



Kevin Henry

*“Ireland’s Gift
to America!”*

Story page 14

Photo by Earl Richardson

Mary Griffin, Irish American Heritage Center Champion, Passes

Story page 4



Chicago Gaelic Park

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



A Cháirde

Greetings to all

It has been wonderful to see so many people enjoy the Carraig Pub's outdoor dining and drinking on the patio in June, and we look forward to

seeing even more of you in July.

All the best,

The Staff and Board of Directors of Gaelic Park

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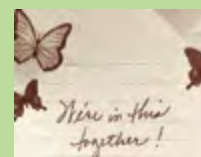
Enjoy every moment
there, loved Edie.
Dancing Tuesday night
Dinner Dance Lunch
It's a great place to
go. God Bless

Staley Park will get
through this together!
See you soon

in memory of Maureen O'Looney.

Hi Everybody!
Please stay safe
and stay well
Warmest regards
to all of you

For your April 2020 donation
I request please find enclosed
Check no. 15587 for \$300.00
We wish you the best through
these difficult days.



Here in this
together!

GREETINGS!
ENCLOSURE IS A DONATION TO
GAELIC PARK.
MEMORIAL WEEKENDS WON'T BE
THE SAME... NO TEA TENT... OR FEST!
LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT YEAR!

We'd like to make this donation
in honor of my parents.
In memory of Jim Daly
and in honor of my mom

is such an integral part of the Park
(to the best)
We need to gather together & step up
again!

As a my small
contribution to help
Gaelic Park stay
afloat during this
difficult time. I am
going to Gaelic Park
for business events.
God Bless with all...
Ireland

Hope this will help.
We appreciate everything
Gaelic Park does.

Thank You!

We continue to receive donations and we are very thankful to all our donors and supporters. We cherish your notes of encouragement.

To Gaelic Park
This donation is made in the
name of the late John Burke, who was
a great volunteer at Gaelic Park
for many years. Kind best
wishes and love from
his family.

Love all the activities
you offer & the luncheon.
Enclosed is my
contribution.

Gaelic Park,
This is a donation in
memory of my cousin
Marilyn O'Donnell. She lived
Gaelic Park.

Just a little donation
Hope you will be back in
business soon. You all have
worked so hard to make the
place so beautiful.

I am the niece of 2 founding members
Patrick Hennessy and William (Pat) Hennessy.
I gladly support your fundraising.

In honor of the
Lennon marriage.

Staley Park will get
through this together!
See you soon
God Bless

I was so sorry to
have to cancel my
trip to Chicago last
month due to Pat-
rick's Day! I always
enjoy your delicious
corned beef dinner
& all the festivities.
I hope this check
will help cover
expenses until you
are re-open. (over)

Since the first day that Chicago Gaelic Park opened its doors almost 30 years ago, it has acted as an essential pillar of Irish community and culture for generations of Irish immigrants and Irish Americans. In addition to providing essential cultural and community events, Gaelic Park has also given back in an unorthodox way by donating space to the faith community, various arts groups, dance and music groups, and for many years, has regularly hosted Irish Community Services (ICS) senior groups fundraisers, and other events.

ICS and all other organizations that regularly use Gaelic Park as a space to conduct business or practice their trade, owe a debt of gratitude to everyone involved, past and present, who keep Gaelic Park running for all in the community to enjoy and benefit from. The recent COVID-19 pandemic is posing the biggest threat to our beloved Gaelic Park in its nearly 30-year history and we at ICS committed all involved in the recently launched fundraiser. The success of this fundraiser to date is a testament to how much this beautiful center means to the entire community.

IRELAND



From the Motherland

By Sean Farrell

WHAT A YEAR!

2020 - What a Year!

And we're only half way through.

In January we had - finally - Brexit, with the finale to come at year's end. February saw that General Election with the inconclusive result, of which more below. March to June 2020 will be forever identified with the Virus - still very much with us and something which has coloured every aspect of our lives. Even as it rages through the Americas, the Middle East and the Sub-Continent, for the moment here in Ireland, as elsewhere in those Western European countries first attacked, the Corona Virus is held in check and the cautious opening up of the countryside lock down is now well under way. Ireland's all-island death toll is nudging 2,300 and the magic R figure is well below one. We are no longer in the world top twenty for deaths (now 27th) but remain ninth in terms of deaths per million, behind the USA and seven of our EU partners. And, as elsewhere, Irish deaths are overwhelmingly among the old (many in retirement homes), the sick and the infirm.

Any sense of relief is tempered by awareness of the bereavements suffered and those voices predicting a second more vicious wave of infection. This may well happen, but at all levels the general opinion seems to be that this time we will not be caught unawares, that we know more about the virus now and that importantly we know how to contain it. Indeed renewed limited infections of a disease where the mortality rate hovers around two per cent may prove to be a lesser task than economic recovery. Getting the toothpaste back in the tube in terms of undoing the economic and social havoc wrought by the Virus will be a monumental task and one for the long haul; there was full employment and a booming economy before the Virus struck, whatever about deficiencies in housing and health.

But first off we need a government. We now have one - a historic three party coalition, just agreed after months of negotiation, not helped by the stultifying omnipresent Virus, with the hatchet buried between the two old Civil War parties Fianna Fail and Fine Gael as they enter coalition with the Greens. Agreement was a close run thing with the two thirds majority



required by the Greens barely achieved and some skeptics convinced therefore that it will not last.

The February election had been historic. Not only had Sinn Fein broken

through big time but it actually garnered more votes than either Fianna Fail or Fine Gael. In terms of seats Fianna Fail just edged it with 38, Sinn Fein got 37 and Fine Gael 35, out of 160. With eighty plus seats required to form a government what was clear was that the process was going to be long and arduous, matching if not exceeding that of 2016, with the Greens, (12 seats) and a slew of small parties and Independents featuring also in the mix.

Sinn Fein had campaigned on a shamelessly populist and dubiously costed platform tailored to public demands for action on housing and health (overwhelmingly identified in polls as the two issues most of public concern), packaged and presented as a "mandate for change." Was its result a flash in the pan, just a temporary surge born of dissatisfaction with the other parties and therefore part of the periodical "throw the bums out" rushes of blood to the head which grips the Irish electorate at intervals? Or did it represent the start of a seismic shift to the Left in Irish politics as Sinn Fein and others proclaimed? And was it a "mandate for change?" Sinn Fein and the other identifiable Leftist parties clocked up around 36% of the votes with the Greens winning another 7%, the 43% total matching almost exactly the combined vote for Fianna Fail and Fine Gael. With many of the Independents carrying FF or FG sentiments "in their DNA" the jury remains out on that one.

What WAS abundantly clear was that no two parties could together form a government. The necessary numbers could be achieved only by coalition with a third party or a significant number of Independents. After Sinn Fein's initial attempt to form a left of centre government failed, the options for Fianna Fail and Fine Gael were clear - either involve Sinn Fein or shut them out.

Right away the decision was to shut them out even though a three party grand coalition would easily have the numbers. This before the Virus struck. Clearly Sinn Fein were seen as having too much historical baggage for both the other parties and were potentially also an existential threat to Fianna Fail in particular. The major argument in favour of inclusion - that Sinn Fein would thus have to get off the fence, participate in and share responsibility for

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some tough decisions - was discounted. Shutting them out narrowed the possibilities down to opting for a second election - for which there was no enthusiasm - or for the two parties to agree to form a historic coalition, suspending, however temporarily, traditional enmities and then court the Greens and/ or others to get the necessary numbers. There had been informal arrangements in the past - after 1987 and again in the "Confidence and Supply" arrangement after 2016, but formal coalition would be something else. For better or worse this was the option chosen.

Would the two parties have decided similarly only weeks later when the extent of the economic and social carnage wrought by the Virus became known? And, a rhetorical question, how much does Leo Varadkar, now riding high in the polls for his government's handling of the Virus emergency, regret calling the election in February and not waiting? Whatever, the pressing need to form a government by bringing in the Greens (vastly preferable to handling a gaggle of independents) gave them enormous leverage, something the Greens have not been slow to exploit. The result has been a wordy, lengthy (137 pages) Program for Government with the imprint of the Greens all over it, despite the low priority the public have given to fighting climate change. Whether it will survive the first months' brush with reality

remains to be seen.

The Program is largely aspirational and not costed - but what aspirations! It commits the Government, inter alia, to an average 7% annual reduction in overall greenhouse gas emissions from 2021 to 2030 (51% over the decade) - the Red Line issue for Green participation. Moreover a 2050 target for net zero emissions will be included in a Climate Action Bill to be introduced in the government's first 100 days. This, and the other measures to combat global warming, if implemented, would put Ireland among the global leaders in saving the planet. There's plenty of waffle on housing targets and just about everything else with nothing stated on where the money will come from.

The new government will see Micheal Martin as Taoiseach swop with Leo Varadkar after 30 months. The Greens (twelve seats) will have three Cabinet Ministers (out of fifteen) and four Junior Ministers (out of twenty). Not a bad haul. More next time.

Sean Farrell is a retired Irish diplomat and former Irish Consul General in Chicago in 2006-7. Previous posts included Irish Abroad Director in the Dept of Foreign Affairs & Irish Ambassador to Estonia from 2001-4. He was also an EC Peace Monitor in Croatia and Bosnia in 1991-2 before serving in Belfast from 1992-95 as Deputy Head of the Anglo-Irish Secretariat in Maryfield, a period that saw the first ceasefires and moves towards the settlement of the Good Friday Agreement.

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"2019 Celtic Lawyer of the Year!"

Longtime Irish Heritage Center Champion, Mary Griffin, Passes

By Tom Boyle

In April of 1987 I was invited to join the Operations Committee at the Irish American Heritage Center. At the first meeting they elected me Chairman. That's when I met committee members, Mary Griffin., Bob Dyra, Alan Duggan And Ann Mulcrone.

Mary was the Secretary of the Committee and the Office Manager of the Center. She also volunteered at every Center event.

She knew who was related to who and that saved us from a few embarrassing moments!

She was a great friend and a credit to us all.

Mary passed on June 22nd,

and services were on June 29.
Cooneyfuneralhome.com.



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Roaming in the Gloaming

By Estelle Shanley

It's been catastrophic since the elimination of socialization from my daily life. Wasn't always that way. In the beginning I welcomed the lockdown, a respite, a new freedom, off the treadmill of an existence packed tight from working in the vineyard of do-gooders. I ponder, will we ever escape the personal fear of an invasion of covid-19? Each morning saddled with futility of fear brought back childhood memories during World War II. After school, sitting with my Mother doing the daily spelling test, once over I could go outside to play. I continually confused the spelling of niece and nice, being yelled at, silently wondering why spelling was necessary when the war would kill us all. Heavy duty for a little kid.

I struggle with quarantine fatigue, the absence of friends too risky to visit and the daily challenge of maintaining motivation. A friend recommended a lay-back approach. Impossible, unsuited to my goal setting, people-centered personality. I mourned for my community life rigorously scheduled though filled and balanced with challenges and accomplishment. A long time ago, in early March we were informed by catastrophic mis-government that the viral tide would retreat. It has not. Across the land cities, towns and rural areas are experiencing an up-take in virus contamination in hospitals and badly hit nursing homes. Most people have accepted serious privations for themselves as well as the common good. We paid heed and remained compliant to lockdowns. As I write in mid-June, I'm invited to a small gathering hosted by the widow of a diseased wealthy Texan who served in the elder Bush's White House. As a naturalized citizen since 1960, there are still times when I pause, take a deep breath and utter: Only In America. This is one of those times. The celebration centers around the diseased man's birthday. Had he lived, he'd be one hundred years old. By attending am I putting myself at risk? Never mind, vanity wins out, I'll be masked, savoring the joy of dressing up, craving socialization, frankly looking forward to a group of nine, an opportunity of taking political temperatures of well heeled republicans. Do I hear someone muttering: "curiosity killed the cat"? Stay tuned!

Finton O'Toole, highly visible and respected columnist for The Irish Times, recently received a fair amount of notice in US media outlets for his analysis of

mis-government's handling of the coronavirus outbreak. He concluded his column dramatically, declaring that Ireland felt pity for America.

More recently O'Toole, prompted no doubt by the anti-racism riots in the US and Ireland tackled the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission on the issue of online racist hate speech. It's against the law in the Republic though largely ignored. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Leo Varadkar emphasized "black lives matter" adding, "black feelings matter too." Stressing the need to root out racism, he highlighted the absence of people of color in legal enclaves, television and parliament. Not mentioned, the discrimination against the Traveling people, formerly referred to as Tinkers and Gypsies. Years ago in Dublin on assignment for the Irish Tourist Board I witnessed a young gypsy teenager flying across a street followed by an elder male gypsy. When apprehended the boy, knocked to the ground and kicked mercilessly by the man wearing what I recognized as hobnailed boots. A scene of utter violence while shopkeepers leaned up silently in their doorways calmly watching. A startling example of the disdain Irish society held for the the Traveling people. None of my business, although I rode in the ambulance with the young boy, an act of pure instinct. He was treated and released.

Years later, attending the first Irish Conference on Women at Trinity College, a traveling woman spoke about her life. She produced near a dozen children without any medical, pre-or-post nuptial care. She was humble and humbling explaining she had no way to wash herself, too embarrassed to seek out medical care for examination and care. It a recent report the number of deaths among Traveler infants is 14.1 per thousand live births compared to 3.9 among the general population. Another startling statistic, traveling women live on average twelve years less than women in the general population. Their men live an estimated 15-years less.

We Irish were recently confronted with startling prejudice by the United Kingdom and the Church of England objecting to an inscription on a gravestone in the Gaelic language. The UK Ecclesiastic Church ruled that without a translation, the inscription would not be understood by those visiting the graveyard. Also, the Irish words could be regarded as a political statement.

The tombstone of Margaret Keene, born in Ireland, proud of her Irish heritage life,

Continued to page 17

On the Law

Martin J. Healy, Jr.

John P. Scanlon

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LAW FIRM



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

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

Staying Safe This Boating Season

The boating season this year is truly unique. This year we must focus on both being safe from injury and also being safe from infection. COVID-19 has affected every aspect of our lives, social, work, as well as recreational. As to boating, while the Chicago lakefront lake path has been closed and is about to open, there has been a gradual opening of marinas, with restrictions, both locally and in nearby states. Most local restaurant restrictions apply to the food service aspect of marinas. Depending on restrictions at restaurants and marinas, it may be a good idea to pack a cooler for food and drinks.

Also, Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommendations on COVID apply in boating situations. Six-foot safe distancing, handwashing, and masks should be used at boat ramps, piers, and fueling areas. Occupancy of individual boats should be restricted to immediate family members. Rafting up boats or tying them together should be avoided. The Mayor of Chicago has already announced there will be no "Playpen" area this year on Lake Michigan near Chicago Avenue where power boats would tie up together, bringing together a hundred people or more.

So, when you have addressed the COVID concerns, it is a good time to have some fun and think about a few additional tips for staying safe from injury while out on the water this summer.

There are nearly 12 million registered recreational vessels in the U.S. According to the U.S. Coast Guard, there were nearly 4,200 boating accidents in 2019. Those accidents resulted in over 600 deaths, more than 2,500 injuries, and caused approximately \$55 million of damage to property. By using your common sense and following some of these tips, you can avoid accidents and injuries, and you can help ensure your time on the water is safe and enjoyable.

Drive Safely and

Pay Attention to Others

Most importantly, drive your boat safely and make sure you are paying close attention to other boats and those not in boats: skiers, tubers, swimmers. Although waterways generally do not come with traffic lights or defined lanes - act as if you would on the roadway. Illinois law forbids a driver from operating any watercraft in a careless manner as to endanger persons or property. It specifically prohibits weaving through congested traffic, jumping the wake of another vessel unreasonably or unnecessarily close to the other vessel, passing in a manner that creates a hazardous wake or waiting until the last possible moment to swerve to avoid a collision.

Boating is one of the most enjoyable part of summertime for people of all ages. It is important to keep in mind that casual attitudes towards operating a boat can have life shattering results. Taking all necessary precautions will help ensure that your mem-

ories of boating are all positive.

•Don't drink and drive.

Alcohol use, was again the leading known contributing factor in fatal boating accidents in 2019, accounting for 23% of boating deaths. Remember to drink responsibly, and to ensure that the driver of the boat is not intoxicated. Intoxicated boat operators are subject to penalties similar to those enforced against motorists who drive a car while intoxicated.

•Use extra caution at night

While fewer total accidents occur at night, as there are generally less boats in operation during that time, the percentage of accidents that result in fatalities during the night hours is disproportionately high. Of the accidents that occurred between 2:30 a.m. and 4:30 a.m. last year, over 34% resulted in fatalities, the highest of any 2-hour time window of the day. Compare that to accidents that occurred between 2:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m., resulting in fatalities just over 11% of the time.

Some bodies of water enforce nighttime speed limits. On Indiana waters, including open waters of Lake Michigan, a boat may not exceed 10 m.p.h. between sunset and sunrise. For boaters traveling between Illinois and Indiana, remember that the two state's speed limits are different if traveling after sunset and the Illinois/Indiana border is in open waters.

In Illinois, while generally no numerical speed limit is present, watercraft must be operated at a speed which allows the operator to bring the boat to a stop "within the assured clear distance ahead." The U.S. Coast Guard Rules similarly require a vessel be operated at a safe speed so that it can take proper and effective action to avoid a collision and be stopped within a distance appropriate to the prevailing conditions.

In "no wake" zones, whether during the day or at night, a vessel may not exceed 5 m.p.h. in Illinois. Excessive speed accounted for the fourth leading factor in boating accidents last year.

•Be careful around the dock and while getting on and off the

boat.

It is important to be aware of your surroundings when you are on and around the dock, and to use extra caution when boarding and disembarking the watercraft. Look around to make sure the footing around the dock area is solid and there are no tripping hazards in the area, such as ropes, boat hooks, or other equipment. In 2019, almost 700 accidents occurred while the vessel was docking or tied to a dock. In one case handled by our firm, we represented an individual who suffered significant injuries when he fell as he tried to step off the boat onto the dock because a portion of rubber edging around the border of the dock gave way under him as he stepped off the boat.

Accidents can also occur around the dock area if hands, arms, or legs get stuck or pinned between objects in sometimes-crowded or busy harbors. Be aware of your boat, and other boats when you are around the dock, particularly when boats are moving.

•Be aware of the weather

Weather is another major consideration when taking a boat for a summer cruise, particularly in the Midwest, where the weather conditions can change at the snap of a finger. Weather and hazardous waters accounted for over 350 accidents in 2019.

Many encounters with bad weather can be avoided altogether by planning your route in advance and checking the weather forecasts prior to setting off. It is also important to carry maps and not to be overly dependent on electrical equipment such as GPS devices or cellular phones. Many times, these devices may not be reliable for longer excursions or trips on larger bodies of water. Equipment failure caused 379 accidents in 2019.

•Make sure your boat has an experienced and attentive operator.

According to the U.S. Coast Guard, operator inattention, improper lookout, operator inexperience, and excessive speed were the top 4 primary contributing factors in boating accidents in 2019, and were responsible for nearly 45% of all boating acci-

dents. In 2019, over 46% of boating accidents involved operators with no boating safety education. 70% of deaths occurred on boats where the operator had no formal boating safety instruction. Only 20% of deaths occurred on vessels where its operator had received a nationally-approved boating safety education certificate.

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

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

Many jet skis, wave runners, and smaller personal watercraft pose different risks than larger boats. Many jet skis simply have too much power-producing capacity and inexperienced or younger drivers can easily lose control. Problems can go from bad to worse when the jet ski or watercraft does not automatically deactivate when the driver falls off.

Jet skis are jet-propelled, and when users fall off or are thrown from the watercraft, water from the jet propulsion system can cause severe damage to body orifices and internal organs. Healy Scanlon represented a teenager passenger who fell backwards off a jet ski as it was accelerating receiving serious internal injuries from the force of the water stream. Propeller powered watercraft also pose risks to those who may fall in the water near the vessel. "Prop guards" provide protection for some types of propeller-powered crafts. Because some of these risks are unique to wave runners and smaller watercraft, it is vital to look for and heed the warnings that often accompany these vessels. Wet suits are highly recommended when using any type of jet-propelled watercraft.

Keeping in mind these tips can make your boating experience even more enjoyable and safe.

Martin Healy, Jr.
Neil
Schelhammer



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – JULY 2020

The month of July is typically a celebratory time for the Irish American Heritage Center and our members. Irish Fest affords all of us the opportunity to get together with family and friends to enjoy our Irish heritage and culture. With this year's festival cancelled because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we've been left with yet another void in our social calendars, and missing our friends at the IAHC.

That all being said, there are some positive signs that there is light at the end of the tunnel for the IAHC. Thanks to the outstanding support of our members, friends and partners, the Center has been able to weather the storm that came about with the total shutdown. Our fundraising efforts have gone a long way in keeping our building in working order and ready for the inevitable re-opening that we are all excited about.

We have been able to find new ways to celebrate our heritage and connect with you, our members, through virtual offerings such as the Fridays in the Fifth concert series, Anam Cara Memoir and Creative Writing Zoom Series with our own Virginia Gibbons, and more! We have done our best to share the best in Irish music, literature, poetry and culinary experiences from the Emerald Isle and throughout the world to entertain and enlighten you. Our goal was to bring us together as we stay apart.



As we enter into Phase 4 of the city's re-opening plan, the Board of Directors is hard at work to determine the safest and most fiscally responsible way for our Center to re-open. With restrictions still in place, it will take a while for it to be the same as we all remember but what a welcome sight it will be to see so many of you back in the building!

It has been my honor to serve as President of the IAHC these last two years. Despite the unique challenges that we have had to face these last several months, I am proud of my fellow board members and our staff for the hard work that went into fundraising through the Center's biggest challenge yet, and for the leadership shown by our Board as we served the Center in this challenging time. I am grateful for the overwhelming support shown by our members, volunteers and supporters, who contributed to the Go Fund Me fundraiser, renewed memberships with the IAHC and donated to our Spring Appeal.

There will be a lot more to come as we get closer to the new normal at the IAHC. Until then, I look forward to seeing you all at the Center. Until we meet again.

Mike Shevlin

President, Irish American Heritage Center

ENJOY "FRIDAYS IN THE FIFTH" FROM YOUR LIVINGROOM!

Grab a drink, invite your favorite concert buddy, and join us for our new Facebook feature, Fridays in the Fifth!

Live on Facebook, most Fridays at 6pm, tune in and enjoy musical partners and friends of the center playing from their homes, or in front

of the Fifth Province fireplace!

Almost like being there, but there's no "almost" with the music. It's as good as we all remember it!

Friend us at <https://www.facebook.com/IrishAmericanHeritageCenter/> and stay tuned!



TO OUR MEMBERS

With the safety of our voting members, volunteers and employees foremost in our minds, and in consideration of the difficult position of having our Center at least partially closed for the foreseeable future, the Irish American Heritage Center Board of Directors has made the decision to postpone our annual Board elections until June of 2021.

This decision was reached after much deliberation and debate. The fact that we are unable to hold in-person voting, and the belief that an online election would make it difficult for our entire voting membership to participate, ultimately lead us to believe that this was the most prudent decision.

The Board will hold elections for the Executive Committee in July as usual.

Thank you to everyone for your continued and overwhelming support of the Center during these once in a lifetime circumstances. None of us can wait until we are all together again.

The Board of Directors
Irish American Heritage Center



ANAM CARA

Anam Cara means "Soul Friends" in Gaelic, and this writing style embodies the importance community plays in sharing our personal stories.

The Irish American Heritage Center presents a summer's worth of creativity and instruction in a Zoom classroom setting, led by our long time literary mentor, Virginia Gibbons. Bring your notebook, your experiences, and join us for personalized guidance in our virtual Anam Cara Memoir and Creative Writing Workshops.

Share your memories, reflections, stories, or poetry. We can help you develop your pieces. You can read aloud for constructive feedback, suggestions, and most importantly, support.

Zoom classes meet every Tuesday from 1:00pm through 3:00pm CST.

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This is a little story written by Anraoi O Liathain (Harry Lyons) 1917-1981 who was raised in the parish

of Glendine in rural West Waterford. All his works were published in the medium of the Irish language, and the tragedy is that very few people have been able to read his literary output due to the decline of the Irish language, in this and previous generations. However, I have managed to translate it into English, and I hope you enjoy it. The story is about the excitement when the first Gramophone came to the parish of Glendine, possibly in the 1920's.

The Gramophone

A fairly rare event happened in our house on one occasion when I was growing up in Glendine, in the West Waterford Deise. A letter arrived from my mother's aunt which contained a five pound note. We all gathered around our mother staring at this mysterious brown note. At that particular time it was unusual enough for the green pound notes to be coming into our house but it was hard to imagine that there were five green notes contained in this small brown one!

We were rich. There was nothing that we could not buy and we were short of money on many occasions. I needed a new trousers as a necessity, and not just to keep up with the latest fashions, and the nuns were not too happy with my sisters as their toes were beginning to show through their old footwear - and if a good pair of shoes were bought for each one of us, they would be the only good pair of shoes each one of us would have.

But it wasn't from nowhere that I and the rest of us got the thrift and the 'waste not want not' attitude we all practiced. Our mother was a very practical woman. The Saturday after the windfall arrived, she dressed herself and dressed me, she deposited the windfall carefully into her

purse and we walked the seven mile journey from Boola Hill to Youghal.

The journey seemed short for us as the sun was shining, the fall of ground was with us and the secret purpose for the five pound note was on our minds. It wasn't long before we were heading back the same road again to Glendine. The darkness was approaching; the hill was in front of us as well as the five pounds worth of a heavy package that we were carrying between us.

The rest of the gang were waiting for us when we were about a mile away from the house. They ran towards us and started asking us questions, but my mother had warned me not to answer any questions until we were inside in our kitchen. Then, the package was laid on the table very carefully, the wrapping paper was removed and we all stood around it staring in amazement at the practical fruits of the five pound note - a shiny yellow box with a small wheel on top, a large tin horn that would remind you of a top hat as well as ten shiny black discs in wrapping paper. "That's a gramophone", said my mother proudly. "Move yourself", she said to me, "and get it working".

I stooped down to put the equipment together as the shopkeeper had explained to me earlier. I attached the horn, wound the turntable, put a needle in the sound box and placed one of the records on the small green wheel. I wound another piece of apparatus, the record started to turn very quickly and I placed the needle on the outside of it. Nothing happened for a few moments and then a fine, ferocious sound started to cascade all over the kitchen. "That's John Mc Cormack singing The Boys of Wexford", my mother said.

It was written on the record that John Mc Cormack was a tenor, but according to the gramophone he was a fine soprano. Indeed, we found out from that gramophone that our opinions regarding music were all over the place, baritone was a bass, according to the gramophone, and tenor was a baritone and so on. Not to mention the lady singers. On one occasion we played a record performed by ladies and we had to adjust the volume before the rafters of the house came in on top of us!

Well, that's how the first gramophone came to our parish. The story spread to the four corners of the parish and everyone had to come to see and listen to this new wonder. There was a large and happy gathering every night in the house - it was very lonely before this, as my mother was not a native of this locality and did not have much social contact before this - until the gramophone came to her assistance. There



was an odd person who came and were not to our liking and they were put to flight very fast.

The visitors were seated beside the gramophone, the horn pointed in their direction and the loudest record we had was put on the turntable. There should have been a prize for the punishment they were suffering!

A transformation came over my mother. When she was ironing the clothes there was a little tilt of pride in her head as she sang along to the music. There was a smile in her eyes every Saturday morning as we got ourselves ready to make the trip to You-

ghal. And before she bought a grain of tea or a loaf of bread, in that town, she would make for the record shop and spend an hour going through the records, talking about the records with other people who also had gramophones, getting advice from the shopkeeper - and she never came out without a new record under her armpit. When money was in short supply, the shopping bags would be fairly light coming home, but she never failed to buy a new record.

Some of the neighbors began to talk. They said it was a bit of a step up in the world to get a gramophone in the first place and also a scandal the amount of money she was spending on new records.

Maybe they were right. And it wasn't from any feeling of ill-will they said what they said. But this I know. Little money was spent compared with the happiness it brought to my mother as a result. From our point of view, we now have over two hundred songs that we wouldn't have without that gramophone.

And when we look back and reflect on life, the gramophone was just great. It was bought, and the records as well - for a five pound note!


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Hibernian Radio Police Pub Tour ‘Live’ in July

Hibernian Media Chairman Mike Houlihan has launched a promotional tour of Chicagoland’s Irish Pubs as he continues to salute local Irish First Responders on his weekly show, Hibernian Radio Hour, which is broadcast every Saturday night from 7-8PM on WSBC 1240AM and podcast at hibernianradio.org

“We started the show in 2019 to honor our Irish cops, firefighters, and paramedics, but recent statements by morons pushing to ‘defund the police’ have really ticked me off. We’d like to record our show from a variety of Irish pubs in Chicagoland to salute the local police officers

for their valor and fortitude in this very troubling time. The cops deserve our respect and prayers in their continual fight against societal ignorance and bias spawned by uninformed politicians and ‘social justice protestors.’”

The tour will take the show to Irish pubs throughout the city and record talks with each pub’s “favorite cops”, as they discuss their careers and Irish backgrounds, including music and community news along the way. “It’s also a great opportunity for pub owners to let the police know how much they are appreciated in their community.”, Houlihan said, To arrange for Hibernian Radio to record their show in your Irish pub, please contact Mike Houlihan at 312-431-8700 or mikehoulihan7@gmail.com

community news, and the weekly trip to “Houli-Town” for some laughs along the way. Come on out to support your Irish First Responders!

Hibernian Media was founded in 2013 as a 501c3 public charity dedicated to Irish and Irish American culture and they produce a variety of media, including a pair of weekly radio shows, their annual film festival, annual cultural enrichment tours of Ireland, and assorted concerts, television programs and independent films.

Hibernian Radio is sponsored by **McCann’s Irish Oatmeal, Personal Injury Attorney James McGing, Sheehy & Sons Funeral Home, Local 150 Operating Engineers, and Irish American News.**



Pubs on the police tour scheduled for July are: Wednesday July 1st at The Celtic Boxing Club 3012 West 111th Street, Chicago, Wed. July 8th we will be recording Hibernian Radio Police Pub Tour at The Carragh on Northwest Highway in Edison Park and our guest will be Pat O’Brien, candidate for Cook County States Attorney. We will also be at the Cork & Kerry Irish Pub, Beverly at 10614 South Western Avenue in Chicago on Wednesdays July 15th, 22nd, and 29th. The show will be recorded starting at 6PM at each location. Show includes interviews with an Irish cop, music,





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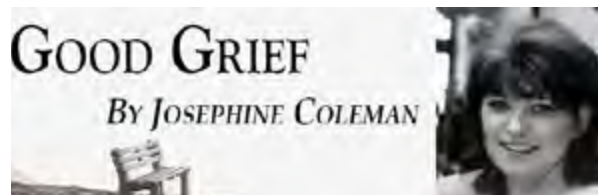
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Hello there again everyone. Yes I know. We are still no farther forward e! My father James Gallagher (Rip) from Donegal would say in between puffs of his pipe with his favorite condor tobacco. Miss you Dad. Better days ahead. ‘

Huge shout out once again to all our BRAVE and wonderful FRONTLINE workers and EVERYONE who is keeping us up and running. Bless them all keep them safe and healthy and a big fat pay rise .

My husband cousin Mary Lowry Finnerty who is a grandmother from County Roscommon has been keeping us all entertained on Facebook. Singing and playing her ukulele and banjo, coming up with new tunes every day from rock and roll to old traditional ballads that our parents used to sing to us around the fire every Saturday night. Many thanks Mary.. You Rock..

My daughter gave me a book about twelve weeks ago. I love reading I was so looking forward to reading it when she was in school. Little did we all know that she would be home all day? Presently she has classes and homework online. She misses her friends but they have group chats every night before bed.. I take her out for a driving lesson every day and it's nice to have her to myself and have a girly chat. She also helps me iron and pleat masks (her DAD too) I joined Heathers Fairy Mask team. It's been pretty hectic doing as much as we can until the wee hours of the morning to reach different medical non-medical workers. My target was initially the medical staff in my neighborhood then as they got PPE it was our non-medical centers .Food pantries, and literally our local community and our neighbors.

March. April. May was dark days for all of us who thought YES!!! I have a sewing machine I can help!!! Personally I was up till 2/3/4/5am. I would watch BBC AMERICA, Cry as all we parents thought about our kids! When I did go to bed I would wake up AT 4am and run downstairs to my poor husband beautiful sunroom which now was a total mess with sheets,elastic,thread (which he had to cut into 9x6 squares)Wonderful much needed donations from Salvation Army. Huge shout out to Major Vincent, Major Tina. Lovely young couple (scientist) who just arrived here from Europe smack in the middle of this pandemic. They would have sheets, washed cleaned and delivered with a few bags of European sweeties. That

if you're reading this Major Victor and Major Tina my husband ate them all!

I met the most wonderful people through sewing masks. I want to thank my friends for their donations. Mary Doherty had buttons, elastic sent to my home via amazon. HUGS Mary.. We have same birthday so she gets me... we are always the first ones up to say hey what do you need??

Rita. 'South Side Irish' Margolis. My Polish friend who helped cut up material with Chris and Eileen. Janet my neighbor who has been wonderful and still sewing with me for our Navajo Nation via Sharon Bird. Coordinator .She has been wonderful from the get go while I was sewing for Mask Fairies, she would make sure company's would send us elastic, our ultimate goal was to help anyone who needed a mask either in our community or other states. Like our sewing mums we cried every night as we could not sew fast enough, we cried and chatted every night till the wee hours of the morning. I just felt like I had to do this because I can use a sewing machine. I bought this one for my daughter when she was 8 yrs old. Back home, we can all sew, darn socks, and knit. Domestic science I think our nuns at our school called it. Today we can go out shopping with a mask on. My first stop was to light a candle for my beloved friend Erika at our lady of Guadalupe. I bought a stone there for her hoping this may bring some semblance of peace to her four beautiful boys. Truthfully it's a beautiful grotto and I snuck over there several times during my nights sewing masks in the early hours as it gave me much solace to be there. I put her photo there.

My husband's cousin, Mary Finnerty, is a wonderful grandmother who I met for a cup of tea last June in her home town in County Roscommon while I was on my travels with my daughter touring Ireland. Mary has been entertaining us all on facebook during this awful time. She is online singing and playing her ukulele and mouth organ. She is just so what we need right now so please support her.

I have this beautiful poem from my friend's daughter. Mia, who is 15. Her Grandparents family mean a lot to me. She is a beautiful student at Taft high school, and reminds me of myself at 15 years of age.

PARANOIA

I am what it takes over your mind during a crisis,
I light a fire in your mind making you freak out.
I am an angel floating around touching everyone
in my path.
You fear me.

I stand tall and poised. I'm superior or.

I make you fear the unknown
I make you fear that you will catch
the now known

Disease, Coronavirus. I make you
think you have it.

I am what takes over your mind
during a crisis. I

apologies for the havoc I cause mak-
ing you overbuy

its In my name I am worried as I am
PARANOIA.....

MY BEAUTIFUL MIA. XXX



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A Word With Kathleen Donahue



It is hard for me to believe that this is the last column I write as Acting CEO of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago. Beginning August 1, I will leave the agency in the very capable hands of Sally Blount, who, as the Michael L. Nemmers Professor of Strategy at the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University and former dean of the school, was carefully selected for her outstanding leadership and organizational skills, and her steadfast commitment to help those in need.

When Monsignor Michael Boland stepped down as CEO of Catholic Charities last August, I was honored to be asked to step in while a national search was conducted for a new leader. After 40 years with the agency, I was more than happy to postpone my retirement to see Catholic Charities through this leadership transition. To be sure, I was a little nervous; Monsignor Boland left some very big shoes to fill! During his incredible 30-year tenure, Catholic Charities' management, board stewardship, and organizational structure were fine-tuned. Stepping into this role was like stepping in to manage a very well-oiled machine.

However, no one could have anticipated the extent that this well-oiled machine would be put into high-gear, re-tooled and re-fueled during the COVID-19 pandemic. Over the past few months, I have used this column to keep readers updated on the incredible increases in requests for assistance Catholic Charities has seen and how we have responded. At the risk of tooting our own horn, I must say that Catholic Charities' response has been nothing short of amazing. I have never been more impressed or more grateful for the staff, the board, the volunteers, the donors, the parishes—everyone coming together to meet unprecedented needs.

Many of our services have had

to be adapted to meet CDC guidelines, and our staff continue to spring into action to implement changes, not missing a beat, even as our programs witness double and triple the volume of requests. In other instances, we have had to redeploy staff to meet increased needs in critical areas. These staff members have gladly and quickly learned an entirely new job just to ensure Catholic Charities can meet growing needs. In every program area, Catholic Charities staff have been incredibly creative in how they accomplish the job of helping people while working within the constraints and complexities of a pandemic.

In addition, the generosity of our board and donors has been overwhelming. New donors are being added daily, small donors have started to make larger contributions, and our board is stepping up to help in a myriad of ways. We have also relied heavily on volunteers and added many new volunteers. The increasing number of young people getting involved has been particularly providential at a time when many of our long-standing volunteers are in the high-risk group and unable to help in-person.

As I reflect on why Catholic Charities has been able to so quickly and responsively adapt to changing circumstances—whether

it's the leadership transition, the pandemic, or standing in solidarity with our brothers and sisters during the recent unrest—the answer is undoubtedly our mission-driven organizational culture. The commitment to the Gospel mission to help those in need, and to treat each person with the utmost respect and dignity, began with the start of the agency more than 100 years ago and has flourished ever since. Whether as a staff person, board member, volunteer or donor, people get involved with Catholic Charities because they believe in the mission to help people achieve their God-given potential. They believe in doing whatever it takes to serve those who are hurting. If anything, our mission-driven culture is strengthened by adversity and change, and we have seen a lot of both during this past year.

I am honored to pass on the gift of leadership of this great agency to Sally Blount, whose energy and excitement is inspiring. After her recent visits with Catholic Charities staff and programs, she perfectly summed up our organizational culture: "You feel the mission here and it's infectious." It certainly is, and Sally is exactly the person we need to capitalize on our strengths and effectively lead Catholic Charities through these unprecedented times and deep into Catholic Charities' second century of helping those in need. May God bless Sally in her new role and may each of us continue our commitment to Catholic Charities and all those we have the privilege to serve.



Thinking of our current situation a famous woman came to mind. Her name was Mary Mallon also known as Typhoid Mary. (1869-1938) She was from Co. Tyrone. Tom Clarke (Easter Rising) and Paul Brady (musician) country. Mallon was a cook, she was the first person in America identified as an asymptomatic carrier of the disease, typhoid fever. (your body shows no clear signs of the disease) She worked for several different families as a cook by which she unknowingly exposed others to the disease. Twice she was forced into quarantine by authorities. Apparently, she was born with the disease because her mother got infected during pregnancy. They say with the corona virus 35%-50% of people are asymptomatic.

Mallon moved to America when she was 15 years old. She lived with relatives and worked as a maid before she became a cook. Mallon worked as a cook for several different wealthy families. As members of the families became infected with typhoid, Mallon would quit. Some families hired investigators to see where the problem/infection was coming from. They took water samples from all the pipes and faucets, but everything turned out negative. Mallon moved on from jobs when she would be suspected. She was hired by one wealthy family and this time their maid got sick with typhoid and also their daughter got sick and died. Mallon was identified as the cause and couldn't escape it. The family hired an investigator after the outbreak and traced the disease to her. Mallon denied she was spreading the virus and maintained it was coming from contaminated water.

This time in history the idea of healthy carriers was unknown even to doctors. Mallon was forced by health authorities to quarantine. While in isolation she was forced to give stool and urine samples which suggested huge amounts

of typhoid in her gallbladder. She was unwilling to have her gallbladder removed. She was let out of isolation if she agreed to stop working as a cook. Mallon took a position as a laundress which paid much less than a cook. So, she changed her name to Mary Brown and worked as a cook again. And naturally there were outbreaks again. She was arrested and forced into quarantine and unwilling to have her gallbladder removed. She remained in quarantine in the hospital for the rest of her life. It's claimed that 3 deaths were attributed to her but because she used aliases the exact number will never be known some estimates said she may have caused 50 deaths. Over fifty diseases are asymptomatic, including cholera, celiac disease, covid 19, type 11 diabetes, hypothyroidism & osteoporosis.

This topic is quite scary & overwhelming. However, we've had so many scary events in our world history that were just as bad, maybe worse including Rwandan genocide, the slave trade, black plague, The Holocaust, the atomic bomb & the Irish famine. Over 700 million people in the world live in poverty, eleven million around the world are incarcerated, and 15% of the world population live with some form of disability. On the bright side good things have happened in the world including the birth of Jesus, the Renaissance, Pax Romana (peace in the Roman Empire)

I pray for your safety and that we will all in some way reach out to our neighbor and spread hope, kindness and love into the world. If you feel despair, please call someone don't go it alone. And lastly and most importantly thank you to all the people fighting this virus and risking their own lives. We are forever indebted to you. Up Tyrone where Mallon comes from. Comments or questions, call (708) 425-7021.

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To a little kid, he was a huge man with a booming voice, at first a bit scary, but then the smile that lit his eyes up and warmed the room, chasing those fears away.

As I look back now, I realize how incredibly fortunate I was to have been in this man's presence for so very many years. We lost him last month, June 10th to be exact, and Chicago's Irish music community will never be quite the same without our Kevin Henry.

Born Patrick Kevin Henry in Dooecastle, County Sligo in 1929, he was the 8th of 11 children. Music was important in his family, and while he was interested in the fiddle, being left handed, he got

the whistles and flute. He added the pipes some years later, but no matter what he played, there was magic in the room.

It was a roundabout route beginning in London and making stops in Canada, Florida, New York, and Butte, Montana that brought him to Chicago in 1955. By 1956, he and musicians the likes of Frank Thornton, Jimmy Neary, Jimmy Donnelly, and Johnny McGreevy founded the Irish Musicians' Association "To promote, teach and keep alive the traditional music of Ireland." Kevin lived that goal his entire life. From kitchens and living rooms to the 65-11 Club, Hanley's House of Happiness, and



On the Upbeat

By **Maryann McTeague Keifer**

The Abbey to Lanigan's Pub, Kevin and his longtime music buddies played, taught and mentored many of the prominent Irish musicians of this generation. Learning at his side were Liz Carroll, Jimmy Keane, Johnny Williams, Marty Fahey, Michael Flatley, Sean Cleland, and the younger group who have latched onto him with great enthusiasm, Devin Shepherd, Sean Gavin, Brian Miller, Brian O'Hart, and Niamh Ni Charra, to name a few.

Kevin was a great admirer of Chicago's Chief O'Neill and the Irish music he preserved for musicians.

He showed me his copies of O'Neill's books and the tunes he found special from them. At the same time, he strongly believed that a musician needed to play from the heart, not the written notes to make their music a living and personal part of them. He talked of a real concern he had of younger musicians emulating a popular style rather than what came from inside them.

You'd be hard pressed to find anyone more emotive than Kevin when it came to his music, Irish history, and his unforgettable storytelling. There wasn't a session, concert, or call up to the stage for a tune, that didn't have those in

attendance crossing their fingers hoping to hear "The Hell Bound Train," "Rex, the Piddlin' Dog," or another of Kevin's recitations. How he could remember tales that could go on for over 15 minutes was mind boggling, and the emotion and theater he gave to them, outstanding. His voice was



Kevin Henry, with his wife, Pauline, accepting the first iBAM! Award for Music from Mike Flannery in 2009.

strong, his delivery riveting, and his smile and twinkling eyes at the finish, irresistible.

Kevin's only album, One's Own Place, is a spectacular collection of tunes, recitations, and a lovely song, "My Little Thatched Cabin." On the album you'll enjoy reels, polkas, hornpipes, and my favorite, his jigs. Kevin puts a lilt, or maybe just some of his magic into them, and they make you happy. He is accompanied by his daughter, Maggie, his brother Johnny and sister Verona, and his music pal, Malachy Towey. Still available, if you are fortunate

to get one of the last copies, it is history and well worth owning!

It was always a treat to be able to sit with Kevin and just listen. He had a sit back in the chair style, think a minute, and then give his take, opinion, or strong belief on what ever topic be it music, history, or life. He was very honest, although not brutally so, and one never came away without feeling richer for the experience. He was the elder statesman of Chicago's Irish community. It wasn't just music and history that he gave us, though. He also

showed us the importance of family. There was no one more devoted to his lady, than Kevin was to his Pauline. He met her just after arriving here in Chicago at a dance, and two years later, married and then started the beautiful Henry family. He was so proud of his Maggie, Kevin, Mary, and Tom, and overjoyed with his

grandchildren. When he visited my show, I remember asking him if there was anything he wished he had done or could still do. He replied that when he looked back on where he came from, where he'd been, and what he has, he figured he should have been "well planted" by now so was truly satisfied with all he still was able to do.

While we all knew that he was in his waning years, it was still hard news to take when his family let us know that he had passed. He has left a void that we will always feel. He has also left a legacy that we will always be able to call up and enjoy and be thankful for. At his funeral mass, his son Tom shared some stories and beautiful memories of his dad. Some 20 years ago he asked Kevin what he wanted on his headstone. He first said a picture of him with his pipe. Then he said, "Kevin Henry, Ireland's gift to America," and wasn't he just that...

Rest in peace, dear friend.

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Irish Books and Plays in Review

Frank West



Social Changes

We are living in a time of social change. The Great Gatsby was written in a time of great social change. F. Scott Fitzgerald wrote the book in 1925. It is a pleasure to read as it has great, beautiful use of language, and wonderful characters and scene development.

“The American Irish” describes the book’s “intimation of mortality, the capacity for awe, the sense of life’s mystery and man’s frailty, and the demanding moral standards that Fitzgerald learned from his religious experiences and Irish heritage.”

Fitzgerald was also a keen observer of society and the book shows some of the changes in American society he saw.

Writing about the book and the period, Matthew Bruccoli writes, “The reaction to American participation in World War I (1917-

1918)...triggered disillusionment, moral revelation, social experiment, and hedonism.”

And that was before the Spanish Flu Epidemic of 1919 and the beginning of Prohibition in 1919. These influences changed America. We will see many future changes in the America we live in.

Barlow Goes Forth

by John McAllister
Glenish Publications

Reading the new Barlow book was a delight. This is because the book is so well-written and the John Barlow character is so well-drawn that he becomes a real person. The Barlow character is based on memories McAllister has of a real policeman so respected by the people in the town that he would go about his work unarmed.

Barlow began working as a policeman in 1936. He took an oath

to protect the people in the town and he feels responsible for them too. He is the “station sergeant” for the police station in Ballymena in County Armagh in Northern Ireland during the 1960’s. He is blunt, but kind. He “lets no one know of his kindness” because he feels it wouldn’t be due to show this aspect of a policeman. They are thought to be very strong at all times.

Humor in Northern Ireland is subtle, not raucous. There is much humor in the book, but you have to watch for it. During World War II, Barlow directed an unexploded bomb disposal unit. Several of the people in the town

Barlow during the war. Edward had taught him to use his senses to find unexploded bombs, when to defuse a bomb, and when to run for his life.”

The book’s events take place during the Cold War with Communist Russia. A person Barlow meets says, “Forget the bomb, forget the Russian’s nuking us in our bed. We’re waging an economic war to see who runs out of money first.”

Barlow says, “What’s that got to do with it?”

The person says, “The Russians are selling us radios. So cheap that we buy them instead of British made ones. They take sterling out of the country and the workers in our factories lose their jobs and go on the dole.”

“Aye, said Barlow finally understanding the danger of the economic situation. If they’ve got our money and we’ve got the unemployed, they could walk in and take over anytime they liked.” That is like Communist China today.

This was the time of the Cambridge Spy Ring scandal. The most famous of those spies were Bargass and Maclean. In our country, we had Alger Hiss, Whitaker Chambers, and the stolen secret documents left in hallowed out pumpkins!

During a routine investigation, Barlow discovers a Russian spy: a young woman. However, Barlow wonders why she come to rural Ballymena rather than to London or Belfast. Unless, he thinks, she is here to meet the most important spy in Northern Ireland.

Barlow, and his daughter, are invited to a formal party by Sir Anthony and his wife. They live in the best part of town; are wealthy and pillars of the community. They know everyone and know something about everyone.

Sir Anthony is above reproach: suave, debonair, middle-aged, wearing the best of clothes, refined, and from the upper class. He represents influence and power.

Barlow says, “Sir Anthony made great play of being Knight of the Realm and Privy Councillor...” A police superintendent

tells him a Privy Councillor is “entrusted with ultra-important secrets that they must never even hint of.” That makes it a perfect position for a spy.

Barlow becomes suspicious when he learns that Sir Anthony went to Cambridge during the same period as Burgess and Maclean.

During the party, he says to Sir Anthony, “There’s a lovely graduation scroll in your hallway from Trinity College, Cambridge. Burgess and Maclean were Cambridge men and...there are a lot more traitors in the Cambridge Spy Ring that we don’t know about. A hell of a lot.”

Barlow “wanted to spit. How people, educated people who should have known better could betray their country, was beyond him.”

During a routine investigation, Barlow learns from a known criminal that he has the Twenty Year Economic Plans of Britain and wants to see them. Barlow explains that the Russians and their spies would kill him. This turns out to be true. After a search of the dead criminal’s house, the Plans are recovered. They are in a box, maybe eight inches across, and two feet long.

Barlow convinces his superintendent about Sir Anthony being a spy. Barlow tells a junior officer who is unflinching in follow orders: “I can’t tell you how vital that package is to the future of this country. If it got into the wrong hands, it will destroy our economy for generations...The country would be bankrupt.”

When Sir Anthony tries to take it, “that package does not leave your hands until you pass it over to the Chief Constable in person.”

Then, Sir Anthony says, “Barlow, you didn’t know it yet, but you’re a dead man.”

Much later when Barlow hears the news of Sir Anthony’s death in a minor car accident, “He wonders how such a simple accident could have resulted in his death.”

What a surprising end to a powerful and extraordinary book.



served with him and are still grateful for his guidance.

John McAllister is an amazing person too. “He is an accountant, but found time to earn a Master’s Degree in Philosophy and in Creative Writing at the Oscar Wilde Center at Dublin’s Trinity College. Also, he and his wife have two children.

The Trouble in Northern Ireland were like a civil war from the 1970’s through 1998. “John shared the hurt of his clients and friends when their businesses were destroyed. People used laughter to get them through those dark times.”

Barlow asks one of the local people, Edward, to accompany him for the interview. Barlow feels the person to be interviewed would be more relaxed with him along.

“Edward twisted around in his seat to stare out the back window. It didn’t surprise Barlow that Edward had sensed them being followed. It was something he had passed on to

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Boyle the Kettle

We'll Have A Sup Of Tea

Tom Boyle



Social Chaos

George Floyd was killed by Minneapolis police officer, Derek Chauvin. Officer Chauvin knelt on George Floyd's neck for 8 minutes and 46 seconds even though he was handcuffed behind his back. George Floyd kept repeating, "I can't breathe," and finally, on the verge of death called for his mother.

George Floyd did not deserve to die, as he was only accused of passing a counterfeit \$20 bill.

His death has pushed people to the brink. Demonstrations took place immediately across the country, and then they went worldwide.

Next, the looters got into the act, fires were set and chaos spread. Hundreds of stores were looted and burned. The criminal elements always manage to cash in.

Now the police are taking the heat, likened to fascists (social authoritarianism) militaristic. The police have issues to resolve. Excessive force is number one on the list. At the same time, we must relate to the job they have to do. Police work is dangerous work. Many police officers are killed in the line of duty. Just like everyone else, they want to go home to their families at the end of the day.

Those that are calling for de-

funding the police are foolhardy. What will you do when the looters and arsonists take to the streets again?

Does systemic racism exist? No doubt to some extent, and it is driven by economic opportunity. The so called disparity is predicated on the level of education. In Minneapolis, 70% of whites own homes while 27% of African-Americans own homes. We are now back to the clenched fist, the symbol of Black power.

During the riots the looters helped themselves to liquor and cigarettes - things that in the long run drastically take a toll on their health.

Peaceful demonstrations are best so that businesses are not destroyed, along with the jobs that they provide. Law and order must prevail. Police must address excessive force and at the same time we need to support the police or it all goes downhill.

Unfortunately, politics are in play and they are targeting the November election.

Civil war statues should not be vandalized. They can be moved to the Smithsonian in Washington D.C. and elsewhere. We cannot rewrite our history books.

Jim Kilroy

One of our great volunteers that we had at the Irish American Heritage Center, has passed away at

92 years of age. Jim was from Newport, Co. Mayo, Ireland. He came to the US. in 1950 and settled in Chicago.

He was one of 8 children, number six in the lineup. His parents were Michael Kilroy, and Ann Leonard. Jim's brother Joe emigrated to Chicago, his sister Maeve became a doctor, and his sister, Eithne, became an Irish Sister of Charit. She took the name of Margaret Joseph and served 50 years in Zambia, Africa.

Jim married Kathleen Lyons and had four children, Margie, Michael, Nancy, and Kate.

Jim served in the U.S. Army and was with the Airborne, stationed at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, with the 82nd Airborne.

Jim loved handball and played Gaelic football for the McBrides. His brother Joe (RIP) continued to play football which he loved, and together with Bill McManamon (RIP), he formed the new McBrides GAA Club.

The month of October, 1956, Chicago was treated to the formation of the new Gaelic football Club. The trick was choosing a name that would do justice to a group of spirited young men. (Local McBride's historians have said, "it was like pulling a rabbit out of a hat!)."

At the Irish American Heritage Center, Jim Kilroy, Joe and Tom Gardner did the steel work. All were CTA Iron workers. They installed the headers for the arches in the 5th Province Room, and erected the steel for the elevator shaft, all under the guidance of



Patrick McCarthy, our structural engineer. Mike Shevlin Sr. got the steel donated from U.S. Steel where he worked at the time. The beams came in 10 foot lengths, so they had to cut them down and drill holes for the bolts.

Before he went to work for the CTA, Jim was a Union Ironworker. Jim worked high steel and was elected to put the American flag on the last i-beam when they topped out the Prudential



building in 1955, (pictured above). It was the first skyscraper built in Chicago since the depression of the 1930's and the end of World War II.

Later in life, Jim married Maura Barry, pictured below.

Turns out that Jim Kilroy's father, Michael Kilroy was a famous Major General in the Irish Republican Army.

He lived and died in a house on Carrickaneady Road. Kilroy, a blacksmith by trade, was deeply religious, very proper and had a great dislike for anybody who drank alcohol

On one occasion in mid-winter while attending a Brigade Council meeting, the woman of the house arrived with a tray of glasses and a bottle of Poitin, to warm them up as it was snowing heavily outside. When offered the Poitin Kilroy replied: "Ma'am we don't drink."

In September 1920 Michael Kilroy was appointed Vice O.C. Mayo Brigade IRA. The following November a meeting of the Brigade Council was held in Kelly's of

Brockagey 4 miles N.E. of Newport at which it was decided to set up active service units. Kilroy was appointed Brigade O.C. The Active Service Units were not successful, as most members were known to the Royal Irish Constabulary (R.I.C.), so it was decided to engage in guerrilla warfare. The West Mayo Flying Column was set up with Kilroy as its leader.

After having fought in the Black and Tan War, the 1916 Rising, and the Civil War, he served as a member of Parliament in the first Irish Government, 1923.

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Roaming - Continued from page 5

featured the Gaelic inscription that translated “In Our Hearts Forever.” However, Judge Stephen Eyre insisted that the English translation be chiseled underneath the Gaelic language because if not, it would be “incomprehensible to most who read it.” How Utterly ridiculous! Hog wash! estelleshanley@aol.com

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**Home is Where
the Heart Is**
By Aishling Kelly



It is interesting when you are young you worry about nothing but yet when you turn 50 you worry about everything. I remember my Mothers words when I was younger

” Save your money for the rainy day, there will always be a rainy day “. It appears that the younger generation today have nothing but opportunity to spend money. Why? Everything is too easy, too accessible, access to Amazon, E bay, uber eats, to mention but a few seamless transactions from I Phones, and I pads from ANYWHERE?

I bring this to everyone’s attention because across nearly 800 home care agencies here in Illinois collectively our phones have been ringing off the hook since covid-19 hit and even more so now since the city begins to open up !!!!!!!”

Typical questions from callers are “How much is Home care, what’s your hourly rate, what are your minimums ” verses last year’s questions asking “What is home care “? Such interesting questions when six months ago the public in general was not even aware of home care or any of the service lines we offer. Home care, moving forward will emerge and rise as a front runner for those that need it. Here is the Caveat though? Home care is private pay, unless you are a veteran or had the Moxy to plan in your forties whereby took out a long-term Insurance plan! Home care comes out of your back pocket! Start saving now! It is never too early to start saving for the future!!No one can predict the future. I think Covid -19 has thought us all to be prepared moving forward! www.aishlingcare.com

**It Starts
With A Song**

By Joe McShane



Hello everyone,

Hope you’re all keeping well. I’m still overseas at my brother Nick’s house R.I.P. It will be sold before long and become another one of my memories. A place where I used to go and hang out with him whenever I was able. And I don’t think I’ve practiced my instruments as much as this, since I was a teenager. It’s the one thing in life that keeps me from going nuts (maybe I should say, more nuttier). I am lucky, I have 5 wonderful children (four surviving) Christopher, Tracey, Joseph, Bridget R.I.P. And Declan, and they call or text me everyday, as does my wife Margaret. I’m looking forward to Declan coming over in a few days. He was really looking forward this year to the Fleadh Cheoil, in Mullingar, which is now cancelled of course. He was hoping to enter for four categories, Accordion, Piano, Singing, and Ceali Band. You’ll be there next year Declan. Hopefully life as we used to know it will return soon, and I for one will be more grateful in future.

This month’s song, I wrote after going to the west side of Chicago on the Blue Line Train. I went down to a blues bar to listen to some great guitar/harmonica playing, near UIC and Halstead.

On my way back on the train I saw what I thought was an old African American lady sitting about 20 feet away from me, and she never moved. I actually thought she had passed away, she was so still. Then after about 12 stops she moved a little, just as I was getting off at Cumberland, a couple of stops from the airport. So, I wasn’t heading for a flight, as I wrote in the song (it just seemed to fit). Anyway, I had already quietly taken five dollars out of my pocket, and I just leaned over and put it in her hand as I was leaving. She had very kind, yet frightened eyes, and much younger than I had thought earlier. Even though I never met her before or since, something about her affected me and I felt concerned. I left the train hoping she would be safe. It’s funny how some things stick with you. I still think of her and pray she’s okay.

**I Thank My Mother For
The Way I Look At Life.**

She was one of the most giving people I’ve ever

known. Our house was never empty, in fact one day I said to my mother, “there’s a man working with me and he’s from Kerry and I think he was an orphan”. He was around 22 years old. My mother said sure bring him over for a bite of dinner tomorrow, so I did. That man (Gerry) came for dinner the next day and my mother told him to gather up his bits and bring them back to our house. Gerry lived with us for around 8 years, he was part of the family. All that love was in one tiny house. Now my mother and my brother along with my father lie together in the same grave. There’s an enormous amount of love lying there tonight.

I hope you are all staying safe and healthy.
As always be good to one another. Joe

‘Girl On The Blue Line’

© *Written By Joe McShane*

Verse 1

All I could see was a figure on the train
I was heading to the airport for my plane
For 15 stops I thought I’d seen a ghost
Then she looked up and I thought I felt a smile
When I saw the saddest eyes look into mine

Verse 2

I felt my hand reach down into my pocket
And I handed her five dollars then departed
We didn’t speak a word just shared a moment
I walked away I was feeling very lonely
I saw a young life looking so much older

Chorus

A young girls heart just beating like a drum
And a fear of the back streets of the city she calls home

Sitting on the CTA just driving time away
Or maybe she ain’t got no place to go
Just staring out the window of the Blue Line all alone
Bride

Who knows where she came from
Who knows where she’s goin
Does anybody care anyway
Someone’s daughter someone’s son
Who could care less when all is said and done
Chorus

A young girls heart just beating like a drum
And a fear of the back streets of the city she calls home

Sitting on the CTA just driving time away
Or maybe she ain’t got no place to go
Just staring out the window of the Blue Line all alone

We Get Letters

As our nation goes through the double crises of Covid-19 and the murder of George Floyd, it is time for The Irish American News to rise to the occasion and rid itself of the virus that is the column of your racist-in-residence, Tom Boyle. Boyle’s diatribes against African-Americans and anyone who doesn’t kiss the bloated orange ass of Donald Trump is a disgrace to the Irish-American community in this country. I subscribed to The I.A.N. for many years, but I decided not to renew. I did not want Tom Boyle’s hate-filled columns in my house.

Last year, I was at Milwaukee Irish Fest. I saw a copy of I.A.N. in the book tent. I picked it up hoping Tom Boyle’s column was no longer soiling its pages. Sure enough, there it was with Boyle’s usual attack against Colin Kaepernick. I know Mr. Boyle grew up in a time when African-Americans weren’t allowed to express opinions white bigots didn’t want to hear. Mercifully, those days are gone, even if racists like Boyle aren’t.

I will not renew my subscription to The I.A.N. until Boyle is gone from your pages.

Sincerely,
Steven Shea, Cudahy WI

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Swimming Upstream

By Charles Brady

At What Point Do the Offended Minorities Become the Bigots . . .?

It was with barely even a flicker of annoyance that I noticed that HBO Max would be pulling the 1939 film of *Gone with the Wind* from their scheduling.

I mean, what's the point of upsetting ourselves at this stage? As I pointed out previously, we can get set for a whole shed load of things being removed on the assumption that they are bad for us and that we are too thick to be able to make decisions for ourselves. So I have been expecting and continue to expect to see many parts of our history removed or rewritten. And let's be honest, *Gone with the Wind* was always an easy target.

My ears pricked up a bit more, however, when I heard that elsewhere the 1967 Disney cartoon *The Jungle Book* was in trouble. Ah, what memories that one brought back!

I was 8 when our primary school teacher called us all together to announce that we were being taken to the cinema on an Approved Educational School Outing.

And you can only imagine our excitement when we heard that it was to see something based on a work by Rudyard Kipling! The yells of happiness we let out! Yells that only got louder as our teacher explained to us that it was all about a little Indian boy called Mowgli (the Indians being people from where the British Raj used to rule and not those who were slaughtered by an evil statue of Christopher Columbus); and that our class would be tested on how well Mowgli handled his submergence in a foreign culture -- the symbolic jungle animals -- in conjunction with his attempts to resist the call of his 'natural' culture. How we sneered at that idea!

At the showing we sat there stony faced during some (admittedly infuriatingly catchy) songs that we could see were quite obviously intended to reinforce racial stereotypes, before we stormed out of the cinema, offended and frothing at the mouth, just gagging to take part in a riot that would culminate in the burning of an effigy of King Louie, who had been attempting some serious cultural appropriation of white man's red fire and was opposed by Baloo the Bear - and, I might add, of a

species of bear that was not indigenous to India and had an American accent. I leave you to draw your own conclusions.

Nor were we blind to the fat-shaming inherent in Disney's use of the lazy, expect-food-to-fall-into-your-lap depiction of that brown, non-indigenous sloth bear.

Nah, I'm just pulling your leg. We came out thinking that we had seen a pretty great animated movie and most of us couldn't get that bloody 'Bare Necessities' tune out of our heads for the rest of the week. And even though most of us were still at the "I hate girls" stage of innocence, we were pretty happy that wee Mowgli went off with the dark-skinned little cutie at the end of the movie.

So when I heard that this Disney classic was in trouble with the Department of Cinematic Cultural & Racial Stereotyping - and don't worry, if it's not a real thing yet it soon will be - I wondered what had triggered the League of the Perpetually Offended this time. The three black, jive-talkin' crows, maybe?

As it turned out, I had that wrong: *Jungle Book* was the one with the vultures in it; the 1941 *Dumbo* was the one with the crows. But don't worry: that's on the Orwell list as well.

I got into trouble over here myself this week - not much new there - with my use of the word 'black' when talking about the idiots who thought it was smart to organise demonstrations through Dublin during a pandemic that has seen whole countries locked down. Genuinely puzzled, I asked why I couldn't use the word 'black' when the entire movement is known as 'Black Lives Matter'. Well, you just can't; that's all.

I've long ago lost track of what I can and can't say and in any case I don't even understand half the new words or terms as any kind of recognizable language any more.

I mean, thanks for nothing, JK Rowling! Because of you talking sense this week I came across a completely new acronym when you were referred to as a TERF.

'That's definitely a new one', I thought; but no! According to Mr. Google, it was invented by a cisgender person all of a decade ago. So there. (And did you like the way I just glided over that as if I knew what cisgender means?)

A TERF is someone who is a Trans Exclusionary Radical Feminist. So let's work our way through that together. We'll skip Radical Feminist. I suppose I'm feminist in

Continued to page 23

CELTIC

AN IRISH JOURNAL FOR SENIORS



WELCOME

We've packed a great deal into the second issue of Celtic! In a letter written by physical therapist, Mike Muchowicz, to his future 70-year-old self, you'll find tips on exercise and keeping active. In the Celtic Kitchen, we're taking a staple

of Irish baking and adding a contemporary twist, and you'll see some friendly - and possibly familiar - faces as we feature long-time community members in *Front Porch Profiles*.

Not only do we have puzzles to help keep your mind sharp, but we also have jokes to keep your spirits up!

And, this month, the Ambassador has chosen to highlight a piece from Seamus Heaney, one of Ireland's most beloved poets.

It seems you have quite a bit of reading to do, so I'll leave you to it!

Paul Bowling

A Letter to My 70-year-old Self

By Mike Muchowicz, Physical Therapist at Palos Health Home Health Services in Lemont, IL.

As a 46-year-old, I increasingly find myself feeling the signs of aging. My knees sometimes hurt, my back sometimes goes out and I wonder if it's worth playing in the yearly Thanksgiving touch football game!

During my 21 years of physical therapy practice, I have seen the effects of age, injury and disease on the human body first-hand. Most of my work experience has been with the senior population. When I treat patients who are in their 70's, 80's and beyond, I often find myself thinking, "What will I be like when I'm their age?" I don't know what my body will look like or be able to do after I retire, but in regards to physical health, here are a few things I

plan to tell myself when I turn 70.

"If you can still jog, then go jogging."

Jogging is one example of aerobic exercise, which is exercise you can perform for a prolonged period of time that increases your heart rate and breathing rate. Aerobic exercise (like walking or riding an exercise bike) can help prevent certain diseases, like hypertension and heart disease, and may help with the management of these, and other diseases, such as diabetes.

"Pump iron."

People do not need to grow frail as they age. Resistive exercise, such as lifting weights (free weights or exercise machines), can help increase your body's strength and its ability to perform daily functions that are essential to staying independent, such as getting up off of a chair, or walking up and down stairs. Resistive exercise can also help strengthen bones. There is no age limit for pumping iron!

"Do one balance exercise a day." As age increases, balance can decrease, leading to falls and injury. Spending a few minutes each day doing a safe but challenging balance exercise is a good way to maintain and improve balance.

"Walk safely." Good shoes and the proper use of your prescribed assistive device (cane, walker) are key factors in making sure you stay on your feet. Also, wearing clean eyeglasses with a current prescription can help you avoid tripping hazards.

"Keep your eye on the prize!" I want to be the fun grandpa who can still keep up with the kids. I will keep my eye on that prize and work to stay healthy. And at age 70, I will continue to do the work I will need to do with my body to help me hold onto that prize. I just hope that when I'm 70, I'm wise enough to listen to my 46-year-old self! (Get clearance from your physician before starting a new exercise)



Front Porch Profiles

After months of lockdown and social distancing, we are all longing to gather once again as a community. While we wait to see when this might be possible, our *Front Porch Profiles* hope to keep us connected by highlighting community members and asking what self-isolation has been like for them.

Tom Serb

Where are you originally from?
Evanston, Illinois.

How long have you lived in Chicago?
A heck of a long time!

What's your neighborhood/parish?
East Rogers Park - St. Jerome's.

What 2 words best describe how you have felt since the start of the COVID pandemic and self-isolation?

- 1) Isolated : from family, friends and everyday contact with people.
- 2) Grateful - that I have my wife with me to share our days.

What have you been doing to stay busy during self-isolation?

Writing postcards and letters remember those??) to our grandchildren.



Ann Toland Serb

Where are you originally from?
Massachusetts.

How long have you lived in Chicago?
Since I was 5.

What's your neighborhood/parish?
East Rogers Park - St. Jerome's.

What have you been doing to stay busy during self-isolation?

Downsizing 55 years of 'stuff' to move to seniors housing, working on family history, sorting family pictures, and knitting afghans to use up lots of yarn!

What are you looking forward to doing once self-isolation is over?

Getting together with our friends at the IAHC again, getting back to church on Sundays and having family time!



Jack Lydon

Where are you originally from?
Chicago, Illinois!

What's your neighborhood/parish?
East Norwood Park - St. Tarcissus.

What have you been doing to stay busy during self-isolation?

Sleeping later, watching movies, reading the papers and more in-depth phone chats!

Terrance Sheil

Where are you originally from?
County Mayo, Ireland.

How long have you lived in Chicago?
60 years.

What' have you being doing to stay busy during self-isolation?
Working in the yard.

What word describes how you've felt during self-isolation?
Bored!

Kathleen Sheil

Where are you originally from?
County Galway, Ireland

How long have you lived in Chicago?
60 years!

What's your neighborhood/parish?
West Roger's Park, Chicago.

What are you looking forward to doing once self-isolation is over?
Going to the Irish Center and church.



CARTOON CAPTION COMPETITION

The Irish are well known for their sharp sense of humor and we're giving you an opportunity to show why! Each month, we provide a cartoon and ask you to give it a caption. Send us your entries by mail or email before the 15th of the month to be considered for the competition. We'll announce the winner in next month's *Celtic*.

Irish Community Services
4626 N Knox Ave #301
Chicago, IL 60630
Info@irishchicago.org



The Celtic Kitchen

Blue Cheese Scones

The humble scone is perhaps the most Irish of all baked goods. For many, the aroma of fresh-baked scones conjures childhood memories of the dough-covered hands of our mothers and grandmothers. This month, we honor the simple scone while adding a savory twist that your granny may not have approved of - sorry Nana!

INGREDIENTS

- 3 1/2 cups self raising flour
- Pinch of salt
- 4 oz (1 stick) butter
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 8 fluid oz buttermilk
- 8 oz blue cheese
- 1 egg (to glaze)

1. Preheat the oven to 420 F and lightly grease a baking sheet.
 2. Mix together the flour and the salt.
 3. Add the sugar and mix.
 4. Rub in the butter using your hands.
 5. Stir in the buttermilk and blue cheese.
 - 6 Turn dough out onto a floured surface and knead very lightly.
 7. Pat dough out to a round of 3/4 inch in thickness.
 8. Use a round cookie cutter to shape the scones, using all of the mixture.
 9. Place the scones on the prepared baking sheet and brush with the beaten egg.
 10. Bake for 15-20 minutes or until well risen and golden-brown.
 11. Cool on a wire rack and enjoy!
- If you'd like to see the video of how to make these delicious scones, go online to www.youtube.com and search for 'Irish Community Services'.

This Month's Cartoon



Last Month's Cartoon



Winning Caption

'I don't think 'guuurrrr' is actually a word'

Comedy Club



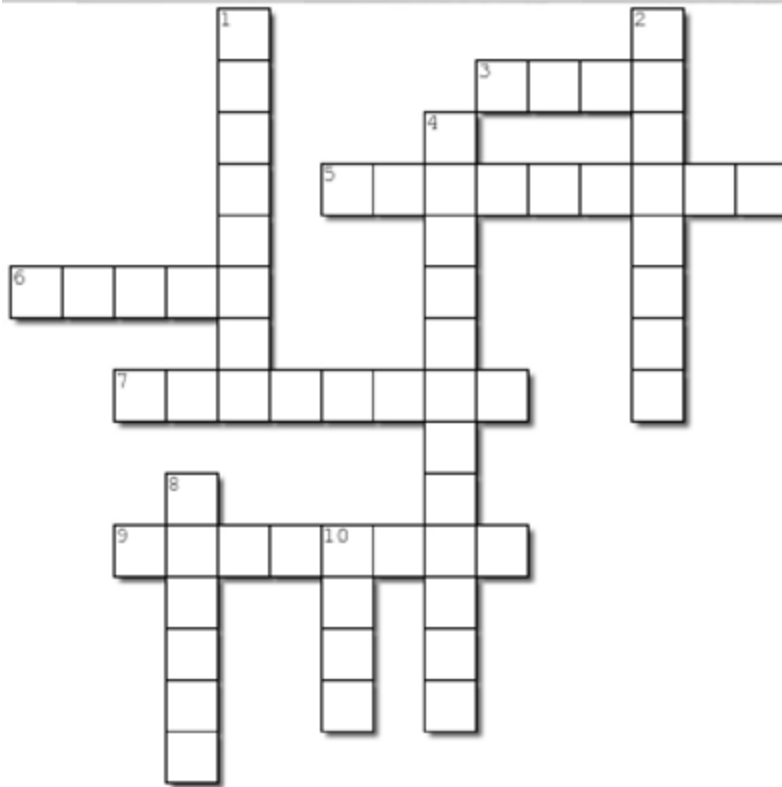
After many years of marriage, Paddy died. His wife, Bridget, called the paper to print an obituary. Bridget was told it cost \$5 per word. 'Just put "Paddy died", she said. When she was told there was a 5- word minimum, she replied "OK, write 'Paddy died, Toyota for sale'" - Ann, Chicago, IL

Billy stops Paddy on the street in Dublin. "Do you know the quickest way to Cork?" Billy asked. "Are you travelling on foot or by car?" Paddy replied. "I'm travelling by car" Billy answers. "Well that would be the quickest way alright" said Paddy.

- Mary, Oak Forest, IL

For more laughs, head over to the the Irish Community Services Online Comedy Club. Visit www.youtube.com and search for 'Irish Community Services'.

Think it Over



Across

- 3. It's called by he who pays the piper
- 5. Lively ballroom dance
- 6. Ballroom action
- 7. Formal room where rugs are cut
- 9. Style of dance hall music popular in 60's Ireland

Down

- 1. Daniel and Margo
- 2. You might have 2 of them
- 4. A military operation performed at a Ceili
- 8. Musical Meter
- 10. Use a stick - to mark time

May I have this dance?

Y	D	B	A	L	L	R	O	O	M
P	A	T	T	E	L	L	A	B	V
U	D	H	O	A	S	L	A	S	T
P	E	T	S	K	C	I	U	Q	A
O	K	Y	Q	T	E	S	I	W	N
X	P	G	G	R	O	E	L	D	G
G	U	B	R	E	T	T	I	J	O
E	W	A	L	T	Z	Q	E	D	Z
N	W	V	F	D	A	N	C	E	S
O	U	M	U	X	F	W	B	S	K

TANGO	DANCE	WALTZ
BALLROOM	CEILI	SALSA
BALLET	TAP	JITTERBUG
QUICKSTEP		

THE AMBASSADOR'S POEM PICK

'Postscript' is a fine example of Seamus Heaney's work, a short poem but with a powerful message. It recalls a journey Heaney and his wife, Marie, made to County Clare in the company of the poet Michael Longley and his wife, Edna. (If you have a chance to visit the Heaney exhibition at the National Library of Ireland, and you can do it through a computer, it features a photograph of the Flaggy Shore).

Heaney's description of the scene through which they drove that autumn is wonderful. "So that the ocean on one side is wild with foam and glitter".

Then he realizes that it is "useless to think you'll park and capture it more thoroughly", although that is what he does as the poem makes us feel that we are with him on that journey.

Then, like many great poets, Heaney draws some conclusions from his experience that day. He concludes that we are "A hurry through which known and strange things pass." I think that we all have the sense of so many things passing through and by us that we do not always understand or even recognize. But this poem encourages us to think about those things. It is a little page of stillness from which we can reflect on the many similar experiences we have had when visiting wild places in Ireland or here in America. I think that we can all identify with the idea of our cars being buffeted by wind and of scenes from nature that have



blown our hearts open.

Enjoy 'Postscript'.

Dan Mulhall
Ambassador

POSTSCRIPT

by Seamus Heaney

And some time make the time to drive out west
 Into County Clare, along the Flaggy Shore,
 In September or October, when the wind
 And the light are working off each other
 So that the ocean on one side is wild
 With foam and glitter, and inland among stones
 The surface of a slate-grey lake is lit
 By the earthed lightning of flock of swans,
 Their feathers roughed and ruffling, white on white,
 Their fully-grown headstrong-looking heads
 Tucked or cresting or busy underwater.
 Useless to think you'll park or capture it
 More thoroughly. You are neither here nor there,
 A hurry through which known and strange things pass
 As big soft buffetings come at the car sideways
 And catch the heart off guard and blow it open

Continued from page 18

that I respect women (as long as my dinner is ready on time; joke!); but I'm not particularly radical.

Trans is probably transvestite or transsexual and we know what exclusion is so I'm guessing it's someone who doesn't include the Trans community in...what? I have to be honest and say that, probably like most people, I don't really give a lot of thought to it. But... More than twenty years ago I worked with a guy who had started the long process into becoming a woman. He tried to do it low-key, but that was difficult. He would add things like earrings or make-up a bit at a time, letting us get accepting of it. Then we had to get used to calling him by his female name. And so on. Using the toilets became a real problem because some women didn't want him in theirs and some men, likewise.

It was a process of years -- but I'll tell you something about that person: I eventually thought of her as one of the bravest people I ever knew. In the intermediate stage he/she would often come in black and blue, having been beaten up the night before for the sin of being different.

I wonder what she makes of the way that the decades since have gone, but suspect

that she wouldn't be too approving. Everything seems to be demanded immediately these days, and the agenda is pushed more and more that it is the majority who are out of touch; and that's just not so.

People who are sympathetic get increasingly irritated that the lack of tolerance is now being shown to us - and for little reason other than that we're different or dinosaurs or all the rest of those disparaging words. And when does THAT get to be called bigotry?

I am NOT going to apologise for not understanding why it was once OK for me to use the word 'black' when today it has to be 'person of colour'. You know what I mean and you know that I am NOT being derogatory. Neither was JK Rowling; so stop making it seem as if we are.

Most of us have always sided with the minority and in fact I do it instinctively; as with the person I mentioned above, it takes guts to be a member of one and not allow yourself to be bullied; and guts and gumption and courage are things that I admire.

But perhaps it's time that the Trans and the Cisgender and the Film History-hating Communities cut us a bit of slack as well.

Who knows, we might even all get on.

charleybrady@gmail.com

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Online U.S. Citizenship Classes- September 2020

Irish Community Services is offering FREE classes to help you through the U.S. Citizenship process.

What You'll Learn

- N-400 (Citizenship Application) Review
- Citizenship Interview Preparation & Practice
- US Civics Questions Review
- Reading & Writing Preparation
- Citizenship Eligibility & Process Overview
- Study Materials Available

Class Details

- Classes will take place via Zoom at the following dates & times:
Tuesday, September 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th
6:00 PM - 7.30 PM
- 4 classes of 1.5 hours
 - Classes are FREE. Fees apply for optional study material only.
 - Limit 15 people per class



To Register Please Visit: <https://bit.ly/2UMWFHU>
Or contact us at 312-973-9034 or info@irishchicago.org

Travel to Ireland During COVID-19:

All travelers to Ireland are now required to complete a mandatory 14 day quarantine upon arrival in the state. Additionally, all arrivals are required to complete the Public Health Passenger Locator Form upon arrival. You can read more about traveling to Ireland during COVID-19 on Citizens Information's Website.

You can access the Public Health Passenger Locator Form at the following website: <https://bit.ly/3fsMn7O>



IMMIGRATION LEGAL CLINICS

Irish Community Services offers FREE 30 minute consultations with an immigration attorney. Clinics are by appointment only.

Summer 2020 Clinic Schedule:

Tuesday, July 14th

3:30-6:30pm

Hosted by the McEntee Law Group

Wednesday, July 29th

3:30-6:30pm

Hosted by the McEntee Law Group

Wednesday, August 12th

3:30-6:30pm

Hosted by the McEntee Law Group

Wednesday, August 26th

3:30-6:30pm

Hosted by the McEntee Law Group

312-973-9034



DUE TO THE OUTBREAK OF COVID-19, ALL CONSULTATIONS WILL BE HELD REMOTELY UNLESS OTHERWISE REQUESTED.

New podcast

Irish community services is proud to announce our new Inter-generational podcast which will be available soon. This will be a series of interviews with older member of our community using questions from the younger members of our community. It is a new way for different generations in our community to learn from each other, in a time that it is hard to be physically together.

What is your earliest memory?

ICS Intergenerational podcast. The Irish Memory box

Looking for older people to answer questions about their life.
Looking for Younger people to submit the questions.

What games did you play?

If you would like to share about moments in your life or perhaps you know someone with stories, we would love to record them. If you have a curious child we would love to hear

some questions; Contact grace@irishchicago.org



THINGS TO DO AT HOME



Check out our Youtube channel for a weekly STORY TIME!
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www.helpink.ie

Irish Abroad Online Counselling Service

FREE Appointments 7 Days a Week

What is Helplink

Helplink is an Ireland-based charity providing culturally-sensitive mental health support services. It offers online counseling to Irish people overseas through its Irish Abroad Counselling Service.

Who can avail of the Irish Abroad Counseling Service?

Our service is available for all Irish passport holders living abroad in need of emotional support from trained counselors. Each person can avail of **6 free online appointments**. Appointments are available 7 days a week.

What kinds of issues can we help with?

Our Counselors have already been help-

ing the Irish abroad for many years with various mental health issues such as depression, sadness, difficulties adjusting to life changes such as bereavement or the ending of a relationship, eating issues, self-esteem challenges, and addiction.

Book an appointment or find out more

If you are eligible, please send us an email at helplinksupport@helplink.ie with the words 'Irish Abroad' in the subject line and your location in the main body of the email. Our administration staff will then ask you a couple of questions and offer potential appointment times if you are a suitable client for our services.

We provide online counselling appointments 7 days a week (closed Irish bank holidays and Christmas /New Years Eve). We provide appointments at the fol-

owing local times (CST):

Monday to Friday - 3 am to 3 pm
Saturday Sunday - 6 am to 12 pm

PLEASE NOTE

Helplink's Irish Abroad Online Counseling Service is **NOT** a crisis service. If you or someone you know is seriously contemplating suicide or in need of immediate help you/they should call 911.

Access to the internet and a computer/smartphone is required. If you are interested in counseling but DO NOT have access to the internet or a computer, please contact Irish Community Service to make arrangements to use their equipment: 773-282-8445.

www.helpink.ie

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833.626.4244

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suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Siobhan O’Neill Meluso is ‘In Harmony’ With the Late, Great, Judy Loevy

by Katherine Iannitelli

When “In Harmony” columnist and Irish Heritage Singers Board President Judith Loevy passed unexpectedly in March 2020, she had been planning, for her next column, to feature fellow soprano and three-year choir member, Siobhan O’Neill Meluso.

“She had asked me in January,” Siobhan says. “She was such a welcoming soul, just so generous with her heart and words.”

Inspired by Judy’s unmatched hospitality and zest for life, Siobhan, an accomplished writer in her own right, agreed to take charge of the “In Harmony” column and continue to spread Judy’s passion for music and the Irish American community.

“I’m a little nervous,” Siobhan says. “It’s hard to fill Judy’s shoes. But I love the Irish community and I love the choir - it is a hidden gem. I want to be able to share the choir with others.”

Originally from California, Siobhan comes from a musical, Irish-American family. She and three prior generations of Molloy on her mother’s side sang in the famed St. Monica Church choir in Santa Monica. Her father, originally from County Wicklow, “can’t carry a tune” she says, but was from a musical family as well. In addition to singing in choirs in Ireland and also at St. Gertrude in Chicago before joining the Irish Heritage Singers, Siobhan has trained in violin and oboe.

Siobhan has lived, studied, and travelled throughout Ireland extensively. In fact, it was during a study-abroad program in 2002 that she had her first serendipitous encounter with the Irish Heritage Singers at an international music festival in Sligo. She went on to complete a master’s degree in drama and theater studies at National University of Ireland, Galway.

Eight years ago, Siobhan moved to Chicago to be closer to her older sister. Today, she calls herself a “Jill of all trades” and manages communications, marketing, social media, and the print magazine for the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago. She extends her technological talents to manage social media and the YouTube channel for the Irish Heritage Singers as well.

Although the choir is COVID-sidelined for the moment, Siobhan is looking forward to future performances at the Irish American Heritage Center.

And with that, take it away, Siobhan!



By Siobhán O’Neill Meluso

The Irish Heritage Singers’ long time board chair and author of this column, Judy Loevy, died March 12, 2020 in the middle of our busiest season of singing, the month of St. Patrick, and just before the Covid-19 pandemic was declared a national emergency. The singers, let alone Judy’s family, have had little time to process and grieve this gigantic loss as our mandatory shelter-in-place has distracted and separated us. When we meet again at the Irish American Heritage Center, we will surely be reminded by her empty chair and the grief will come flooding back.

In the meantime, the Irish Heritage Singers are meeting periodically via Zoom for much needed comradery during these different times. Our creative minds are devising ways to continue to collaborate and sing until we can meet again.

Our newest member, Christine Lawless, a longtime cardiologist and heart transplant specialist, joined the first soprano section of the choir in January with enthusiasm to fulfill one of her New Year’s resolutions: “to have fun.” Christine learned quickly that the Irish Heritage Singers are indeed fun, but have a rigorous repertoire and concert schedule that allows the phrase “March

Madness” to apply to our group too.

However, when the pandemic set in, Christine felt an urge to help on the frontlines in New York. You see, Dr. Lawless had spent 40 years with the renowned cardiology department at Loyola University Medical Center in Maywood, a physically demanding, high stress position. Four years ago, she transitioned to a medical director position in the medical insurance field, where she reviews cases to determine if they are medically necessary.

At about three weeks into the pandemic, Dr. Lawless kept seeing case after case coming across her desk with the dreaded Covid-19 diagnosis. This was both frustrating and inspiring, as Dr. Lawless determined she had to “do something.” So, she sent her resume everywhere, and the Javits Center in New York City responded. She was going to serve on the frontlines and at the epicenter of the Covid-19 pandemic in the United States.

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Access your PC from anywhere
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Dr. Lawless was honored and excited upon nailing her interview with the New York Department of Health. Then it set in: She was facing death. Her family did not want her to go but her friends were supportive. It was through the intercession of Fr. Damien, (the Belgian missionary priest who devoted his life to work among the Hawaiian lepers and became a saint of the Roman Catholic Church), and many other prayers that made her discernment short lived. Dr. Lawless chose to go. Fortunately, the Javits Center was a military operation, which made the calculated risk to serve manageable.

Dr. Lawless and the other "crackerjack doctors" had their job cut out for them: Close the Javits Center. She arrived April 27th with 100 patients remaining, down from 500 five weeks prior, and served for one week exactly. She and five other

civilian doctors, the nursing staff, and the military doctors treated and discharged patients from 6 pm to 6 am as efficiently as possible and successfully closed the Javits Center. Dr. Lawless describes the experience as wonderful and empowering. "I was a part of history," she said. It was both prayerful and spiritual too. "I felt a connection to my colleagues who were all so good. And I felt a connection with humanity. It was chaotic but we are all in this together and I will never forget this experience."

Be sure to meet Dr. Christine Lawless, Christine to us, when we have our next concert at our home, the Irish American Heritage Center. You may remember her from her 1993 Fleadh Cheoil All Ireland Singer days too. A very special thank you to all of the healthcare and essential workers who risk their lives for humanity every day.

Christmas Bingo: Summer Edition Goes Remote to Help Looted Nuns in Chicago

Streaming Available through July 31
Fun, Silly, Unexpected. CHRISTMAS BINGO: Summer Edition will take you back to the bingo halls of your Catholic youth! Or, if you're not of the RC variety (that's Roman Catholic), you'll still love this smash-hit, streaming online for a limited time only.



(l to r): Vicki Quade & Lisa Braatz

AND it's a fundraiser for a really good cause. Buy a ticket and watch anytime.

Written by Vicki Quade, one of the creators of the hit comedy Late Nite Catechism, CHRISTMAS BINGO brings together two of the best things about being Catholic: Christmas and Bingo. The show features the character of Mrs. Mary Margaret O'Brien played by Lisa Braatz, a former nun and current bingo caller.

A portion of every ticket sold will go to help the Daughters of St. Paul, whose religious bookstore on Michigan Avenue in downtown Chicago was heavily damaged by looters in the aftermath of the demonstrations against the killing of George Floyd by Minneapolis police.

In the evening hours of Saturday, May 30,

the nuns were informed that looters were targeting businesses on Michigan Avenue. A nearby building had already been set on fire. While the nuns were sleeping upstairs of their bookstore, they heard the glass alarm go off around 11 p.m. and they knew somebody had broken down their double entrance doors.

The sisters remained in their rooms, listening to the alarm go off every few hours. The last one sounded around 4:30 a.m. When they went down to investigate, they could see the doors and front windows were broken, their cash registers ripped out.

Nuns4Fun Entertainment contacted the Pauline sisters to offer help with this fundraiser. Many of the holy cards and other items given as prizes in Christmas Bingo come from their bookstore.

With that in mind, Vicki Quade is asking the public to get into the Christmas spirit with Christmas Bingo, to have some fun and help the nuns. Brush up on your Yuletide trivia, watch as audience members play for actual prizes in this uniquely interactive show. Laugh as the show tackles the wacki-

est myths and most outrageous facts about Christmas, including jolly old St. Nick's origins and where candy canes come from. There's also an hilarious re-creation of the Annunciation, complete with audience members in angel wings and halos.

Watch and laugh from the comfort of home! The comedy, a fixture in Chicago since 2012, Christmas Bingo is the second installment in Quade's bingo series, which also includes the long-running hit Bible Bingo. The show was selected as one of 10 holiday shows highlighted by Chris Jones, the Chicago Tribune's theater critic.

This performance was recorded in 2018 at the Royal George Theater in Chicago. Go to nuns4fun.com and click on the Eventbrite fundraiser/performance button.

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What You'll Learn

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6:00 PM - 7.30 PM

- 4 classes of 1.5 hours
- Classes are **FREE**. Fees apply for optional study material only.
- Limit 15 people per class



To Register Please Visit: <https://bit.ly/2UMWFHU>

Or contact us at 312-973-9034 or info@irishchicago.org

Mick

Mike Morley

irishtv.us  irisheye.us



Reason Or Treason: Who's Boss?

What I fail to understand about the continuing chaos since 2016, coming down on us in rapid succession like the Ten Plagues of Egypt, is the persistence of true believers. They have suffered as we all have, enduring seditious fictions concocted, and destructive events weaponized by Democrat leaders and others: the Russia election forgery, the imitation impeachment, the pandemic panic; and now, riots designed to disable and defund police protection nationwide.

In Seattle, agitators and militant youth appropriated to themselves a symbol of the oppressed: a sign resembling Free Derry Corner. Protesters, many who may have beggared their middle-class families earning low-demand college degrees, link their "struggle" with Irish Catholics (whom they likely despise) living in an apartheid state carved out of their homeland.

As leftist ANTIFA thugs lead locals to trash communities nationwide, they dismiss their hatred and destruction as a means to a higher good: "The Movement". Saul Alinsky, "father of community organizing", preached that achieving radical ends justifies the use of any means necessary. The strategy is working. Currently, the conservative Rasmussen poll shows Black Lives Matter is now viewed as "favorable" by 62% of likely US voters. 32% rate BLM "very favorable". New York

City, with the largest police department in the US, is disbanding its plainclothes anti-crime unit, reassigning 600 officers. And skepticism toward BLM is risky. Employees have been fired from public posts for even suggesting out loud that "all lives matter".

Black Community News (BCN), a conservative Christian news blog claimed "George Soros is the major financial source responsible for funding the leftist movement in America". In a 1995 interview with Charlie Rose on PBS, Soros admitted: "I like to influence policy... I do now have great access in the (Clinton) administration. There is no question about this. We actually work together as a team."

CORPORATE: But Soros Open Society Foundation isn't the only player. The OpenPower Foundation, a nonprofit led by GOOGLE and IBM executives, is a collaboration between IBM, Chinese company Semptian, and U.S. chip manufacturer Xilinx. Together they develop microprocessors that can quickly analyze huge amounts of data. Semptian allegedly uses the chips to supercharge internet surveillance and censorship technology it provides to human rights-abusing security agencies in China.

Then there's Microsoft. In 2015 they opened a new factory in Oregon to make high-end touch screens. Just two years later Microsoft closed the plant, fired all 124 employees, and moved it to China. But after President Trump China negotiated tariffs

to boost America's economy, Microsoft is moving again: to Hanoi, North Vietnam. No doubt their hosts will provide their rich new Microsoft friends luxury updates to the Hanoi Hilton.

The Ford Foundation boasts it "has made six-year investments in the organizations and networks that compose the Movement for Black Lives". Tucker Carlson Tonight reported June 10: "Recently, the CEO of Cisco announced his company is donating \$5 million to the Black Lives Matter foundation. Airbnb is donating \$500K, so is Dropbox. Video game maker Ubisoft is giving \$100K. Intel has pledged a million dollars to assorted anti-racism groups and is pressuring its employees to donate their money to the Black Lives Matter Foundation. Pepsi is donating too." He also noted: "Less than a week ago, (BLM) launched a petition to defund all police departments nationwide. The groups co-founder says we should abolish all prisons. So, does Intel want 1.7 million felons released onto America's streets, all 700,000 cops fired tomorrow? It's not clear what they want. But they are paying for that. They think they can look good for the mob by funding the cause. Who knows what they want; but they are responsible for this."

GOVERNMENT: After 2 weeks of funded demonstrations and rioting, Democrat leaders donned Kente cloths for a photo-op, bowing to BLM and mob rule. At that point 19 people—a majority of them black—were dead. The count rises daily.

ACADEME: Dr. Charles Lieber seems very Lieber-al with the truth. The Harvard Chair of chemistry and chemical biology has been indicted by a federal grand jury for lying to U.S. officials about a scheme to secure more than \$18 million in U.S. taxpayer funded research grants for China's Thousand Talents Plan, a program to recruit to China people expert in foreign technology and intellectual property. Authorities say Lieber was paid \$50,000 a month by the Wuhan University of Technology in China under his contract and awarded more than \$1.5 million to establish a research lab at Wuhan. In exchange, prosecutors say, Lieber agreed to apply for patents and do other work on behalf of the Chinese university.

THE LEFT PRESS: CNN's Chris Cuomo told viewers: "Please tell me where it says protests are supposed to be polite and peaceful-Please". Remind the brother of New York's Governor that the 1st Amendment to the US Constitution guarantees: "the right of the people peaceably to assemble..."

If you have ATT Internet service, you most likely read Yahoo News. It's the first thing that pops on your screen when going online. Yahoo is the most widely read news and media website - with over 7 billion views per month, and the sixth-most-visited website globally. You may have noticed that since Yahoo was bought by Verizon Media (owned by multinational conglomerate Verizon Communications- CEO Hans Vestberg) their "news" reporting has slanted sharply left, and is often

mis-informative. Typical Yahoo News headline: "Leading 'de-fund the police' advocate says law enforcement needs to 'get out of our lives'". Verizon's Yahoo chooses to ignore news like that of policeman Shay Mikalonis, 29, shot in the head June 1 while attempting to disperse "protesters" in Las Vegas. His family reports "Shay is on a ventilator and will remain so. He is also paralyzed from the neck down and unable to speak."

Verizon has just donated \$10 million (chump change for a campaign by a \$240 billion corporation) to aid black social justice organizations. They've also partnered with the New York Times to capture young hearts and minds at every high school in America, offering free digital access to The Times and its Learning Network. Vestberg announced the donations saying: "What's also needed is reform of the criminal-justice system. Some politicians have called for hearings on the matter. I wish I had a clue how to achieve the needed reform. I sure hope Joe Biden does. Sadly, what I do know is that it won't happen - if at all - until the Trump administration has ended. Vestberg appeared in the video as Bill Clinton addressed America's high schoolers graduating into a Summer of planned preelection street actions. Clinton asked graduates to consider what kind of world they wanted, "and most importantly: what are you prepared to do about it".

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Terry From Derry

by Terry Boyle



Summertime and the Dying is Easy

Here we are, almost four months into a pandemic. And, while the reports of the virus change from week to week, the discoveries about the virus are as varied as anything we've ever seen or are likely to see again.

Regulations regarding how we live change according to what the scientists find out about the disease. In the midst of the calls for prudence, we're constantly seeing people throwing caution to the wind. They refuse to take the precautions recommended and, to be fair, it's easy to see why. We're social animals. We don't deal with isolation very well and as such, restrictions tend to make us restless. There are those who live in denial, refusing to believe the virus is real, while there are others who thrive on developing a new theory as to the origins of the pandemic. It seems that the only thing we're certain of these days is that it's not going away any time soon.

Who would have thought that such a widespread disease would offer so many challenges? There are now studies on how our brains are having to change the way we process interactions with others. Before we could read facial cues to interpret the intentions of others. Now that we're masked, we're reading above the line of the mask, the eyes, to decipher another's intentions. For those of us who are hard of hearing, there was always the additional help of lip reading someone's chatter. However, the mask muffles what they say and we're unable to read their lips. These are some of the simple things that complicated everyday interactions. On top of which, there is the normalized regime of social distancing, washing hands, and

sanitizing. All of these things have become so much a part of our everyday life that it's hard to think of those times when we were less uptight about our hygiene.

A microbe has toppled our economy, threatened our existence, changed the way we interact with each other, and has exposed the weaknesses of our political system. Our government has hidden its head in the sand in the hopes that it will go away, despite the fact that over 110,000 people have died and counting. More will die, and yet, the government continues to deny the power of this microbe to destroy us and chooses instead to think only of self-preservation and winning the next election. Instead of dealing with human issues that affect us all such as 'black lives matter' and the pandemic, we have a president who cares only about his ego and his love of power. In the past months, since this disease robbed him of his thunder, we've seen him spout irrational tweets, hide in his bunker, and build a wall around himself.

The virus has challenged us to change or die but it also exposes our political vulnerabilities. The White House, under this weak president, has become a rotating door to those he likes and dislikes. He hires and fires on a whim. The center of power chooses to wrestle with social media outlets instead of providing leadership. What we have seen is a president who goes AWOL when most needed. It's either the golf course, the bunker, behind a military barrier, or his cellphone. Once a president resorts to using military force against his own people, he is no longer a friend of the people but their enemy. Once a leader abdicates his responsibility and blames others for his incompetency, he is

a threat to the security of his people. If individual number one claims exceed reality, we need to question his grasp on reality.

The virus has shown us that we need mature leadership and not some individual who throws his toys out of the pram when he's criticized fairly for his immaturity. It's time for us to put the baby back in the nursery and find someone who will not abandon us so readily when our existence is under threat. We need to find someone who can foster good international relationship with allies and reject those who have a history of dictatorship and cruelty. Since 2016, this presidency has pushed us towards isolationism and forced us to become estranged from the countries we need most. We have watched as the president has divided the country among those who love him and those who are frustrated with the idea of ego before the welfare of the country.

There is a real problem with our government and it's taken a microbe to expose its flaws. We've seen over a hundred thousand lives get little or no recognition by a government that wants to 'move on'. And, while the White House isolates itself from the voice of 'black lives matter', they reinforce to protesters that they don't matter. The world is watching. It's watching a travesty of justice be washed away by a slew of tweets that miss the vital point. All over the world people have rallied to the cause of addressing the injustice meted out to African Americans. What is missing is a leading voice in this country that amplifies the concerns of its most vulnerable citizens.

We have been forced to change our behavior by a microbe but it has not necessarily made us better listeners. We are in this together, or at least we should be. What keeps us apart is the political rhetoric of a captain Ahab committed to damning us all in the pursuit of his own ambition.

View From Ireland

By Maurice Fitzpatrick



'right' to control vast swathes of the world and to deprive subjugated nations of their rights. The American incarnation of the same movement, the Suffragists, was led by an avowed racist, Elizabeth Cady Stanton. Could the suffragette/ suffragist movement have happened without elitism and what tends to

come with it—access to education, travel, publications and so forth? It most certainly could. One glance at the founding ideals of the African-American liberation struggle shows that, while educated leaders such as Martin Luther King and James Baldwin were crucial catalysts, elitism had no essential part to play in its ideology. If a movement aims to truly embody a struggle for liberation, elitism is an obstacle rather than an enabler to achieving its goals.

So how do we honour the extraordinary achievements of women's suffrage movements and yet also acknowledge the injustices they condoned and perpetuated? Both Pankhurst and Stanton are commemorated in statuary in various parts of the world. Later this year, a new statue featuring Stanton will be installed in New York's Central Park. As an afterthought, New York City Public Design Commission approved adding to the plinth a former slave who became a prominent suffragist, Sojourner Truth. That decision has been vindicated in light of the formidable support that the Black Lives Matter movement just gained. Is there something in that decision that may help to negotiate competing historical narratives?

This leads to the occasionally elusive issue of what is intended by a statue. In Germany, for instance, the public history that the government can celebrate is very circumscribed. One historical figure who features in hundreds of plazas and statues around Germany is 'the Iron Chancellor', Otto von Bismarck. A master of realpolitik, Bismarck was the architect of the unification of Germany in 1871 and he ruled Germany during a generation of relative peace. He is responsible, more than anyone, for the creation of modern Germany, and he is substantially responsible for the creation of the modern nation-state. That said, do not expect the Poles to dust off statues of Bismarck that formerly occupied western Polish city centres; do not hold your breath for Namibia, a country Bismarck brutally colonised, to extol his peaceful politics or his democracy. Bismarck stands stolidly on statue plinths in Germany partly because his considerable crimes simply do not compare with those of the Nazi period two generations later—relativism helps to convey his shade with respectability. Also, the intention behind commemorating Bismarck appears to be to mark his role in forging German statehood rather than to justify (still less heroicise) his crimes.

The intention of a statue can hardly be gleaned merely from the stated aims of the political body that erected it, or the period in which it was erected. It is also known from the meanings imputed to it today. And if the present age cannot see sufficient legitimacy and justice in a statue then we need a dialogue about what it, and the past it represents, means to us now.

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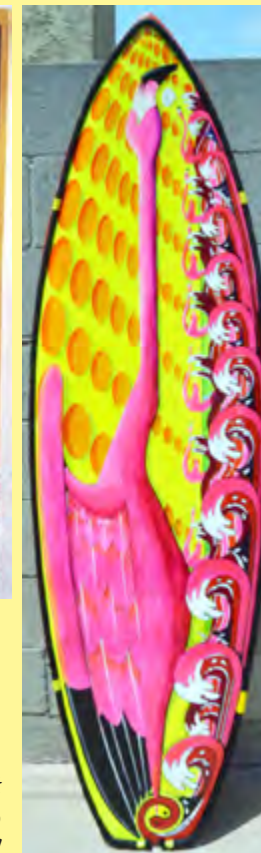
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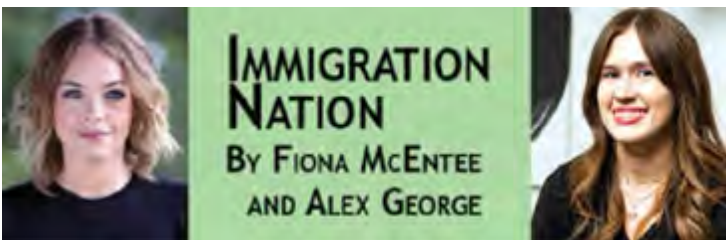
The global impact of the killing of George Floyd spread to Ireland with protesters asserting that black lives matter in front of the US embassy in Dublin. Similarly, the position of minorities in Ireland has come into far sharper focus since early June—Minister for Culture Josepha Madigan was again criticised in the Dáil for her opposition to Travellers being housed in her community in 2014. The force of the demos since Floyd's murder has been matched by the force of the debates resulting from it.

The concomitant rethink throughout the world about symbols and statues, and the values that they may represent, has been less prevalent in Ireland even though we are a former colony, a country historically riven by opposing traditions and there is no dearth of contentious symbols. It is certain that many nationalists would happily remove the statues of men commemorated in Stormont who were historically responsible for disenfranchising the minority in the North of Ireland. One response, espoused in official circles in the North and in Northern Ireland bureaus abroad to the inescapable offence arising from flags, emblems and statuary, is to avoid them. Yet that avoidance strategy cannot be applied by sovereign countries.

Meeting horrific history head-on can more easily happen in museums than in statuary and commemorative edifices. Throughout Eastern Europe today, for example, there are communist museums glorifying the agrarian paradise that virile men and maternal women enjoyed during the altruistic period of collectivism. The countries that endured the misery of Stalinism and the Soviet Union retain those museums partly because they form an aspect of national memory and heritage. They also keep them because they can be viewed critically and ironically today, and there is an inherent liberation in that. However, Polish attitudes to Warsaw's Palace of Culture and Science, a gargantuan edifice in the capital city centre built by Stalin, are more complex. While its architectural grandeur is undeniable, its connotations of tyranny remain provocative, and many Poles want it demolished. Similarly, the Parliament of Romania in Bucharest, while immense and wondrous in scale and execution, nevertheless represents Nicolae Ceaușescu's pitiless regime.

Many years ago, I gave a brief tour of a few of the major sites in London to visiting Japanese students. We started in Trafalgar Square and finished off at the Palace of Westminster. At Westminster, viewing the Emmeline Pankhurst Memorial, we discussed the tactics and legacy of the Suffragette Movement. One student was critical of a suffragette, Emily Davison, who died by throwing herself before racehorses at the Epsom Derby in 1913 (in Japan, suicide for a political cause is a highly emotive subject).

The passion, courage and commitment of the British Suffragette movement cannot be denied. Nevertheless, the leader of the movement, Emmeline Pankhurst, was an imperialist who would brook no opposition to Britain's



Supreme Court Keeps Immigrant Dreams Alive for Now But A Permanent Solution is Needed

On June 18th, the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) issued the long-awaited decision in the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) case.

DACA is an Obama-era program that provides protection from deportation and work authorization for hundreds of thousands of immigrants, known as "Dreamers," who came to the United States before the age of 16. The protection lasts for two years at a time and can be renewed. DACA does not provide a path to permanent residency or citizenship. Over 800,000 young immigrants have applied for DACA since its introduction in 2012.

In September 2017, the Trump administration announced that it would terminate the DACA program. Since then, no new DACA applications have been accepted. However, as a result of multiple court cases, immigrant advocates had kept DACA partially alive. The resulting injunctions have enabled us to keep filing DACA renewals for those who previously applied for the program. A disagreement on the DACA rescission among lower courts ultimately brought the case up to the Supreme Court.

In a 5-4 decision, Supreme Court found that the Trump administration's decision to terminate DACA was "arbitrary and capricious." Furthermore, Chief Justice Roberts - who wrote the majority opinion - stated that the administration violated the Administrative Procedure Act and the decision to rescind DACA

"must be vacated."

The Court did not address the merits of DACA. It simply ruled that the way the administration tried to end it was not lawful. The White House is therefore free to try to try rescind DACA again and, based on recent statements, it clearly intends to do just that.

For now, DACA remains intact and the Supreme Court's decision essentially restores the 2012 Obama administration's DACA policy in full. This is absolutely critical because, as mentioned, we have been unable to file any initial DACA applications since the attempted rescission in September 2017. While we are waiting

for specific guidance from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, we should soon be able to file new DACA applications in addition to renewals assuming all eligibility requirements are met.

Those requirements, generally, are as follows:

- You were under 31 years old as of June 15, 2012;
- You first came to the U.S. before your 16th birthday;
- You have lived continuously in the U.S. from June 15, 2007 until present;
- You were physically present in the U.S. on June 15, 2012 and at the time you apply;
- You entered the U.S. without documents or fell out of lawful status before June 15, 2012;
- You are currently in school, have graduated from high school, have obtained a GED, or have been honorably discharged from the Coast Guard or U.S. Armed Forces;
- You have NOT been convicted of a felony, certain significant misdemeanors, or three or more misdemeanors of any kind; and,

•You do not pose a threat to national security or public safety.

While the Irish community only has a few DACA recipients, they are still an important part of our immigrant community. There could also be additional Irish citizens who may be eligible to file for an initial DACA application, so keep the above requirements in mind.

As always we recommend that you consult with an experienced immigration attorney for specific legal advice and representation in all immigration matters, including DACA. Now-more than ever before-is not the time to "DIY" your own immigration case. There are many pro/low bono immigration clinics for those who need them and may not be able to hire a private immigration attorney. You can find more information on InformedImmigrant.com or by getting in touch with the National Immigrant Justice Center or the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights.

Given the administration's repeated desire to cancel DACA, and

its recent statements that it will follow proper procedures to do just that, we would urge would-be DACA applicants to act promptly.

While DACA remains intact for now, it is not a permanent solution nor was it intended as such. President Obama created DACA through an executive order in 2012 after more than a decade of failed negotiations in Congress over how to deal with Dreamers. The Dream Act, initially introduced by Illinois Senator Durbin, never passed in Congress, but it did gain widespread support in the House, the Senate, and also among voters. That support still exists today, and polls consistently show that majority of Americans support DACA and the Dreamers.

I'm so proud of the

work that us immigration advocates and activists, including those in the Irish community, have done in support of Dreamers and DACA. It would be remiss of me to claim that the Irish did the heavy lifting in relation to DACA, but we were proud to amplify the message and advocacy of our immigrant brothers and sisters from around the world and present a united voice in support of comprehensive immigration reform. I'd like to give a special mention to a few Irish people and groups: our first Senator for the Diaspora, my friend and mentor, the wonderful Billy Lawless, his extremely supportive wife Anne, and their amazing family; the late, great Maureen O'Looney; Cyril and Josephine Regan; Breandán Magee; Michael Leonard; Peter Dineen; Mary Gorski; Mike Collins, Paul Dowling, and all who have helped with Irish Community Services over the years; the Chicago Celts for Immigration Reform; and, the Coalition of Irish Immigration Centers.

For well over a decade, we have lobbied on Capitol Hill; participated in roundtables with FWD.us and Senator Durbin; done live TV and radio interviews on national and international outlets; attended what feels like millions of rallies and protests; and, met so many incredible Dreamers, families, advocates, activists, and inspiring humans along the way. Personally, I've also written a children's book on immigration called "Our American Dream" that includes Rosita, a Dreamer inspired by some of the Dreamers I have met over the course of my 12+ years practicing immigration law. A portion of the proceeds of my book are going to two immigration non-profits: I Am An Immigrant, and the American Immigration Council.

While we can rest a little easier, for now, with the Supreme Court's decision in DACA, we know that the fight is not over. We will rise up and continue to advocate for immigration reform. You can join us by contacting your member of Congress and asking for a permanent solution for Dreamers and for comprehensive immigration reform.

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Irish Ann is owned by a sub-chapter S Florida Corporation - Irish Ann, Inc. - and the sole stockholder and officer is Phileomena Ann Bourke.

Irish Ann is profitable and it has three reliable income streams - a brick and mortar store in Homosassa, Florida; a ecommerce business at www.irishann.com and Irish Ann attends at a minimum of 18 Florida festivals each year.

Highlights:

Irish Ann Inc. returns 20% net profit;

Irish Ann Inc. has NO debt;

Sale price includes at least \$38,000.00 in current inventory as of December 31, 2019. That inventory will be maintained until the business is sold;

Sale price includes at least \$35,000 (less \$8000 in depreciation) in furniture and fixtures as of 12/31/2019 (including the company Van which is in superior operating condition) The furniture and fixtures will be maintained until the business is sold;

Irish Ann, Inc. is based in a state (Florida) which has no state income tax and very low property and sales taxes;

Irish Ann, the brick and mortar store, is currently locat-

ed on one of the busiest federal highways in the nation, U.S. 19;

Irish Ann has a data base of 10,000 email addresses which have voluntarily signed up to receive the Irish Ann newsletter. This data base increases by an average of 100 a day;

Irish Ann, Inc. has a spotless reputation throughout Florida and the U.S. and has shipped sold products to all 50 states;

Irish Ann has almost 34,000 Facebook likes and 33,000 followers which result in positive return on investment with Facebook advertising. There is an average of 600 hits on the website daily and over 1,000 on days we do an email

blast which is an average of once a week;

The sale of Irish Ann includes the corporation, the domain, the website, the data base, the social media, all furniture and fixtures and inventory and absolutely no debt. It also includes information about all suppliers. Also Irish Ann (Ann Bourke) is willing to 'consult' with the new owner(s) for a period of 90 days after the sale.

OVERVIEW: The potential for this company is unlimited. Reasons for selling are entirely health and age related. We have barely scraped the surface.

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Evil People Often Flourish: Terrible Tommy O'Connor Stood Up the Gallows

*Roses are red and violets are purple
Sugar is sweet and so is maple surple
Well I'm the seventh out of seven sons
My pappy's a pistol, I'm a son-of-a-gun
Well, dang me, dang me
They oughta take a rope and hang me
High from the highest tree
Woman, would you weep for me?
Dang Me by Roger Miller*

"... and the cops were looking cautiously, in all the wrong corners, for Terrible Tommy O'Connor" - Nelson Algren
Chicago, City on the Make

Tommy Touhy, who hung out with Darling Dave O'Connor at a saloon on Hoyne and Madison Streets in the Valley, boasted openly about providing the two guns for Tommy O'Connor's fabulous escape from prison. He even claimed that he had engineered the entire incident. However, another story was that the guns were smuggled into the jail by



way of a pork chop sandwich. The guns were intended for another prisoner, but the jail's cook, William Fogarty, a convict himself, gave the weapons to Tommy's cellmate, a man named Charles McDermott.

Since it was a Sunday the prisoners were allowed to walk in the yard for their exercise. The guard on duty in the yard was David Strause who later reported that LaPorte and O'Connor stood up close to him while O'Connor said he was ill and needed a pass to the hospital.

When the guard bent over to write the pass, Laporte and O'Connor jumped him

from behind and then O'Connor whipped out a pistol and stuck it into the guard's ribs while Darrow took his keys.

The other prisoners in the yard saw the escape and crowded around but O'Connor turned his gun on them and ordered them back into their cell blocks. Then, O'Connor and his four men ran down the stairs and overpowered guards Charles Moore, Thomas Jefferson and Thomas Wetta. They were all bound and gagged but not before Wetta managed to yell out, "Prisoner escaping!" alerting the other guards on duty.

On the run now, the prisoners scaled a wall by jumping on a shed and then over the 9-foot wall. Laporte, a heavy set man, broke both of his ankles as he fell and was quickly recaptured.

Darrow and McDermott fled in a different direction than O'Connor. They were recaptured by the police within a half hour. O'Connor escaped by leaping onto a passing car's running board. As he jumped, the clerk of the jail, Austin Jacobson, grabbed his coattail but let go when O'Connor spun around and pointed the gun at him. After the car turned the corner Tommy O'Connor was gone. . . .

The Chicago police assumed O'Connor had hidden out in St. Paul and then slipped over the Canadian border before traveling to Ireland. However the last place that Tommy O'Connor was seen alive was in that tiny village of Elkhorn, Wisconsin, on December 10, 1922. Roger Touhy, Gangster

Our television news is dominated by Covid-19 hysteria and George Floyd's canonization, which allows Savannah Guthrie and other TV mouth-breathers to push a Race/Class War. If the Covid don't get getcha the Antifa will!

Pusillanamous white hipsters wearing balaclavas and Birkenstocks demand that every pale pelt in America is a white supremacist and threaten to burn it all down, if every pale pelt in America disagrees.



pH Factor

By Pat Hickey



Black Americans are rightly angry and direct their anger at themselves more than the pusillanamous pale pelts in balaclavas and Birkenstocks.

Evil people want to see the races go to bloody war. Why?

A wildly flawed man was killed by a Minneapolis police officer who decided to put his knee on the man's neck. This event was captured on the ever-ready cell phones of people witnessing an idiotic betrayal of law enforcement.

I got to thinking about really evil people. I witnessed a Baker's dozen of burials of young black men in my time at Leo High School in Chicago from 1996-2017. I visited a score or more young men gunned down in Advocate Christ, Holy Cross, St. Bernard's and Little Company of Mary hospitals. Several men were crippled for life from loss of blood and nerve damaged by 9mm lead.

Not one shooter was caught and brought to justice for this demographic.

Evil people often go on their way and visit more pain and suffering to families.

Politicians do less than nothing and loud-mouthed activists are less than effective at closing out the carnage. The news media and the politicians created this spectacle du merde in Chicago. Instead of not stealing the tax dollars meant to address social wrongs and doing something to help the Chicago Police Department put evil people in prison and keep families safe, they (politicians, academics, activists and their media stooges) created a narrative based upon a lie: Police are systemically racist.

No, police are called to interdict acts of violence and idiotic behavior that more than likely will cause harm to persons and property.

Some violent people are evil. More violent people are idiots. Only this morning, June 14, 2020, idiots opened fire.

Early this morning I was awakened by automatic gunfire from the direction of Wabash & 11th here in Michigan City, Indiana. There is a drug house on the corner. Last summer, a similar stream of 9mm rounds littered the pavement and few went through my kitchen window facing south and into my neighbor's car. That was July 26th, 2019. Last night, almost the same length of bursts went off and I hit the floor.

I called 911 and immediately MCPD flooded the neighborhood. This occurred

at 2:45 A.M. I went out on my porch and witnessed a parade of young African American males all bedecked in urban camouflage (extra long white T-shirts and blue jeans) that Chicago gang-bangers gave up a decade ago.

Police cars dominated the streets and the urban ne'er-do-wells scattered.

I doubt that this was an homage to late George Floyd, or the memory of Dr. King.

Then the skies poured forth and God's orchestra trumpeted the all-clear. Well done, Michigan City police officers! And thanks, God, for the shower.

Were these evil people? I very much doubt it. Were they idiots? Doubtless.

Evil people are among us and some might even share my ethnic DNA. A truly evil man, one Thomas "Terrible Tommy" O'Connor, escaped the hangman's knot.

Terrible Tommy O'Connor was an evil son of a bitch, who at one time studied to be a priest and went on to rob, beat and murder police officers and his best friend.

The gallows waited for Terrible Tommy from 1921-1977 and were stood up by an evil son of a bitch who many believe to be buried at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Worth, IL.

There probably are some other evil sons of bitches taking up real estate on that consecrated ground, but Terrible Tommy O'Connor just might take the cheese.

Some idiots would say that Terrible Tommy went on to fight in Ireland's Civil War (on which side?) and washed away his sins. Other idiots might argue that he suffered all of the indignities heaped upon immigrants and fought the laws that kept him down. Yet, other idiots believe that Terrible Tommy repented and lived among us as a quiet brother until 1951 and was interred on the same ground as good people at sleep until the Resurrection.

Terrible Tommy O'Connor escaped. He beat the gallows and like latter-day crooks and killers avoided the cell, because they are powerful and not like us at all. That is how life happens to be. Henry VIII murdered a few of his wives and died the gouty horny pig he lived to be. Race hustlers avoid back taxes. Clouted half-wits get huge salaries at no-show political jobs. That's life.

Terrible Tommy died an evil son of a bitch.

There is no "policy" to save people from evil monsters, any more than a good night's sleep might be a stay against idiots and evil deeds.

The real evil comes when idiots make excuses for evil deeds.

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Workers Affected By Covid-19

Hello IAN Readers and welcome to July. If you are like me, the last few months have gone by in somewhat of a blur and as our State and City slowly starts to reopen and regain some resemblance of normality, I am hoping that this month's edition finds you all well, safe and healthy, after a particularly trying few months. When I wrote my May article I alerted you all to a new Law that Governor Pritzker had just signed, which created a presumption under the Workers Compensation Act, to grant some protection to front line and essential workers,



Gallagher's Advice

By Caroleann
Gallagher



who found themselves exposed to and subsequently contracting COVID-19.

Since I wrote in May, that law was challenged and successfully blocked. As a result of a case filed by the Illinois Manufacturer's Association and the Illinois Retail Merchants Association in Sangamon County, a Circuit Court judge blocked the new law, stating that the Illinois Workers Compensation Commission had acted beyond its rulemaking authority in creating this rule change to the Workers Compensation Act. The court determined that the Commission had improperly created "new substantive rights for employees and new liabilities for employers," which is the province of the Illinois Legislature, not the Commission.

Since then however, much work has been done on both sides of the aisle and I am pleased to tell you that a new Bill was subse-

quently introduced (HB 2455), which ultimately successfully passed the Senate and the House and was signed into law by Governor Pritzker on June 6, 2019.

The new law is effective immediately with some applicability dates and its main points are summarized below:

- The new law, amends the Workers' Occupational Diseases Act by adding new Section 1(g).

- It creates a rebuttal presumption that workers who contract COVID-19, did so arising out of and in the course of their employment.

- Covers first-responders; front-line workers; health care workers; and workers for essential businesses, whose employment requires public contact or who work in locations of 15 or more employees. The list of business covered here is extensive and too large for me to detail here, so please reach out if you have questions as to whether your employment or business falls under the definition.

- Allows presumption to be rebutted by evidence that: employee was working from home or was on leave; or employer was engaging in and applying or enforcing safety guidelines; or worker was exposed by an alternate source.

- Applies the presumption to all cases tried after the effective date of law and in which COVID-19 diagnosis was made

after March 9, 2020 and before December 31, 2020.

- Prohibits increase of employer's insurance experience rating due to COVID-19.

- Requires positive test or confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis for the presumption to apply.

- Prohibits presumption from applying when worker was at home.

- Requires a certification by a medical doctor to entitle an exposed worker to benefits for temporary total disability, due to missed time from work.

- An exposed worker can prove his/her exposure, without relying on the presumption.

Needless to say as injury lawyers, we are pleased that such immense work has been done to now make this the law. This law was necessary and fair to protect those members of our community who took on huge risks every day, simply by turning up to go to work.

My colleagues and I are available to discuss the implications of the new changes to the Workers Occupational Disease Act, as it may apply to you or your loved ones. While we hope you are not one of those people affected by COVID-19, please know we are here to guide you through your rights in the event that you have been effected. As always all of our consultations are free and we are regularly now providing both phone and online consultations to adhere to current social distancing guidelines and to keep everyone safe.

Be well, Be safe and God Bless.

**Caroleann Gallagher is an Irish born Attorney now licensed in Illinois and practicing all types of personal injury law - including nursing home litigation, medical malpractice law, wrongful death claims, transportation injuries, premises liability claims, defective product claims, construction site injuries, Workers Compensation and injuries and exposure surrounding COVID-19. She can be contacted at cgallagher@dwyercoogan.com or at 312-543-4642*

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The Foundation annually awards \$6000 in scholarship funding to each Catholic high school in the Archdiocese. School have the option to award the funding to one student or divide it among several. We ask that the priority be for students of Irish descent but the primary criteria is financial need. Treasurer Jack Kane comments, "The schools are very grateful for our contributions. Every school has students who would not be able to attend without the support of the Irish Fellowship Club Foundation. I have the opportunity to talk to the schools and often receive letters from the students and parents that share their stories and gratitude with us."

In addition to the schools, the Foundation provides grants to Irish charitable and civic organizations including the Beverly Arts Center, IBAM, the Irish Heritage Center, Gaelic Park and others. As a tax-deductible 501c3 nonprofit organization, the Foundation also accepts donations in support of our mission. If you would like to make a gift to the Foundation, please visit our website at www.irishfellowshipclub.org or contact Executive Director Kathy Taylor at ktaylor@fuseteam.com.

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Careers

By James F. Fitzgerald, CPA



The 'Little Things' in an Interview!

I have a few suggestions for you as you prepare to return to the work force after quarantine. There are a variety of likely ways this return will happen. Some companies will gladly welcome back former employees. Other companies will require returnees to be interviewed as though they were new employees. You probably have heard people suggest that only a percentage of fellow former employees will be needed; your former company may have decided to run with a leaner staff. Are you prepared to be interviewed by an HR professional by phone or an online meeting? Most of the basics that I cover below are generally applicable whether the "interview" is face to face, phone, or online.

Let me reacquaint you with some thoughts that could prove to be valuable, regardless of who or how you are interviewed.

Some wise person once said, "God is in the detail" which means that attention paid to small things may produce big rewards. After a Chicago Bears loss to the Green Bay Packers the Bears starting center, Olin Kreutz, said "We aren't doing the little things". A quick reaction to hearing about this particular oversight might be "that would never happen to me". Hopefully you are right, but most of us have overlooked at least some of the details of tasks we were working on. Ever leave the front door of your house unlocked?

Let me relate this issue (being aware of the details) to your next interview.

Do you know the exact address of the company, if it is going to be in person? Do you have the phone number of the individual you are interviewing with? These questions are quite pertinent to an actual in person interview or one done over the phone. If you are likely to have some online interviews, have a friend interview you via Zoom. Get used to the program and how it differs from a face to face. Remember you need to succeed in the initial interview if you hope to go further in the process.

Craft a resume that really highlights your professional and academic achievements. Most of us do not take enough time effectively recounting our achievements.

If your resume is more than two pages it screams to be discarded. Be sure to have a couple of good friends review the document critically.

If your screening interview(s) succeed and you are invited to an in-person interview that's great. But it would be helpful to have an idea of the company's dress code. One of my clients dropped its dress code and went informal as they moved to new quarters. Some prospective interviewees might even make a visit to the building, perhaps just to get a "feel" for the environment. Do yourself a favor—lay out your wardrobe the night before the interview. Get an opinion or two

on your selection. Remember you are likely to only have this one visit if your appearance doesn't mesh with the company's style. Shine your shoes!

I realize that this column is likely to be read by some savvy people. But as we all know our expressways can be jammed up at some unexpected times; finding a parking spot might be difficult and distant from the building.

You don't want to be too early for an interview—it may suggest you are really overzealous. Of course being late for an interview also sends a negative message (which is also why I suggest you have a contact number). Find a restroom when you enter the building and make sure your appearance is A-Okay. I recommend that you repeat some very positive self-talk on the way to the interview; even on the elevator or in the waiting room. It is essential that you have done your homework about the company. But on the other hand, don't talk too much. You want to leave the interview knowing what would be expected of you.

Once you are in the interview room, quickly survey what things the interviewer has on or near his/her desk. Understand that the interviewer is in his "space", so he may appear to be very much at ease. But realize that virtually every interviewer is at least a bit nervous. Practice how you are going to cover your major achievements before you meet the interviewer; consider what questions

might be asked. Ideally if you have given yourself enough time, walk around the block to relax yourself.

You need to be honest in your responses but you don't have to bare your soul to this total stranger. Be enthused when you are talking about your past experiences. STAY positive about everything and everyone in your background. Maybe the interviewer is having a bad day, but do not let him/her "rain on your parade". Be sensitive to the words used by the interviewer. Be attentive even if you decide early this is not the job for you. Experts tell us that the language we use provides a gauge of our intelligence. Your posture should be erect, whether sitting or standing. Be sure that you are using your eye contact to engage the interviewer. If you think a hand shake is appropriate, be firm but not bone crushing.

Be sensitive to the time. You don't want to overstay your welcome; so focus on using the time to your best advantage. If there is no signal given to you as to how long the interview will be, ask the interviewer pleasantly how long he has allowed. I believe it's better to leave a bit early, which hopefully will prompt the interviewer to ask you to stay a while longer. Ask if the interviewer

would welcome a call if you have any questions. Get a business card. (This will clarify the name and title you'll need.)

When you leave the office, find a place to make notes for yourself about the specifics of the interview and any particular concerns that might have been mentioned. This will facilitate how detailed your thank you note to the interviewer could be. Dispatch your message sooner rather than later whether by email or a hand written note.

Decide on your follow up to the interview. A week? Two weeks? Don't allow yourself to think negatively about any possibility. Persistence often pays off. Stay strong. Good hunting. **CARPE DIEM. FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION:** In times of great stress and adversity, it's always best to keep busy, to plow your anger and your energy into something positive. Author unknown.

James F. Fitzgerald is the president of James F. Fitzgerald & Associates, Inc., a Naperville, IL-based senior executive coaching and career transition firm. Jamesffitzgerald.com jamesffitz37@hotmail.com #630-420-0362

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Getting to Know the Irish

By Tina Butler



How many Americans claim Irish ancestry, heritage, descent whatever you want to call it? There are approximately 33 million Irish Americans. (10% of the country) Other examples include Italian Americans 6%, Polish Americans 3%, Mexican Americans 11% you get the picture, that’s, America the proverbial melting pot.

I am one of those people that claim to be Irish American. My ethnicity is Irish. My Mom is from Mayo and my Dad is from Kilkenny. I have dual citizenship as do all my brothers. There are neighborhoods where concentrations of certain cultures live but where I grew up the only other Irish Americans I knew were my cousins, Pat, Sean, Mary, Mike & Margaret Butler. Now my cousin Margaret lives in Seattle and continues Irish traditions with her husband & kids. My brothers and I are proud of our heritage, two of my brothers moved back to Ireland several years ago.

Growing up I came across Irish people that told me I wasn’t Irish, or you would often hear the term, “plastic Paddy” a term to undermine the Irishness of the Irish diaspora. When I was young it confused me and made me feel excluded from my parent’s world.

Today I understand it though because so many Americas claim to be Irish American and yet they probably couldn’t tell you where their family roots are from. So therefore, this has made the Irish numb to Americans claiming they have Irish blood. Because a substantial number of people who claim to be Irish American, their families came over before the famine and they are disconnected from Ireland but still claim they are Irish. So, when Irish people meet me, they assume my parents are not Irish that maybe it’s a great distant relative that was Irish. However, these statements about not being Irish or being just a yank, today mean nothing to me.

I know who I am, where I come from & whom I support. For anyone out there claiming to be Irish American, whatever percent you are, don’t let anyone discourage you or make you feel less. However, I think if you are going to say it, mean it, make sure you know where your family comes from, read Irish history books, learn some Gaelic and visit Ireland (often as possible) not just the warm countries with umbrella drinks.

Massachusetts has the highest percentage of Irish Americans. A quote from 1924 that I love, *“The children of Irish parents born abroad are sometimes more Irish than the Irish themselves, and they would come with added experience and knowledge to our country,*

Patrick Kenny, Seanad”.

I would like to highlight three famous Irish Americans: Jean Butler, Bill Murray & Denis Leary.

Jean Butler is an Irish step dancer from New York. Her parents are from Co. Mayo. In 1994 she was the lead female dancer who performed a five-minute dance at the Eurovision Contest titled Riverdance. It was so popular she & Michael Flatley stretched it into a full show. Riverdance has been around for 25 years. Butler collaborated to create the show “Dancing on Dangerous Ground”, which was based on the legend, Diarmuid and Grainne. In 2000 Butler was awarded, “Outstanding contribution to Irish Dance.” She

was a judge on the Radio Teilifis Eireann (Irish Broadcasting Service) reality series, Celebrity Jigs ‘n’ Reels.

Bill Murray is an actor, comedian, and filmmaker. He is from Illinois, raised in Wilmette, IL. Murray’s grandparents were from Co. Cork & Co. Galway. Murray has starred in at least 65 movies. Murray and his eight siblings attended St. Joseph’s grammar school. I worked at St. Joseph’s school & they have a hallway dedicated to Murray. Murray appeared on the first episode of Late Night with David Letterman and also Letterman’s final episode before he retired. Beyond show business Murray is part owner of the St. Paul Saints a baseball team in Minnesota. He is also partner with his brothers in Caddy Shack a restaurant they opened in Florida. In 2016 Murray was awarded the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor by the Kennedy Center, and was recently inducted into the Irish-American Hall of Fame.

Denis Leary is an actor, comedian, writer & producer. Leary was in about 40 films. He was born in Massachusetts. His parents are from Co. Kerry. (Leary is 3rd cousin to Conan O’Brien) Leary describes himself as a “Jack Kennedy Democrat”. In 1999 firefighters from Leary’s hometown were killed in the Worcester Cold Storage Warehouse fire and among them were Leary’s cousin and friends. Leary founded the Leary Firefighters foundation in 2000 to help buy equipment, new facilities and the families that lost loved ones. Leary was asked by the Boston Bruins to help orchestrate a Boston based comedy show for cancer charity, it became, Comics Come

Home, where Leary has hosted annually ever since.

Whatever your cultural background is, treat yourself and others kindly. A suggested book for this topic: “My father left me Ireland”, by Michael Brendan Dougherty

Gaelic for the month:

Heritage-oidhreacht, Family-teaghlach/clann, Ameri-

can-Meiriceanach

“You know you were brought up by Irish parents if any crisis large or small, the first thing to say is, Jesus, Mary & Joseph”

I love you mom & dad and thank you for every sacrifice you made for all of us...

If you have any questions/comments, please find me at: Molanive@yahoo.com

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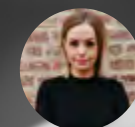
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