS
6:45-7:15pm - EILISH SULLIVAN SCHOOL OF IRISH DANCERS
7:30-8:00pm - SOCKS IN THE FRYING PAN
9:30-11:00pm - THE FENIANS

CELTIC STAGE

4:15-4:45pm - TOOROMEEN
5:00-6:30pm - NEW INVADERS
7:00-8:30pm - THE NEVERLY BROTHERS
9:00-11:00pm - AMERICAN ENGLISH

CROSSROADS STAGE

4:45-5:30pm - THE KATHY DURKIN BAND
5:45-6:30pm - SOCKS IN THE FRYING PAN
6:45-7:30pm - THE FENIANS
7:45-8:30pm - GERRY HAUGHEY

TARA STAGE

4:30-6:00pm - JOE CULLEN
6:15-6:45pm - CROSS KEYS DANCERS
7:15-8:45pm - BERNIE GLIM and COUNTRY ROADS
9:15-10:45pm - THE KATHY DURKIN BAND

LEPRECHAUN STAGE

4:30-5:15pm - MEASNER'S MAGIC
5:30-6:15pm - DOC'S COMEDY AND ILLUSIONS
6:30-7:15pm - FREDDY'S IRISH TREAT
7:30-8:15pm - MEASNER'S MAGIC POT "O" GOLD

PERFORMING ARTS STAGE

6:00pm - "A CANDLE ON THE TABLE" BY GAELIC PARK PLAYERS
7:00pm - SONGS OF THE CIVIL WAR BY BATTLEFIELD BALLADEERS
8:00pm - IRISH STORYTELLER; TIM O'SULLIVAN AND FAMILY

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SATURDAY, MAY 27th

\$10 Admission 2pm-3pm Only!

EMERALD STAGE

2:45-3:15pm - FOY IRISH DANCERS
3:45-5:15pm - LARRY NUGENT
5:30-6:00pm - SHANNON ROVERS PIPE BAND
6:15-6:45pm - BLACKBIRD ACADEMY OF IRISH DANCING
7:15-8:45pm - EMMET CAHILL
9:15-11:00pm - THE FENIANS

CELTIC STAGE

3:15-4:45pm - MAKEM AND SPAIN
5:00-5:15pm - SHANNON ROVERS PIPE BAND
5:30-7:00pm - JIG JAM
7:30-9:00pm - SOCKS IN THE FRYING PAN
9:30-11:00pm - THE PRODIGALS

CROSSROADS STAGE

3:00-3:45pm - THE KATHY DURKIN BAND
4:00-4:45pm - JIG JAM
5:00-5:45pm - SOCKS IN THE FRYING PAN
6:00-6:45pm - MAKEM AND SPAIN
7:00-7:45pm - THE FENIANS
8:00-8:45pm - THE PRODIGALS
9:15-10:00pm - LARRY NUGENT

TARA STAGE

2:15-2:45pm - MULLANE IRISH DANCERS
3:00-4:30pm - SOUTH CITY REVIVAL
4:45-5:15pm - MAIDEN STREET SCHOOL OF IRISH DANCE
5:30-7:00pm - JOE AND DECLAN MCSHANE
7:30-9:00pm - THE KATHY DURKIN BAND
9:30-11:00pm - THE LARKIN & MORAN BROTHERS

LEPRECHAUN STAGE

2:30-3:15pm - DOC'S "IT LOOKS LIKE MAGIC"
3:15-4:00pm - MR. BLARNY'S ILLUSIONS
4:00-4:45pm - IRISH STEW WITH FREDDY
4:45-5:30pm - "TRICKS WITH JOHNNY"
5:30-6:15pm - DOC'S "HOW'D YOU DO THAT"
6:15-7:00pm - MR. BLARNY'S "IT'S MAGIC"
7:00-7:45pm - "IT'S NOT BLARNEY SAYS FREDDY"
7:45-8:30pm - MEASNER'S MAGIC

PERFORMING ARTS STAGE

3:00pm - SONGS OF THE IRISH HARP; SHARI SARAZIN
4:00pm - "OF COURSE WE'RE 100% IRISH" WILDFLOWER
5:00pm - SONGS OF THE IRISH HARP; SHARI SARAZIN
6:00pm - "OF COURSE WE'RE 100% IRISH" WILDFLOWER
7:00pm - IRISH STORYTELLER; TIM O'SULLIVAN AND FAMILY
8:00pm - SONGS OF THE CIVIL WAR; BATTLEFIELD BALLADEERS

SUNDAY, MAY 28th

Mass 11:30am • \$10 Admission 1pm-2pm Only!
Chicago Feis Dancing Competition 9am-3pm

EMERALD STAGE

11:30am - MASS
1:15-3:00pm - GREEN MEADOW BOYS
3:30-5:00pm - THE FENIANS
5:15pm - PIPES & DRUMS OF THE EMERALD SOCIETY
5:30-7:00pm - EMMET CAHILL
7:15-9:00pm - MAKEM & SPAIN
9:30-11:00pm - PADDY HOMAN AND THE NOBLE CALL

CELTIC STAGE

1:15-2:45pm - MURPHY ROCHE IRISH MUSIC CLUB
3:15-4:45pm - BOHOLA
4:45pm - PIPES & DRUMS OF THE EMERALD SOCIETY
5:30-7:00pm - SOCKS IN THE FRYING PAN
7:30-9:00pm - JIG JAM
9:30-11:00pm - THE PRODIGALS

CROSSROADS STAGE

2:00-2:45pm - THE FENIANS
3:00-3:45pm - JIG JAM
4:00-4:45pm - SOCKS IN THE FRYING PAN
5:00-5:45pm - MAKEM & SPAIN
6:00-6:45pm - PADDY HOMAN AND THE NOBLE CALL
7:00-7:45pm - THE PRODIGALS
8:00-8:45pm - BOHOLA

TARA STAGE

3:45-4:15pm - LAVIN CASSIDY IRISH DANCERS
4:30-6:00pm - THE IRISH MUSICIANS/SET DANCING WITH TERRY CARMICODY
6:30-8:00pm - MURPHY ROCHE CEILÍ BAND
8:15-8:45pm - THE DENNEHY DANCING SCHOOL
9:15-10:45pm - THE KATHY DURKIN BAND

LEPRECHAUN STAGE

2:00-2:45pm - FREDDY'S COMEDY POT OF GOLD
2:45-3:30pm - MC MEASNER'S "TOUCH OF GREEN ILLUSION"
3:30-4:15pm - DOC'S "IT MUST BE MAGIC"
4:15-5:00pm - MR. BLARNY'S "WEE BIT OF IRISH MAGIC"
5:00-5:45pm - LUCK OF FREDDY'S IRISH
5:45-6:30pm - ILLUSIONS WITH JOHNNY
6:30-7:15pm - MR. BLARNY'S "FUN WITH MAGIC"
7:15-8:00pm - DOC DOES MORE MAGIC

PERFORMING ARTS STAGE

2:30pm - SISTER B'S BINGO BONANZA
4:00pm - SONGS OF THE IRISH HARP; SHARI SARAZIN
5:00pm - "A CANDLE ON THE TABLE" GAELIC PARK PLAYERS
6:00pm - "OF COURSE WE'RE 100% IRISH" WILDFLOWER
7:00pm - SONGS OF THE IRISH HARP; SHARI SARAZIN



Chicago Gaelic Park

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



Irish Fest Schedule

MONDAY, MAY 29th

\$10 Admission 1pm-2pm Only!
\$5 Admission for Redheads!
Chicago Feis Dancing Competition 9am-3pm
Memorial Salute 3pm

EMERALD STAGE

1:15-2:45pm - KARA AND JERRY EADIE BAND
3:00pm - MEMORIAL SALUTE
3:15-4:45pm - CHICAGO REEL
5:00-6:15pm - LARKIN & MORAN BROTHERS
6:30-8:00pm - SOUTH CITY REVIVAL

CELTIC STAGE

1:15-2:45pm - JOE CULLEN
3:00pm - MEMORIAL SALUTE
3:15-4:45pm - JIG JAM
5:00-6:15pm - THE PRODIGALS
6:30-8:00pm - RAY GAVIN

CROSSROADS STAGE

2:00-2:45pm - JIG JAM
3:00pm - MEMORIAL SALUTE
3:30-4:15pm - THE PRODIGALS
4:30-5:15pm - RAY GAVIN
5:30-6:15pm - CHICAGO REEL

TARA STAGE

3:15-4:45pm - 3 MEN IN KILTS
5:00-6:15pm - KARA AND JERRY EADIE BAND
6:30-8:00pm - JOE AND DECLAN MCSHANE

LEPRECHAUN STAGE

1:15-2:00pm - DOC'S "MAGIC YOU WONT BELIEVE"
2:00-2:45pm - MEASNER'S MAGIC POT "O" GOLD
3:00pm - MEMORIAL SALUTE
3:15-4:00pm - LETS SMILE WITH FREDDY'S FUN SHOW
4:15-5:00pm - DOC'S MYSTERY AND FUN
5:15-6:00pm - MEASNER'S ILLUSIONS
6:15-7:00pm - FREDDY'S "SALUTE TO THE IRISH"

PERFORMING ARTS STAGE

2:00pm - SONGS OF THE CIVIL WAR BATTLEFIELD BALLADEERS
3:00pm - MEMORIAL DAY SALUTE
4:00pm - IRISH STORYTELLER; TIM O'SULLIVAN AND FAMILY
5:00pm - "A CANDLE ON THE TABLE" GAELIC PARK PLAYERS

*Schedule Subject to Change



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FEST HOURS

Friday, May 26 - Gates Open at 4pm
Saturday, May 27 - Gates open at 2pm
Sunday, May 28 - Gates open at 1pm
Monday, May 29 - Gates open at 1pm

4:00pm - "OF COURSE WE'RE 100% IRISH" WILDFLOWER
5:00pm - SONGS OF THE IRISH HARP; SHARI SARAZIN
6:00pm - "OF COURSE WE'RE 100% IRISH" WILDFLOWER
7:00pm - IRISH STORYTELLER; TIM O'SULLIVAN AND FAMILY
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Gaelic Park's Annual Easter Egg Hunt!



Chicago's New Consul General of Ireland Visits Gaelic Park



Consul General Brian O'Brien and Margaret Haran



Consul General Brian O'Brien



We'd like to thank the Crokey Players for their performance of *Nobody's Talking to Me* and our Gaelic Park Player members for volunteering to help them

with their show.

Coming up in May the players will perform at Irish Fest over Memorial Day weekend at the Performing Arts Stage, presenting an all women One Act called *Candle on the Table*. It will be performed Friday, May 26th at 6pm, Sunday, May 28th at 5pm and Monday, May 29th at 5pm.

For Better, For Worse by Jimmy Keary, directed by Julie Zebleckis last weekend is May 5th at 8pm; Saturday, May 6th at 8pm; Sunday, May 7th at 3pm.

The Pub Grub Special will be offered again for our Friday and Saturday performances at the Carraig Pub, Gaelic Park. The tickets are \$24, which include theatre admission and dinner. (one item from the Pub Grub menu and one pint or glass of wine.) For Sunday's performances, there will be a Classic Carvery, which will immediately follow the performance in one of the banquet halls. The Classic Carvery ticket includes theatre admission and your meal for \$29. The Carvery is a buffet which consists of your choice of soup, salad bar, meat selection, potato, vegetables, coffee, tea and dessert. All individual play tickets are \$14 and can be purchased at Gaelic Park's main office, located at 6119 W. 147th Street, Oak Forest, IL 60452. Please contact Gaelic Park to reserve

your tickets at 708-687-9323.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Gaelic Park Players, the meetings are held the second Wednesday of every month at 7:30pm at Gaelic Park. Anyone who is interested in either auditioning for our spring play production or being a part of the crew,

please join us for a meeting or contact us via the website gaelicparkplayers.org.






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Terry From Derry

by Terry Boyle



Discovering Golf

From a very early age, I was always a traveler at heart. Indeed, my itchy feet to be on the move did not go unnoticed by my mother, who was flummoxed by constant excursions.

It began, I believe, when I was around 13-years-old.

My friends and I were harangued into going camping with a local club. We were not going far, about 40 miles, to Portsalon, Co. Donegal. It was yet again one of those good, educational adventures designed to take children out of troubled areas and into a peaceful sanctuary. Away from the rioting, raiding, and political wrangling, we teenagers might discover a more meditative side to life among the rocks, rolling hills, and restful walks along the seacoast.

I'd never been in a tent before, never mind set one up, and my ignorance showed. A job that should've taken at most a half an hour showed signs of becoming a Herculean task as we passed the two-hour point. Once eventually settled in, the three of us who were to inhabit the tent made off to see the sights.

City boys in the countryside,

who are in need of adventure, are rarely a good combination. After escaping the attention of the adults, we lit up our cigarettes and took to racing towards the sound of the waves.

The sea and sand were nothing new to us, we had been on the annual trip to Bunrana beach, but that was only 12 miles away from Derry, whereas this was further again. Here, we were outside of our usual comfort zone, and we didn't know what to expect.

In Bunrana, there were slot machines to lose your money on, ice cream, cheap fish and chip shops. We were used to the usual ritual of playing the machines, leaving the gambling dens skint, and, with no money to spend, run around the beach until it was time to eat. Portsalon, however, was different. It catered for a different kind of clientele. There were no slot machines, the fish and chip shops were more expensive than those we were used to, and it lacked the rough and ready appeal of Bunrana.

Finding ourselves bored we wandered back to the camp. Amid the sighs, punctuated with swears of frustration, we

heard the sound of something being whacked. Our curiosity peaked; we went outside to see what it was.

None of us had ever seen a golf course before. The game was beyond our price range and its players in a completely different class. We sat watching, as the tartan trouser brigade wasting time and energy on hitting a small white ball.

Given that there was absolutely nothing else to do, we interspersed our watching with calls of 'fore' and intermittent cries for help as if one of us had been hit by a small flying missile. Needless to say, the golfers were not amused with their hecklers and tried to scare us off, to no avail.

There was one thing we did notice while making fun of the older men with their sticks. More often than not, a ball would find itself flying into a small lake on the course. When this happened, the polite golfers would let loose their own string of pleasing swear words.

Golf balls cost money, so some of the men would attempt to wade into the water to redeem the fruits of their labour. Getting into the water proved to be easier than getting out, and inevitably the retrieval of the glorious object was more often than not, abandoned.

As we sat watching these attempts to retrieve the lost ball again, and again, we hatched upon an idea. When no one was around, we went into the lake and began to search. The water was freezing and it was deeper than it looked.

We felt for the lost balls with our feet. Once the sunken treasure was located, we plunged our bodies into the murky waters and one by one, we gathered our booty, which we hid in our tent.

The next day while everyone else was investigating the intricacies of nature, we took to the golf course with our findings from the previous day. Golfers, it seems, love a bargain and, fortunately, we had the wherewithal to offer them a bargain

they couldn't refuse. Necessity may be the mother of invention, but in this case, it was boredom that became for us the mother of enterprise. Each day we could earn enough money to buy the cigarettes we craved and even eat chips in a shop that none of us could afford to eat at before we discovered golf.

Travel is a way to broaden the mind; at least that's what they say, and in this case our pockets expanded with each new harvest of golf balls. All was going well until I developed a toothache.

Since we were in the Republic and had no access to a dentist, I was given whiskey; a cure that made me instantly popular with my tent mates, and, as such, I was dutifully sent back for a drop of the rare stuff every couple of hours.

The dilution of my share of the whiskey resulted in no change in my ailment, so I took off without informing the camp leaders of my decision to leave. I had no idea as to how I would get back to Derry, but I knew that I had to try. By extending my right thumb into the line of traffic, I managed to secure a couple of lifts to take me home.

My mother, who had assumed I'd come back on the bus, arranged for me to see a dentist, and put me back on a bus to Portsalon the following morning. When I arrived back at camp, the leaders refused to take me back. I'd broken a cardinal rule by leaving without permission and could not remain.

What they didn't know is that I didn't have the money to take the bus back to Derry. I tried to explain my predicament, but they were not having any of it, so once again the trusted right thumb was called into action and I was on the road again.

The hitchhike back and forth from Portsalon proved to have lasting effects. From that time onwards, I saw myself as an adventurer who was not afraid to step out into the great unknown. The experience had unleashed a passion to travel wherever the road would lead me.



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Getting to Know the Irish

By Tina Butler



x Where are the Aran Islands? They are a group of three islands located at the opening of Galway Bay, the West coast of Ireland. They constitute the estate of Aran in Co. Galway. The length of all the Islands is about 30 miles long. They are named Inismore (big Island) Inismaan, (middle) and InisOirr (rear Island) There are people living on all three Islands although the number has dwindled in recent years. Cars are driven only on one island, Inismore. Inismor is the most populated of the three with about 850 people. (Islands total population about 1200) Ferries are available to the islands from Co. Galway and Doolin, Co. Clare. (45 minutes)

The landscape is similar to the Burren in Co. Clare. Many countries have their own islands too, for Ex. Greece, Spain, and

Philippines. Rick Steves (TV travel host) went to the Aran Islands and said they are a "bleak and beautiful". People on "Aran" live an unhurried lifestyle but they are not out of touch with the world rather take life at a slower step and relish days and moments with each other. It's a more peaceful and tranquil way of life that is to be admired. Some say it's an escape from the the modern world, I think if you're lucky enough to escape there you might leave with some valuable life lessons.

Aran Islands have an unusually temperate climate. It has one of the longest growing seasons in Ireland and supports diverse and rich plant growth. Many saints had some connection with Aran including St. Brendan, he was blessed for his voyage there. Jarlath of Tuam, Finnian of Clonard

and St. Columba called it the "Sun of the West".

Oliver Cromwell said once, "to hell or to Connacht", so that's just what people did. Some people fled to the Islands and stayed there and made the best of it. People have learned to be self reliant living on basically a rock. The islands can get very windy, they are harsh steep, and rugged in some areas. The Islands are an official Gaeltacht, an Irish speaking area. People come to the islands to immerse themselves in the Irish language. There is a world heritage site called, Dun Aonghasa on Inismor, it's a prehistoric hill fort built on a cliff high above the sea. It attracts many visitors each year. Teampull Bheanain, is a church also on Inismor considered the smallest church in the world. It is very unique because of its orientation north, south, not east west. The famous Aran sweater comes from the Islands. It was passed down from generation to generation, it became the ultimate symbol of Irish clan heritage. The patterns were kept within

the same clan-family. They were used to help identify a fisherman if something were to happen to him out at sea. The currach, (boat), made from canvas stretched over a skeleton of thin lats was created on the Islands. Every year Inishmor plays host to a Zen Buddhist group who visit in the summer for their retreat. There is not much farming on the island so most of the income is earned in tourism. Unfortunately islanders also pay 20% extra for their oil/gas because it has to be carried over the sea. John Millington Synge (Irish playwright/ poet, Playboy of the Western World-famous work) has

written many poems and stories about the islands. He lived there a few summers and the house he lived in on Inismaan is now the Synge museum. There was a movie made about the islands, called "Man of Aran".

Gaelic for the Month:
remote-iargulta
beautiful-go halainn
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a light heart lives the longest-maireann croi eadrom bhfad

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



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From Ireland to Chicagoland

Hailing originally from Arranmore Island, off the Donegal coast, Caroleann has been living and practicing law in Chicago for almost ten years now. Her practice has been concentrated in representing labor and union workers and their families, in all types of personal injury and work related accidents, including, construction site accidents, automobile accidents and premises liability claims. Her father and three brothers all worked as tunnel miners so she has a deep rooted affinity for the working man and their families.



CALL/EMAIL CAROLEANN AT
312-543-4642 or csg@levinperconti.com



Growing up, Caroleann has directly experienced the devastating impact on a family when the primary breadwinner suffers an injury. She recently joined a nationally renowned law firm concentrating in all types of personal injury, medical malpractice, nursing home abuse and neglect, and wrongful death litigation. Caroleann is committed to protecting and vindicating the rights of people who are injured by the negligence of others.

View From Ireland

By Maurice Fitzpatrick



Martin McGuinness

In surely the biggest and most significant Irish political funeral in living memory, Martin McGuinness was wholly feted as a statesman last month. His tenacity in espousing political means in the 1990s, despite considerable adversity, was singled out for particular praise. Yet as late as 1986 McGuinness said in a BBC documentary: "We don't believe that winning elections and any amount of votes will bring freedom in Ireland... At the end of the day, it will be the cutting edge of the IRA that will bring freedom". (The man who said that in 1986 also claimed until the end of his life that he had renounced IRA membership in 1974).

The 'cutting edge' of the IRA's

campaign continued into the following decade. For example, in 1990 the IRA seized an innocent member of its own community, Pat Gillespie, strapped a bomb to his person and forced him to drive a van full of explosives into a British army base outside Derry, killing himself and five soldiers. Such cowardice greatly diminished the perception of the IRA among its supporters. What a lot of people missed about McGuinness' Damascene conversion is that it was preceded by a conversion on the part of his support base in Derry which started to realise that the violent campaign to achieve a United Ireland was a sham.

When Sinn Féin leaders saw this shift in people's perceptions they changed accordingly. By February 1993, the Army

Council of the Provisional IRA sent a message through their backchannel to the then British Prime Minister, John Major: "The conflict is over but we need your advice on how to bring it to a close... We cannot announce such a move as it will lead to confusion for the volunteers, because the press will misinterpret it as a surrender".



Martin McGuinness' legacy vacillates between such misinterpretations and an almost obsessive compulsion to draw a line under the year 1994, the date of the IRA's Cessation of Hostilities. In short, it is a struggle between emphasising the political co-operation that

happened after that date, and de-emphasising (or lying about) the violence before it. His funeral last month and the extraordinary rostrum of world leaders, incumbent and retired, who attended it, helped to ensure that the seesaw remains tipped upwards, elevating the post 1994 Martin McGuinness.

Nearly every news article written in response to his passing weighed up his political career thus: on the one hand, the fiery young IRA volunteer and commander; on the other hand, the politician who managed to work with his former adversaries and who helped to accomplish the enormous feat of persuading the IRA that they could cease their terror campaign and yet keep face.

The rite of absolution, conditional on a feeling and expression of contrition, is a tenet of the Catholic faith, of which McGuinness was a life-long observer. Lord Tebbit, a direct victim of the IRA's violent campaign, therefore withheld forgiveness because, he said, "forgiveness requires confession of sins and repentance... There was none of that". It is a fact that McGuinness was unrepentant to the end for his violent past. McGuinness told me in an interview last year that he made 'no apology' for the fact that he embarked on a campaign of violence.

Whether formally ordained by a priest or collectively conveyed by the strength of public feeling, absolution has palpable political potential. Consider, for example, Adams' recent pressure on Northern Ireland Secretary James Brokenshire to call another election, which indicates that Adams believes that Sinn Féin's stock could rise yet higher after McGuinness' funeral. Adams' punt is probably correct. Another election could even result in Sinn Féin pipping the DUP at the post for top position at Stormont, a ghastly proposition for hardline unionists.

In his eulogy for McGuinness, Bill Clinton imagined what McGuinness himself would say if he were speaking at his own

obsequies: 'Here's my eulogy: I fought, I made peace, I made politics'. True, McGuinness fought for a United Ireland, made peace for a free Ireland and made politics for an agreed Ireland. His language evolved with the mode in which he pursued political change. Bill Clinton also urged those who wish to honour McGuinness' legacy to "finish the work of peace".

Would it be unseemly, then, to wonder if the journey from armalites, through to the armalite and ballot box approach, and finally to the ballot box as the exclusive method of effecting political change was a defensible one? Maybe it is unseemly, but the Continuity IRA, of which McGuinness was a stern critic, exists partly because of the contradiction at the kernel of McGuinness' political life—in his adopting undemocratic means to united Ireland and his latter-day embrace of politics to do the same.

Commentators and peers, in their response to his death, were apt to follow the politicians' lead, eliding his past and focussing on the fact that he had persevered in a power-sharing executive. Ian Paisley Jr. was on cue to consecrate McGuinness' legacy: "It's not how you start your life that is important, it's how you finish your life". Well, no, both ends of a life matter. It remains very regrettable that Martin McGuinness was so slow to embrace politics.

Paisley Jr.'s view, applied more broadly to legacy issues of the Troubles, bristles with problems because it misses an essential point about Martin McGuinness, one which Bob Geldof, for example, was at pains to highlight. Geldof saw in McGuinness' latter-day conversion "a model for why [non-violence] is always better. Always. Always better. You know, that talking and cooperation, fighting your corner with argument and debate". The weakness of being selective, and borderline amnesiac, in assessing McGuinness' legacy is that it downplays that important truth.

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Jewel Gleason 101!

On July 22, 2016, Jewel Gleason hit the magic number of 100 years young and she is fast approaching One Hundred and One!

As you can see, she thoroughly enjoyed herself surrounded by family and friends at her birthday party held two days after her birthday. She lives at the Heritage Brookdale in Des Plaines. Family in this photo are all from Co. Mayo. Also in attendance were numerous cousins, son Brian Gleason and his wife Linda, daughter Donna Hennessey, two grandchildren; Greg Gleason and wife Emily, Erin Groh and husband Alex, and six grandchildren including; Hannah, Logan, Kaleb Groh, and Mary Ann, Brian Junior, and Daniel Gleason

Pictured (l to r): Mary Alice O'Malley, Ann Moran, Jewel Gleason (birthday girl!), Kathleen Kelly, and Patsy O'Connor.

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Thus far 217 has been successful for the Irish Heritage Singers. March was a wild month. Everyone wants an Irish Choir in March. We sang in Skokie, in Arlington Heights, Palatine, Poplar Creek, and Des Plaines. We sang at the 20th Anniversary gala for Avenues to Independence, and we sang at the St. Patrick's Day Fest at the Center.

All of this happened within a two week time frame. We ended the concert marathon on March 17 with a resounding concert in Des Plaines. The audience gave us a standing ovation which always feels good. The people at The Skokie Theatre thanked us for bringing our glorious music to Skokie. I want to thank all of the venues that continue to bring us back year after year. We are very grateful for your loyalty.

I must tell you being St Patrick's Day the choir had a private room reserved at a local tap and we had an Irish good time.

March gave us a boost. Many of the organizations that have hired us in past years are strapped for funds. The lack of a state budget has cut their funding drastically. We are blessed with a very hard working Marketing Director, John Mahal who continues to work hard to find bookings for us. By the way, he also sings Bass in the choir.

Each time we perform someone comes up after the concert amazed at the diver-

sity of the music we sing. Even those who are Irish don't realize that Irish music isn't just pub songs. The Des Plaines audience loved the fact that we did two U2 pieces. We performed 3 of James Joyce's Chamber Music poems. People were blown away by these pieces. Our Director, Paul; Matijevic, is so skilled and works like a Trojan to create the programs that we perform. He has made the HIS something special.

Part of the fun is visiting with the people after the concert. At Luther Village a couple came up to me. The woman told me that they decided that they'd come and talk to me because I looked so Irish. They wanted to talk to a real Irish person; loved it! A lady asked if all of the handsome older men in the choir were married. You have to smile. Personally I think she had her eye on Bob Healy.

I always end each In Harmony by asking you to come and try out for the choir. It is such Irish fun. For many of us it brings back good family memories singing the old songs. For some it's their first experience with Irish culture. We love what we do and we enjoy each other. We rehearse on Thursday night at 7:30. Come a little early and gives us a try. You won't regret it. It's like the old song says, "If you're Irish come into the parlor. There's a welcome there for you".

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Careers



By James F. Fitzgerald, CPA



Everybody Can Be Successful, Right?

I am committed to the notion that God doesn't make any "junk" but once we take over our own care and feeding something happens and my commitment becomes somewhat iffy. Many of us simply don't do things that will enhance the likelihood

of our being successful. I don't mean the basics, like math for engineers, the science of marketing for advertisers or the inner workings of machines for a heating/air conditioning technician. Many of us fail to be successful because we don't handle the basic, non-technical stuff with the same gravity that we assign to the technical side of our jobs. Many of us don't even conduct ourselves as professionally as we should when interacting with our fellow workers and/or customers. Yet, some of these people will go through their entire careers, expecting that success is just around the corner.

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I recommend the following eight suggestions which may help you to be more successful in your job, whatever that is.

1. Don't waste time comparing yourself and your level of success with your friends, buddies, classmates, etc. We don't really know much about the advantages or disadvantages that other people have had. Obviously you know your own background so you should spend your time enhancing your own social and work skills and attitude. It is never too late to work on your own game.

1. Take good care of your overall self. Being in good shape will help provide you with the energy to go the extra mile for you and others. Our society emanates so many conflicting messages about how to get/stay in shape that you can get confused. I claim no medical expertise whatsoever, but as an observer I would suggest that you adopt a self-improvement program such as Peter McLaughlin addresses in his book "Mentally Tough". He focused on the need for energy, the right attitude and mental toughness. McLaughlin said having mental toughness was "the ability to control your emotional state in order to be focused, relaxed and confident in the workplace".

1. Decide who you wish to be. Ideally you will choose to be a happy and enthusiastic person. When you get up, talk to yourself about what a great day it is going to be. Self-talk is a great way to steel yourself for the challenges of your day. And try to not let the incidentals of life bring you down. There is the bumper sticker philosophy that STUFF HAPPENS, which is absolutely true. The more profound question though is how you deal with the STUFF. You can let it bring you down or seek to overcome and move past it. Don't spend any time feeling sorry for yourself; it doesn't help.

2. Be positive. You might be amazed how well people respond to upbeat individuals. For example, when a customer treats the barista who has been waiting on harried, distracted people at the local Starbucks with some courtesy and thoughtfulness it may lighten their load for hours. Surely you have seen examples of this effect; the same barista who was grumpy or grouchy a few minutes ago now feels appreciated.

Yes, help a handicapped person with a door. Assist the senior citizen who is trying to put those heavy groceries in their trunk. Tell the harassed parent that their child is beautiful or well behaved. They will appreciate your courtesy and you will like yourself even a bit more.

1. Be a diligent worker. Decide on how to see your work. Is it important stuff? Are you simply putting one brick on top of another or are you building a cathedral? You get to decide that. Studies validate the hard worker; they commonly produce "more." For example, in the insurance field, they say that 10% of the sales representatives sell about 90% of the insurance.

Have you ever encountered such a significant difference in the performance of your own colleagues?

1. Be brave and honest. Face down your fears; and master them. Researchers tell us that the overwhelming percentage of our fears never happen. Sometimes it would be easy to blame your fellow worker for your mistake; don't do it. Take responsibility for your actions. Such conduct can help fortify your own self esteem. Share your time and treasure with others. Easily said, of course, but not always so easily done. When in doubt, go the extra step; it might make a real difference.

1. Listen to and get to know your fellow workers. We all want to have our ideas heard and appreciated. Give the speaker your full attention. Let others know that you would be willing to help them with their problems, even if that simply means lending an ear. In brief, this admonition means that you treat everyone with respect.

1. Be punctual. Set aside enough extra time, because the world is a hectic place, so make allowances for unusually heavy traffic, weather or other conditions. But if it isn't enough you should know the other person's contact information so you can advise them of your delay. Communicating with them says that you know their time is valuable too.

Hopefully one or more of these suggestions will resonate with you. It may just be the list that will make you even more successful. Perhaps you will grant that it might be a good start.

As always, CARPE DIEM.

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION: "The challenge of leadership is to be strong, but not rude; be kind, but not weak; be bold, but not a bully; be thoughtful, but not lazy; be humble, but not timid; be proud, but not arrogant; have humor, but without folly." Jim Rohn, author and professional motivational speaker.

James F. Fitzgerald is president of James F. Fitzgerald & Associates, Inc., a Naperville, IL-based Senior Executive Coaching and Career Transition firm.

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Clutter Buster

By Rita Emmett

*Procrastinate
No More!*

Coming Out of the Closet

(Your Clutter, of Course)

Ask yourself "If I were shopping right now, would I buy this?" ~~

The Clutter-Busting Handbook

The expression "Less is More" never meant anything to me until I applied it to closets. When you have a closet so jam-packed that you can't slide a hanger even a quarter of an inch, doesn't it seem that you usually wear the same eight or nine outfits over and over?

But once you clear out that closet, and the contents have room to roam, and you can see everything in there, you can wear everything in that closet. It's as if you've been on a glorious shopping spree --- without spending a penny.

When you decide to attack your closet, here are simple but helpful tips:

- A very important concept to know before attacking your jam-packed closet regards mistakes. We are human, we all make mistakes. That outfit you bought six years ago that you never wore; you will never, ever wear it.

You made a mistake.

Admit it.

Get rid of it.

Move on

- Select one small area of the closet to clear (one section of clothes, the floor, or a shelf.

- Take everything out of that section.

- Sort clothes, accessories, everything into: keep (goes back in), toss (goes in trash), and donate or sell (in a container) or pack (don't get carried away with this one. Where ever you pack it away to, I'll be bugging you to clear that out soon.)

- Make your decisions now. If you don't wear it, get rid of it.

Do NOT make a "Decide later" stack.

- Ask:

- How often do I wear this?

- Does it still fit?

- Have my tastes changed?

- Do I like this and feel good when I wear it?

- Why am I keeping it?

- Don't decide to keep something just because you paid a fortune for it. Keep it only if you love it, it fits and looks great on you and it's not so out of style that people will laugh at you. (If you have a teen-ager, don't worry. They don't count in this situation. They laugh at everything you wear.)

- Store similar clothes together: dressy, casual & work clothes Or color code them.

Not only does this help you find what you want, but it might help you to decide NOT to buy that 18th pair of black slacks.

- If your shoes are jumbled all over and you are constantly searching for mates:

- get rid of the ones you never wear and organize the rest with a system of either boxes or by making or buying a shoe organizer.

- Memento clothes should be a few special things, not everything you ever wore in your

entire life but never wear now. Pack away mementos. Don't use up valuable closet space unless you are one of the rare people who has an abundance of closets.

- Resist impulse buying. When shopping think about your wardrobe - your colors, what you need, what goes together, do you already have 17 pairs of black slacks?

- Store off-season clothes in suitcases shoved under the bed.

- If boxes or anything else are blocking the way to a closet, blaze a path through to the closet so you can start using it regularly.

- Repair the closet door. You're not likely to use a closet if you can't get to it or open the door easily.

- Store "Shelf Items" in see-through plastic boxes so you can see what's inside.

- For kids closets, make sure they can reach to use things. Hang a low bar for the clothes they wear frequently, and put the off-season or dressy clothes up on the high bar.

- Want more ideas? Read the "Closet chapter" in The Clutter-Busting Handbook for more help.

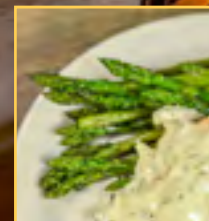
HAPPY CLUTTER-BUSTING
Rita Emmett is a "Recovered Pack Rat", Professional Speaker, and author of The Clutter-Busting Handbook,

To subscribe to her free monthly "Anticrastination Tip Sheet", go to her website www.RitaEmmett.com 847-699-9950 or

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It Starts With A Song

By Joe McShane



Hello Everyone,

Here comes another summer and May is always an active month, with First Communions, Mother's Day, Memorial Weekend etc. I'm delighted that my son Declan and I will be performing at the Gaelic Park Festival again this year. We will be in the Tara room on the Saturday at 5:30pm and also back in the Tara room on the Monday at 6:30pm. I remember Declan saying to me about five years ago "Am I better at music than you Dad?" HaHa, I said "Declan I want you to be better than me". Now at fourteen years old he knows three times as much, at least, as I did at his age. And it all started when he was about two years old. I devised a plan to hopefully help him. I could already see that he was rocking to the rhythm, as do all children actually. My plan - when he was in the child's seat in the back of my van, I gave him a harmonica in the key of D. I then put 'Galway Girl' on a CD (also in D) and just let it keep playing. He wrestled with it, sucking and blowing and this was just an experiment by the way. As time went by, I could hear the tune starting to sound like Sharon Shannon was playing. Within about three months approx, he had nailed the

tune down note for note. I think we underestimate the workings of a child's mind. I mention this in case it would help someone to introduce their child to music. Bottom line is my experiment worked.

I'm delighted to be bringing out an Irish CD titled 'Window To Old Ireland' which is the title track and I will be launching it at The Corrib on Elston Ave on Saturday June 3rd. It's been a long time since I recorded a folk album, so I'm really happy to be getting back to my roots. I enjoy singing all kinds of music but I have to say, I'm really a folk singer if I had to put a genre on it.

I have to say a big thank you to Nathan Carter for the lovely mention on 'The Late, Late, Show' (Easter weekend) about writing the song 'On The Boat To Liverpool' with him and Margo. Begod I felt like a super star. I've been on support shows with Nathan and we have also written quite a lot of songs together, he is one very pleasant and charismatic young man and I'm really happy for his success. Long may it continue.

I thought it would be nice to put the title track of the new CD as song of the month. It's a song that was written with my dear friend Jordan Moge. Jordan was telling me the other day we must have written well over a hundred songs together over the last while. Just about every time we make contact, it ends up with a song. Anyway we were talking about how looking at old photos really makes you get lost in a trip through your imagination. Photos of Grandparents and the wonderment about how life was for

them. All I knew was that my Grandparents were very giving people and I felt very loved by them. But also coming to realize as I got older that they most definitely grew up very poor people, in a very different Ireland. I can always get to a place with Jordan where we go deep and a song is born. So I hope you like the song 'Window To Old Ireland' written by two guys on a modern day Facebook message system. Times have really changed...

Happy Mother's Day! and Memorial Day!

As always be good to one another,

Joe

'Window To Old Ireland'

© Copyright 2016 Joe McShane

© Copyright 2016 Jordan Moge

Verse 1

This old black and white photograph
with a tinge of brown and grey
Dated 1897 it seems so far away

Your old cap has been handed
down it now belongs to me

I can almost feel your presence
as it sits upon my knee

Verse 2

I often wander back again to the
old home down the lane

Although it's weathered all these
years somehow it's still the same

I hear the laughter and the tears
echo through those stoney walls

It's funny how the tales of old help you to recall
Chorus

I'm looking through the window to old Ireland
I'm clinging to this photo, a memory in my hand

Of a little old thatched cottage
I hope forever stands

I'm looking through the window to old Ireland
Verse 3

I see the kettle on the hob, I smell the soda bread
Standing in the kitchen your

old cap upon my head

Trying to imagine how it was so long ago

You and Granny by the fire-side
your faces all aglow

Chorus

I'm looking through the window to old Ireland
I'm clinging to this photo, a memory in my hand

Of a little old thatched cottage
I hope forever stands

I'm looking through the window to old Ireland
(Bridge)

They say oak trees oak branches
and I really hope that's true

All my life my only prayer is to be as good as you
Chorus

I'm looking through the window to old Ireland
I'm clinging to this photo, a memory in my hand

Of a little old thatched cottage I hope forever
stands

I'm looking through the window to old Ireland

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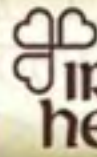
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UPCOMING PROGRAMS



Cillian Vallely and Kevin Crawford Concert, Friday, May 5, 8pm

Salon Concerts Chicago presents Cillian Vallely, gifted uilleann piper and low whistle player and virtuoso flute player, Kevin Crawford; both members of Lúnasa.

\$25 adults, children 18 and under free



Paints and Pints, Friday, May 12, 7pm

Aspiring artists can create their masterpiece while enjoying a pint. It's a perfect gift for Mother's Day! **\$45 for members, \$50 for non-members**



Tea with Florence Nightingale, Saturday, May 13, 11am

Have tea with the Lady with the Lamp; Florence Nightingale, at another in our Saturday Morning Tea Series. **Adults \$25, Children 12 and under \$8**



Ancient Order of Hibernians Division #32 and IAHC Joint Golf Outing Friday, May 19, 12:30pm, dinner and awards presentation, 5pm

Enjoy a day on the links at the beautiful Edgebrook Golf Course.

\$100 per person for the Golf Experience, \$40 for dinner only



Quiz Night, Friday, May 19, 8pm

Show your smarts at one of Chicago's longest-running trivia contests. **\$30 per team**



Down By the Salley Gardens Choral Concert, Saturday, June 3, 4:30pm

The Wicker Park Choral Singers present a concert of Irish choral music and a post-show reception with sing-alongs. **\$15**



Byrne and Kelly, Friday, June 9, 8pm

Driven by vocal harmonies, the duo seamlessly blends traditional Irish and Americana to create a fresh, Celtic folk sound. **\$35**



Irish American Hall of Fame Gala, Saturday, June 10, 6:30pm

Celebrate the 2017 class of inductees in the fields of Arts & Humanities, Business & Industry, Public Service, Sports, Religion, Education and Science. **\$150-200**

SEE PULL OUT SECTION IN THIS ISSUE

UPCOMING CONCERTS

SALON CONCERTS CHICAGO PRESENTS

**KEVIN CRAWFORD
AND CILLIAN VALLELY**

Gifted uilleann piper and low whistle player Cillian Vallely and virtuoso flute player Kevin Crawford, both of Lúnasa, bring their unique sound to the Center.

Local pipes and fiddle duet, Patrick and Karen Cannady open the concert.

Friday, May 5, 2017 • 8pm

BYRNE and KELLY

IN CONCERT

Driven by vocal harmonies, the duo seamlessly blends traditional Irish and Americana to create a fresh, Celtic folk sound.

FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 2017 • 8pm

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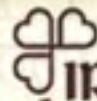
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May 2017

5/5	Francis O'Neill Ceili Mor Cillian Vallely and Kevin Crawford Salon Concert Shamrock American Club Social	Fifth Province Room 109 Sham Am Room	8pm 8pm 8pm
5/7	Galway Fellowship Club Luncheon	Erin Room	1pm
5/12	Paints and Pints	Fifth Province	7pm
5/13	Tea with Florence Nightingale St. Patrick Fathers Social	Erin Room Room 109	11am 8pm
5/16	Celtic Women International Meeting	Room 304	7pm
5/17	Tara Club Senior Meeting	Room 304	10am
5/19	Quiz Night Shamrock American Club Meeting	Room 109 Sham Am Room	8pm 8pm
5/21	Library Great Books Club <i>Mrs. Engels</i> by Gavin McCreia	Library	1pm
5/28	Genealogy Workshop	Library	1pm
5/29	Memorial Day	CLOSED	

Regularly Scheduled Events

Mon-Fri	Gift Shop	First Floor Lobby	4pm-8pm
Tues	Nimble Thimbles Celtic Art Class (through 5/16) Set Dancing	Room 208 Library Room 111	9am-Noon 7pm 7:30-9:30pm
Wed	Traditional Irish Music Session Na Gaeil Irish Language Class Nimble Thimbles Watercolor Class	Room 311 Library Room 208 Room 309	7pm 7pm 7-10pm 7pm
Thurs	Taping of the Craic Radio Show Thursday Night Irish Music Session Irish Heritage Singers Rehearsal	Fifth Province Fifth Province Room 306	6:30pm 7pm 7pm
Fri	Francis O'Neill Club Ceili	Room 111	8pm
Sat	Gift Shop Na Gaeil Irish Language Class	First Floor Lobby Library	10am-8pm 11am

Library Hours:

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

Annual Appeal

The IAHC Annual Appeal wrapped up a successful campaign in April and raised \$64,174 from our members and friends. Contributions to the Appeal were matched by Pat and Peggy Burke. We thank them, and you, for your continued support.

We had one donation in April from

Joseph Malinowski at the Friend level.

Contributions to the Appeal can be made throughout the year by visiting www.irish-american.org, calling the Center at 773-282-7035, ext 10 or by dropping by our office.

Thank you to all who contributed to the campaign.

The Heritage Line Staff Kathleen O'Neill, Editor

Contributors: Meg Buchanan, Theresa Choske, Gene Cooney, Laura Coyle, Ellen Folan, Catherine Kelly, Sheila Murphy, Becky Tatz, Tim Taylor

President's Message

I'll never forget the first time I walked into the Center back in the mid 1980's. I was training to be a Chicago Firefighter and was training in the building. They taught us how to climb ladders, carry dummies up flights of stairs, and how hose A and hose B should be properly nozzled. At the session, I bumped into a dust-covered Ambrose Kelly. I warned him to exit the building before it caved in. He told me it was the new home of the Irish American Heritage Center and that it was rebuilt and perfected by an army of volunteer tradesmen from the Irish community. Ambrose never asked me to volunteer, but before I left, it was expected that I would show up, ready to work on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. I told him I acquired no skill or trade, so he introduced me to a couple of nice brooms and shovels with my name on them.

And so I met some of the greatest men and women who shed blood, sweat and tears into the cement and paint that reconstructed the building in the Center's early days. Like a colony of ants they stretched up ladders, patched up holes and painted over them. They rewired the electric, re-piped



the plumbing, re-roofed the lid and prepared lunch to feed everyone who helped. This has been the norm for more than thirty years at the Center so that within these walls a younger Irish generation could learn the precious cultures of Ireland. The tapping of Irish shoes,

echoes of Irish music and laughter of Irish fellowship has filled the halls ever since.

Unfortunately our army of volunteers has been reduced to a squad. Many valuable volunteers have passed away and our squad has aged, but they continue to lend a hand. It has been the backbone of the Center and we could not have survived without the help we receive all year long.

So, like Mr. Kelly did to me three decades ago, I am going to try and persuade and convince our younger members to get involved here. There is a broom with your name on it. Our volunteer coordinator is Marty McDonagh and he can be reached at info@irishahc.org or by leaving a message at 773-282-7035, ext. 10.

Eugene M. Cooney
President

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IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

MAY ENTERTAINMENT

5/5	Francis O'Neill Ceili Mor
5/6	Finbarr Fagan's Band
5/12	Cirrus Falcon
5/13	St. Patrick Fathers
5/19	Mulligan Stew
5/20	Kieran Byrne
5/26	Chicago Irish Band
5/27	Joe McShane



Thursday Night Irish Music Sessions: May 4, 11, 18 and 25; 7pm

4626 N. Knox Ave., Chicago, IL 60630 • 773-282-7035



From the Motherland

By Sean Farrell

Polish ANIA is Alive and Living in Ashbourne

April 24 2016 was the centenary, to the day, of the Easter Rising. It was also Census Day, the detailed results of which are beginning to emerge (a snapshot already one year old). Whatever Pearse and his colleagues may have imagined a century on, it can scarcely have been that Polish would be vying with Irish as the second most common language spoken on the island or that sizeable numbers would be speaking French, Lithuanian, Romanian and Russian, at home.

Readers might recall my column of September 2015, which mentioned "Ashbourne Annie," a fictional housewife and mother, dreamed up by Labour Party strategists in a desperate – and unavailing – last throw to head-off electoral disaster. The hope was that by pointing up some



of the modest pre-election goodies handed out by the Coalition in its death throes, and which on

paper benefitted the likes of Annie, Labour's, and the Coalition's, flagging electoral prospects might get a boost. It didn't happen. The Coalition was decimated in the subsequent election, and Labour all but wiped out.

Several days after publication of the first detailed report on the Census I visited Ashbourne, a pleasant dormitory town close to Dublin, and am happy to report that signs of economic recovery are now plentiful – too late for Labour. Shopping in one of the town's main supermarkets brought home one of the report's revelations. It was school holidays and shoppers included a number of families. Most of the children were speaking Polish or Lithuanian. Not a generalised or representative example, true - Ashbourne is within the Dublin commuter belt, and has consequently a relatively high non-Irish population - but indicative of the changing face of Ireland.

The Census is interesting in a number of respects. The population of the Twenty Six Counties is now 4,761,865, up 173,613 or 3.8% since 2011 (but still far behind the pre-Famine figure of 6.5 million), though the rate of increase is slowing. The natural increase (births over deaths) was actually 196,100, indicating that emigration continues to be a factor. The "greying" trend continues with the over 65s up 20% to 647,567, 13.6% of the total. Deaths actually increased by 7,200 while births fell sharply by 22,800. The average age of the population is up by 1.3 years to 37.4 years. Interestingly, the average

age of the non-Irish has increased by 2.5 years to 35.4 years, almost double that of the population as a whole, and, indeed the average age of Poles has increased by 3.5 years, from 27.9 to 31.4 years. For which read that many of the wave of young immigrants who arrived after 2004 to work during the Celtic Tiger years have put down roots and are now that much older.

The actual number of non-Nationals is virtually unchanged at 535,475, though this of course masks the many actual changes that have taken place. People have gone home, people have arrived, often from different countries and many have acquired dual nationality (up almost 50% to 104,784). The document estimates that 94,000 have acquired Irish citizenship since 2011, many in highly publicised public ceremonies. Apart from the British, the Poles and Lithuanians remain the largest national minorities, virtually unchanged at 122,515 and 36,552 respectively. The biggest increases have been among Romanians, up 69% to 29,186, Brazilians, up by over half to 13,640, and Spanish, up 78% to 12,112. The numbers of Pakistanis have also increased by over 50% to 12,891, while the most dramatic increase has been from the EU's newest member, Croatia, which has seen Croatian numbers increase fivefold to 5,202. 69% of non-Nationals come from ten countries with the next ten accounting for a further 14%.

Inward migration has recommenced, edging towards Celtic Tiger levels, with 82,346 arriving in the year to April 2016. Of these 28,143 were Irish nationals, with the largest contingents of non-Nationals arriving from Britain (7,506) Brazil (4,848) and Poland (3,689). With the economy continuing to expand there is little doubt that strong inward migration will continue. What is not clear is what effect Brexit, however it turns out, will have. Will there be a flood of new arrivals, seeking to enter Britain clandestinely across the Border, or will there be a flow of non-British nationals forced out? It's widely believed that a surge in asylum applicants from Pakistan and Bangladesh in 2015 followed denials to reside by the UK authorities. Whatever happens there are likely to be profound implications for future inward migration.

There are already significant developments in the languages spoken in the home. Here no fewer than 135,895 people speak Polish at home, 27,197 of whom were born here. Next up is French, spoken in the home by 54,948 (again, 36,810 born here) with Romanian (36,683) Lithuanian (35,362) and Spanish (32, 405) next in

line. 20, 833 speak Portuguese, reflecting chiefly the Brazilian newcomers. Arabic is spoken by 16,072, of whom 4071 were born here. All told 612,018 people speak languages other than Irish or English at home.

The language statistics have sent shockwaves through Irish language supporters. While 1,761,420 answered "Yes" to the question "Do you speak Irish?" 30% of those aged 10-19 answered "No" and only 73,803 said they spoke it daily outside the education system. One pie chart shows 69.7% of those three and over who "can't speak or won't speak Irish." The manifest failure of successive governments to revive the first national language has been cruelly exposed by the figures for languages spoken in the home. The Irish language, part of Irish culture, remains an object of affection and endearment to a high proportion of Irish people, but few seem exercised enough to do anything about it. The blunt truth is that English, in which the Irish excel, is such a superb vehicle for communication and enjoys widespread use and acclaim throughout the first world that few among the Irish direct more than a token genuflection towards the native tongue.

The census findings on religion, with the Report itself highlighting a 29% increase in the Muslim population here and that almost 10% of the population have "no religion" also prompted attention. Census Question 12 asked simply "What is your religion", giving seven choices, including "No Religion." The number declaring themselves as Muslim is now 63,400, less than 1.5% of the population. The number (and percentage) of Orthodox Christians is approximately the same, having risen at a faster rate, 37.5%, over the period. The number of Catholics, at 3,729,100, represents 78.3% of the total population, down by 3.4% since 2011.

Elsewhere the secular lobby have been crowing, citing the 10% "no religion" figure as further evidence of the decline in the Catholic Church's influence. Certainly the number declaring "no religion" is up, by 73.6% from 269,800 to 468,400, and a further 125,300 left the boxes blank. And there has been a dramatic fall in Church attendance in the last decades. Whether any definitive conclusions can be drawn is less clear. It could be argued, indeed, that, given the scandals and revelations which have rocked the Church since the highpoint of the 1979 Papal visit, what is surprising is that almost 80% still declare themselves Catholic. Irish Catholicism may be in decline, but it's a slow process.

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2017
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SATURDAY
JUNE 10, 2017

Arts & Humanities:
WILLIAM J. 'BILL' MURRAY
MARTIN SHEEN

Business & Industry:
JOHN FITZPATRICK

Education:
LAWRENCE J. MCCAFFREY, PH.D.

Public Service:
AUDIE LEON MURPHY

Sports:
MAUREEN "LITTLE MO" CONNOLLY

Religion:
FR. MYCHAL JUDGE

Science:
MARK KELLY, NASA ASTRONAUT,
CAPTAIN, U.S. NAVY, RET.

SCOTT KELLY, NASA ASTRONAUT,
CAPTAIN, U.S. NAVY, RET.

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OUR MISSION:

The mission of the *Irish American Hall of Fame* is to recognize and honor the outstanding contributions of Irish Americans to society in the areas of Arts & Humanities, Business & Industry, Public Service, Sports, Religion, Education and Science.

The *Irish American Hall of Fame* pays tribute to exemplary Americans of Irish heritage who have truly shaped the Irish American identity in the United States.

OUR VISION:

The *Irish American Hall of Fame* preserves and promotes the “story” of Irish culture by recognizing the contributions of individuals to the Irish American experience. Telling their story preserves our story. The *Irish American Hall of Fame*, a place where the shared story of the Irish in America will then be available to all with an interest in the bond between Ireland and America.

ABOUT US:

The purpose of the *Irish American Hall of Fame* is to preserve the “story” of the Irish in America, thus becoming a resource for all Americans or those interested in the development and history of America including, but not limited to, academic researchers, teachers and students of Irish and American history at all levels, those interested in genealogy, cultural historians and the general public. The *Irish American Hall of Fame* is national in scope operated under the auspices of the Irish American Heritage Center, a 501(c)(3), non-profit organization.

NOMINATION & SELECTION:

Founded in 2010, the *Irish American Hall of Fame* accepts nominations from July through September each year. More than 500 nominations have been received from individuals in more than 30 states, Ireland and across the globe.

The Hall of Fame Governing Committee along with The Screening Committee is comprised of esteemed individuals from the Irish American community from across the country including university professors, representatives from Irish organizations, publishers and business professionals. Nominations are vetted and reviewed and a select slate of candidates is put forth in an election each year. The 100+ member voting body of distinguished individuals from business, media, academia and government as well as Irish organizations throughout the United States elect the inductees in January.

This evening, we introduce you to the nine esteemed members of the Class of 2017. We applaud their talents, courage, integrity and ingenuity as they become the newest inductees into the *Irish American Hall of Fame*!



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COCKTAIL RECEPTION: 6:30 - 7:30 pm

DINNER AND PROGRAM: 7:30 - 10:30 pm

INDUCTION CEREMONY

ARTS & HUMANITIES:

William J. “Bill” Murray
Martin Sheen

BUSINESS & INDUSTRY:

John Fitzpatrick

PUBLIC SERVICE:

Audie Leon Murphy

SPORTS:

Maureen “Little Mo” Connolly

RELIGION:

Father Mychal Judge

EDUCATION:

Lawrence J. McCaffrey, Ph.D.

SCIENCE:

Mark Kelly
Scott Kelly

HOMETOWN HERO:

The Flood Brothers

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INTRODUCING THE 2017 IRISH AMERICAN HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

ARTS & HUMANITIES



MARTIN SHEEN

Ramón Antonio Gerardo Estévez (born August 3, 1940), better known by his stage name **Martin Sheen**, is an American actor who achieved fame with roles in the films *Badlands* (1973), *Apocalypse Now* (1979), *The Departed* (2006), and *The Amazing Spider-Man* (2012). He also starred on television as President Josiah Bartlet in *The West Wing* (1999–2006.) Sheen was born in Dayton, Ohio, the son of Mary-Ann (née Phelan) and Francisco Estévez Martinez. Both of Sheen's parents were immigrants, his father from Parderrubias, Galicia, Spain; and his mother from Borrisokane, County Tipperary, Ireland. It is alleged that he adopted his stage name, Martin Sheen, from a combination of the CBS casting director, Robert Dale Martin, who gave him his first big break, and the televangelist archbishop, Fulton J. Sheen. A lifelong advocate of social justice, Sheen was awarded the Laetare Medal, the highest honor bestowed on American Catholics, from the University of Notre Dame; he received an honorary degree of Doctor of Letters, honoris causa for his work on social and Catholic issues from Marquette University, and in 2011 he was awarded an honorary life membership in the Law Society of University College Dublin.



WILLIAM JAMES "BILL" MURRAY

William James "Bill" Murray (born September 21, 1950) was born and raised in Wilmette, Illinois. He is the fifth of nine children born to Lucille (née Collins) and Edward Joseph Murray II. Murray got his start at *The Second City* in Chicago and in 1974 he moved to New York City and was recruited by John Belushi as a featured player on *The National Lampoon Radio Hour* along with Dan Ayroyd, and Gilda Radner. He was a member of the cast of *Saturday Night Live* from 1977-1980, for which he earned an Emmy Award. Murray later went on to star in comedy films including *Meatballs* (1979), *Caddyshack* (1980), *Stripes* (1981), *Ghostbusters* (1984), *What About Bob?* (1991), and *Groundhog Day* (1993). Murray garnered additional critical acclaim later in his career, starring in many other films, including *Rushmore* (1998) and *Lost in Translation* (2003), which earned him an Academy Award nomination for Best Actor. Beginning with his roots at Second City, then later on Saturday Night Live, he was part of a group of pioneers who ushered in a new, frenetic type of sketch comedy fueled by improvisation.

Inductees Bios continued on page 6

Visit www.iahof.org for more information on the inductees

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BUSINESS & INDUSTRY

JOHN FITZPATRICK

John Fitzpatrick is the president of the Fitzpatrick Hotel Group, North America, which owns and operates boutique hotels in Manhattan. He attended the prestigious hotel management course at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and after honing his skills with two major hotel organizations in Chicago, Fitzpatrick returned to Ireland to work at family hotels in Dublin and Bunratty. He opened his first New York hotel in 1991. Fitzpatrick is currently the Chairman, The Ireland Funds America. He is the recipient of the prestigious Ellis Island Medal of Honor and was recognized for his contributions to the peace process in Northern Ireland by being invested with an honorary OBE by Her Majesty the Queen. In 2011, Fitzpatrick was the recipient of an honorary Doctorate of Science and Economics from Queen's University in Belfast. He was born in Dublin, was educated in the United States and moved to the U.S. permanently in 1991. He became a U.S. citizen in approximately 2006.



PUBLIC SERVICE

AUDIE LEON MURPHY

Audie Leon Murphy (June 20, 1925 – May 28, 1971) was born to sharecroppers near the community of Kingston in Hunt County, Texas. His parents, Emmett Barry Murphy and Jose Bell (née Killian), were of Irish descent. After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Murphy rushed to a military recruiting station. After initially being turned down for service due to his size (5' 5", 110 lbs), Murphy became the most decorated American soldier of World War II. He received the Medal of Honor, the U.S. military's highest award for valor, along with 32 additional U.S. and foreign medals and citations, including five from France and one from Belgium. *LIFE* magazine honored Murphy by putting him on the cover of its July 16, 1945 issue. That photograph inspired actor James Cagney to call Murphy and invite him to Hollywood to begin an acting career. Murphy's successful movie career included *To Hell and Back* (1955), based on his autobiography of the same title (1949). He starred in 39 Hollywood films. He died in a plane crash in 1971 and was interred, with full military honors, in Arlington National Cemetery. He married former airline stewardess Pamela Archer in 1951 and had two children, Terrance Michael "Terry" Murphy (born 1952) and James Shannon "Skipper" Murphy (born 1954).



SPORTS

MAUREEN CATHERINE CONNOLLY

Maureen Catherine Connolly (September 17, 1934 – June 21, 1969), known as "Little Mo", was an American tennis player. Her tennis career began at the age of 10 and at age 14, she won 56 consecutive matches and the following year became the youngest ever to win the U.S. national championship for girls 18 and under. In 1951, she won the U.S. Championships, and at just 16 years old she was the youngest ever to win America's most prestigious tennis tournament. Connolly successfully defended her U.S. title and won Wimbledon in 1952. For the 1953 season, she entered all four Grand Slam tournaments: the Australian Open, the French Open, Wimbledon, and the U.S. Open. Winning all four titles, she became the first woman, and only the second person, to win the world's four major tournaments in the same year, commonly known as the "Grand Slam." On July 20, 1954, she was involved in a horseback riding accident which crushed her right leg, ending her tennis career at age 19. In June 1955, Connolly married Norman Brinker; they had two daughters, Cindy and Brenda. She co-founded the Maureen Connolly Brinker Tennis Foundation to promote junior tennis, which is one of the largest private junior tennis foundations of its kind in the world. In 1966 Connolly Brinker was diagnosed with ovarian cancer, from which she died at age 34 in Dallas, Texas on June 21, 1969.

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Inductees Bios continued on page 8



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MAUREEN "LITTLE MO" CONNOLLY
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Maureen's Irish heritage impacted the strength, determination and kindness that helped her master the skill of living in just 34 years.

The proud Brinker family congratulates our inspirational mother and grandmother on this distinguished honor by the Irish American Hall of Fame. We salute all the 2017 inductees who, like Maureen, influenced their world. She would be absolutely thrilled and humbled by this tremendous tribute!

We love you Mom and "Grandma Mo"!

Cindy and William Simmons
Brenda, Connor and Connolly Bottum
...and Dad (smiling from heaven!)

RELIGION

FR. MYCHAL JUDGE

Fr. Mychal Judge (May 11, 1933 – September 11, 2001) was a chaplain for the NYC Fire Department who gave his life during the 9/11 attacks. Robert Emmet (Mychal) Judge was the son of Irish Catholic immigrants from County Leitrim and grew up in Brooklyn, N.Y. during the Great Depression. In 1948, at the age of 15, Judge began the formation process to enter the Franciscan community. He completed his training and was ordained a Franciscan priest in 1961. Upon entering the Order of Friars Minor, he took the religious name of Michael, later changing the spelling to Mychal. In 1986, he was assigned to the monastery of St Francis of Assisi Church on West 31st Street, New York, where he lived and worked until his death in 2001. In 1992, Father Judge was appointed chaplain of the Fire Department of New York. Upon hearing the news that the World Trade Center had been hit, Father Judge rushed to the site. Judge administered the Last Rites to some lying on the streets, then entered the lobby of the World Trade Center North Tower. When the South Tower collapsed at 9:59 am, debris went flying through the North Tower lobby, killing many inside, including Fr. Judge. He is listed as the first recorded casualty of the 9/11 attacks. Judge was well known in the city for ministering to the homeless, the hungry, recovering alcoholics, people with AIDS, the sick, injured, and grieving, immigrants, gay and lesbian individuals and those alienated by the Church and society.



EDUCATION

LAWRENCE J. MCCAFFREY

Lawrence J. McCaffrey is Professor Emeritus of History from Loyola University Chicago. His work includes an extraordinary production of writings, books, articles, short essays and reviews about Irish and Irish American history. In 1976, he co-founded the American Conference on Irish Studies, a professional organization of academics with members from different countries. He received his B.A. from St. Ambrose College, Davenport, Iowa, his M.A. from Indiana University and his Ph.D. from the University of Iowa. He received an Honorary Doctor of Literature from the National University of Ireland, Dublin in 1987. Professor McCaffrey's publications enlightened not only the Irish in America but also the Irish in Ireland as to the contribution of Irish America to American history. Born in Chicago to a father from County Cavan, McCaffrey has given his life's work to the study of the Irish experience in America. He is a pioneering social historian of the journey of Irish American Catholics from their beginnings as an unskilled impoverished minority to the current status as an affluent, powerful and highly regarded group in American society. He is the author of numerous books and articles including *The Irish in Chicago*, *Textures of Irish America* and *Ireland: From Colony to Nation State*. And since its publication in 1976, *The Irish Catholic Diaspora in America* has become the standard college and university text on the Irish-American story.



Visit www.iahof.org
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Inductees Bios continued on page 10

Saturday, June 10, 2017: The Irish American Hall of Fame of Fame Gala!

Congratulations to the 2017 Honorees



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The Committee of the Irish American Hall of Fame would like to offer their condolences to the families whose loved ones have passed on

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SCIENCE

MARK AND SCOTT KELLY

Mark and Scott Kelly were born in Orange, New Jersey on February 21, 1964 and are the sons of Richard and Patricia Kelly, two retired police officers. They were raised in West Orange, New Jersey and graduated from Mountain High School in 1982. The Kelly brothers are the only twins and only siblings to have both traveled in space. They most recently participated in **NASA's Twins Study** to determine how a year in space affects the human body. The Twins Study is comparing data from before, during and after astronaut Scott Kelly's one year mission in space with those of his identical twin brother, retired astronaut Mark, back on Earth.



Mark Edward Kelly is a retired American astronaut, a U.S. Navy captain and a naval aviator who flew combat missions during the Gulf War. He was selected to become a NASA space shuttle pilot in 1996 and flew his first mission in 2001 as pilot of STS-108. He received a B.S. degree in marine engineering and nautical science from the United States Merchant Marine Academy graduating with highest honors in 1986. In 1994, he received an M.S. degree in aeronautical engineering from the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School. Mark Kelly retired in October 2011. Kelly is married to former U.S. Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords.



Scott Joseph Kelly is a retired American astronaut, engineer and a U.S. Navy Captain. A veteran of three previous missions, Kelly was selected in November 2012 for a special year-long mission to the International Space Station, which began in March 2015. He returned to Earth on March 1, 2016. Kelly received his commission via the Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC) following graduation from the State University of New York Maritime College in May 1987 where he received a B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering. He also holds a M.S. degree in Aviation Systems from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. He was designated a Naval Aviator in July 1989. Kelly retired in April 2016.

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Flood Brothers celebrates and encourages community involvement, investment and volunteerism. Their corporate giving and employee involvement support foundations, organizations and events that promote green initiatives and make a positive difference in the communities in which they serve. They support many non-profit academic, religious and social services organizations and their generosity is widely evident in the Irish community of Chicago as they have supported such organizations as the Irish American Heritage Center, Irish Fellowship Club of Chicago and others for many years.



MASTER OF CEREMONIES

BRIAN NOONAN, HOST, WGN RADIO

Brian Noonan is an experienced media professional, successful public communicator and blog/comedy/copywriter. He has developed and maintained various social media outlets in support of his employer's and his own brands.

Noonan is host of WGN Radio's *The Brian Noonan Show*, Creative Director for TurboTitleLoan.com and is a stand-up comic. He is a member of the Screen Actors Guild (SAG) and the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (AFTRA) and a Board Member for the Children's Neuroblastoma Cancer Foundation. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Radio and Television from Southern Illinois University. Noonan is currently starring as Vinnie Black in the hit show, *Tony and Tina's Wedding*.



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LOOK OF THE LASS



Country Club on go on April 8th. y Kerry Group, food ingredient e is an account urch center based o relocated to the as chosen from among 15 contestants, who were each accompanied by an escort, including two athletes from the Special Olympics. Daly will compete in the International Rose of Tralee Festival from August 16-22 in County Kerry, Ireland – where her sponsor was founded. Her parents met

at the festival, which is described as an event that brings young women of Irish descent from all around the world for a global celebration of Irish culture. The festival also includes street entertainment, carnivals, live concerts, theatre, a circus, markets, fireworks and Rose parades and ends with a two-night televised event that is watched by millions each year to see who is crowned as the International Rose of Tralee. Daly is leaving just days after being crowned the Chicago Rose back to Ireland to spend her Easter Holiday and the town is already planning a huge celebration when she arrives. She phoned her mother just minutes after she won, it was five in the morning in Ireland. Teresa said her mother was over joyed and in tears when she heard the wonderful news.

A New Rose Crowned

By *Mary Kay Marmo*
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In Which Mr. Hickey is Hooked Through His Gills and Boated Most Smartly

*How I love to muse on the days of my boyhood,
Though four score and three years have fled by since then.
Still it gives sweet reflection, as every young joy should,
For the merry-hearted boys make the best of old men. The Bard of Armagh
I'd say, we suffer and we strive
Not less nor more as men than boys;
With grizzled beards at forty-five,
As erst at twelve, in corduroys.
And if, in time of sacred youth,
We learned at home to love and pray,
Pray Heaven, that early Love and Truth
May never wholly pass away.*

Wm. Makepeace Thackeray

Boys are joys. The old Irish song, the Bard of Armagh, ends a stanza with "For the merry-hearted boys make the best of old men." Who cannot but agree. I remain at heart a lad of thirteen summers, which can still get me into trouble at the hoary age of three score and almost five.

Teaching has helped me to retain the juvenile impulses and chip away at decades of of plastered vanities. Teaching at all-male high schools is like taking a jack-hammer to my more Sakrete patches of false pride,

Despite my four decades in education,

I know only this – I will be challenged in the classroom. With Google, Facebook and Smartchat at their fingertips, teen-aged boys armed with lap-top computers, smart-phones, e-tablets and the allied gizmos marketed, developed and placed for purchase by the 140 + Plus I.Q.s inhabiting the arrested development souls of Silicon Valley dweebs, my 36 times five periods a day of young Catholic manhood, remain ignorant of

- The Rape of Nanking
- The Memorare
- Thomas A Kempis' Imitation of



pH Factor

By Pat Hickey



Christ

• Thomas Wolfe's Look Homeward Angel

• John Dryden's Absalom & Achitophel
• Detroit Tiger First Baseman George Moriarty – who was the only man feared by Ty Cobb

• The Black Eagle of Harlem

• Ralph Ellison

• Joseph Conrad

• James Joyce

• Errol Garner's Concert by the Sea

• Alcibiades and Davy Crockett

• Edward Everett Hale's "The Man Without a Country"

• John Jay – why did he not get a musical?

• Pope Leo XIII's Rerum Novarum

• John Joyce, the Chicago Knights of Labor and the Meat Packers

• Chief Francis O'Neill

• Michael Cassius McDonald

• The Invasions of Canada by Clan Na Gael and monument to Fenians at Mount Olivet

• Boxers Packy McFarland and Herman Mills

• The Nicholas Brothers

• Paul Robeson

My role is to broaden their frames of reference, introduce them to universal truths, and direct their attentions to what is valuable and away from what is venial.

I do pretty much OK. Some days better than others; some days . . . if I fell down they'd kick me to death.

Most days, I feel that I learn more than I teach. They crack me up, They are pure kegs of testosterone, nervous energy and panoramic greed. Everything they see – gotta have.

One day last month, the day of the Advanced Placement qualification tests, my first period Theology 3 – Social Justice class was uncharacteristically empty. In fact, twenty four of my 36 were absent.

I wondered aloud, but did not examine the population.

One of my students, a redheaded Rugby-playing endomorph with a Gentleman's C average, explained things – "Coach, haven't you heard? The smart guys are out on protest. They went nuts about the heavy homework and had a rally after school yesterday."

Really?

"Oh, yeah. They had signs and flags and met for a rally outside of the cafeteria."

I looked

around and yes, all the National Honor Society Worker Bee and Grade Weasel Agitator Types were absent. Some might say, the best and the brightest; however, the gimlet-eyed cynics and scapegraces before me were no slouches either.

"Who," I asked, "set this in motion?"

"Coach, it was Ryan K and Richard G, but mostly it was Brendan."

Brendan, like Cher, is a single name personality. He held an A- at the time.

"Yeah, he's like Stalin to the other guys' Lenin and Trotsky."

I waxed philosophical – would there be huge repercussions? Suspensions? Expulsions?

I asked the balance of the class and they all agreed with their classmates, but as it was not their war, they chose to come to school.

At that moment, our high school Principal joined the class to give a Daily Southtown clipping to O'D a B+ student and the Volleyball Teams Ace Setter.

I offered, "I guess this -Room 219 – is the seat of the Revolution."

Our Principal looked at me with what seemed some measure of pity and replied, "Yeah, I guess so,"

The period went forward and I engaged the boys on this topical social justice decision of two thirds of my Social Justice Class to take Direct Action against the burden of excessive homework. Had I influenced these lads to commit civil disobedience?

When class ended and goodbyes exchanged, I went to my next-door neighbor English teacher Mrs. E. and asked, "Were you missing a crowd of guys First Hour?"

Yes, she had.

I mentioned that my guys had started this revolution and that the Principal did not seem too upset.

"No, they are all in the library taking the Advanced Placement Assessment. It was in the e-mail."

E-mail?

I took the hook through both sets of gills and was boated without much of struggle.

These young gents might not know my shopping list of important stuff, but they know how to boat a very fat bass.

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Blackrock Island

By J. Lee Burke

(Crime Fiction: Synopsis)

J. Lee Burke will be coming to iBAM-Chicago2017, October 27-29, and will have books on hand for you to buy and have autographed.

When Laine Sullivan, an undercover NO-VAS operative, takes a mission in Ireland, she is faced with unraveling the murder of thoroughbred horses. She uses her interior designer cover to work for a handsome, wealthy racehorse owner, and breeder Miles Bourke. He hires her to design a party room in his lighthouse tower on his remote island in Ireland.

Her investigation of him turns into a romantic affair that is surrounded by murder, money laundering and drugs. To complicate matters, Laine discovers the "big boys" in the horseracing business may also be behind the "milkshaking" atrocities on the racetrack. As she embarks on her quest for the truth, she questions her sanity when she thinks she sees her dead husband alive and this vision leads her to dangerous implications about his death.

Burke launches unforgettable characters enmeshed in a psychological journey that includes the mysterious death of Laine's

husband and a diabolical presence in the largest horse racing and breeding syndicate in Ireland, France and Saudi Arabia. What unfolds is an adventure filled with twist and turns as Laine pursues an elusive murder or murders as more lives are taken every minute. The plot unfolds with the killing of a priceless horse the minute she sets down in Miles helicopter on Blackrock Island. "Blackrock Island" is available on amazon.com, eBooks.com and at Barnes & Noble.



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Tough to Topple Tipperary from Title

For most the last decade, the hurling championship was gripped with the pondering on who if anyone had the capability and the fortitude to stop Kilkenny from winning another All-Ireland as the Cats reigned supreme in 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2011, 2012, 2014 and 2015. For once, that is no longer the case.

In its stead, that question now applies to the 2016 All-Ireland champions Tipperary, who this spring have established themselves as the team to beat with some stunning league displays without ever fielding more than 12 of the starting

team that won the championship last September. Twelve months ago, Tipp manager Michael Ryan used the league campaign to unearth new talent for the first 15 and this approach saw Seamus Kennedy and Dan McCormack start the championship at wing-back and wing-forward respectively and most notably John McGrath starting at corner-forward.

Since his induction, the younger of the McGrath

brothers, with his aerial ball-winning ability, decision making, work-rate and scoring power, has brought a formidable Tipp attack to a higher level and his positioning alongside Seamus Callinan and John 'Bubbles' O'Dwyer has created arguably the most exciting full-forward line the game has ever seen. In last year's All-Ireland final, the trio accounted for two goals and 21 points against Kilkenny and in the League this year all three have performed well at various stages. Callinan, however, is a doubt for Tipp's championship opener against Cork in Semple Stadium on May 21 after breaking his finger in the League semi-final over Wexford last month.

In the 2017 League, Niall O'Meara has stood out and will come close to making Tipperary's championship team. He has been deployed in the half-forward line in

All-Star's Bonner Maher's absence, as the latter has spent six months deployed on a peace-keeping mission with the Irish Army in Syria, and is not expected to be ready for hurling duty until later in the summer. Ryan has also given extended playing time to Stephen O'Brien in the half forward line with inconsistent results. Two other players likely to vie for starting places are Donagh Maher at corner back and Jason Forde at midfield.

Tipperary opponents in the Munster quarter-final, Cork have had a positive spring which has seen a renaissance of spirit down Leeside. Manager Kieran Kingston's charges have a sense of optimism that wasn't tangible in 2016 and the Rebels



Tipperary's Séamus Callinan scored 13 points in last year's All-Ireland final, as part of arguably the most lethal full forward line the game has ever seen.

win against an understrength and already qualified Tipp side in the last round of the League has made this fixture more intriguing. However, a triumph for Cork on May 21 would be an outcome for Cork supporters hold in hope rather than expectation.

The winners of this tie will play Waterford, the team in my opinion, most likely to halt Tipp in Munster. Waterford have been the coming team under Derek McGrath three years in change and now they look equipped to challenge for all the major honours. They are a county that have always had a tough temperament and their sides are routinely filled with physically strong players.

This is still the case but now they have the forwards to match with any defence. The positioning of Austin Gleeson in the half forwards last year saw him win an amount

of high ball from Waterford puckouts and this allied with his hurling ability with ball in hand saw him go on to win the Hurler of the Year in 2016.

With the emerging hurling prowess of potential hurling superstars in Shane Bennett and Patrick Curran, along with the established Maurice Shanahan, Waterford are not over-reliant on one man and in the league this year, they have added DJ Foran into the mix with overwhelming positive results.

Foran's aerial ability and his goal scoring instincts allow him to be effective whether he lines out in the half-forward or full forward line and his presence has also allowed Kevin Moran to be deployed at his best position in midfield. Waterford will be without Tom Devine for the summer championship, which will be a loss in so far as he played his best game for Waterford in their league quarterfinal loss to Galway in April.

Still, Waterford at times in the league was simply outstanding and they will be game for anyone this year. They are certainly contenders for All-Ireland glory this September.

At the other side of the Munster draw, expect Clare to overcome Limerick in Semple Stadium on June 4.

Limerick is now a team in transition with a host of young players coming through. They had a mixed league campaign and yet still managed to make the league semi-finals before been beaten

badly at home by Galway.

On the positives, the positioning of Declan Hannon in the half back line has worked and in the forwards the emergence of young talents in Arron Gillane, Kyle Hayes and Gearoid Hegarty have all been positives. Hegeaty especially has given Limerick a ball winning forward, yet, where they are lacking has been their scoring against the stronger teams. Limerick traditionally have always been a championship team and expect fireworks against the Banner, but realistically Clare are favourites for this semi-final tie.

Clare are playing a more traditional style since the departure of manager Davy Fitzgerald. The loss of Conor Ryan for the year has been massive, while one to benefit from the new regime is Seadna Morey, and Arron Shanagher at full-forward had worked well

so far. Yet, Clare's ability to win silverware will likely hinge on the performances of star player Tony Kelly. They remain a good outside bet for the All-Ireland.

In Leinster, two teams with realistic All-Ireland credentials are Galway and Kilkenny. Galway certainly feels that they should have beaten Tipp in the All-Ireland semi-final in 2016. They were leading with 10 minutes to go and winning the midfield battle. It took the introduction of Bubbles to tip the scales in favour of the blue and gold on the day.

This year they had a great league reaching the final against Tipp. In David Burke, they have the perennial midfielder in the country and up front they have an array of high calibre attacking talents of Joe Canning and Cathal Mannion, alongside Conor Whelan and Jason Flynn. The return of Johnny Glynn from New York will add another string to their bow and playing Johnny Coen in midfield adds further athleticism.

Yet, it is their backline where there are holes to be filled. Last year, Daithi Burke was outstanding at full-back yet he has often been deployed further out the field in the league which has left them vulnerable to conceding goals. Yet this is a terrific team who will feel that anywhere short of lifting the Liam McCarthy Cup on the first Sunday in September will be seen in Galway as another lost year.

Kilkenny on the other hand look a little shorter than this time last year, yet they still have the same two problems. Number one is full back. Last year's incumbent Joey Holden was replaced by All-Star wing back Pdraig Walsh in the number three jersey during the league. Walsh is an outstanding hurler yet he doesn't look a fullback and you would wonder whether this will catch Kilkenny at some stage during the summer.

The other area of concern for the Cats is being over-reliant on TJ Reid and Ritchie Hogan for scores. Last year Walter Walsh gave them enough help that saw them to a final appearance. Although Conor Martin has come into the starting 15, manager Brian Cody will need more consistency from Conor Fennally and Liam Blanchfield at the business end of the championship for All-Ireland success.

Wexford have had a great league under Davy Fitzgerald's early tenure as manager. They have a good team that will trouble any opponent, but they are still a forward or two short upfront to be realistic challengers. Their tie with Kilkenny in the Leinster semi-final will set the fate of their ambitions. The same applies to Dublin who look on course to meet Galway in the other semi-final.

Swimming Upstream

By Charles Brody



We Really Have to Talk About Bill...

...Or do we? I'm not so sure now. Perhaps a few weeks ago -- when he once more began to come out with his completely barmy and in-denial utterances concerning Catherine Corless and her findings at Tuam, sounding like some sort of deranged and cranky King Canute -- there was a need to call a halt to his gallop. But, by this stage, so many have quite rightly had a go at him that it scarcely seems necessary.

'A busted flush, desperate for attention', writer Niall O'Dowd rather pithily put it. And that kind of sums him up, to my mind. Dara Kelly, also at 'Irish Central' has a good piece. And yes, we are talking about that strange, bitter and increasingly irrelevant gentleman called Bill Donohue, he of the equally odd Catholic League.

Still, just on the off-chance that someone who doesn't know much about him might mistake him for... well, you know, an actual Christian... I'll add just a few remarks on old Bill.

I asked several practicing Irish Catholics what they thought of his recent remarks and not a single one of them felt that he in any way represented them. In ANY way. Two of them used a word I haven't heard in a while: Ignoramus. For the record, I don't agree that he is an ignoramus, just a man fighting against reality and capable of some ignorant and ill-judged remarks.

In 2013 he said: "This idea of two men getting married is the most bizarre idea in human history".

Really? The MOST bizarre? I'm sure that a lot of us, just right off the top of our pointy little heads, can think of much more bizarre ideas that History has thrown us than that. But he wasn't finished: "The whole purpose of marriage is to have a family. It's not about making people happy. It's not about love."

B' the hokeys, the younger Bill (now divorced, incidentally) must have been a right bag of laughs during his courtin' days. How did he phrase his proposal? In terms of a business agreement, emphasizing that there was no need for such claptrap as 'happiness' or 'love'? Just get on with the 'duty' of procreating and don't be confusing the issue?

Of course, it's vaguely insulting to

happily married people who choose not to have offspring; and it's possibly even more insulting to those couples who simply COULDN'T have children. And he's nothing if not consistent. He was still banging on the following year with: "Marriage is about family -- it's not about love. Two sisters can love each other."

Uh...right. And that's the trouble with intellectuals and people like Donohue who like to bore you with their background in sociology: an awful lot of them don't really have much in the way of old-fashioned cop-on.

On another topic, here he was on his website less than a year ago:

"The bill was sold as justice for the victims of sexual abuse when, in fact, it was a sham: the proposed legislation that failed to make it to the floor of the New York State legislature in the wee hours of Saturday... was a vindictive bill pushed by lawyers and activists out to rape the Catholic Church".

Dear oh dear. Even someone who has been existing in his bubble as President of the Catholic League for quarter of a century should have phrased that one a little differently! Of course, he was busy gloating over his gang's part in stopping the bill, but still... 'out to rape the Catholic Church'? Unfortunate terminology, to put it mildly. I guess that along with 'love' and 'happiness' simple 'sensitivity' isn't too high on Mr. Donohue's list of priorities either.

He dismisses Catherine Corless as being nothing more than 'a typist'. Bloody hell, I'm not the best at making new friends myself, but this guy is away with it altogether. Dara Kelly puts it better than I could:

"There is no end to Donohue's pomposity. Donohue continues: 'Those who think I am being too harsh should consider what happened when Corless tried to obtain information from the Galway County Council to facilitate her research. She was told to take a hike -- she was denied access because she lacked a university degree.'

"Doubtless, they would have refused information, too, to college dropouts like Bill Gates and Michael Dell and Evan Williams, co-founder of Twitter.

"...Nevertheless, Corless persisted until she obtained the death records, made the discoveries, alerted the world, and the Irish state investigations confirmed her

findings."

I would add that it is precisely because of Ms. Corless's independence that she has been so tenacious in bringing this horrifying period blinking and screaming into the light. AND at her own expense. Every one of those documents that she has unearthed -- being fought against every step of the way -- cost her money. And she doesn't have the Bould Bill's \$474,876 salary to fall back on. To my mind, she is a genuine Irish hero -- something that one suspects will never be said about Mr. Donohue.

Integrity is in short supply in this messed-up world; but it is a quality that Corless has in spades.

And talking about integrity, I see that you had a St. Patrick's Day junket-cum-free-loading visit from an Irish politician who possesses none whatsoever. And that would be Senator Aodhán O'Riordáin.

Now first off, don't be fooled by that 'Senator' tag. Over here it doesn't exactly carry the same weight as it does in the States. Although there are one or two that I admire, the Séanad is basically a retirement home for clapped-out politicians who the electorate made clear weren't wanted in any shape or form. As one commentator nicely put it, they have about as much say as the local Tidy Towns committee. Less, probably.

They are not voted in by the People but by their own cronies. Pure and simple.

So now O'Riordáin is lecturing the Americans on their choice of President instead of concentrating on Ireland's own issues: you know, people lying on hospital trolleys, housing... little things like that. No, the man who was booted out when it came to re-election in 2016 and was undemocratically rewarded for being totally useless by being given an equally useless seat in the Séanad is now harping on Trump.

To give you a measure of this guy's integrity: he fought AGAINST Ireland even having a Séanad. Thought it was a terrible waste of space, so he did. (And was right.) He even made a promise that if he was given the bum's rush -- which we were more than happy to oblige with -- that he would leave politics: "I am not going to kick around the Séanad for five years."

Guess how long that pledge lasted when he realised he was out of a nice little earner? Put it this way: for all his ranting and raving, if Donald Trump offered him a job he would take the arm off him in his hurry to get it.

Come to think of it, I'm sorry to even mention this phony in the same article as Catherine Corless. Apologies.

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This month Catholic Charities officially kicks-off our 100th anniversary celebration with a Mass of Thanksgiving at Holy Name Cathedral on May 7. We are tremendously honored to have Cardinal Cupich preside over the mass, and to have the blessings and good wishes of Pope Francis delivered by our homilist, Archbishop Christophe Pierre, Apostolic Papal Nuncio to the United States.

It is our hope that Catholic Charities' year-long centennial celebration will be a celebration for all because it is indeed a celebration of the great tradition of charitable care in the Archdiocese of Chicago—a tradition that has included the business community, philanthropic organizations, government entities, individual donors, religious men and women, dedicated volunteers, and parishes throughout the Archdiocese. What started in 1917 as a way to organize the Church's response to the overwhelming needs during World War I and the Spanish flu epidemic, has grown into one of the largest social service agencies in the country, primarily because of the charitable commitment of our community.

The continued support Catholic Charities receives from our board members and volunteers, as well as our many parish, corporate, government, and philanthropic partners, enables Catholic Charities to remain on the cutting edge of social services, being responsive to changing community needs and providing the best, most comprehensive

A Word With Monsignor Boland

The Voice of Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Chicago

Rev. Monsignor Michael M. Boland

Administrator, President and CEO



care possible. Today, Catholic Charities annually serves nearly one million people at more than 150 locations throughout Cook and Lake Counties, helping people overcome the challenges of poverty, homelessness, hunger, mental illness, abuse, violence, and aging. We offer a broad range of social services to children, families, seniors, veterans, teens, and anyone in need regardless of religion, race, nationality, or background.

While Catholic Charities has grown and adapted over the years, our mission remains the same: to love and care for the poor just as Jesus taught us to do. Our commitment to treating all who walk through our doors with the utmost dignity and respect follows from our firm belief in the value and sanctity of every human life. We give those that come to us much more than a bag of food, a hot meal, or a bed for the night—although those things are vitally important. We give them hope. We show them that they are cared for and that their lives matter. We restore their dignity and help them find a new path.

Through compassionate staff and dedicated volunteers, Catholic Charities provides not only immediate relief, but also assesses the situation from a holistic perspective, gets to the root cause of

suffering, and offers a plan for a better life. We fill each person up with tremendous hope for the future, and as any volunteer or staff person can tell you, they fill us up right back.

Catholic Charities has several centennial events planned throughout the coming year, but we felt a Mass of Thanksgiving was a wonderful way to begin our celebration. To be sure, we are eternally thankful for our staff, board members, volunteers and donors. But most importantly, we are thankful that God has entrusted the care of the poor and vulnerable to us. It is a responsibility and privilege that everyone involved with Catholic Charities deeply cherishes. We are honored to fulfill Jesus' command that the poor never become invisible or forgotten. We are blessed to know them, walk with them, care for them, and ease their burdens however we can.

I invite you to join Catholic Charities in our year-long centennial celebration, which we have aptly named "A Century of Hope." May Christ continue to help us light the way for all of our brothers and sisters who struggle in poverty.

Please see www.ccofchicago100.net for more information about Catholic Charities centennial year.



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Connemara Daly

By Bill Daly

Exam Time

Many of our younger readers may possibly be preparing for their end of year exams at the moment. It can be a stressful and traumatic time for young people and we always need to ensure that our bodies and mind are in balance as we approach one of the great milestones in our lives. There are many techniques to cope with the pressures of exams and the following are my own personal methods and observations.

Try to understand the subject matter you are studying rather than trying to learn off and memorise a collection of words. If you understand how the engine works you will have a greater depth of understanding and be able to give much more interesting answers. Try not to stay up too late at night where your head is swimming, make an effort to get up early the next morning, as the body and brain are more receptive to assembling and making sense of information at this particular time. During periods of study, give yourself some breaks and rewards along the way.

I remember, many years ago now, heading off with my fishing rod to a stream in the woods on the night before my first exam in the Inter Cert (now Junior Cert). I was saturated from studying and wanted to do something completely different. My parents were puzzled as to why I would still not be studying and my Father was duly dispatched to the river bank to ensure that I wasn't going through a mental breakdown! It was just the therapy I needed, and as my body relaxed and fished I was subconsciously lining up the information in my brain for the next day. It was a night I will always remember and as an extra bonus I hooked a nice brown trout on a red spinner fly! I sailed through the exams afterwards and was glad I took the time out on that particular night.

A lecturer once told us in college that the best students make up their own questions. Don't panic if you do not see anything familiar on first reading the examination paper. There's always a way. I also recall another little anecdote when I took History during first year at UCC. We were supposed to have a series of lectures with this famous History Professor, but he got detained on a sabbatical in the USA. He just made it in for the last session with us, but told us not to

panic as he was putting a question about 'The German Peasant Revolt of 1525' on the paper.

There was hardly anything written on this except one offprint which we quickly copied and committed to memory. On the morning of the exam when we were given the exam paper, there was no question on this topic. I looked around and could see a little panic setting in on the faces of my fellow First Years. After about twenty minutes the History Professor in question came into the examination hall. He looked at the exam paper and then addressed us: 'First years, he said, just because there isn't a question on the German Peasant Revolt, doesn't mean you can't answer one on it'. The day was saved.

Even though your stomach may

be a little nervous try to make some time for food. Have a good breakfast, preferably with some fresh fruit and drink plenty of water. The main thing is not to panic. You have a long and fruitful life ahead of you and you are much smarter than you sometimes give yourself credit for. Best of luck to one and all, and make the most of your remaining time off during the summer months.

'Education is not the learning of facts, but the training of the mind to think' - Albert Einstein.

Originally from Tallow in West Waterford, Bill spent 30 years in Cork as a Senior Manager in the Electronics Manufacturing industry with such companies as Apple, EMC and Logitech. He has been working on his own as a Consultant/Contractor in Manufacturing Operations and Materials for the past 18 years. He also attended UCC and has a BA Degree in Archaeology and Geography. Bill is now resident in Connemara, Co. Galway since 2009.

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Counties of Ireland

by Tom Butler



This month I will cover Co. Clare. (Banner county) (Chlair) (population 120,000) Clare's county town is Ennis (population-25,000) which means island, derived from Inis. Ennis hosts the Fleadh Cheoil every year, Co. Clare is famous for being the county for traditional music. Ennis also has a monument in honor of Daniel O'Connell (Liberator). There is a public library named DeValera library in honor of our 3rd president, Eamon De Valera. Clare is NW of the river Shannon. Clare was founded by a noble named Luke Fitzgerald. Bodies of water define much of the physical boundaries of Clare, to the East is Shannon river to the west is the Atlantic and to the north is Galway bay. The Burren is located in Clare, it is a magnificent extraordinary landscape, finest limestone plateau of its kind in Europe. It is a unique karst region which contains rare flowers and fauna.

At the edge of the Burren facing the Atlantic are the famous Cliffs of Moher. The Cliffs are a landmark which attracts thousands of tourists yearly. If you get a chance to visit Ireland it's a site not to be missed it's a beautiful view of the Atlantic ocean and is a breathtaking part of Ireland. My wife Mary, our son Seamus and myself visited the Cliffs 2 years ago. The highest point in Clare is Moyussa at 532m, in the Slieve Bernagh range. Of the many castles in Clare, a notable one is named Bunratty Castle, built by Thomas DeClare in the year of 1425. It attracts many tourists and it is close to Shannon airport. A few famous people from Clare include: Brian Boru (high king of Ireland b941-d014) was born in Killaloe, Co. Clare. He was in power from 978-1014. In the Disney film Darby O'Gill and the Little People(1959), King Brian Connors of the Lepre-

chauns shows Darby the sword Brian Boru used to drive out the Vikings.

Next we have the 6th president, Patrick Hillery, son of the local towns doctor, from Spanish point, Co. Clare. President from 1976-1990. He married Maeve Finnegan together they had a two children. He was said to have been an intelligent, honorable and very decent human being. Also, we have Michael D. Higgins Ireland's current and ninth president, technically he was born in Limerick but at age 5 he moved to Co. Clare and lived with an uncle. (similar to Daniel O'Connell's circumstances) He has been a great president to date a true success. Another great statesmen Daniel O'Connell, in 1828 he ran for parliament as a representative for Clare and he won. (he was born in Kerry) This presented a problem for the English since the days of Queen Elizabeth I anyone taking public or church office were required to swear an allegiance to the crown and those refusing were charged with treason. O'Connell considered this English rule a bluff, consequently he refused the oath. Parliament capitulated by allowing him into office without it. Driving to Doolan, Doolan coastal town reached by means of winding roads with great views of the Atlantic ocean a well known center for Irish music. They have impromptu sessions every night. In 1927 Charles Lindburgh flew solo from New York en route to France. When he saw the green fields of Ireland it was a great site of encouragement which lead him to believe the trip would be a success. The name of his plane was Spirit of St. Louis. He played a significant role in where the first airport in Ireland should be located. Shannon airport located in the town of

Shannon and boasts the worlds first duty free shop. Shannon is also home to the world-famous Irish coffee, invented by chef Joe Sheridan. The town of Shannon a relatively new town about 10,000 people live there. It boasts an under 14 soccer team with an outstanding winning record, our grandson Tommy plays for the Shannon team. Danny DeVito who played in a TV show called, Taxi, has a cousin who owns a pizza place name Numero Uno in Ennis. My son Michael



has visited it often, there is a picture of Danny on the wall. I will leave you with this thought from my primary school, in Muckalee. Our Teacher Master Tynan asked us students who can give the best palindrome (word spelled same forward/backward) the students shouted answers such as; dad, nan, noon, mom, and pup. I raised my hand and said civic. (this is before we knew radar and kayak) Thus I received the class sweet. Up the banner county! Questions or comments Kilkennycat1@yahoo.com

Tom Butler

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Nominate Yourself or A Lady You Know!

In Kerry, Ireland every year women join together to celebrate the top Professionals in their respective fields at the Connect Kerry Women in Business Awards and we feel we need to do the same in Chicago. The Chicago Rose of Tralee Organization has created an event to do just that! What a great way to celebrate our successful Irish women and empower each other to be the best that we can be! This event will be held on Wednesday, July 19, 2017 at UI Labs – 1415 N. Cherry Lane, Chicago, IL – 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.

If you are a Professional in Business in the Chicagoland area, or you know someone who you feel deserves to be recognized at this great event,

please send us the details in no more than 100 words to info@chicagoroseoftralee.com.

Here are the Categories for 2017:

- Professional in Education and Childcare**
- Professional in Health & Wellness**
- Professional in Fashion**
- Professional in Restaurant & Hospitality**
- Professional in Marketing & Events**
- Professional in Hair & Beauty**

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*Irish Professional Woman of the Year

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ers or top, well-deserving employees within the business. We ask while you are filling out your application form to give us as much information as possible, all information you supply remains strictly confidential. You can enter up to 2 categories with a separate entry for each. We are asking that all of the nominations be submitted by Friday, June



16th in order to contact the lucky ladies that have been nominated.

During this year's inaugural event, we will also hold a Salon Style Fashion Show with fashions by Rebekah Wall from Tralee, Ireland. She will be displaying her one of a kind Aran embellished sweaters as well as her beautifully tailored tweed suits, dresses, wraps and coats. All fashions can be ordered at the event and many can be purchased that day.

More detailed information on the categories above can be found on our website at: chicagoroseoftralee.com along with a nomination form. Tickets will also be available for purchase on the website, but hurry, this luncheon will surely sell out!

Storytelling the Irish Way

Irish American News contributor, Mattie Lennon has released a new CD, Truth and Lies with Mattie Lennon.

One journalist wrote that Seanachai, Mattie Lennon had, "... a penchant for holding forth at length on the little vignettes and foibles of human nature that many others pass by unnoticed."



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Manhattan Irish Fest Back Under the Umbrella of the Irish-American Society of County Will

One thing about the Irish, they are social and most really love their Irish heritage. The Irish-American Society of Will County started that way in 1981.

I covered the Manhattan Irish Fest on March 4, 2017 and interviewed some of the members.

Their story is a good one. They have a lot of fun and they help others while they're doing it.

Tim Brophy

When I asked Tim Brophy about the fest, he rattled off some great statistics.

"The crowds were fantastic this year. We had a great Friday night. We did about 50% more than we did last year. We rearranged the tent and put the bands at one end instead of in the middle and that seems to work well.

The fest is on a paved service now, so ladies can safely walk in any kind of shoes and not worry about the mud.

We have a special family center in another park district building because after 7pm its 21 and older only and the tent stays open until 10pm," said Tim.



Tim Brophy

"The Irish American Society of County Will was formed in 1981. The Manhattan Irish Fest is 23 years old. The fest started with the Manhattan Chamber of Commerce working to spotlight Manhattan as a nice place to buy a home and raise a family. Tim and Mary McGrath, and Mike and Mary McHugh got together and organized it for the Chamber. Here we are over 23 years later with thousands and thousands of people in Manhattan enjoying the fest," he concluded.

The Irish American Society of County Will is a non-profit and gives their money away. The August Celtic Fest helps raise money for scholarships. Every Summer the IASCW send two or three students to Ireland. The students are usually seniors in Will County high school but they can be juniors, and the gift is substantial. They give them about \$3000 each towards the tuition of \$5100, which the Irish Life Experience (ILE) says is

a larger gift than any other group in the country gives.

The ILE grew out of the Irish Way scholarship program.

Kids go to Dublin for three and a half weeks and they get a little classroom, a little travel, a little family stay and they get to see the sights.

The Irish Life Experience includes 50 hours of classroom instruction in a relaxed environment. All classes are taught by certified teachers who focus on real world events and encourage student interaction. Classes are in Gaelic language, Irish History, Irish-American history, Irish studies, Irish literature, Dance, and Drama.

At the Manhattan Fest a Queen and a King are selected and they each get \$1000 towards their college tuition. That was done locally with applications from all over, and the winners were picked by a committee of unrelated and un-conflicted judges. They also donate to the food pantry in town. The IASCW lets groups sell raffle tickets. The deal is if they provide volunteers for the day, they can sell raffle tickets and the IASCW gives them back every dollar they raise. The IASCW funds the prizes from the day, not out of the raffle.

Manhattan Irish Fest is always the kickoff to the season and then the club rolls into all the other events at the Heritage Center, Gaelic Park, the parades etc. Tim's dad, and Joliet Fire Fighter Robert Emmett Brophy, Jr., 1933-1986, was the founding President of the IASCW.

Heather Nagel

Heading up the sports end of the Will County Irish is Heather Nagle.

Heather's husband used to play for the Will Co. Men's Shamrock Rugby Club, and he's now a social member.

Heather explains, "I became actively involved as a social member years ago when we started dating. There



Heather Nagel

is a new group of guys in now, so we are doing a lot of active recruiting to bring our numbers up, as the guys

in their late 20's and early 30's are getting married and moving on, so we are in a rebuilding phase right now. The women's team is the Morrigan's.

We play on Saturdays, and the men and women play throughout Illinois.

Last year we became a non-profit and we are trying to bring youth rugby and high school rugby back into the community. A former woman player is starting to hold youth tournaments so we are becoming actively involved with the youth and that will help with men and women coming into the rugby club in the future" she concluded. To join or get involved go to www.willcountyrugby.com or send an email to shamrockrecruitment@gmail.com.

The teams are on Facebook as well. The Will County Men's Rugby Club and Women's Morrigan's Rugby as well.

Chris Schaal

Chris, of good German-Irish stock, has been with the Irish American Society of County Will for quite a while now and is the current President of the club. When asked about his connection to the club, he told me about some of the good support the club has provided for people



Chris Schaal

and other organizations. "We are doing a new college scholarship this year, called the Founding Fathers Memorial Scholarship which will amount to \$2,000. We hope to help a student or two who is not necessarily getting straight A's, but who is getting great grades, and maybe working part-time, and maybe doing some community service. Between the Manhattan Irish Fest, the Celtic Fest and everything else we do, We were able to give away about \$12,000 last year in scholarships, to a women's shelter, animal rescue, a food pantry, a Senior Service Center, some of the dance schools and more.

We use Tunes of Glory and the Emerald Society, Harry Hatfield, John Condron, Gavin Coyle and others to entertain our attendees, he added.

Chris has been involved in the back end workings of the club almost since the day he showed up to volunteer, and hopes to be around for a good while longer.

Pete Hegarty

Pete has been a member of the IASWC for 12 years, on the committee for six years and is in his fourth year



Pete Hegarty

as the chairperson of the Manhattan Irish Fest. Pete explained, "The Will County Irish ran the Manhattan Fest in it's early years, and then the Manhattan Park District took it over for a while and now the IASWC

has been back in charge of the event as of this year with a lot of help from the community. "We give all of our profits back to the community, benefiting Operation Care Package, the Irish American Society, the Manhattan Park District, some baseball teams, Manhattan Food Pantry and others. When I step down as chairperson of the Manhattan Fest, Mic Brophy will be taking over and the event will be in good hands. A lot of the subcommittee chair people will still be involved so it all should go smoothly," he said.

Michael McHugh

Michael is one of the original founders of the Irish American Society of County Will back in 1981.

In 1995 McHugh was on the board of the Manhattan Chamber of Commerce when it started the Manhattan Fest. Besides having a float in the parade every, the IASWC volunteered to help in the first fest and have been helping ever since.

It was a rocky road in the beginning with three different groups running the fest for about 5 years each. The Manhattan Chamber ran the fest for five years, the Youth Athletic Association ran it for five years or so, after which the city of Manhattan was thinking about closing it down. IASWC member, Coley O'Connell, told the society, "we can do this." and the IASWC took the reigns and ran the fest for about five years.

The Irish American Society of County Will got the fest back on it's feet and handed it over to the Manhattan Park District Foundation who ran it for another five or six years. Now in 2017 the club has come full circle and the Will County Irish are running the fest again. "As anyone who has ever run a fest knows, it's the volunteers and sponsorship that makes or breaks a festival. Without them you probably couldn't do something like this," Mike said.

Tim McGrath is the other co-founder of the fest He is an attorney in Manhattan and was President of the Chamber of Commerce at the time. After attending a Pumpkin Fest all those years ago, Tim brought the lady who ran the fest to the Chamber of Commerce meeting and pitched the idea of Manhattan having it's own fest. "Our first budget was about \$5000," We had no idea what we were doing back then, but over the years we have learned how to do a festival.

The ground at the park where we put up our tent used to be gravel. Two years ago the village paved the lot downtown and brought in electric, intending the area to be used to hold festivals," said Mike.

The club has done a lot in 35 plus years, and Mike McHugh is enjoying himself immensely.

After over 35 years of involvement he has watched the IASWC grow and prosper and fulfill its mission of promoting Irish culture and fellowship in the county.

If you would like to join the club or get involved in any way, check them out at www.countywillirish.net.



(L to R): Brendan, Mike, Mary Kate, Colleen (with Finnegan) and Mary McHugh, enjoying the 23rd Annual Manhattan Irish Fest!

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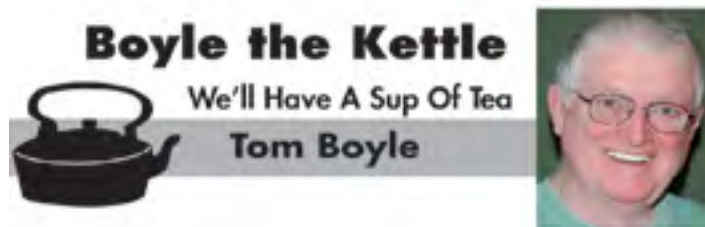
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Kim Jong il

is rattling sabres in North Korea.

In 1949, Kim il Sung persuaded Stalin and Mao Tse Tung to support an invasion of south Korea. President Harry S. Truman was afraid of the domino effect of Communism in Asia, especially Japan. He decided to intervene.

The Cold War with Russia was already in full swing.

there were 33,652 battle deaths and 3262 deaths from non battle causes in the Korean War. Psychological warfare got it's start, and terms like brainwashing were heard on the nightly news. The North Korean Army sounded bugles and played funeral dirges on loudspeakers while sending thousands of soldiers in massive infantry attacks.

The jet age had arrived, and our Air Force had jet fighters, the Sabre Jet, while the Russians provided North Korea with the MIG 21 fighter jet.

In 1950 there were less than 9.5 million people in North Korea. Today there are less than 20 million. Presently, South Korea has a population of over 50 million. So where is all this leading? Time after time we are drawn into these military confrontations and conflicts. Sometimes they are avoidable and sometimes they are not.

President Trump said we cannot be "policeman of the world." Many of us have had that very same thought.

Unfortunately, the nuclear war card is on the table, and there are marked cards still in the deck. One of them is the ICBM. We cannot let the genie out of the bottle. We certainly don't want another war on the Korean peninsula.

Some of you may remember the battle at the Chosen Reservoir in North East Korea where the temperatures dropped to 35 degrees below zero in the Winter. The U.S. Marines and the Army troops suffered terribly during that battle.

There is an anti-war song whose lyrics were written by Bob Dylan that tell the tale, and it's called "Blowin in the Wind.

How many roads must a man walk down
 Before you call him a man?
 How many seas must a white dove sail
 Before she sleeps in the sand?
 How many times must the cannon balls fly

Before they're forever banned?

The answer, my friend, is blowing' in the wind
 The answer is blown' in the wind.

How many years can a mountain exist
 Before it's washed to the sea?
 How many years can some people exist
 Before they're allowed to be free
 How many times can a man turn his head
 And pretend that he just doesn't see?

The answer, my friend, is blowing' in the wind
 The answer is blown' in the wind.

How many times must a man look up
 Before he can really see the sky?
 How many ears must one person have
 Before he can hear people cry?
 How many deaths will it take 'til he knows
 That too many people have died?

The answer, my friend, is blown' in the wind
 The answer is blown' in the wind.

Gene Moran

Back in the IAN issue of November, 2016, we told the story of Eugene Moran from Soldiers Grove, Wisconsin. Gene was a tailgunner on a B-17 when the tail was shot off the plane, and Gene rode it 29,000 feet to the ground. As mentioned before, Gene was in the 8th Army Corp, 339th Squadron, flying out of Setterton, Heath, England.

But, there was more to the story. Hans Ehlers, Ace Luftwaffe fighter pilot with 54 kills, actually motioned to Gene Moran to bail out before he shot the tail off the B-17 . . .

Another Soldier's Grove connections were young women know as the "Summer Girls," working as Au Pairs, in Lake Forest Illinois and the Beverly neighborhood in Chicago. That wraps it.

Paralyzed Veterans of America Memorial Day Tribute

*"They answered their country's
 Call to arms.*

*Into battle they did go.
 Where their final destination was.
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 Under some unknown sod,
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 Only unto God."*

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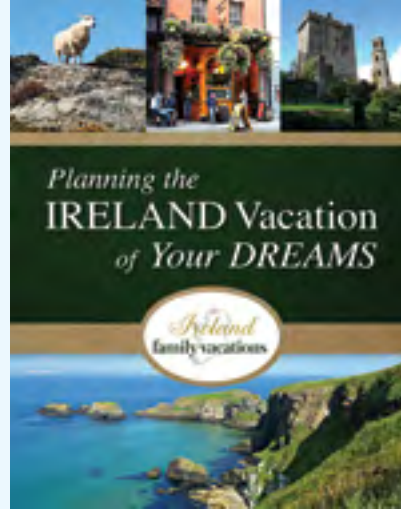


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Chicago Irish Immigrant Support

By Michael Collins,
Executive Director

In response to the new immigration changes and enforcement priorities by the Trump administration, the Coalition of Irish Immigration Centers (CIIC) composed a document providing advice for Irish citizens who are concerned about how these new policies might affect them. Below are some of the more relevant sections of that document that can be found on the CIIS website.

Be Prepared:

1. Given the change in immigration enforcement policy and implementation, the immigrant community is strongly advised to be vigilant in obeying all local and state laws, especially when driving.
2. Ensure that you are seeking legal advice from a qualified immigration attorney. If you need a referral or a second opinion, contact CIIS at 773-282-8445.
3. Those who have a pending deportation order and/or check-ins with ICE, should speak

benefits or relief.

5. Have an emergency and family plan in place in case they are arrested, especially involving children.

6. Make sure that all vital documents are kept in a safe place and are available to family members or friends, i.e.:

- Passports
- Birth Certificates
- Marriage License (if applicable)
- Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit
- Any Restraining Orders you may have against anyone (if applicable)
- A-Number and any immigration documents (work permit, green card, visa, etc.)
- Driver's License and/or Other Identification Cards
- Social Security Card or TIN number (Individual Taxpayer Identification Number)
- Registry of birth (for U.S. born children registered in parent's home country, if applicable)

to a lawyer immediately.

4. It is important for those who feel that they are at risk of deportation to speak to a lawyer and be screened for possible

mation: school details, points of contact, etc.

•Any other documents you need to be access quickly.

Be wary of rumors about ICE activity, ICE raids or immigration policy changes. Irish immigration centers are available to provide current, accurate and reliable information to you regardless of where you live. Find your closest center: ciic-usa.org.

Advice to be shared with Visa Waiver overstays:

Always carry at least a copy of any valid immigration document you have with you, including a green card, work permit or passport with a visa stamp and I-94 entry record. Do not lie or present any false documents.

If you encounter ICE officers and you are a VWP overstay:

•You have the right to remain silent. You can refuse to speak to immigration officers.

•If ICE comes to your home, do not open your door – unless ICE has a warrant signed by a judge. ICE may not enter your home unless they have a warrant signed by a judge or your consent.

Note: ICE offers will usually appear early in the morning or in the evening to a residence. They often present themselves as police, other law enforcement or even a courier service. If you are unsure who is at your door, do not open it. If ICE officers identify themselves and state they have a warrant, ask them to slide it under the door and ensure that YOUR name is on the warrant before you comply and that the warrant is signed by a judge giving them authorization to arrest someone at your address.

If you are taken into custody by ICE and you are a VWP overstay:

- You have the right to speak to a lawyer.
- You can answer questions about your place of birth, your immigration status, how you entered the United States

Note: Answering these types of questions may speed up the removal process

•You should identify any close relatives in the United States, particularly if you are married to a United States Citizen (USC) and have USC children.

•You should let the officer know if you have medical issues or are a caregiver for another relative

•You should NOT answer any questions about your work history in the United States unless a lawyer is present.

•You have the right to contact your Consulate or have an officer inform the Consulate of your arrest. Contact information for Irish Consulates within the U.S. can be found at <https://www.dfa.ie/irishembassy/usa/about-us/team-ireland-in-the-usa/consulates-general-in-the-usa/>

•Before you sign anything, speak to a lawyer, whenever possible. The only thing that you should sign is an offer for a bond hearing.

Note: The form will clearly ask Do you/Do you not request a bond hearing.

*Note: If you encounter ICE and you have a nonimmigrant visa violation, the above list remains the same. Identify yourself and relatives, BUT do not talk about work/other activities in USA.

Update:

CIIS has scheduled our 17th annual Golf outing for Sunday, June 4th with a shotgun start at 12 noon. The outing will be at St. Andrews Golf Course in West Chicago. This is a great day out on the course and raises funds for the much needed community work that CIIS does. Call us to reserve your foursome!

CIIS will continue to host free legal clinics for anyone who might have immigration questions. These clinics are currently being held two to three times per month by appointment only. Each clinic provides a client with a 30-minute face-to-face consultation with an immigration attorney. Please call (773) 282-8445 or email mcollins@irishchicago.org to schedule your appointment.

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An Immigrant's Musings

Michael Leonard



All Talk, Not Much Action

I recently spoke to a Republican friend; he's a moderate and sometimes feels like an endangered specimen. We talked about the failed effort of the House Republicans to deliver on their pre-election promise to repeal and replace Obama care. He expressed his frustration at his party for having wasted seven plus years to come up with a viable and better plan to provide a better health care system. Why is it that this Country with all its resources and massive pool of talent has failed so miserably to craft a better system for her citizens?

One of the main reason I believe for the failure; is the fact that in recent years; politics has taken the place of policy. When this is allowed to happen the real losers are the populations at large. What we have seen in our divided states and parties are our elected officials putting enormous energy into doing everything they can to keep a hold on power. If government is to work as a fully functioning democracy; then those elected to work in Washington DC are sent to the Capitol to serve their constituents. Unfortunately, what has been has been happening in recent times is

we have an elected body who are made up of folks who are more interested in self/party service than they are in serving the Country and its real needs.

Politicians are probably the greatest offenders when it comes to being found guilty of "all talk and no action." We have heard everyone from President Trump to local officials, promise huge changes that would improve the lives of working people, only to see them come up short time and again in delivering meaningful results. The funny part is; that our President was often quoted as saying that if was elected he would fire those who are not getting the job done. Perhaps, the time has come for the country at large to demand less talk and more action or less politics and a greater effort to seeking and developing intelligent and real policies, ideas that can be turned into actions that will serve the nation as a whole.

The Folly of Clinging

The little boy walked slowly into the room where his mother was sitting at her desk writing. She glanced down at him and saw that he was carrying a very precious vase that her grandmother had given her. Almost absentmindedly she said to him, "Robert, go put the vase down before you drop it and

break it."

"I can't," he replied, "I can't get my hand out."

"Of course you can," she said, "you got it down there."

He said, "I know, mom, but it won't come out." The neck of the vase was very narrow and his hand had fit it neatly inside and it was now up to his wrist. He continued to insist that he could not get it out. Growing a little concerned, his mother called out to his dad.

Dad calmly took control and began gently pulling the arm trying to extract the hand from the vase. He tried loosening it up with soapy water. Still nothing. He then got some vegetable oil from the kitchen and poured it around the wrist and let it seep into the vase. He wiggled it some. It still did not budge.

"I give up," the dad said in desperation. "I'd give a dollar right now to know how to get it out."

"Really?" little Robert exclaimed. Then they heard a clinking sound and his hand slid right out of the vase. They turned the vase upside down and a penny plopped out. "What's this?" they said in unison.

"Oh, that's the penny I put inside. I wanted to get it out so I was clutching it in my hand. But when I heard Dad say he would give a dollar to have the vase free, I let go."

How often do we cling to things when they are nothing in comparison to what could be ours?

Should you have comments, questions or suggestions, contact me: sliabhanoir@gmail.com

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by starvation or disease. Nonetheless, both insisted that Britain must not be accused of genocide. One writer cites the UN

Genocide Convention of 1948 which "enshrined... prior INTENT" and "planning" as the standard for genocide, and concludes Britain's actions "hardly constituted genocide". The other writer takes a veiled poke at Coogan, declaring: "only the greenest of nationalists could portray the famine as a straight-forward plot to exterminate Irish people."

The "elephant in the room" is Coogan who in 2012, despite his stature and many visits to the U.S., was gored more directly by John Bull with the help of the American embassy in Dublin and Ambassador Dan Rooney, who denied Coogan a visa on the eve of his U.S. tour to promote that book. (Shortly thereafter, Rooney quietly retired.)

The question is: is it fair to compare England's solution to "The Irish Question" to Germany's solution to "The Jewish Question"? No minutes akin to those of the 1942 Wannsee Conference survive

from the 1840's. But the most damning documents I've seen are written by the architect of Ireland's holocaust, Charles Trevelyan; the two letters which he published in London's Morning Chronicle in October 1843.

Following a six-week trip to assess Ireland and Daniel O'Connell's Repeal Movement, Trevelyan returned from Dublin and presented his findings to Prime Minister Robert Peel and Home Secretary James Graham.

Former Clare MP and Dublin Lord Mayor Daniel O'Connell had scheduled yet another in his series of peaceful "Monster Meetings" at Clontarf for Sunday, October 8, 1843. Peel now declared that meeting: "an attempt to overthrow the constitution of the British Empire as by law established" and sent two warships carrying 3,000 troops to Dublin. On Saturday evening October 7, Dublin Castle issued a proclamation banning the event.

Trevelyan's first letter appeared in the Chronicle on October 11, under the pseudonym "Philalathes" (a Greek word meaning "a lover of truth", used by ancient writers like Aristotle and Plutarch and later adopted by members of the "craft" or Masons). The letter contained details of the confidential briefing Trevelyan had given Peel and Graham. Trevelyan was harshly reprimanded for the leak, but perhaps it forced the issue, because three days later Peel issued a warrant for O'Connell's arrest.

What gave Assistant Secretary to the Treasury Trevelyan the confidence to blatantly publish confidential government documents and embarrass England's Prime Minister and Home Secretary? And further- once he'd been dressed down for the leak why would he publish a second letter five days later on October 16th? Did he have the confidence of Victoria and Albert? Was it his association with the Masonic Order? ("The Freemason and Masonic Illustrated" names Charles Trevelyan as "a distinguished member".) Or had it been an agreed strategy to ensure O'Connell's downfall?

When I asked Tim Pat in 2013 about the Trevelyan letters he said: "no historian before ever referred

to them. And yet they are the essential text of Trevelyan's mindset".

Here are a few samples of the lurid, fantastical portrait of Ireland's Catholics that Britain's Assistant Secretary to the Treasury painted for English readers.

Trevelyan exposes Ireland's thirst for blood: "To the Editor of the Morning Chronicle... some of your readers may be glad to have an authentic account of the actual position of affairs in the country... The Roman Catholic peasantry appear to be so confident in their numbers and unanimity, as to consider any concealment of their plans and intentions quite an unnecessary precaution... they opened their minds to me... They have, moreover, fully made up their minds to the sacrifices consequent upon a popular rising, and had familiarized themselves to all the contingencies of an insurrection in an extraordinary degree. ...there was not a single important point...on which they were not prepared with a good military answer. (They say)...We shall rise in our counties and baronies... making a clean sweep of the Protestants..."

Irish Catholic battle tactics: Trevelyan claimed one person told him that when the boys rise "the walls of the barracks would be scaled in every direction by night, and that people would tumble in by the thousands, and squeeze the troops to death... I believe this to be a perfectly correct military idea' said Trevelyan 'I afterwards found that this plan of attacking the barracks was generally diffused among the people" he claimed. "Their reliance seemed to be on the stock of firearms constantly concealed in the country... But their main reliance was in their numbers and unanimity."

The traitors: "There cannot be a doubt that the great body of Roman Catholic priests have gone into the movement... The curates and young priests brought up at Maynooth have gone into it heartily, almost to a man.... The priests have given to the repeal movement all the weight of a religions cause in the eyes of a superstitious people. The primary object of the priests is, no doubt, to get the temporalities

of the Established Church: but they also have a further object, which lies much nearer to their heart, which is to make Ireland a Catholic country. One of the greatest of the delusions which have been put into the heads of the peasantry is that they are a nation."

Irish Catholics look forward to dying by the millions: "There is another horrible prevailing idea which really startled me the first time I heard it." Trevelyan claims a man told him: "We shall eat wheat-en bread next year, sir." Asked his meaning, he replied: "There will be fewer of us, sir". Trevelyan said he was told: "there were eight millions of them, that one or two million might be spared with advantage and that the country would be for the survivors."

Trevelyan's holocaust prophecy: "The ignorant people think that the loss of a million or two of their number is the utmost extent of the sacrifice which they would have to make... But if an insurrection breaks out in Ireland... the stock of food and the means of further production will be destroyed- within six months there will be a famine, and within six months more there will be a pestilence, to say nothing of the widows and orphans. There is no European country which would suffer so severely from the effects of a popular war as Ireland, because none is more populous, and none less provided with various resources... (In) the Desmond War, the people died by the hundreds in the ditches, with grass in their mouths, with which they vainly endeavoured to satisfy the cravings of hunger."

Speaking to those 'greenest of nationalists' Trevelyan ended his screed: "There is an old Irish adage, 'Roast an Irishman on the spit, and you will be sure to get another to turn him.'" ©Michael P Morley 2017 IrishTV@att.net

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Adolph Philalathes

The 40th anniversary issue of this Irish American News in March carried two columns dealing with a watershed event which officialdom in the English speaking world labels "Potato Famine". Another piece, "Perceptions of the Great Famine", described as a 'thesis' filled seven pages of the issue only to conclude that "parts of Ulster did suffer the effects of the Great Famine also, albeit to a lesser degree." A rising chorus of dissenters, including broadcaster, columnist and historical writer Tim Pat Coogan, dare to label "Potato Famine" a genocidal plot, as he did in his book 'The Famine Plot'.

Both columnists rebuked Britain for the millions in Irish Catholic families (certainly relatives to many readers here) who were forced to flee for their lives or suffer slow, gruesome deaths

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Ashling

Ashling is an Irish-mythology-based epic fantasy adventure novel. It has been compared to Lord of the Rings, Narnia, The Hobbit, Game of Thrones, Harry Potter, The Hunger Games, Beowulf, and Brave (Irish Film Board Readers Reports, August 2015). One literary agent even described it as having "...shades of Avatar." The world of Ashling has been woven together from various global myths and histories, the scientific disciplines of geology and physics, and insights gleaned from Plato's writings. Biblical

history was seamlessly combined with Viking, Celtic, Greek, and Roman mythology to form a unique explanation for the origins of gods and demigods.

About the Book:

"Fly, Daughter of Cain! Cross the skies on your golden dragon. Sound the death knell for the enemies of our people!" The old tinker's words echo through the ages as Ashling MacGillycuddy's hang glider plunges through a quantum portal in the skies over Galway's Lough Corrib.

Mere weeks away from graduating with a university degree that she hopes will erase the stigma of

being one of Ireland's Travelling People, Ashling is summoned by an ancient prophecy and catapulted thousands of years into the past. After crash landing in the Connemara Mountains she is befriended by a band of outcasts who prepare her to survive in this unfamiliar land where Fomorian Giants are battling Elves of the Tuatha Dé Danaan for lordship over Ireland's enslaved humans.

Ashling's driving desire is to return home, claim her hard-earned degree, and stake her place in society, but the only way back is through the inter-dimensional travel hub on Mount Olympus,



Ashling must put her life on the line to change the status quo; otherwise, there won't be a future for her to return to.

Leading a small group of misfits, Ashling repels an invasion of Giants, tames a ferocious dragon, rescues a besieged Elf princess, sparks a human revolution, forms unprecedented alliances between old enemies, and wrenches control of the kingdom from the Elves. But her arrival has triggered events that will destroy the gods' sacred mountain, and Ashling must race against Time and Fate to reach the portal hub before her only return route closes forever.

which is jealously guarded by Fallen Angels — the all-powerful and violent gods of mythology.

amazon.com/Mary-Mack/e/B06Y3RVXWN

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- * 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.

IASCW HISTORY

The Irish American Society of County Will was founded February 10, 1981 in Joliet. In the years since its founding, much has been done to enhance Irish fellowship and service in the community. The purpose of the Society is to promote Irish culture in America and to preserve Irish-American heritage. The Society is also dedicated to continuing education, friendship and understanding among the membership and the community. Membership in the Society began with 14 original founders and has since expanded to hundreds of families and individual members. Our first President, Robert Emmett Brophy Jr, worked to attract men and women who would further the aims of the Society. Among the early members were: Fr Kevin O'Neill Shanley, O.Carm., noted author and lecturer; Charles Connor, former mayor of Joliet; Bill Ferguson, noted education administrator; Daniel James Maher, CPA and former Will County Auditor; and Bob "Blackie" Blackburn, Joliet Police Officer. The Society is a non-profit organization under the IRS code 501(c)(3).

IASCW SCHOLARSHIP TRADITION

The IASCW fosters learning and education among its members. Toward that end Fr. Kevin O'Neill Shanley, O.Carm initiated the IASCW participation in the Irish Way Program beginning in 1983 and continuing until 2009. In 2010 the IASCW began association with the Irish Life Experience and in June 2017 our 45th recipient of the scholarship, Hannah Borgra, will travel to Ireland for this 4-week program. The scholarship application is open to all Will County residents and / or those who attend a Will County high school. Applicants are asked to write a couple short essays and submit letters of recommendation.

MARCH 3-4 MANHATTAN IRISHFEST A SUCCESS!

The annual Manhattan IrishFest, hosted by the IASCW and sponsored by numerous local contributors, was a social and financial success. Thousands of attendees filled the entertainment tent to capacity both Friday and Saturday. Over \$47,000 was contributed to local non-profit and charitable organizations. including: Operation Care Package; Manhattan Food Pantry; St. Joes Baseball; and others. Hundreds of volunteers are required to make this event possible.

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Here and Gone

By: Haylen Beck

Stuart Neville is Haylen Beck. He uses that pen name when setting a crime novel in the United States.

Neville is a superb writer who has won many international competitions. The book is set in a rural, desperately poor county in Arizona. It begins when the county sheriff stops a car that is passing through. In the car are a mother and her two children—10-year-old Sean and his sister, 6-year-old Louise.

The reader doesn't know yet that the sheriff is utterly corrupt and evil. He says the car is overweight and then claims to find a bag of marijuana. He handcuffs the mother and locks her in his cruiser. He calls a female deputy, as corrupt as he is, and tells her to take the children to a "safe" place.

His report claims that there were no children in the car. He wants the other police to think the mother is imagining that there were children.

This introduces us to the horror of the trafficking, or selling of children. However, the 10-year-old boy "senses" that the sheriff is lying, corrupt, and evil. He looks out of the rear window of the car as his mother is being put into the sheriff's cruiser. "The terror that had been squirming in his belly...now climbed up into his chest and throat. The tears came...He tried to hold them back, but couldn't"

The sheriff "removed his sunglasses and turned..." to face her. She knew that look. That melding of hate and anger...The look her father had worn when he'd a bellyful of liquor and needed to hurt someone, usually her or her little brother."

Neville's powerful use of words is able to arouse our most deep and profound emotions. He creates suspense and tension, so that we constantly feel that something is about to happen.

There is an enormous blossoming of crime fiction writing in Ireland. It is some of the very best and most vibrant writing of our day. Think: John Bosenville, Ken Bruen, Tara French, Conor Brady, Brian McGilloway, Kevin McCarthy, John Brady, John McAllister, and Paul Charles.

Stuart Neville is part of that illustrious group. He is 45 years old, and lives in Belfast with his wife and their two children.

The book cover information explains that Neville's "Haylen Beck novels are set in the United States and are



inspired by his love for American crime writing."

The evil deputy locks the children in the basement of a cabin in a very remote area. But despite fear and dread, the boy is always kind to his sister. He holds her hand and helps her down the step stairs to the basement.

He sees "the items that had been left there—a mattress, a pair of buckets and toilet paper, water, candy bars, some books and comics—and felt a new dread..."

"This had been planned. These things had been here for weeks, maybe months, waiting for children like them."

So typical of a child—throughout the long ordeal, 6-year-old Louise, held onto her doll for comfort.

The corrupt sheriff offered to sell the children, for one and half million dollars each. A super rich buyer quickly offers to buy both children for three million dollars.

The sheriff had entered "A dark corner of the internet... The Dark Web, they called it. A fancy name for a place where, no matter how evil you were, there was always someone worse."

In *Here and Gone*, Stuart Neville uses intense suspense and exquisite language to tell the story of a grim part of society. But he also shows us the power of inner strength and the grandeur of human dignity.

1916: One Hundred Year of Irish Independence: From the Easter Rising to the Present

By: Tim Pat Coogan

Thomas Dunne Books/St. Martin's Press
Amazon

Tim Pat Coogan is the author of this compelling and powerful book. It is the 16th book he has written about the history and personages of modern Ireland. He writes in the nationalist and Irish republican tradition.

I have read several of those books, and keep them among my most treasured ones. They are filled with surprising historical information and they "read well."

This lively and vital writing ability you'd expect from the former editor of *The Irish Press*. He was editor from 1968-1987. Coogan is a well-known personality on Irish radio and TV.

Coogan is known as editor, historian, journalist, broadcaster, writer and newspaper columnist. In those capacities, he interviewed many international figures.

I heard him speak twice at Chicago's IBAM. He speaks with great knowledge and authority. And he doesn't use notes! I talked with him and found him to be friendly and pleasant.

He was born in 1935 in County Dublin and he spent many summer vacations in County Kilkenny. He has six children.

The purpose of the book is to examine the ideals, hope and vision of the revolutionaries of 1916. They gave Ire-

Continued to next page

Theater Linda Vista

By: Tracy Letts

Reviewed by: Frank West

"You're a whole life to live..." says a person trying to encourage someone to be optimistic about the future. The person who is being encouraged is Wheeler. Wheeler is the central character in *Linda Vista*.

The press release says about him: "Wheeler is 50. His



marriage is over, his job is mundane, and the best years of his life appear to be behind him. A move from a cot in his ex-wife's garage to his own apartment opens up new possibilities for love and sex—complicated, painful, and hilarious. Full of options, yet short on self-examination. Wheeler must reconcile the man he has become with the man he wants to be."

However, Wheeler is unable to move on. He is angry and lost. Tracy Letts, who wrote the play says: "I have a lot of compassion...for Wheeler..." Even though he doesn't have "emotional access...to move on to the next thing."

About that missing quality, the director, Dexter Bullard says, "Loneliness, aggression, friendship, intimacy, sex, dreams, loss, obsessions are all wrapped in this hugely funny and edgy play."

The acting made for a great theatre experience. Many times I'd seen the acting skills of Ian Barford (Wheeler) and Tim Hopper. But I had never seen Cora Vander Broek perform before. She is a brilliant actor.

We see the character flaws of Wheeler and the bad decisions he has made. Maybe we can learn from his example, because we too have lives to lead.

Linda Vista will be produced by Steppenwolf Theatre, now through May 21. The theatre is located at 1650 N. Halsted in Chicago.

Curtain times:

land independence. And today it is also a republic. The book looks at the end social, religious, and political changes that have occurred in a hundred years. The second part of the title states this: From the Courts Martial to the Tribunals.

These quotes are powerful and revealing. Michael Collins "studied the guerrilla fighter's tactics used during the South African wars...He decided that the Irish would fight out of uniform. In putting these ideas into practice, it may be said that Michael Collins pioneered modern guerrilla warfare."

Michael Collins was assassinated in 1922. "And with his death, a great potential for good was lost. He had a talent for nation-building...he studied the Swiss use of hydroelectric power and its citizen army; efficiencies in Danish agriculture; and the influences and power of cinema."

"The other Irish colonial power, Mother Church...kept Ireland's gaze fixed on the hereafter, rather than the here and now...it seems a miracle that the Irish had risen in revolt in the first place."

"The Church conjured a series of evils and temptations (education and television were often referred to)...the evils of immorality...always sexual immorality—contraception, divorce, and so on—and all the while, as a shocked public would later discover, many of these same thunders were abusing little boys, keeping mistresses, and...grabbing money...even as they set themselves up as moral arbiters."

"The debate in Ireland today...remains mired in the clerically derived, watchful surveillance culture of a society given to the denial of human nature and to the...isolation and stigmatization of unmarried mothers and their children as though illegitimacy were as dangerous as Ebola."

The Second Death

By: Peter Tremayne

St. Martin's Press—Minotaur Books
Amazon

"Suspicion is nothing without evi-

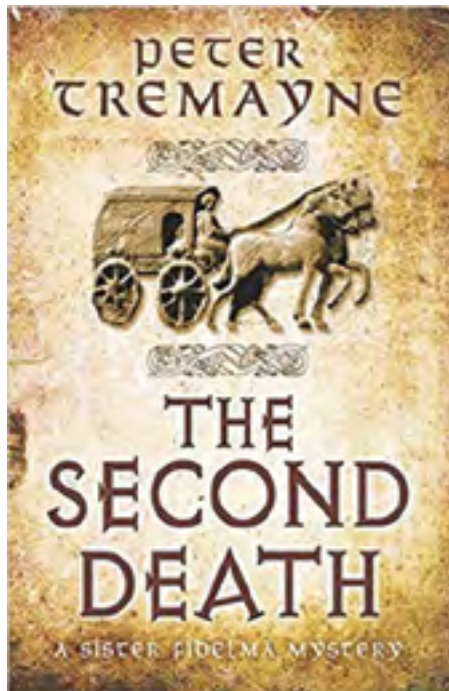
dence." Two deaths happen among a troupe of performers coming to the Great Fair at Cashel, the capital of the King of Munster.

The book is set in the Ireland of the Middle Ages—to be exact, the summer of 671 A.D.

The fair is only a week away. Fidelma's brother, the King of Munster, is counting on the fair to be a success. Fidelma suspects the two deaths were murder and resolves to find the truth.

Who is Fidelma? The king's sister is tall, green-eyed, has red hair and is probably in the late thirties of age. She has great energy, is deeply centered, is intensely observant, and a person of profound integrity.

She is an advocate of Ireland's Brehon



courts. These were like our Federal Courts and Supreme Court.

Fidelma must solve mysteries so that the facts can be clearly presented to the Brehon court.

This is the 26th novel featuring Fidelma of Cashel. The author, Peter Tremayne, began the series in 1993 "to show the

amazing position of women in ancient Ireland: their social equality and their 'modern-like freedom.'"

Quoting from the publicity sheet: "Peter Tremayne is a pseudonym of Peter Berresford Ellis, a renowned scholar who has written extensively on the ancient Celts and the Irish. As Tremayne, he is best known for his stories and novels featuring Fidelma of Cashel. He lives in London."

These quotes show some of Fidelma's observations and her humanity.

"Who is to judge what is fair and what is not...? You have to accept what fate sends."

"Matters that look obvious rarely turn out to be so simple."

"Doubt is the beginning of wisdom... It is the essential starting point to knowledge, to question and to learn."

These quotes are from previous novels. Hemlock Vespers—referring to the laws of the Roman Church: "We have to deal with people as they are and not as we would like them to be."

Shroud for the Archbishop—"Fidelma tells of training as a young woman in the traditional Celtic ways. Celts encourage self-control, meditation, self-awareness, and fairness in society for women."

"The Effects of the Great Hunger Endured for Many, Many Generations"

The Great Hunger racked Ireland from 1845-1850 but social and psychological influences persist to this day. Much has been written about the causes of the Famine, but little on its long-term effects.

The population of all Ireland today is about 7.5 million. It has never reached its pre-famine level of about 8.4 million! Britannica.com says that death and emigration caused this. But says emigration continued to reduce the population to about 4 million throughout most of the 1900's.

Before the Famine, visitors to Ireland often commented on the close family bonds of the Irish people. But by 1847, a Corkman was quoted by the Cork Examiner lamenting that "Every tie of blood

and friendship...is extinguished."

The Cork Examiner also denounced the cold, unfeeling English and Scottish officials sent to Ireland: "What sympathy could they have for...the Irish, what fellow-feeling for the distressed? 'Tis a heartless mockery...giving them jurisdiction over a warm-hearted people...for whose affliction they do not grieve."

This quote from Paddy's Lament, observes that: "People everywhere became more and more preoccupied with existence...they turned inward and grew suspicious; they lost their sympathy for one another..."

Fear of emotional closeness entered into the Irish psyche. How could you deeply love your starving wife and children, if you could not help them?

I feel that fear of emotional closeness; is one reason the Catholic Church became such a powerful force in Ireland. You could safely love a saint or other distant religious figure, but maybe not love someone close to you.

The Famine Plot states that there were other long-term effects: "in rural Ireland...bachelordom, spinsterhood, loneliness, and alcoholism took a toll in mental illness..."

Adding greatly to the misery of the Irish people during the Famine, were the unusually deep and brutal snowfalls.

James Joyce's grandparents had survived the Famine and undoubtedly he heard many stories of the suffering of Ireland.

He wrote "The Dead" in 1907. It is the last story in his collection of short stories called "Dubliners." It ends with this famous quote; could he also have been referring to Ireland's suffering?

"Snow was falling on every part of the dark central plain, on the treeless hills, falling softly on the Bog of Allen and further westward falling into the dark mutinous Shannon waves...It was falling faintly through the universe...like the descent of their last end, upon all of the living and the dead."

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Highlights:

Ferry to Inismor (the largest of the Aran Islands) for a visit to Dun Aengus Prehistoric Stone Forts and lunch on the island
Visit to the town of Cong with Quiet Man Walking Tour • Meet the Monaghans of Headford at Anglers Rest for lunch.
Clew Bay Cruise with Lunch and tour of Achill Island • Our Lady of Knock Shrine • Visit to the town of Athlone along the River Shannon • Tour of Kilbeggan Distillery • Guinness Factory • The daily musical talents of Katie Grennan!!!



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