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View From Ireland

By Maurice Fitzpatrick



country in their films. This constitutes a distinctive challenge for Irish filmmakers today. It also presents the prospect of innovative artistic works that

Shared Island Films

On December 10th, 2022, the Online Safety and Media Regulation Act (2022) was signed into law. The law is an essential step towards enabling the government to levy streamers such as Netflix, which could provide a new fund for Irish film production of a projected 30 million euro (32.2 million dollars). The financial stimulus for the Irish film industry prompts questions about how the new fund will be used and what frameworks the new Media Commission, Screen Ireland and television channels will adopt to administer it largely for the independent sector – 80% of the fund would be allocated to independent producers.

The Media Commission and the Department of Culture have already determined that 25% of the funding will be for Irish language films and programming. This will consolidate the hugely successful Cine4 feature drama strand, currently co-financed by the Irish language channel TG4, Screen Ireland and the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland. That programme has seen Irish language films such as *An Cailín Ciúin / The Quiet Girl* and *Arracht / Monster* gain global distribution and recognition for the first time – the former has just become the first Irish language film to be shortlisted for best international film at this year's Academy Awards.

In addition to Irish language film production, there is an opportunity to create films that can address an urgent need our island now has. A film fund ring-fenced for film projects on the theme of our shared island could help to contribute to a national debate that will only grow in importance in the coming years. Such films would challenge the imaginations of filmmakers and, in turn, audiences' perception of themselves and their national identity. Our publicly funded television channels could in turn provide both additional funding and a platform for the films and television programmes, fulfilling part of their public service media remit. Funding bodies such as Screen Ireland and BAI's mandate is to commission films and television programmes that relate to Irish culture, heritage and experience. That chimes well with films that seek to imagine and depict our island's shared culture and shared future.

It would be hard to argue against the proposition that there will be a form of deeper unity in Ireland in the coming decade(s). That will entail huge psychological and cultural challenges, in addition to the many economic, political and social issues that arise from a fundamental constitutional change. Filmmakers can play a role in exploring complex feelings about cultural identity and in shaping the perceptions of the

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explore seemingly intractable political themes and express the dilemmas faced by people through their films.

At several junctures in the 20th century, from the Irish Literary Revival to Field Day, Irish artists attempted to envisage new forms of nationhood through their writings and theatre productions in advance of difficult political births. Playwright Brian Friel once said in interview with Fintan O'Toole that the writing and theatre in which he and his collaborators were engaged in the 1980s 'should lead to a cultural state, not a political state. And I think out of that cultural state, a possibility of a political state follows. That is always the sequence...I think they are serious issues and big issues'.

We are now at a similar juncture in the 21st century. The disruptions of Brexit, the orientation of the North towards Europe despite its exit from the EU and the ongoing uncertainty that surrounds its economic status all deepen the doubt about its long-term political viability. Filmmakers can play a role in envisaging a cultural state through the creation of films and discussion fora to debate them. Such films and debates could have a pedagogical significance, creating space for an open exploration of our culture that political logjams and standoffs have hindered.

Clare Dwyer Hogg's short film, *Brexit: A Cry from the Irish Border*, starring Stephen Rea, is an example of an engaged film art that has entered contentious political space and given voice to people most affected by the recent political upheavals in Ireland. That film was commissioned by the Financial Times newspaper. It is now the turn of film funding bodies to explicitly welcome and support such films.

A Shared Island film initiative would naturally align with several of the objectives of the Shared Island Unit, a unit in the Department of the Taoiseach, which has succeeded in engaging a diverse body of people in its project. Cross-border infrastructural projects and research projects between universities on both sides of the border are of clear benefit to people across the island.

In the past decade, the Irish film industry has sponsored initiatives such as Enhanced Production Funding for female-led films as well as filmmaking in 'the regions', among others. These initiatives helped us re-think the way we approach films and production. Filmmaking is collaborative by nature and cross-border film production provisions would form a practical dimension to complement the artistic objectives of the commissioned films.

Many political difficulties attend the Irish unity debate. Unionist politicians can be punished by their base for speaking about Irish unity from the presumption that it could come into being. Some funders may recoil from the prospect of establishing a funding strand that may appear overtly political. Undoubtedly, some degree of controversy will arise from films that probe the cultural identity of a people whose political aspirations have traditionally been mutually exclusive. However, Irish film has grown robust in the past decade, and now has the confidence and resources required to illuminate a complex but vital national debate.

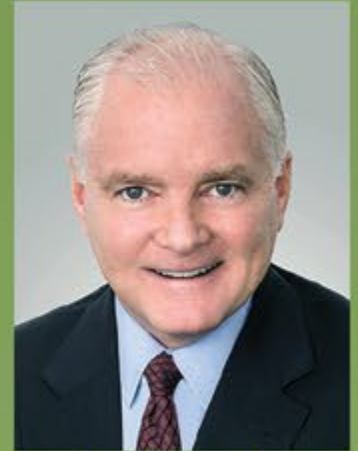


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Roaming in the Gloaming

By Estelle Shanley

Growing up in Ireland some readers may recall it was considered a mortal sin for young boys and girls to sulk. Sulking was prohibited and many's the time I pulled up my knee socks and mustered the courage to reveal the sin in confession. For a long time I never knew whether it was a mortal or venial sin but just to be sure and unwilling to take my chances in eternity I included it in my list of mortal sins. Actually, thinking about it now, when our Dominican school choir master

Father Collins absorbed my long list of sulks in the confessional and dished out a dastardly penance reciting two decades of the sorrowful mysteries, I knew sulking was a grievous sin. Meanwhile, I consider it a personal sign of advancement to no longer engage in the traditional confession mainly because there's a shortage of priests and why tie them up? Actually, I devised a method of sitting in my favorite recliner in a meditative state confessing my sins directly to God. It works, plus a great sense of relief flows forth being back in the state of grace. However, that's all well and good but since Christmas I've had my frilly knickers in a knot sulking my way through midnight mass. At this point you may have already guessed I am in a big sulk writing this column! There exist many illinformed Americans who used to think Ireland was a backward country. The British still

harbor that outdated notion, but we give them no heed. When I learned the Christmas season in Ireland typically draws to a close on the Twelfth Night, otherwise known as the Epiphany, the day three wise man arrive at the crib of Jesus with their gifts, it was then I became aware there was still one more celebration. It was a slammer for me and created a big bang crescendo that Irish Women celebrated their very own Christmas on January 6th. Imagine, a day of rest and relaxation for the woman of the house, plus a fitting testimony to her hard work delivering Christmas and the associated feasts and fancies. Listen up all you Irish feminists!! We missed that ritual. It gets better. Back then, after Christmas, the men took on the household duties, freeing women to make social calls to catch up with tea and gossip, or to visit their childhood homes. What a deal!! Yes, I sulked this year as I labored taking down the Christmas tree, writing holiday greeting cards from friends and relatives, stashing away ornaments in an orderly fashion, cleaning the house, and supervising children writing thank you notes for the gifts Granny sent! I sulked because the idea of a Women's Christmas has died out although for some years it remained strong in Cork and Kerry and some of the western islands. All of this only exaggerated sulk-

ing because if you can believe it's been noted that women no longer need a designated Christmas rest since now they can have a ladies lunch or other group activities reserved for women only. There are other issues that support sulking as the New Year dawned. On January 11th the Irish Film The Banshees of Inisherin received a Golden Globe Award. It was described in the New York Times as a "windswept tragicomedy" about a moldered friendship. Screenwriter Martin McDonagh's and Actor Colin Farrell also received Golden Globes. I'm not sulking because these Irishmen won attention, and I make no apology for fluttering the film asunder in the pages of the January 2023 Irish American News. In fact, Mary Pat Flanagan, Senior Vice President of North American Sales for JEM Tours in Ireland, and Britain recommended the film to friends then went to see it and launched a huge apology to the friends for suggesting they see the film. I am also sulking because Irish Actor, Colin Farrell, now a big wig, in addition to receiving a Golden Globe for best acting, also walked off with an Achievement Award from the Palm Springs International Film Festival. As a seasoned journalist living a stones throw from Palm Springs I did hand stands attempting to interview Farrell for an article to run in this edition of Irish American News. I could have met him anywhere anytime. No dice, a big shot now, his public relations gurus kept him under wraps although as one old sage, a reader of this paper drawled, "he probably read the disastrous review you penned for IAN I last month." Could be. I still claim the film was ugly, cruel, and utterly tasteless. Nonetheless it garnered the most nominations at the Golden Globe and bestowed the big prize for "Farrell's most baffled Banshees." At least Colin took time to thank studio executives, his co-stars, his family and his bloody pet donkey who appeared in the film as Farrell took him his barren house to keep warm in a god forsaken remote island off the coast of Galway. So



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Gaelic Park's New GM Michael Bennett Brings Enthusiasm and Experience to Job

A native of Yonkers NY, Gaelic Park's new General Manager is Michael Bennett. Michael spent time at the Bronx Gaelic Park as a young man with his father, Bob Bennett, who was part of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, and a Marshal in the Yonkers St. Patrick Day Parade. Bennett is a veteran of the United States Army with a long hospitality career in restaurants and higher education. One highlight in his career is successfully opening and running the dining operations at Northwestern University. "I'm super excited and know I have some big shoes to fill. I'm looking forward to bringing years of experience and deep connections in the Chicago hospitality world to bear in helping Chicago Gaelic Park grow its reach in the community while staying true to its core values, he said.

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Like most Irish people, their parents and grandparents, who travelled to the great city of Chicago to find new opportunities for their families and establish a new life here, I can still recall the emotions I felt in leaving my small village in northern Mexico and the new bike I had gotten for Christmas to join my father in Chicago in February of 1965.

Boarding the train with my mother and siblings, embarking on a journey to a new land I felt scared yet hopeful and I had no way of knowing the future ahead of me.

When I first arrived in the Pilsen neighborhood, I was struck by the freezing wind and the feeling of isolation that came with not being able to communicate with the people I would come to know as my neighbors. But as time went on, I became thankful for growing up in such an incredible community.

It was on those blocks on the lower west side of Chicago that I not only learned to speak English but also about community organizing, the Civil Rights Movement, and the farm workers' movement. It was where I had my political awakening.

What struck me the most was the opportunity to celebrate and bring to bear our unique cultural identity to our public duties. I found in Chicago, a city that celebrates diversity and that held out a welcome to all nationalities.

Like the many great Irish public representatives that have proudly served our city, I recognise our similarities and I am proud that that I can call on our shared experiences to best represent the people of Chicago. I will always be grateful to the people of Chicago and the great nation of the US to make my home and afford me the privilege of representing them as US Congressman. I am proud of the great Irish team that have come together to support my campaign for Mayor of Chicago. I am also proud of my work in supporting all communities and funding

for community projects. Recognizing the challenges of building a new life for your family in this great country has given me particular insight into the plight of the undocumented in Chicago and



the hurdles they face. As a strong advocate for Comprehensive Immigration Reform, with direction from myself as Mayor and the many other Democratic Mayors of our major cities, I believe that under President Biden we have the opportunity to provide greater rights for the undocumented.

With the inclusive input of the Irish members of my team, I am proud to have supported Welcoming State, Welcoming County, and Welcoming City and the Driving License Bill for the undocumented. I am running to be the next Mayor of the City of Chicago because I believe in a Chicago for everyone. The same Chicago that welcomed me as a 9-year-old

immigrant boy from a small village in Mexico and gave me a chance to dream big. Throughout my career, I've been lucky to give back to the community that raised me as a community

first Black Mayor and chart a new course for our city.

When my friend and mentor, Rudy Lozano, was assassinated and my community once again felt robbed of its hope, we came together. My neighbors drafted and elected me to the Chicago City Council, where we ended a period of division we call the "Council Wars." We replaced division and hostility with unity and collaboration. We ushered in a new era of a City Government that worked for all Chicagoans.

Then I took the fight to Springfield, where I served as State Senator and worked to advance the rights of the immigrants across our state. With the advice and guidance of my advisors on my team,

After serving in the Illinois Senate, I returned to community organizing and founded the Little Village Community Development Corporation.

As Executive Director, I worked to establish community school and violence prevention programs, pro bono legal representation for immigrants, and more local public schools for communities on the Southwest side of Chicago.

In 2019, Chicagoans sent me to Washington, where I continued to deliver for Chicago's working families as one of the first Mexican immigrants sworn into the US Congress.

In Congress, I supported the Irish E3 Bill and helped author the President's Bipartisan Infrastructure Plan to upgrade our crumbling infrastructure and create good-paying jobs in our communities. I fought to pass the Inflation Reduction Act, emphasize energy savings for families and fight climate change while reducing the budget deficit.

As your candidate for Mayor, I recognise the shared experience of our communities. Now, I'm ready to come home and build a brighter future for our city – together.



Game On!

By Chris Wheaton



Sport for most of us is generally something we indulge in to get away from the daily grind and stress of jobs, personal problems, health and family issues and "life" in general. Let's face it, the majority of sports participants and fans recognize that a sporting event is "just a game", provided for the rest of our enjoyment. That mentality is what made the events that happened in an NFL game a few weeks ago so troubling. When Damar Hamlin, a 24 year old player

for the Buffalo Bills collapsed on the field and went into cardiac arrest it was a harsh reminder that sports like anything else imitate life as we know it.

I'm sure we have all experienced tragedies in our life but something that happens so suddenly is really eye opening. It was just last summer at our own Hurling Tournament that we shared a moment of silence for Dillon Quirke, a 24 year old lad from County Tipperary who collapsed at a hurling match and passed. In 2021, Michael Murphy, 19, passed during a club match in County Clare after being accidentally struck in the head with a hurley. Sadly there are so many more reports of incidents like those and it certainly gives me pause. Thankfully, Hamlin has had a miraculous recovery and as of last report is rehabilitating back at his home. I have read that the physical trainers on the team's staff are heroes for their fast reaction to his situation and starting CPR in a timely fashion. The luxury of having an NFL staff is not a luxury that a small county club enjoys.

To make matters worse I recently learned that a great friend of mine, a fine gentleman from County Limerick suffered a heart attack. Luckily he survived but it was a shock to both him and others that know him. He credited playing hurling and engaging in a strict weight lifting regimen for saving his life. He is

a lucky man and trust me when I say that the earth is a much better place with him on it.

Too often our worlds are filled with tragedy; some isn't avoidable but much of it is. The moral of my story here today is to not take anything for granted. I know we have all heard it before but we are not promised another breath in this life. Start living - get off the couch and walk around the block, skip the bag of crisps and have an apple, grab a gallon of milk and lift it over your head 10 times. We all know that we have an "expiration date" but try and do things to keep it as far in the future as you can. Will healthy eating and physical fitness keep you alive longer? Maybe yes and maybe no but why tempt fate? Make a goal to better yourself! Maybe you have always been fascinated with the GAA sports but were afraid to give them a go, now is your chance. Find your local club and go to a training session. I guarantee you will meet some fantastic people and might even improve your health. You can always join a health club too, most of them offer some kind of deal at this time of year to get you hooked.

Even if you choose to maintain the status quo, do me one favor; live today like it is going to be your last. Get out of bed, take a deep breath and thank the lord for another 24 hours of opportunity. You never know when it's going to end!

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Mary Pat Flanagan
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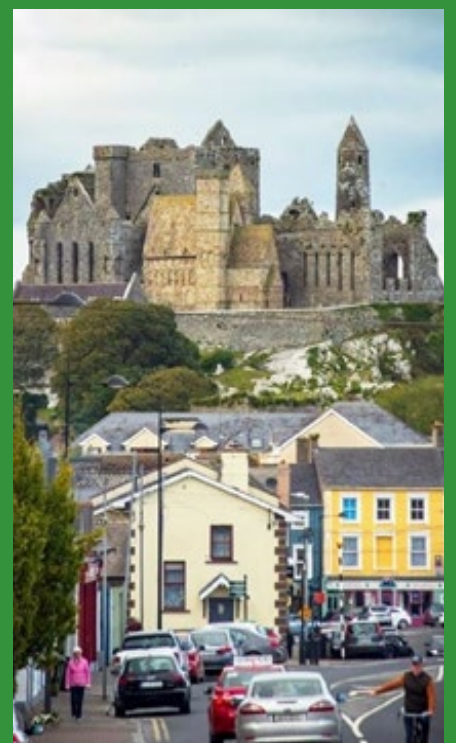
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Yvonne Murphy's American Internship

On a quiet Summer night in Clonmel, Ireland Yvonne Murphy works with clients late into the evening. It's part of her virtual internship with St. Louis-based World Wide Technology, one of the world's leading IT firms.

The self-described night owl enjoys working under Midwest time-zone office hours while home in County Tipperary six time zones away! It allows her to spend time with family and friends while working in her chosen field.

Murphy is a double major in Cybersecurity and Management Information Systems with a concentration in Business Analytics. She noted how the fields complemented each other.

"Business analytics is more about building up the data and learning how to prep it, whereas cybersecurity is protecting it. So they work hand in hand, which is what I like about it. A lot of my classes are connected and things I learn from my cybersecurity classes I can apply to my business analytics one as well, she said.

For her internship at WWT, Murphy works on the business and analytics consulting services team, comprised of analysts, cloud architects, and data scientists. Their current focus is on MLOps, an automated approach to developing and maintaining machine learning models, an area in which she had no previous experience.

After significant background research, Murphy managed to become an effective member of the team in providing client solutions. She also carries a solo project focused on how to design MLOps to use for forecasting models.

Having access to a global firm like WWT has exposed Murphy to other areas in the IT sector, like being involved with cybersecurity for one of their clients.

"I worked on updating firewall rules and got to learn various threat and vulnerability scanning techniques."

She also had the opportunity to shadow one of the company's cybersecurity specialists. "There's always new things and new threats and the specialist is always working on something different."

Additionally, Murphy has worked on ethical hacking and penetration testing. Both will come in handy next semester when she takes Bradley's popular course on the subject.



mester when she takes Bradley's popular course on the subject.

"I love how the company lets you dip your toe into everything. I'm looking more now towards the security consulting side of things and that's something I wouldn't have even thought of before," she said.

Although she had been to Peoria twice before becoming a student, Murphy said she fell in love with Bradley's campus after her first visit. Some of the key individuals who helped Murphy over the years are with Peoria Sister City Commission such as Rex and Laurie Linder, and especially West Peoria Mayor Jim Dillon and his wife Laurie who have served as her host family while Murphy is at Bradley. The family dog, Bella, has become her study buddy.

"I think it's just a great experience to be in college somewhere abroad. Especially being an international student it's a great way to meet new people and make new friends."

Now back from Ireland, Murphy looks forward to seeing her friends and finishing her Bradley education. Yet, she treasures her Summer internship opportunity for giving her new paths to explore in the IT industry.

"This internship opened my eyes and I think that's what World Wide does well in their internship program, to give us the chance to meet so many different people from so many



Yvonne with a statue of the schools founder, Lydia Moss Bradley.

different departments and figure out what we want to do and where we want to go when we graduate, Murphy said.

We at IAN talked to the Mayor of the city of West Peoria, James Dillon about Yvonne, and here is what he had to say. "We didn't know how good a student she was. She is a great student. She gets involved. When we put her on the spot to sing a song at one of our sing songs, the first song she sang was "Danny Boy," and you could have heard a pin drop.

Her goal was to sing the American National Anthem at Bradley games. They asked her to try out for choir. In Ireland she had never been asked to tryout. So she sang the Irish National Anthem and she was in!

Peoria is in a 'Twinning Group' with the Town of Clonmel in Ireland. Yvonne and

her sister would travel with twinning groups all over Europe. I'm the President of "Friends of Clonmel, and so we brought her to Bradley on a partial scholarship. Private donations covered the rest, so she is on a full scholarship.

This is the 25th Anniversary of that twinning, and it all began when some people from Peoria visited Clonmel and thought twinning would be a good idea.

The relationship with West Peoria began when Vice Mayor Phil Pendergrast from Clonmel visited Jimmy's Bar, owned by Jimmy Spears, and West Peoria Mayor, James Dillon, promised to visit Clonmel.

When Mayor Dillon took his family to visit Clonmel, it started a long-lasting relationship with Jimmy's Bar from West Peoria and Carey's Bar in Clonmel. People from Ireland often visit Peoria, and all of us make lifelong friends.



Lydia Moss Bradley
Born in Indiana, Lydia Moss Bradley grew up on the frontier. She was educated in a log home before becoming a wealthy businesswoman, an entrepreneur, and the founder of what eventually would become Bradley University.

As a pioneer in so many fields, Bradley experienced both success and tragedy. She and her husband, Tobias Bradley, had six children, but all succumbed to various frontier diseases.

In 1896, after becoming a millionaire through her various business activities, Bradley founded Bradley Polytechnic Institute in memory of her children. Originally organized as a four-year academy, Bradley University became a four-year college in 1920 and has continued to grow and distinguish itself ever since. Bradley University is today a fully accredited institution that supports undergraduate and graduate education in engineering, business, teacher education, nursing, physical therapy, and the liberal arts.

Inspired by this goal of creating an institute that taught boys and girls together and that combined practical and classical education, Bradley became a leader in land development and agriculture. She was the first female member of an American national bank board in the United States, when she joined the Board of Directors of Peoria's First National Bank. She gave the Society of St. Francis the use of a large estate for a hospital, now known as the OSF St. Francis Medical Center, one of the largest medical facilities in downstate Illinois.

In 1884, she built the Bradley Home for Aged Women to care for widowed and childless women. She donated the land and pushed the city fathers of Peoria to establish a park system, the first in Illinois.

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Paul Vallas for Mayor

Dear Irish American News,

I was born and raised in Chicago and am raising my family here, just as my parents did. Decades ago, my father, David Cahill, and my mother, aunts, and uncles all emigrated from Ireland to Chicago. They came here to find work and make a better life for their families and realized their greatest dreams in this City of Big Shoulders.

Today's Chicago is a drastically different place from when my parents arrived in the late 1950s. Under the current leadership of Lori Lightfoot, our city has devolved into an unsafe and unstable place.

Public safety should be a basic right for all Chicagoans, but crime is out of control and

no one feels safe. Citizens must be vigilant to avoid carjackings and every day brings another story of senseless murders and shootings. The Chicago transit system is plagued with filth, crime and violence and people do not feel safe taking public transportation.

I strongly believe that we have an opportunity to restore our city by electing Paul Vallas as the next Mayor of Chicago. Paul has a proven record of management and public service that will guide his administration as mayor. He served as Budget Director for the City of Chicago and CEO of the Chicago Public Schools.

At CPS, he transformed a failing system into a shining example for school districts across the nation. He then took that knowledge and

experience to transform school districts in Philadelphia, Louisiana, and Bridgeport, CT.

Paul is an internationally renowned leader and expert administrator who has a plan to get crime under control, improve our schools and empower parents, and put our city back on solid financial footing. I encourage you to check out his detailed plans at www.paulvallas2023.com.

Paul Vallas will be a mayor for all of Chicago. He believes that this is the greatest city in the world and a place where we can all achieve our dreams. On February 28, elect Paul Vallas for Mayor of Chicago.

Sincerely,

George P. Cahill



David Cahill, Paul Vallas, and George P. Cahill



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We Get Letters

Britain's U.S./NI Gambit: Deny Justice & Truth

British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak's twin-track foreign policy gambit has Conservatives stalling EU negotiations over trade issues while pushing a controversial amnesty bill to bury the legacy of murder by British security services in Northern Ireland. A vote in Parliament has been scheduled later this month to adopt the so-called amnesty bill which no one in Ireland or Northern Ireland wants. The timing is no surprise to observers. Appearing to negotiate on EU trade

issues makes sense and pleases President Biden. But it is being used to distract Americans and U. S. probing media while Conservatives push to clear their core constituency: the British Army and MI-5. The record of more than 1000 unsolved killings in NI has drawn wide criticism from Members of Congress. The end game of the UK strategy is to have 'clean hands' when attempting to secure U. S. bail out of Britain from their disastrous exit from the EU.

In the 1960's, the same British security services turned the NI civil rights protests into Communist and terrorist conspiracies to unleash a harvest of hate and smear that was used to discriminate, criminalize and assassinate Catholics. The reign of terror resulted in killing over 1000 innocent Irish citizens,

nearly one third of all the 3400 deaths in the entire conflict. Parliament is poised to act soon to make sure the truth will never be known.

What makes these killings unique? All involve one or more of these factors: Army and police collusion with loyalist terror gangs in assassinations and bombings; no police investigations or Coroner Inquests into the killings; and official records have been denied and sealed for decades. Murders by British secret double agents make up more than 200 of the deaths. If the bill is adopted, it will be the greatest victory for the British Army and colonial rule since Waterloo! It will, at the same time, be an act of unspeakable cowardice by a U. S. 'ally' claiming to uphold the rule of law!

And what does the U. S. have to say about this? Nothing. U. S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken remains silent perhaps afraid of offending his football "chums" in the British Consulate or Whitehall. But Bullying the Irish and bluffing the United States is like child's play to the British government, but a U. S. diplomatic response of silence and looking away should never justify a US-UK trade deal.

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Who's Who in Chicago Real Estate



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ARTICLE

Who Was John O’Donoghue?

I have been writing for this newspaper for almost ten years and please God many more to come. It brings me great joy to be a part of the Irish Community, it’s a privilege to add to this magnificent emerald tapestry.

All of us are fortunate that Cliff & Cathy produce this Hibernian paper that connects us and enlightens us on all things Irish.

The author John O’Donoghue has been on my mind for a noteworthy individual since I started writing years ago. I was waiting for a “right time” to showcase a man so many admire. A few startling events happened in my life, and it severely made me think and (maybe how others) shouldn’t always be waiting for the “right time”. Mainly because what we call the ‘right time’ may never come or even exist.

O’Donoghue was a priest, poet, author and Hegelian philosopher. (from Georg Hegel, Germany) The philosophy of Hegel places ultimate reality in ideas rather than in things and uses analysis to comprehend an absolute idea.

He grew up in the Burren, what is a world heritage site in Co. Clare. He was born into in an Irish speaking family.

He lectured throughout Europe and America. He is best known for his book, “Anam Cara” and popularizing, Celtic spirituality. He said, “You are on a real safari when you study God”. Anam Cara is about the secret universe we carry inside us and the connections we forge with our friends and loved ones. A quote I enjoy from the book, ““The way you look at things is the most powerful force in shaping your life.” “Real friendship or love is not manufactured or achieved by an act of will or intention. Friendship is always an act of recognition.” “A friend is a loved one who awakens your life in order to free the wild possibilities within you.”

O’Donoghue was kind, intelligent, a gentle spirit, and very humble. And in his lectures & public appearances he helped people discover the beauty in each human heart.

After he was ordained a priest, he moved to Germany to pursue his graduate studies. O’Donoghue left the priesthood after twenty years. After his time in ministry, he dedicated his life and work to environmental activism.



GETTING TO KNOW THE IRISH!

BY TINA BUTLER



If you had the opportunity to talk with him. He would probably ask you, ‘who are you reading’? He wanted people to have food and drink for the soul & mind. He said, “Always keep something beautiful in your mind”.

The world was cheated an enormity when we lost O’Donoghue in 2008. He passed away in his sleep in France when he was on Holiday. Volumes have been written and no doubt much more is yet to come as more people discover the depth of this Irish poet, & philosophers richness. I would like to share with you a beautiful quote from John’s brother, Pat. “John’s life can’t be encompassed within the acts of birth, life and death. He was not a finite act that existed and is now lost forever more. His themes on echoes is the response to continuity, imagination as the ability to still see the mountain behind the mist and absence as the transformed presence of the vanished awaken our thinking and provide food for our spiritual journey in an increasingly hungry world.”

His last book was titled, To Bless the Space Between us. An excerpt I liked from the book-”There is a quiet light that shines in every heart. It draws no attention to itself, though it is always secretly there. It is what illuminates our minds to see beauty, our desire to seek possibility, and our hearts to love life.”

Smidin Gaeilge
Priest-sagart
Author-udar
Philosophy-fealsamh

*“You are as young as you feel.
If you begin to feel the warmth of your soul,
there will be a youthfulness in you that no one
will be able to take away from you.”*

John O’Donoghue
If you have any questions, please email:
Molanive@yahoo.com

Scythian Here March 5th at the Athenaeum Center

Scythian is a headliner on the US Irish Festival Circuit. They’ve played for president Bush on St Patrick’s day in the US Capitol, they’ve closed out the main stage at World Youth day Sydney for 300,000+ pilgrims and they’re coming to Chicago’s Athenaeum Center - a beautifully restored historic theater with a Catholic soul on Sunday, March 5th at 6pm. Chicago’s own, The Great Whiskey Project will open. Tickets at <https://athenaeumcenter.org/events/2023/scythian>

The band picked a Sunday in Lent (March 5) to help get you ready for Saint Patrick’s Day, and though they’re experts at making you love all things green, the band was founded by two sons of Ukrainian Immigrants. Scythian will be featuring some Ukrainian songs at their show and have partnered with The Knights of Columbus to help bring aid to the Ukrainian People.



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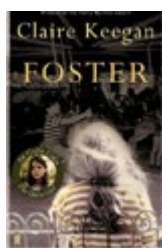


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BOOKS by Irish Authors or About Irish Subjects!



Books Under Review

By Sabina Clarke



paign in England. After his capture, he spent his next three years in an English Borstal, a reform school for juvenile delinquents, and upon his return to Ireland was jailed for the attempted murder of two Gardaí in 1942.

His story opens with his capture in a London rooming house: "Friday in the evening, the landlady shouted up the stairs: 'Oh God, oh Jesus, oh Sacred Heart. Boy, there's two gentlemen to see you.' I knew by the screeches of her that these gentlemen were not calling to enquire about my health, or to know if I'd had a good trip."

On finding out he was just sixteen, the sergeant said, "I wish to Christ I was your age,

exploits all over the U.S. and Canada and across the continent. He loved New York and called it "my Lourdes, where I go for spiritual refreshment." The young Bob Dylan saw Behan pass out drunk on the floor of a Greenwich Village bar. There were other numerous incidents when Behan totally inebriated was pulled off the air at half-time during his interview on the Edward R. Murrow show "Small World". And in Ireland and England he would go onstage drunk during the performance of one of his plays. He attracted attention wherever he went and often made outrageous statements to the Press. In Spain, he was asked what he would most

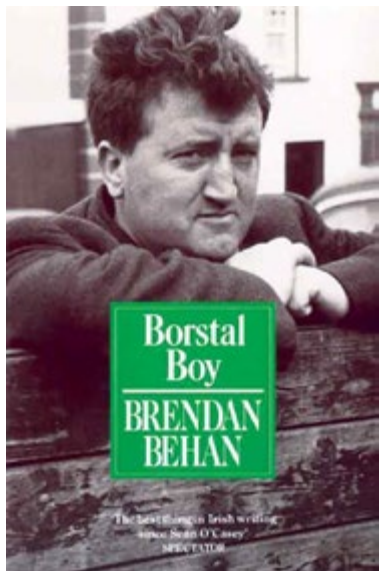
The Brilliant Boisterous Irreverent Brendan Behan

By Sabina Clarke

When his jailhouse memoir Borstal Boy was first published in 1959 Brendan Behan was 26. The book which was banned in Ireland until 1970 is crude and funny and witty and perceptive and filled with memorable characters reflecting Behan's humanity and generosity of spirit-- while at times tedious reading for its rather mundane details of prison life. However, Behan's ear for dialogue is dazzling.

Having had a dim awareness of Behan's colorful life and outrageous stunts when he was alive is what finally sparked my interest in finding out more. He was born into a very republican working class family and became a member of the IRA as a teenager.

He quit school at 13 but showed some literary talent when he wrote the poem 'Laughing Boy' as a lament



for Michael Collins who had given Behan's mother Kathleen money when her IRA husband was imprisoned. Kathleen Behan always called Collins her 'laughing boy.'

At 16 the young Brendan Behan was sent on a solo mission to bomb the Liverpool Docks during the IRA bombing cam-

The Laughing Boy

*'Twas on an August morning, all in the dawning hours
I went to take the warming air,
all in the Mouth of Flowers
And there I saw a maiden and mournful was her cry
"Ah what will mend my broken heart;
I've lost my Laughing Boy"*

A lament for Michael Collins
written by Brendan Behan at age 13

Paddy, I'd have something better to do than throwing bombs around."

When he was brought to the police station he refused to answer questions but made the following statement: "My name is Brendan Behan. I came over here to fight for the Irish Workers' and Small Farmers' Republic, for a full and free life for my countrymen, North and South and for the removal of the baneful influence of British imperialism from Irish affairs. God save Ireland."

After two months in Walton Prison, the teenage IRA recruit confesses he was "hoping for a truce with the British"—conditions were that brutal. Then because of his age he was transferred to the Borstal reform school for delinquent youth where his writing career began. Later he wrote poems, short stories and plays and he wrote both in Irish and English. The Hostage was his most popular play but his play The Quare Fellow assured him a permanent place in the English speaking theater.

There are tales of Behan's

like to see and he answered "Franco's funeral."

His antics could also be hilarious. In the Royal Embassy Hotel in Montreal he wreaked havoc when he marched through the lobby with a bottle in his hand roaring "I'm king of the castle. Get down you dirty rascal."

Finally his demons caught up with him-- his addiction to alcohol, his inability to cope with his sudden celebrity and his bisexuality. His life was cut tragically short at the age of 41. His genius dissipated. With all of his frailties he was a very human man. Thousands of mourners attended his funeral escorted by an IRA guard of honor. He was buried in Glasnevin cemetery and his funeral was compared to those of Michael Collins and Charles Stewart Parnell.

Brendan Behan's last words to the nun who attended him were "Bless you sister, may all your sons be Bishops."

Reporter's Note: Papers of an Irish Rebel: Brendan Behan (1923-64) has been acquired by The Manuscripts Division in Princeton University's Special Collections.

Murder at an Irish Castle

By Ellie Brannigan

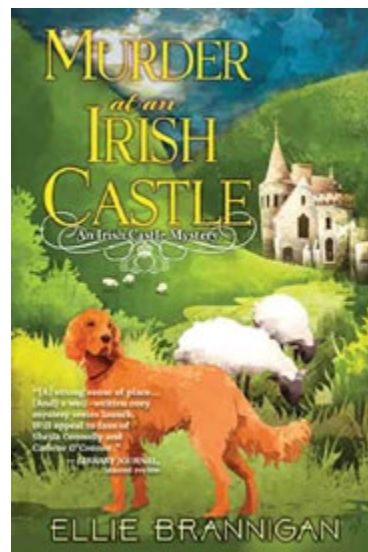
Crooked Lane Books

ISBN13 9781639102587

Available February 7, 2023

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Fans of Hannah Dennison and Carlene O'Connor's mysteries are in for a treat with Ellie Brannigan's captivating debut cozy mystery, complete with a sharp and endearing protagonist.



Rodeo Drive bridalwear designer Rayne McGrath expected her thirtieth birthday to start with a power lunch and end with champagne, lobster, and a diamond engagement ring from her fiancé. Instead, flat-broke and busted, she's on a plane to Ireland where she discovers that she's inherited a run-down family castle. Uncle Nevin's will contains a few caveats—for example, if Rayne doesn't turn McGrath Castle around within a year, the entire village will be financially destroyed.

With the fate of the town in her hands, and rumors that Rayne's uncle's death wasn't actually an accident, she can't possibly go back to her old life in L.A. As the devastating truth about her uncle dawns on Rayne, it's not just her reputation that's on the line, it's her life.

Featuring a sharp and endearing protagonist, a colorful and quirky locale, and replete with twists and turns befitting an old Irish village, the first in Brannigan's mystery series transports us to a milieu as romantic as it is deadly.

Gaelic Park Book Club Times

Library, 2nd Floor 1-3pm
First Sunday of the month (or *) we gather to discuss great Irish writers. Please join us!
There is no fee.

Even if you haven't read the book, all are welcome. Contact me with questions. Tina Butler-Leonard, email: Molanive@yahoo.com

- Jan 8 The Last September, by Elizabeth Bowen
- 2-5 Famine, Liam O'Flaherty
- 3-5 Irish-Amer Autobiographies, James Rogers
- 4-2 Boy in the Striped Pajamas, John Boyne
- May 7 The Titanic Sisters, Patricia Falvey

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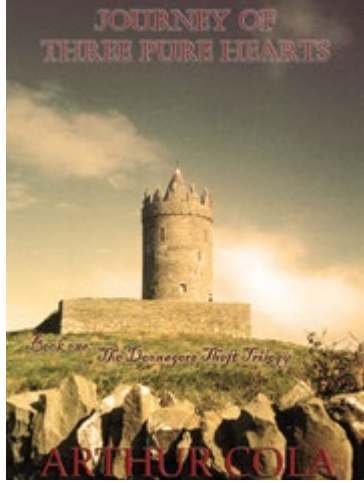
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BOOKS by Irish Authors or About Irish Subjects!

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Arthur Cola, the author of this trilogy has attended almost every iBAM! program held yearly at the Irish American Heritage Center which features Irish books. If you like books and would like to attend, this years program is November 18, 19, and will be posted on site later in the year at ibamchicago.com



Book 1
Escaping the Famine in Ireland ‘Bro-Mance’ and ‘Romance’ in Victorian Ireland and America Journey of Three Pure Hearts

The Maid of Ballymacool



By Jennifer Deibel
pprbck ISBN:978-0-8007-417-7
Ebook ISBN: 978-1-4934-3976-8
\$16.99 352 pages
“With a dash of danger and a soul-satisfying romance, Jennifer Deibel shines.” -Laura Frantz, Christy Award-winning author of A Heart Adrift
In 2021, Jennifer Deibel warmed her way into the hearts of romance readers with her debut novel, A Dance in Donegal. Now Deibel invites readers

to return to the Emerald Isle in her newest novel, The Maid of Ballymacool. Offering a fresh take on the Cinderella story, this tantalizing novel is brimming with a riveting mystery, a budding romance, and a chance at redemption.

Brianna Kelly was abandoned as an infant. Now, as a young woman, she works at Ballymacool House and Boarding School to earn her keep. The school has been her only home and will likely remain that way. Although she longs for more, she feels powerless to change her situation. To keep herself occupied, she explores the grounds for treasures and hides them away in the floorboards of her room.

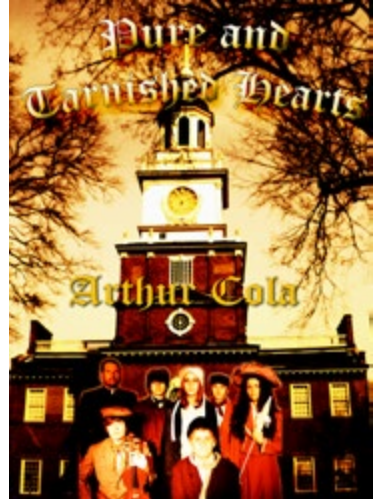
When Michael Wray, the son of local gentry, comes to Ballymacool to deal with his unruly cousin, he finds himself drawn to Brianna. She is so familiar to him, but he can't figure out why.

On one of her treasure hunts, Brianna finds a piece of silver. With Michael's help, she learns its origin. But what she discovers may change her life in more ways than she could ever imagine.
www.jenniferdeibel.com

is Book One of “The Doonagore Theft Trilogy.” It is a tale of three teens in famine devastated Ireland whose families seek to send them to the land of golden opportunity. The reader will journey with James Shields, Aengus O’Flaherty, and Meaghan O’Grady as their lives become entangled in a triangle of friendship which turns into something more as a vocation to the priesthood is tested, prejudice is experienced in a violent manner, and love binds them as friend to friend, man to woman and “brother” to “brother.”

Pure and Tarnished Hearts
Book 2The Call of the Bell & the Song of the Celtic Warriors

Enter a world of a very different America and yet similar in many ways to the present day. The saga continues as Fa-

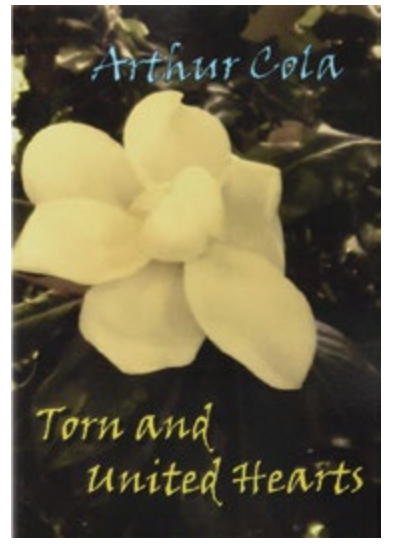


ther Thomas O’Malley leads his flock of immigrants to a new life in a new land. Join James Shields, the Hero of Inishbofin, Aengus O’Flaherty, the fisherman from Inishmor and Meghan O’Grady, of Doonagore Castle, as they become part of a new singing sensation proclaimed as the Bards of New York City. Despite secret societies, a po-

litical movement called the “Know-Nothings,” arson, riots and murder, The “Celtic Warriors” respond to the call of the bell. Their journey will touch your heart and thrill your very soul as they use pen and song to bring down the walls of hatred and intolerance while bringing to life the spirit of the Founding Fathers words of “Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.”

Torn and United Hearts
Book 3 A Tale of Love and The Underground Rail Road

Is a breathtaking adventure which takes the “Celtic Warriors” from their teen years to young adults. Journey with them as they struggle to overcome anti-immigrant, anti-Catholic political sentiment, come face to face with the horror of slavery in Pre-Civil War America, deal with their own developing sexuality, come to understand the meaning of “love.,” and present to a young nation a vision of what America could be.



The tale unfolds through the eyes of two lads, James Shields and Aengus O’Flaherty and a lass named Meghan O’Grady. Experience it in the streets of 19 century New York City, Philadelphia and Washington D.C. Let its humor, drama, frustration, sexual awareness, and faith dimension inspire your heart and soul. <https://www.arthurcolatales.com>

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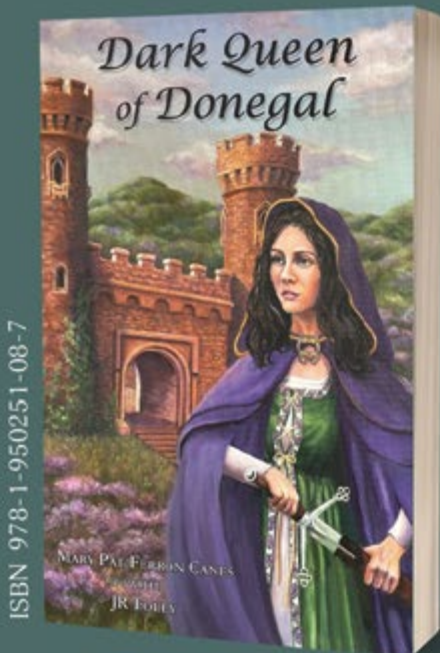
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On the Law

Martin Healy Jr. John P. Scanlon



This is the next of a series of columns on how the law can impact your life. The articles 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.

Healy Scanlon Law Firm is comprised of eight trial attorneys and four "Of Counsel" attorneys, one of whom is a solicitor from Ireland. We are located downtown at 111 W. Washington Street, Suite 1425, Chicago, Illinois 60602 (800-922-4500 or 312-977-0100) (overlooking Daley Center Courthouse). www.Healy-Scanlon.com. The firm concentrates in the representation of injured victims of all types of accidents.


Readers are encouraged to call or write with questions concerning personal injury law.

Workers' Rights Amendment Passed
Illinois has further enhanced its reputation as a pro worker environment. On November 8, 2022, the people of Illinois approved the Workers' Rights Amendment (WRA) to the Illinois Constitution by a majority of 54.5% which guaranteed all workers organizing and collective bargaining rights. The approval of this amendment is a tremendous win for the workers of Illinois. The amendment creates a legal backstop against threats to Illinois workers' rights to unionize. The Amendment states:

"No law shall be passed that interferes with, negates, or diminishes the rights of employees to organize and bargain collectively over their wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment and workplace safety."

The Amendment uses broad and expansive language, which applies to both the public and private sector. The Amendment allows employees to collectively bargain through "representatives of their own choosing", regardless of whether they are part of a union. This means that employees will have the ability to collectively bargain the terms and conditions of an agreement, without needing a formal union. This could signal a new phase for workers' rights as representation has expanded to include everyone from barista workers to laborers who wish to organize.

A Ban on Right to Work Legislation?
The WRA prohibits any right-to-work laws from being enacted in Illinois. Many workplaces in Illinois are "union shops" where an employee belongs to the union as a condition of their employment. A right-to-work law gives employees the option of whether



to pay the membership fees which are needed in order to receive union representation. This may appear to give workers more freedom, but more often than not it weakens the power of unions and gives corporations even more power. Workers in states with a higher union density and with favorable collective bargaining rights tend to have better wages than states who have embraced right-to-work legislation. In truth, "right-to-work" should be known as the right to work without bargaining power or protection from wealthy, powerful corporate employers. Currently, there are 28 states in the US who have embraced right-to-work law. This includes nearby states Michigan, Indiana and Wisconsin. After the introduction of the WRA, other states could follow the example set by Illinois to embrace the advancement of workers' rights.

The WRA acts as a "blocking regulation" which shields workers from laws that might hurt them. In addition to blocking any right-to-work regime, the WRA rejects the home rule exception. The home rule exception would allow local municipalities or counties to "unblock" the legislation. This happened in 2017 when several municipalities in Cook County dismantled a county paid sick leave ordinance. This is yet another layer of protection that is built into the WRA as a Constitutional Amendment to protect Workers in Illinois.

Will the WRA Face Opposition?
The broad and expansive nature of the WRA goes above and beyond the remit of the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA). The WRA includes a right for workers to bargain "to protect their economic welfare and safety at work" but the act does not provide a definition of "economic welfare". This term goes beyond the scope of the NLRA. In the past, courts have held the NLRA to preempt the efforts of a state to regulate collective bargaining in the private sector. This would mean that it is likely that employers in the private sector would be likely to challenge this attempt by the State to expand workers' rights under this provision in federal court.

The NLRA does not apply to domestic workers, workers in the public sector and agriculture, as well as supervisors and independent contractors. This means that it is likely that they will see their collective bargaining rights expanded under this Amendment without a major legal challenge.

Conclusion:
Even though the WRA might face some legal challenges from private sector employers, it represents a massive win for workers in both the private and public sector. It ensures that workers will always be able to use their collective power to secure better pay, hours and working conditions. Illinois has led the front by enshrining collective bargaining rights in its Constitution, perhaps paving the way for other states to follow suit.

By: Martin J. Healy, Jr.
Caoimhín P. Drummond
Law Clerk
Healy Scanlon Law Firm
Caoimhín Drummond, a law clerk at Healy Scanlon Law Firm, is from County Donegal, Ireland. He is a law graduate from Maynooth University, Ireland with a Master's Degree in International Business Law (LLM).



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South Side Irish St. Patrick’s Day Parade Festivities with Pre-Parade Fundraiser 2-15

One of Chicago’s most well-known traditions, the South Side Irish St. Patrick’s Day Parade, will kick off the festivities with a pre-parade party to inspire the Spirit of Saint Patrick on Saturday, February 25, 2023. The event will feature the selection of the South Side Irish Parade Queen, live Irish music, buffet food, beverages and much more. The party will be held from 3:00 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 115 Bourbon Street located at 3359 West 115th Street, Merrionette Park, IL, 60803.



Admission includes a dinner buffet, draft beer and wine. Live music of Liam Durkin and 4Cast will be featured inside the Performance Hall. The fun evening celebrating Irish heritage will also offer a quieter approach with Irish traditional music sessions featuring Pat Finnegan and Friends. Proceeds from the fundraising event help offset operating expenses to produce the annual parade set for Sunday, March 12.

Tickets are \$40 at the door or available for purchase in advance on the Parade website store, <https://southsideirishparade.org/product/kick-off-to-parade-season-party/>

“We are delighted to bring back the South Side Irish Kick-Off Party for the first time since 2020, a festive event that helps raise funds to keep our tradition alive of marching down Western Avenue,” said Marianne Rowan Leslie, this year’s co-chair of the South Side Irish Parade Committee. “We also encourage families and businesses to consider purchasing a street pole banner as a great way to both honor your name and show your support for the Parade,” adds Leslie.

To purchase a customized street pole banner, visit the store at southsideirishparade.org

The South Side Irish Parade Queen will be announced at the Pre-Parade Party. The South Side Irish Parade Queen will be prominently featured in the South Side Irish St. Patrick’s Day Parade and also ride in the downtown Chicago St. Patrick’s Day Parade and have an entry in the Chicago Rose of Tralee Selection.

About The South Side Irish Parade:

The parade is operated by the South Side Irish St. Patrick’s Day Parade and Heritage Foundation, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, where more than 100 volunteers work year-round to ensure this family-friendly celebration continues for future generations.

The parade is generously supported by major sponsors including Tullamore D.E.W.the official Irish Whiskey of the Parade, Lakeshore Beverage, Dunkin’ the Official Parade Coffee, Ozinga, Chicago City Soccer Club, The Beverly Review, IUOE Local 399, Chicago White Sox, MediSpa, Local 150, Ullico Inc., Flood Brothers, Home Run Inn Beverly, ComEd, County Fair Foods, Hilton Chicago/Oak Lawn, OSF Little Company of Mary Medical Center, Mercedes-Benz of Orland Park, Marquette Bank, Megent Financial, Nascar Chicago Street Race, Guinness, Bud-Light, Green River, Roofers and Waterproofers Local 11, and South Side Irish Imports and more.

Visit southsideirishparade.org and the parade’s Facebook page for more information on the kickoff party and the South Side Irish Parade.

Wearing of the Green Dinner Dance March 5th

The Irish American Heritage Center is hosting the 16th annual anniversary of the WEARING OF THE GREEN dinner dance Sunday, 3-5 in the beautiful Erin Room, 5-9pm . Catering provided by Harrington’s Catering, famous for their amazing corned beef dinners. Music by Gerry Haughey, To reserve tickets or a table, call 773-282-7035, Ext 10, or go to www.irish-american.org.

Gather all your family and friends for a great beginning to the St. Patrick’s Day celebrations. The Irish American Heritage Center continues to be a true champion of social and cultural events and at the forefront of keeping our community together. So please support and join us for a great evening of fun, dancing, food, and most of all to catch up with old friends, and get to meet new friends.



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Kyf Brewer and Barleyjuice - 'The Old Speakeasy'

Barleyjuice is a nationally known Celtic Rock band from the Philadelphia area. Founder Kyf Brewer has been on the rock scene for over four decades, fronting the bands The Ravyns (MCA) and Company of Wolves (Polygram/Mercury), as well as recording four solo albums. His original Barley-

juice from touring with it. 'The Old Speakeasy' marks Barleyjuice's 8th studio album produced and recorded by Kyf Brewer, mixed & mastered by Cliff Hillis.

Long-awaited by fans, it was Kyf's intention to recruit as many former members of Barleyjuice as possible for guest appearances. As fate would

daughter, Scotlyn and wife Beth provided backing vocals on 'Rose of Garden City' and 'High on Highland Life', and daughter Remi plays the trumpet you hear on 'Merry Queen of Scotch'.

"Barleyjuice brings a unique style of Celtic rock that has the audience on their feet. Their style and rhythm is always a crowd pleaser. Fast paced and energetic, they never disappoint." - Jayne Ann M. Recker, Executive Director Celtic Classic Festival Bethlehem PA

Barleyjuice presently consists of Kyf (vocals/guitar/accordion/harmonica/bagpipes), Eric Worthington (bass/vocals), Chris Shepherd (guitar/mandolin/vocals), Billy Dominick (fiddle/vocals), and daughter Remi Brewer (drums/vocals).

"This newest incarnation of Barleyjuice is even better - if that's possible - than any formation I've seen from this act. They grab you by the eyes and ears and don't let go. Clearly, this group has their art down to an exact science, and we're all the beneficiaries. Beyond that, they're all just damned fine people. No ego, no muss, no fuss. As a listener and a promoter, you simply won't find better." - Michael Coakley, Owner & Music Promoter, Weston Irish Festival, MO

More info at: <http://www.barleyjuice.com>

Kyf's Recommended tracks:
 6. A Fine Lass
 8. State of Desiree
 10. Merry Queen of Scotch.

- Song Times
1. The Old Speakeasy - 4:22
 2. Join the British Army - 3:48
 3. High on Highland Life - 4:29
 4. Don't Call Me a Pirate - 3:24
 5. Rose of Garden City - 2:42
 6. A Fine Lass - 4:08
 7. Maggie May - 4:34
 8. State of Desiree - 3:48
 9. A Winter Toast - 2:50
 10. Merry Queen of Scotch - 3:26
 11. It Takes a Village (To Raise a Drunk) - 5:18
 12. Crackin' Jenny's Teacup - 2:13
 13. Old Speakeasy (Return) - 4:02
 14. Hail Ye Merry Maids - 0:47

Song Descriptions:
 The Old Speakeasy - Angry song about the evolving world losing its soul. The Old Speakeasy is this writer's forgotten

to the many "Captain Jack Sparrows" one encounters at Renaissance Festivals.

Rose of Garden City - Based on a true story of an American suitor asking an Irish girl's father for his daughter's hand in marriage. Immigrants settled in Garden City NY circa 1950.

A Fine Lass - Love song, guitar driven country crossover with a strong sing-along chorus.

Maggie May - Liverpool folk traditional, Barleyjuice skiffle style, Kyf & Graham Ford share vocals

State of Desiree - Guitar driven rocker about an emigrant Irish lad whose love mysteriously disappears passing through US security.

A Winter Toast - Likened to The Parting Glass, a final toast to good friends before leaving and facing the road ahead.

Merry Queen of Scotch - A raucous Irish-punker about the local lush who rules the bar and drinks all the young men under the table.

It Takes a Village (To Raise a Drunk) - A tribute to the great drunken poets, many of them Irish, and a musical lesson plan on how to achieve that revered status.

Crackin' Jenny's Teacup - Instrumental rocker in the style of Dropkick Murphys. The title dates back to a pirate term for spending the night in a brothel.

The Old Speakeasy (Return) - Reflective piece celebrating a return to lost old times. Dirge-like with mass harmonies and a bagpipe exodus.

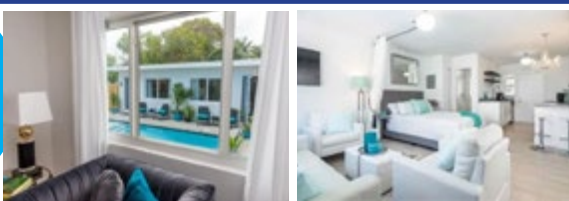
Hail Ye Merry Maids - A wee single-verse ode to the lovely acquaintances across the globe who keep minstrels inspired.



juice songs such as 'Weekend Irish', 'What's Up Yours?', 'Get Your Irish On', 'Celtic Girl', and others have been featured in movies, TV shows & radio programs. His latest release, 'The Old Speakeasy', features several former band members as special guests and was scheduled for release in 2020 before Covid held them back

have it, current members actually changed as the tracks were being recorded. Former featured band members include violinists Shelley Weiss & Billy Dominick, bassist Dennis Schocket, mandolinist Graham Ford, and guitarist Dave Woodworth, along with friends and family who had contributed over the years. Brewer's

Irishman, Mossie Forde invites you to enjoy a stay at his Villas in Delray Beach



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sanctuary.

Join the British Army - Barleyjuice rocked up traditional mash-up with Some Say the Devil is Dead. Explicit lyric.

High on Highland Life - A song of moving back to Scotland. We joked of titling it The MacArena!

Don't Call Me a Pirate - Tongue-in-cheek dedication



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- 3.17 Ballydoyle - Aurora
- 3.17 Ballydoyle - Downers Grove
- 3.26 Shamrock Shuffle

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The Chancey Brothers 20th Anniversary Party February 11th

Celebrating 20 Years of Music, Laughter, Storytelling, and Friendships

Like a lot of great success stories, it all started with a throw away idea late at night.

After a sing song session among friends. Mike Chancey turned to his brother, Bob, and said, “We should start a band! I just started re-listening to all those old Irish songs mom and dad used to listen to when we were young. It’ll be a blast”

“You’re nuts.” Bob Chancey replied. “I’m just a party trick. Late at night sing-alongs and karaoke is where I shine” Mike had already tasted some success as a musician playing with local favorites, The Grassy Knolls, in the early 90’s and then touring with Uncle John’s Band. Bob had a few moments guest singing Elvis covers with bands as varied as Johnny Star and the Meteors, Big Guitars from Memphis, The Mickey Finns, David Dunne and Blackwater but was never actually in a band before. However, Mike was serious and before he knew it, Bob was talked into going along and The Chancey Brothers were born.

They quickly turned to their big brother, David. David was and is the musician’s musician. Studied music at Yale. Hitchhiked across the country with a guitar on his back. Played in several bands over the years. With an incredible ear and a photographic memory of lyrics and harmonies, David is the leader musically. The only problem at first was - he didn’t know any Irish songs. Apparently, he was not paying attention growing up. With two weeks to go before their first paying gig, David got a crash course in Irish pub songs. “The Irish Rover”, “The Gypsy Rover”, “The Wild Rover. They all bled together but he was up for the challenge.

Standing in front of the fireplace in the Fifth Province at the Irish American Heritage Center on a cold February night, the boys were not quite ready but the show must go on! As they were setting up, a nice older couple sitting at the front at the table asked if they were there to open for the Clancy Brothers. You could imagine their surprise when the boys answered in unison “No, no. We’re the Chancey Brothers!” Apparently, the similarity in name to the legendary Irish musicians had some in the audience surprised by who was there to entertain them that evening even despite the fact that most of the Clancys had already departed this world by that time.

Somehow somehow, there was magic in the air that night twenty years ago. The boys muscled through the gig but their enthusiasm and general love of music shone through. Playing a mix of Irish favorites, rock and country, the band had the Fifth Province rocking with people clapping and singing along all night. The couple at the front table stayed for the whole show and sang along to every song! As the boys celebrated in the afterglow of the first successful gig, the couple approached David as he packed up his guitar. He smiled at them expecting some words of congratulations. The nice woman patted Dave on the arm and simply said, “Practice.” The band had it’s first fan and critic all in one! The best part of it all is that same couple has been with them every step of the way seeing the band perform countless times in many different venues. They remain some of the band’s biggest fans.

The band was off and running and growing. Brother Mike moved on to tend to his growing family, but other family members joined in on the fun. First, there was their other brother Dave, playing fiddle, mandolin and accordion for a few years, Brother Billy played along for a few gigs, sister Eilleen, two brothers Jeff and Geoff, but things started to really gel when Brother Gregg brought real showmanship and fiddle chops when he joined the fun. Then the band really took things to the next level when they added the Chancey Cousins, Brendan and Kati. Graduates of Noel Rice’s Academy of Irish Music, Brendan and Kati brought real trad chops to the band and some youthful enthusiasm. David quickly built out some new arrangements utilizing their talents and the change was dynamic and fresh. Shortly thereafter, Brother Joel joined in on the fun. Joel added banjo, mandolin, and guitar and harmonies to compliment David and Bob and the band found its solid groove that has made them so popular in the local scene. Continuing the fun, two more brothers, Matt and John, are regulars with the group now adding dual fiddles and complimenting the band’s core lineup and arrangements.

Twenty years of making music lends itself to a lot of great time and friendships. The band has had the plea-

sure of sharing the stage with many musical friends over the years performing together with The Larkin and Moran Brothers, Rory Makem, Jimmy Keane, The Dooley Brothers, The Mickey Finns, Gaelic Storm, Scythian, Makem and Spain Brothers, Jim Sullivan and the Sullivan Brothers, David Dunne, Joel Batty, Brandon Reisdorf, Catherine O’Connell, and countless others. They have played smokey dive bars to big festival stages all across the Midwest. They are now staples in the local scene bringing a unique blend of Irish, rock, folk and country and always bringing the party with them. They have become part of peo-

ple’s lives playing weddings, memorials, baptisms, birthday celebrations, fundraisers, and back yard get togethers.

Through it all, Bob, David, and Joel have kept the band together and the party rolling. They don’t plan on going away any time soon and invite you all to come join on the fun. Remember, it’s hard to sing along if your glass is empty.

The Chancey Brothers 20th Anniversary Show will be held at the Irish American Heritage Center on Saturday, February 11th at 7:00 p.m

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Cliff Notes: Bomb Cyclone

News media give us a break. What is this Bomb Cyclone business? Many of the live television stations are using the weather to get our attention, and it's getting old. "This storm is affecting 130 million, from the mid-west to the eastern seaboard." That's right. It's Winter. We are going to get some bad weather! Tone it down 2, 5, 7, 9, & 32! Give the public credit for some intelligence. And while you are at it, sell your commercials for more \$ and run half as many during a program. You are killing live TV!
Happy St. Patrick's Day!
Cliff Carlson, Publisher

Commissioner Patricia Theresa Flynn of MWRD Sworn in

Sworn in on Dec. 6, 2022, Patricia Theresa Flynn is honored to serve as Commissioner of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD).



The fight for clean water is central to Commissioner Flynn's mission. As a public servant, she has demonstrated a range of skills as an elected Trustee for the Village of Crestwood. Commissioner Flynn has worked to promote fiscal responsibility with an annual balanced budget, developed effective policy and procedures

for the Village, and chaired both the Village's Finance and Water/Sewer departments.

At the Dec. 6 installation ceremony, Commissioner Flynn was introduced by Kathleen T. Meany, the first woman to serve as MWRD Board President, and sworn in by Judge Sanjay Tailor, the first Indian-American to serve as Cook County Appellate Court Justice. Commissioner Flynn's father, William J. Casey of IUOE 399 led the pledge of allegiance at the beginning of the ceremony after Paddy Homan, famed Irish tenor, sang the national anthem.

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Tues: Ceili Lessons Back at IAHC

Many thanks to Kate Cooley, Mary Beem and Caryn Cross for making it happen! Starting in January, we'll have Tuesday lessons again!!! Note that we'll be alternating weeks with the Ceili Fridays - so we'll have Tuesday lessons twice per month rather than weekly. Same as with the Friday Ceilis, proof of covid vaccination is required.

TUESDAY LESSON DATES - 7:30 - 9:00p

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The Irish American Heritage Center is at 4626 N Knox Ave, Chicago IL 60630

Ceili Dance at Gaelic Park Tues

6119 W. 147th St., Oak Forest IL
Tara Room (usually) - 7:30-9:30p - \$2

Dust off your dancing shoes & join us on Tuesday nights for Ceili Dancing. All are welcome! We dance from 7:30-9:30. Instruction is available at 7:00 if anyone wants to work on footwork or parts of a dance.

We ask those who are not vaccinated to use their best judgement about wearing a mask.

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Worth the Wait: Ethan Sellers’s Logical Fleadh Album Out March 3

By Emmett Fitzpatrick

Bandleader Ethan Sellers cannot hide his excitement in advance of the release of his band Logical Fleadh’s album, scheduled for March 3.

“This is a culmination,” Sellers said in a recent interview with Irish American News, adding that he and his bandmates recorded the album nearly three years ago at Rick Stacks Records in Chicago’s Lakeview neighborhood. But his story, and the story of the band, stretch even farther back than that.

A native of Westchester, Pennsylvania, Sellers sang in church choirs as a child and got bit by the music bug in his teens. He moved to Chicago for college and took music classes and lessons, but it was attending a concert of the Irish-American band Solas in 1996 that sparked his inspiration to focus on Irish and Scottish songwriting and performing.

“Let’s Have an Irish Band”

Upon graduation, Sellers founded his band Tautologic, which focused primarily on rock music with an Irish/Scottish bent. He noticed that people latched on to this Celtic connection, and one of his most popular songs was called “Glasgow Smile,” which decades later would find a place on the upcoming album.

Gradually Sellers became more immersed in Irish and Scottish music, and in 2006, Sellers left his day job to become a full-

time musician. By 2009, he had founded a new band, perfectly summed up with one statement of inspiration: “Let’s have an Irish band.” He named the band Character Fleadh - fleadh is an Irish word that roughly sounds like “flaw” and translates to special occasion or banquet - and focused its music on traditional Celtic songs. Since then, Sellers and his bandmates could be found at concert venues, bars, festivals, special events, and everywhere in between around the Midwest.

Over the years, Sellers methodically found a group of fellow players to form the lineup of what would become the latest iteration of his band, which he called Logical Fleadh. In many ways, this band merges the best of his two earlier groups, taking the rock and rhythm of Tautologic and the traditional Celtic focus of Character Fleadh.

“I wanted to appeal to rock fans who like bass and drums, as well as Irish music traditionalists,” Sellers said. “With the music of Character Fleadh, there is a feeling that things are changing, moving in a direction. We are hoping to give a feeling to

the jigs and reels that things are progressing, that there’s an arc to it.”

An advance listen of the album would confirm that he has struck this balance beautifully. The Irish flavor of the music is unmistakable, yet the album’s energy will appeal to listeners who might not know Galway from Glasgow.

Be True to Yourself

Sellers largely discovered his connections to being Irish through music. He admits that genealogy was “never a huge thing” for him and he has not considered himself part of a tight-knit Irish commu-



LOGICAL FLEADH

nity. Since moving to Chicago, he was struck by what he calls the “Chicago Irish,” where it is not always easy to tease out what is “Chicago” and what is “Irish.” His combination of familiarity with Celtic storytelling and an outsider perspective have only added to the unique sound of his music, and the connection is not



lost on him.

“I want to feel like I’m adding something to the tapestry of the Irish and Scottish American music story, but I’m an American; I recognize that. I have a lot of different influences. Music has to be reflective of what you think is interesting. I have to be true to myself.”

The Album

Sellers had dreamed of recording an album for much of his music career, and after years of gigging across the Chicago area and beyond, he and his bandmates began the process of doing just that. Using his bass player’s basement as their rehearsal space, the members of Logical Fleadh ultimately recorded their album in April 2019.

Nearly four years later, the album is scheduled to drop on March 3, just in time for what Sellers hopes will be a busy St. Patrick’s Day season filled with live performances around the

area.

The Future

As the band leader, “I have a mile-long to-do list,” Sellers admits, noting that he is managing marketing, press bookings, radio promotions, and anything else that needs to get done. “I hope it’s a raving success, that we are able to consistently play around the Midwest, see people out at shows, and to work on a repertoire for a follow-up.”

Before he gets too far ahead of himself, however, Sellers is quick to acknowledge his appreciation for this current moment, for the chance to keep doing what he does for a living. He also expresses gratitude for the people and institutions that have helped him to get here, namely the Illinois Arts Council and the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs, as well as the event organizers, bar owners, programmers, concert presenters, and most of all the listeners.

To download Logical Fleadh’s new album (beginning on March 3) or reach out for bookings, visit www.logicalfleadh.com



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During the winter Chicago weather, I get an increasing number of calls from people who have slipped or fallen on ice, snow, or a wet surface and have hurt themselves. Often times this happens in the context of a person going to or from work and I often get asked if this is a situation that will be covered by workers' compensation.

Unfortunately, the answer to that question is not straightforward and can only be answered with a detailed and thorough examination of the actual facts surrounding the accident. Some of the important considerations include:- what condition caused you to fall; what were you actu-



Gallagher's Advice
By Caroleann Gallagher



ally doing at the time of the fall; who owns the area where you fell and were you permitted and/or required to be in the area of your fall as part of your day-to-day work responsibilities.

In Illinois in order to have a compensable work injury case, you need to be able to show that when you got hurt, not only were you working but that your injury also arose out of your employment. This is a very detailed and complex area of the law and should not be navigated without the benefit of an attorney who

is familiar with all areas of workers compensation law. "Parking lot" cases, pose a very difficult challenge in answering the question as to whether or not an accident on the way into or out of work will be compensable as a work injury or not. The nuances involved are very clear when you analyze a recent case which went all the way to the Illinois Appellate Court for determination if the injured worker's fall was an accident that "arose out" of her employment. Courts can differ greatly in their reasoning as is evident from this case and it takes a very experienced attorney to be able to navigate this area of the law.

The case is Western Springs Police Department v The Illinois Workers Compensation Commission and Jacqueline MacDonnell. The claimant, Jacqueline MacDonnell, was employed as a crossing guard by the Village of Western Springs Police Department. Her crossing guard duties required her to be at the corner of Wolf Road and Hillgrove Avenue in Western Springs between the hours of 7.40 am until 8.10 am. On the day of her accident Jacqueline parked her car in an angled parking space that was along the train tracks and directly across from the corner at which she manned her post. As she got out of her car she slipped on ice, lost her balance, and fell sustaining injuries to her hand and wrist.

During the course of the evidence at the Arbitration of the case, the claimant testified that there were two employee designated parking lots at the rear of the village hall where employees of the village parked and where members of the public were not allowed to park. Jacqueline did

not park in those lots but rather chose a public parking lot closer to her crossing guard post.

She testified that she was permitted to do this by her employer and that her employer waived the four-hour minimum parking for its employees, that members of the general public were subject to. It was undisputed that the parking lot where the claimant parked was also Village owned property.

At the first level of hearing of the case, before the Illinois Workers Compensation Commission, the Arbitrator denied the claimant's case - stating that she did not sustain an accident that arose out of and in the course of her job. The Arbitrator's decision was based on the fact that the claimant parked in an area that was not designated as a village employee only lot and therefore Jacqueline was like any other member of the public who parked there. The Arbitrator held that encountering the ice in the lot as she did was something that any member of the public could encounter and thus did not arise out of her specific job as a crossing guard for the Village.

Jacqueline appealed her case to the next level where it was heard by a panel of three Commissioners. The Commissioners reversed the Arbitrator's finding and stated that she did sustain a compensable work accident because the area where she fell was in fact owned by the Village and the Village exercised control over the area and it conferred different parking rules so that Village employees could use that parking space. According to the Commissioners because Jacqueline encountered a hazardous condition (i.e. ice) on the Village's premises her accident was compensable under The Workers Compensation Act.

The Village, dissatisfied with this decision against them, sought a judicial review of the case in the Circuit Court of Cook County. The Circuit Court reversed the three Commissioners and agreed with the initial Arbitrator and stated that the claimant's accident did not involve a fall in a parking lot 'provided' to Jacqueline by her employer and thus her accident was not one that arose out of and in the course of her job.

Jacqueline was obviously unhappy with the Circuit Court's finding and appealed the matter to the Illinois Appellate Court who sided with the three Commissioners and found that Jacqueline's case was compensable. Their reasoning rested on the fact that although the parking lot that Jacqueline used was not one designated to her by her employer - it was a parking lot wherein the Village granted her and other employee's certain rights and privileges which were not available to the general public, because they allowed her to park there for longer than four hours. Because they carved out this exception specifically for their employees, the Appellate court decided that Jacqueline's fall was a fall that arose out of her job and thus her injuries were compensable.

All of the conflicting decisions in this case between four courts illustrate clearly how nuanced and tricky parking lot cases are and why it is not an area of the law you should navigate alone.

If a fall in a parking lot is deemed not to be a compensable workers compensation accident, then you may have other avenues of relief to compensate you for any injury. However, whether that that avenue is open to you or not will require a very thorough look into the circumstances of the fall, the conditions which caused you to fall and the owners of the area wherein you fell. The scope of that discussion is beyond the time I have here. As the Chicago Winter sets in, be careful out there and if you or your loved ones are involved in a fall in a parking lot either during, before or after work, or on any other occasion, please give us a call so we can go through all the aspects of the case and determine what avenue is the best one for you to proceed and to ensure your rights are protected.

**Caroleann Gallagher is an Irish born Attorney now licensed in Illinois and practicing all types of personal injury law - she concentrates her practice in nursing home neglect and abuse litigation, medical malpractice law, wrongful death claims, transportation injuries, premises liability claims, defective product claims, construction site injuries and Workers Compensation. She is a Partner at Coogan Gallagher and can be contacted at 312-782-7482 or via email to cgallagher@cgtrial.com. Coogan Gallagher are at www.cgtrial.com*

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Many companies are increasing their use of renewable energy and using more sustainable materials in their products. Business realize that future contracts will be won or lost based on a company's green credentials, so businesses are taking action now to be more green.

Top Eleven Sustainability Trends in 2023

The news headlines in 2022 consistently reported on the vulnerable environmental state of our planet. So much so that individuals and businesses are really feeling the pressure to make positive changes.

With insight from green bloggers and university studies here are some we can expect to see in 2023.

1. Increased Use of Renewable Energy

Renewable energy has become increasingly popular in recent years and most Eco-friendly people agree that 2023 will see an increase in the use of renewable systems. By switching to a heat pump or installing solar panels, homeowners will significantly reduce their environmental impact, and can drastically lower their energy bills.

The cost of these systems can be relatively high and is the main block deterrent from operating a standard heating system and options, but eventually the costs of the systems will become more affordable.

2. More Recycling

Consumers are demanding that products and brands be more environmentally conscious, and big companies are responding by making changes to improve their sustainability. With a heightened awareness for better recycling practices; especially with plastics and packaging, business are working towards adopting a more circular business model.

3. Transportation

Improvements to transportation options has been a steadily evolving trend. Among the changes include increased bicycle and scooter use, enhanced public transportation and of course, the roll out of electric vehicles. Sustainable transportation options are being adopted by municipalities and private companies in the United States.

4. Reduce Car Rides

Passenger vehicles account for 41% of all the worlds Carbon-dioxide emissions. Research from the University of Oxford shows that using a bike over a car, just once a day, can reduce a person's carbon emissions by 67%. Even if every car trip couldn't be substituted by a bicycle, the potential to decrease emissions is still very high.

5. Reduction of Food Waste

Food waste is concern across the globe over the last decade. According to recent research by United Nations Environment Program, it's reported that about one-third of all food produced for human consumption, each year, goes to waste. That's about 1.3 billion tons of food that goes straight to landfill.

As priorities change, more pressure will be put on big businesses and households to compost. Some states in America, for are already enforcing composting law. Oregon and Washington now legally require all businesses to compost their organic waste. Composting is a relatively easy solution, this trend is clearly one that is being pushed for all the right reasons.

6. Reuse and Purchasing Second-hand Products

Increase in second-hand purchasing and reuse of products and materials is also steadily growing in popularity. Thrifting and reuse drastically reduces the environmental impact of new product manufacture and delivery, and also cuts down spending costs for millions of consumers

[Future Market Insights.com](http://FutureMarketInsights.com) predicts that the second-hand market for clothing will be worth over \$282 million by 2032. This spike in desire to buy second-hand is being driven by a consumer base who want to reduce pollution, climate change and unethical labor practices. There is also a greater need for reduced spending amongst younger generations who are facing more financial uncertainty, statics show that that 42% of second-hand shoppers are within the 18-37 age range.

7. More Sustainable Materials

Sustainable Fashion is high on the list for trend predictions in 2023, but also it is also important to note the increased use of sustainable materials. This includes packaging material, clothing fibers and even construction materials to more sustainable options.

Bamboo, wool and cork are becoming increasingly popular as they are environmentally friendly, durable and stylish. Sustainable home building materials often have health benefits, as they can improve indoor air quality and provide thermal insulation.

8. Increased Brand Responsibility & Transparency

Big brands and big businesses are under increasing pressure to focus on their environmental responsibilities, and be more transparent for consumers.

9. Even Greater Technology

The use of smart thermostats, ovens, fridges, and dishwashers will be flexibly controlled and will have the lowest energy consumption possible. The current financial climate now suggests these use also are cost saving tool.

For businesses cloud storage and video conferencing, are some of the greatest tools to combat climate change, as they have allowed people to work remotely (a good segway to the to the next trend)!

10. More Remote Work

Since the start of the pandemic, employees working remotely has rapidly become a more normal occurrence for most businesses. Remote work reduces greenhouse gas emissions by an amount of 600,000 cars (U.S) (State of Telecommuting) and energy consumption in office buildings has also reduced.

Remote working will continue and whether you're a fan of it or not, it's undeniable that staying home has environmental benefits.

11. More Demand for Plant-based and 'Alternative' Foods

A study by the University of Oxford, showed that by not eating meat or dairy products, a person can reduce their carbon footprint by up to 73%. In such non-sustainable farming practices, meat production can deplete natural resources, contaminate land and endanger other wildlife

Plant-based meat emits 30-90% less greenhouse gas and uses 47-99% less land (Good Food Institute). A plant-based, or vegan, diet demands less use of land and water, and reduces carbon emissions and pollution. This is also true of those opting to eat locally-grown or organic produce.

Conclusion

Many of these top ten trends are things we are already experiencing, in some small way or another. We should promote further advancements in all these areas. These trends are all incredibly positive and if countries across the globe commit to adopt these changes, in any significant way, we can expect to see a compelling shift in the health of our planet.

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Good Time Coming Up With the 24th Chicago Irish Film Festival Returning as a Hybrid Event

The 24th annual Chicago Irish Film Festival (CIFF) is back to offer the best features, shorts and documentary films from The Land of Storytelling. This year’s festival returns as a Hybrid Event with in-person events at Theater on the Lake, AMC New City, Chicago History Museum and Society for Arts Gallery Theatre March 2-5, as well as an online format with digital tickets available for at-home screenings March 6-12.

This year, CIFF will host the US premiere of “The Sparrow,” a debut feature film from writer and director, Michael Kinirons. The film explores buried sorrows and tragedies surfacing in picturesque Lough Hyne. Kiniron’s debut follows the struggle of a young boy whose mother has died, creating an unhappy and dysfunctional home life. As the film moves on, viewers will watch in horror as the consequences of a lie unfold before their eyes and events spiral out of control. “The Sparrow,” kicks off the festival at Theater on the Lake on Thursday, March 2 at 6:30 p.m., followed by a live Q&A with Kinirons and producer Alicia Ní Ghráinne.

Other in-person festival highlights include the Midwest premier of “Clodagh,” from writers Oda Carroll and Adrian McCarthy. Drawing on archival footage of one of the Top 100 Designers in the World by Architectural Digest, the documentary offers an intimate look at Clodagh’s life from a young woman on horseback before a life-alter-

found footage and science fiction with a romance thrown in for good measure; and “The Ghost of Richard Harris,” a film focused one of the most remarkable and controversial actors of stage and screen Ireland has ever produced. “How to Tell A Secret,” director Shaun Dunne will be at the premier on March 3 to offer viewers a Q&A following the viewing.

Other highlights include, “My Sailor, My Love,” a beautiful and sweeping international collaboration about new beginnings presented as the festival’s closing film; “We’re Not Making Gone with the Wind,” a US premier focusing on the story of Noreen Cooke and how she took control of her life to seize opportunity and make the best of every situation that came her way like the feisty Scarlett O’Hare before her; and “Mask,” a short about a troubled young father who leaves his sleeping child alone in the car in the corner of a dark underground car park during the angst of the early pandemic. The director of “Mask,” Margaret Kane-Rowe, will also be at the in-person screening as part of the short films program at AMC New City on March 3 at 6 p.m.

Passes and tickets for this year’s festival are available through Go Elevant. All-access in-person passes are available for \$150 (includes opening night) and virtual all-access for \$100. Individual tickets for in-person films are available for \$12, and virtual screenings are available for \$10.



Clodagh

ing fall, to a twenty-something wife and mother of three in the ‘60s, to a powerhouse of design. “Clodagh,” explores what drives this iconic single-minded designer, and how courageous and difficult personal decisions made throughout life have impacted her, her family and how she views the world today. The documentary premiers at Chicago History Museum at 3 p.m. on March 3, and is followed by a Q&A and reception with Clodagh, Carroll and McCarthy.

Other premiers include “How to Tell A Secret,” a film that delves into the act of disclosure and the stigma that drives people to withhold an HIV status in Ireland today; “Aisha” starring Leticia Wright, as a young woman fighting the immigration system in Ireland; “Lola,” a debut film from director Andrew Legge, blending documentary, faux

Individual tickets for the opening screening of “The Sparrow,” are available for \$75, which includes a buffet, drinks and festival opening festivities. For more information on how to fest for this year’s CIFF, visit www.chicagoirishfilmfestival.com.

Presenting sponsors of this year’s festival include the Government of Ireland’s Emigrant Support Program, Culture Ireland and Gage Hospitality Group. Aer Lingus has also donated two round trip tickets, which will be awarded to a lucky festival attendee at the end of the opening night gala.

Theater on the Lake is located at 2401 N. Lake Shore Drive, Chicago. AMC New City is located at Suite C3401, 1500 N Clybourn Ave, Chicago. The Chicago History Museum is located at 1601 N Clark Street and the Society for Arts Gallery Theatre is located at 1112 N Milwaukee Avenue.



The Sparrow



How to tell a secret



Aisha



The Ghost of Richard Harris



The Mask

FEBRUARY 2023 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Friends, Members of the Irish American Heritage Center (IAHC), founders, supporters, neighbors, and partners.

It must be true because I read it on the internet – The first St. Patrick's Day Parade was held in St. Augustine, FL in 1601, organized by the Spanish Colony's Irish vicar. General George Washington allowed his troops a holiday on March 17, 1780, now known as the St. Patrick's Day Encampment of 1780.

The 1st parade in Chicago took place in 1843, but not until 1956 and Mayor J. Daley did the "Official" Downtown parade that we know now take place. More than 250,000 lined the parade route and the rest of the City was able to watch it on WGN.

In 1962 100 pounds of vegetable dye was poured into the Chicago River, turning it green for a week.

With its origins as a strictly religious holiday in 9th century Ireland to the traditions of the 21st century, St. Patrick's Day has always been a time to stop, reflect on our heritage and the rich culture that the Irish Diaspora has spread around the world.

The Irish American Heritage Center is once again excited to welcome everyone to the Annual St. Patrick's Fest and St. Patrick's Day Celebration, with all the music, all the fun, all the dancing that you expect from us at the IAHC!

St. Patrick's Fest, Saturday, March 11th from 1:00pm to 11:00pm, starts right after the downtown parade. Bands in the Fifth Province Pub, Irish Dance schools performing in the Mayfair Theatre, Irish Marketplace for shopping, and children's activities with Irish Community Services in the Erin Room until 5:00pm.

Presale tickets are \$15 online, \$20 day of the event at the door. Children under twelve are free.

St. Patrick's Day, Friday March 17th from 3:00pm to 11:00pm in the Fifth Province Pub, with more music and more craic! Admission is \$10 at the door.

The Center's Annual Appeal is underway, and we need your help. The funds raised during the Annual Appeal are used to offset many of our capital expenses including the repairs needed in our parking lots and the maintenance of the upkeep of the buildings physical plant. If you did not receive your Annual Appeal mailer, donations can be made online at irish-american.org, or by calling the office at 773-282-7035, extension 10.

Not yet a member of the Irish Center. Missing out on all the amazing classes, events and celebrations that happen every day? **This Is Your Center!** Make sure that you renew your IAHC membership or join by filling out the form in this month's IAN, or by calling the office at 773-282-7035, extension 10.

Tony McHale
President of the IAHC. Board of Directors

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This is Your Center!

Siblings Anne Marie Herlehy (left) and Bridget (nee Herlehy) Milionis (right) first started coming to the Center in 2000 for Irish Fest, and then taking an Art class here and there, as well as many a show in the pub and theater. Now, you'll find them cheering on Eleanor Milionis (center) at Irish Dance lessons from world renown Trinity Irish Dance along with many other generations of families at the Irish American Heritage Center!

This is YOUR Center for dance!

Join the IAHC today!

www.irish-american.org

773-282-7025 ext. 10



SHANE HENNESSY



Welcome Irish virtuoso guitarist and IAHC favorite Shane Hennessy is back after a three year absence!

Location: The Mayfair Theatre at the Irish American Heritage Center

Date: Sunday, March 19th, 6:30pm

Tickets: \$30, \$25 for members, \$22 for groups of 10 or more

Irish Music Magazine says Shane is “**one of the most exciting live performers of his generation,**” and if you have seen him at the Center you will agree!

**Tickets can be purchased at irish-american.org.
Are you a member? Call 773-282-7035, extension 10
and ask for your member discount code.**

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Celebrate all things St. Patrick!



The tradition continues! Join us at the Irish American Heritage Center on Saturday, March 11th after the St. Patrick's Day Parade, and again on Friday March 17th to celebrate the day!



Music, including Aiden O'Toole, the Chancey Brothers, the Joyce Boys, Whiskey Mick, the Academy of Irish Music, In Spite of Ourselves, the Dooley Band, and many more!

Join us in the Erin Room on the 11th for music, entertainment and crafts for the kids, with activities presented by our partners ICS (Irish Community Services), and for performances by local Irish Dance schools in the Mayfair Theatre.

All this, plus shopping, food and drink!

Tickets for St. Patrick's Fest on March 11th are \$15 in advance at www.irish-american.org, and \$20 at the door. Children under 12 years old are free, and must be accompanied by an adult. Doors open at 1:00pm. Last call at 11:00pm. Admission for March 17th is \$10 at the door for Adults. Children under 12 are free. Doors open at 3:00pm. Last Call at 11:00 pm.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY FESTIVAL
AT THE IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

**FAMILY FUN
IN THE ERIN ROOM**
1:00PM - 5:00PM
MARCH 11TH, 2023

BRING YOUR LITTLE ONES
UP TO THE ERIN ROOM FOR
FESTIVE ST. PATRICKS DAY
CRAFTS AND ACTIVITIES!



ROBERT FLOOD ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE IRISH FELLOWSHIP CLUB

Robert P. Flood of Flood Brothers was elected the 2023 President of the Irish Fellowship Club at the Annual Christmas Luncheon on December 2, 2022. As a long time member of the Irish Fellowship Club, Bob has served in many different leadership roles including Vice President, Golf Outing Chair, Christmas Luncheon Chair as well as being a strong supporter of the Club and Foundation. In his remarks at the Luncheon, Bob thanked and recognized his family for their encouragement and thanked the board and membership. He commented, "I am delighted to serve the Irish community of Chicago as President of the Irish Fellowship Club. I know it will be a terrific year and I look forward to meeting our members and building the connection between Chicago's civic and Irish communities."

The Club also elected 1st Vice President, James F. Coyne, Business Manager of Plumbers Local 130 and the President of the Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade, nine new board members and named Fr. Pat McGrath of Old St. Pat's Parish as a Chaplain.

CELEBRATE ST. PATRICK'S DAY WITH THE IRISH FELLOWSHIP CLUB

Join the Irish Fellowship Club to kick off the 2023 St. Patrick's Day celebrations at our Annual Dinner on Friday, March 10, 2023. Chaired by Mark E. McNabola, founder of the McNabola Law Group, the Dinner will take place at the Hilton Chicago with cocktails at 6pm, dinner at 7:30pm. Tickets can be purchased online at www.irishfellowshipclub.com. The Dinner benefits the Irish Fellowship Club Education and Cultural Foundation which provides scholarship funds to Catholic high schools across the Chicago-land area and Irish cultural organizations.

The Irish Fellowship Club Dinner will honor Tim Drea, President of the Illinois AFL-CIO, Grand Marshal of the 2023 St. Patrick's Day Parade and CLLR Jimmy Collins, Mayor of the County of Cork, Guest of Honor for the Parade. Says Mark McNabola, "The Irish Fellowship Club is delighted to welcome these honored guests and begin the St. Patrick's Day festivities. Sponsors are an important part of our success along with ticket purchases.

I invite all of our members and guests to join us for a great celebration. The funds we raise impact the lives of many young men and women".

→ JOIN THE IRISH FELLOWSHIP CLUB AS A MEMBER →→ and celebrate St. Patrick's Day with us!

Want first hand information about Club activities and events? Join the Irish Fellowship Club. Complete the form below or visit our website at

www.irishfellowshipclub.org



2023 Irish Fellowship Club President, Robert Flood



2023 St. Patrick's Dinner Chairman, Mark E. McNabola

Tickets and Sponsorships for the Irish Fellowship Club Annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner

are available on the Irish Fellowship Club website (www.irishfellowshipclub.com) or by calling Kathy Taylor at 312-858-0628. Reservations MUST be in by March 1, 2023 and no changes will be made after March 2, 2023.

Emerald Sponsor: \$10,000 (name in program book and table of 10 near dance floor + one night stay at the Hilton Chicago that evening)

Celtic Sponsor: \$5,000 (name in program book and table of 10 Premier Seating)

Shamrock Sponsor: \$2,500 (name in program book and table of 10)

Table of 10: \$2,250

Individual Tickets: \$225/person



Parade Guest of Honor, CCLR Danny Collins, Parade Executive Director Jim Coyne, IFC Chairman John Wrenn & Parade Grand Marshal Tim Drea look forward to St. Patrick's Day 2023 photo by Michael Kardas

Join the Irish Fellowship Club!		New Member Application	
Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	
Street Address			
City, State, Zip			
Firm Name		Email Address	
Street Address			
City	State	Zip	Occupation or Title
Credit Card #	Expiration Date	CVC #	
Or you can mail this form with a \$75 check for membership dues to:			
The Irish Fellowship Club of Chicago			
c/o Kathy Taylor			
P.O. Box 31604			
Chicago IL 60631			
Mail to: Business <input type="checkbox"/>		Home <input type="checkbox"/>	
Marital status: Single <input type="checkbox"/>		Married <input type="checkbox"/>	



The Importance of Continuing Education to Caregivers of Dementia Patients

Working in health care does not imply that your schooling is over. Socrates once said that our education and training are nothing more than the starting point for a lifetime of learning. So, how can we keep the flames going, and what are the merits of doing so?



As you continue your education in the field of health care, consider both continuing education (CE) and expanding your knowledge.

CE Credits - What Are They?

Continuing education (CE) credits are an academic prerequisite for practitioners in health care since they are designed to keep them informed on medical breakthroughs. Medical licensure, professional organizations, and certification boards need them as a way to bridge the gap between present treatment and ideal care.

CE has proven to be quite beneficial in enhancing clinical outcomes and preventing the death of patients. How? For the most part, continuing education is a method to keep medical professionals up to date on the most recent findings in their respective professions.

What is the Significance of Continuing Education To Caregivers of People With Dementia?

CE credits aren't just for the sake of keeping you in your current work or certification; they're also a way for you to improve your skills and open up new avenues for advancement in your profession.

Growth on Both a Personal and Professional Level

It's a great way to keep adding to your storehouse of information and improve your own personal development. It's also a great way to expand your knowledge in certain areas and specialties that you're passionate about and essential to your profession.

Caregiving dementia patients take a deep understanding of a patient's behavior which can evolve over time. When you continue learning and understanding dementia, you will grow and gain up to date knowledge

on how to properly care for a patient.

Greater Attention to Patients' Needs

It's crucial to remain up to speed on the latest innovations in patient care, such as new protocols, technologies, and medications, and continuing education may help you do so. That means you'll have better knowledge to aid more dementia patients.

You're Always Updated

Continuing education (CE) has become critical in health care since it is an ever-evolving sector. New knowledge is generated as a result of the advancement of technology. As a result of extensive study and technological advances, medical practitioners now comprehend more than their colleagues in the 1970s.

It is vital to keep up to date in the industry by continuing your education. You will learn more knowledge and activities necessary in stimulating the interest of a dementia patient.

You Can Continue to Use Your Certification

Depending on your career, you must complete at least ten continuing education credits every two years to maintain your NHA certification. There are a variety of courses available, and you can select the ones that are most relevant to your interests. There's no need to panic if you've forgotten to re-enroll. In most cases, if you've had your certification expire for less than a year, you can reactivate your credentials. Learn more about the process of recertifying your credentials.

Continuing Education In Aishling Care Academy

Your employer, career, patients, and yourself will all gain if you continue your education in the medical

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Save the Date! **iBAM! 2023: Honoring Colm Toibin; Literature, Jimmy Keane; Music, Eileen Dunne; Journalism & more. Stay tuned**

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sector. Whether for career development, certification, or license renewal, your job as a caregiver is critical to the well-being of your patients with dementia.

It is always a wise decision to invest in continued education and training in institutes such as Aishling Care Academy which offers courses specific to caring for dementia patients. Caregivers who want to improve their capabilities can take advantage of our continuing education programs by attending evening sessions beginning at 6 p.m. info@aishlingcareacademy.com

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www.irishtimespub.com

CHICAGO GAELIC PARK

A Chairde

Greetings from Gaelic Park,

As we turn the page on a new year, we wish Marian Ryan a happy retirement and extend a warm welcome to Michael Bennett, our incoming general manager. Michael arrives with a deep background in food service and hospitality. He looks forward to building on Marian's successful tenure-continuing to honor our Irish heritage and provide Irish hospitality to the broader community. Please stop by and introduce yourself to Michael on your next visit to Gaelic Park.

It is not too early to mark your calendar for the festive Irish season. All friends of Gaelic Park are welcome to join us as we march in four St. Patrick's Day parades: Oak Forest (3/4), Tinley Park(3/5), Downtown Chicago (3/11), and South Side Irish (3/12). Ireland on Parade at Gaelic Park will once again host Irish music and step-dancing performances over four nights in March leading up to South Side Irish Sunday. If you can't wait until March to kick off your celebrations, The Merry Ploughboys Party is on Saturday, the 11th of February! Tickets are \$25 and on sale in the Front Office or by calling (708) 687-9323.

Our annual Queen Contest is on the 4th of March at 7:00 P.M. If you know an eligible young woman, encourage her to enter. Applications are available for download at www.chicagogaelicpark.com. The Gaelic Park Gals hosted a successful Women's Little Christmas event on the 6th of January. More than 100 women (including this BUNCO newbie) gathered for a lively evening. Contact gpgals1@outlook.com to receive updates for future events. This year marks Ireland's new public holiday, St. Brigid's Day, on the 1st of February. As we move through the chilly winter months at Gaelic Park, "May Brigid bless the house that shelters us."

Noreen Lennon Hegarty
Gaelic Park Board Member

February in the Carraig Pub!

Daily Specials

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Chicken Pot Pie TRINGO! 7pm	B.B.Q. Ribs	Bone-in Pork Chop Dinner	Fish Fry	Steak & Shrimp Dinner

Entertainment

FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Feb 3 Gerry Haughey	Feb 4 Whiskey & Harmony
Feb 10 Bernie Glim	Feb 11 Damien Patrick
Feb 17 Ray Gavin	Feb 18 Kieran Byrne
Feb 24 Gotham Ramblers	Feb 25 Liam Durkin

Membership

NEW RENEWAL Family \$50 Individual \$30

Name _____
last first initial

Spouse _____
(if joining) last first initial

Address _____
street apt/unit #
city state zip

Donation enclosed \$ _____ (Checks payable to Chicago Gaelic Park)

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

phone: 708.687.9323 fax: 708.687.0120

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



THE MERRY PLOUGHBOY Party!

Appearing at

Chicago Gaelic Park

Saturday, February 11, 2023

Tickets \$25.00

Doors open 7:00pm - Show at 8:00pm

Chicago Gaelic Park - 6119 W. 147th Street - Oak Forest, IL. 60452

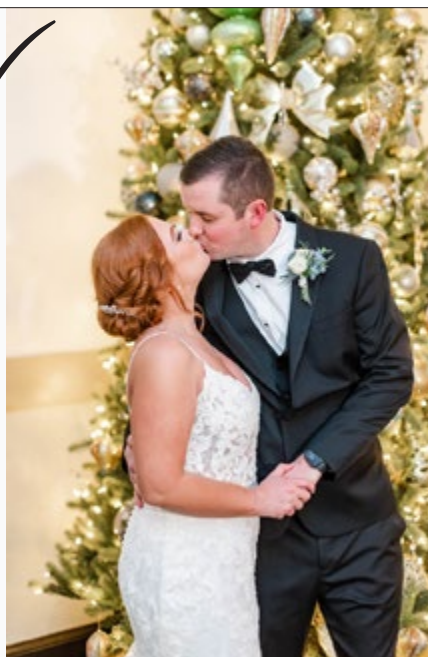
708-687-9323 / ChicagoGaelicPark.com

weddings

Newly engaged this holiday season? Celebrate your big day with us! We have great dates available for 2023 +2024.

Email: banquet@chicagogaelicpark.org

Photo by Elle Taylor Photography



CHICAGO GAELIC PARK

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

Gaelic Park St. Patrick's Events

2023

WEDNESDAY MARCH 1ST

Monthly Musical Luncheon \$18
12:00pm - Reservations Required



SATURDAY MARCH 4TH

St. Baldrick's Childhood Cancer Research Charity
Doors open 11am - Head Shaving starts at Noon
Register to shave at www.StBaldricks.org/Events/GaelicPark

SUNDAY MARCH 12TH

Monthly Mass & Irish Breakfast 9:30am
\$13 Adults / \$8 Children

Ireland On Parade

Irish Step Dancing School Performances
March 10, 14, 15 & 16

SUNDAY MARCH 12TH

Southside Irish Sunday!

Doors open 1pm • 4 Stages of Entertainment
Food & Drink Available for Purchase

FRIDAY MARCH 17th - ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Annual Corned Beef & Cabbage Luncheon
11:00am - Tickets \$35 in advance - Adults Only



The Carraig Pub Open for Lunch on
St. Patrick's Day at 11:00am
Live Entertainment starting at 1pm

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



Gaelic Park Players

All-Ireland Trivia Quiz

Friday February 24, 2023
at Chicago
Gaelic Park



Adopt a county name for your team.

Approximately 15% of questions are Irish.

Open to teams of 6 @ \$60 per team,
Singles are welcome @ \$10 and will be placed upon a team.

\$300 Cash Prize

Along with Trophies and Cup. Lots of fun and spot prizes.

Doors open 7pm - Quiz starts at 8pm - Cash Bar

To sign up, email John Devitt at
JohnDevitt67@Gmail.com



If planning on having dinner at Gaelic Park,
Call 708-687-9323 for reservations.



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Gaelic Park & Julia's Legacy of Hope
Raising Funds for

St. Baldrick's

Fighting Childhood Cancer
Register on our 2023 Page

<https://www.stbaldricks.org/events/GaelicPark>

Great Raffle Baskets & Games!

Kid's Area with Crafts, Games, Snacks



Saturday, March 4, 2023

At Gaelic Park

Doors open 11am - Shaving starts at Noon
Food & Drink available for purchase

Share your photos on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/ChicagoGaelicPark>

Visit Julia's Legacy of Hope Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/juliaslegacy>

Register and fundraise \$50 or more to qualify
for your fundraising t-shirt. St. Baldrick's will
reach out directly to arrange your t-shirt
delivery after event date.

 **St. Baldrick's**
FOUNDATION
Conquer Childhood Cancers



Chicago Gaelic Park is located at - 6119 W 147th Street - Oak Forest, IL



Un-Wined at the Park

Join us for an Evening of Wine Tasting
Friday, March 31, 2023 at 7:30pm
at Gaelic Park

- Explore and expand your wine horizons
- Wine representatives on hand to provide insider knowledge about their wines
- Wine tasting, light bites and fun!

Cost is \$35 per person & includes light appetizers

Hosted by Gaelic Park

Wine presented by The Wine Thief Bistro & Specialty Wines, Frankfort

Warm smiles, fabulous wines, and good company!
Bottles of wine will be available for purchase/order.
It's a great opportunity for you to acquire some great
wines to add to your wine collection,
or just for you to take home and enjoy!

Reserve your seat by Friday, March 24th
708-687-9323

Chicago Gaelic Park - 6119 W 147th Street - Oak Forest, IL

CHICAGO GAELIC PARK

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



Gaelic Park's March Luncheon

Wednesday, March 01, 2023

Doors open at 12:00, Lunch is served at 1:00

\$18.00 per person - Reserve your table now!

What a wonderful way to spend the afternoon catching up with friends, enjoying a hearty meal of soup, salad, a delicious entrée, along with dessert, tea and coffee.

Entertainment by **Gerry Haughey**

Chicago Gaelic Park
6119 W 147th Street Oak Forest, IL 60452

Reservations required 708-687-9323 [www.chicagogaelicpark.com]

@ChicagoGaelicPark —   

SAVE THE DATE! IRISH FEST WEEKEND IS BACK! AUGUST 25, 26, 27



Valentines Day

Dinner at the Carraig Pub

Tuesday February 14, 2023

Dine-In only 5pm-8pm

\$85.00 per couple

Your delicious meal starts off with ...
Chicken Vol au vent followed by Pear and Walnut Salad.
Entrée choices are Filet Mignon, Chicken Marsala or Grilled Salmon.
Served with a Double Baked Potato and Vegetable.
And our home-made desserts to share.
Choice of a bottle of red or white wine.

Reservations Only
Call 708-687-9323 today

The Carraig Irish Pub at Chicago Gaelic Park
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A Deserving Billy Lawless to Receive 2023 Ireland Network's IN Spirit Award 2-11

For many, Billy Lawless serves as the face of the Irish diaspora in Chicago, although his work has produced lasting impacts on the health and success of the diaspora well beyond this city and even the Midwest. As a businessman, restaurateur, immigration advocate and Senator, Billy has given a voice to the Irish abroad, provided jobs and resources to Irish in need, and strengthened ties between the U.S. and Ireland. He exemplifies the mission of Ireland Network Chicago to connect with and contribute to a more vibrant Irish community, and his heartfelt passion, call to service and immeasurable generosity of time and treasures sets an example for us all.

The 2023 IN Spirit Award will be presented at the Annual Ball, Saturday, February 11, 2023 at The Drake. Join us in congratulating the one and only Billy Lawless.

ABOUT BILLY LAWLESS

Billy Lawless, Sr. was born in 1950 in Circular Road, Galway where he attended the Jesuit St. Ignatius College in 1962. He grew up in a dairy farming family supplying milk to restaurants and hotels in Galway. In 1977, Billy started in the hospitality business as owner of Gallows Pub and Restaurant and Taaffes Pub in Galway. He became President of the Vintners (Restaurants & Pubs) Federation of Ireland in 1982. In 1991 he contested a seat for Galway City Council. In 1993, he became Chairman of the Galway West Constituency Fine Gael Political Party, which is now in government. From 1992 to 1997, he was the owner of the Twelve Pins Hotel Barna in Co. Galway, Ireland.

Billy emigrated to Chicago in 1998 and opened his first Irish pub in Wrigleyville. In 2001 he formed the Chicago Irish Pub/Restaurant Association. He now

owns with his family The Gage, Acanto & Dearborn Restaurants on Michigan Avenue and the Loop. His son Billy Jr. and partner own The Dawson & Coda di Volpe restaurants. The five restaurants now have over 400 employees.

After years of informal leadership within Chicago's Irish immigrant community, Billy was approached to take a more public role and founded the Chicago Celts for Immigration Reform. This led to his becoming a member of the Board of Directors of the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (ICIRR) in 2009. In 2011 he was a founder member of the bi-partisan American Business Immigration Coalition and has been Co-Chairman of the Galway Chicago Sister Cities Committee 1998 to 2021.

In 2014, Billy introduced President Obama at the Copernicus Center Chicago, when the President introduced his DACA Executive Order for immigration reform. In 2015, Billy received an Honorary Doc-

torate of Laws from NUIG and Freedom of the City of Galway. In 2016, Taoiseach Enda Kenny appointed Billy to the Seanad becoming the first Senator to represent emigrants & the wider Diaspora. That same year, Billy founded VotingRights.ie to give Irish Citizens worldwide a vote in our Presidential election. A referendum will be held on the issue in 2023. In 2021, Billy received the Irish Presidential Distinguished Service Award.

ABOUT THE IN SPIRIT AWARD

The IN Spirit Award demonstrates our profound gratitude for an individual's incredible service to the Irish community and is presented each year at the Annual Ball each February in front of our members, partners and supporters. 2019 - Bill Gainer, Galway/Chicago Sister City and Cork/Cook County Partnership 2020 - Dan O'Donnell, Armitage Hardware 2022 - Cliff Carlson, *Irish American News* 2023 - Billy Lawless, Sr., businessman and politician



Billy and Anne Lawless on Christmas Eve 2022



President Barack Obama and Billy Lawless

DeLorean: North to Alaska

By James Bartlett

Powered by a flux capacitor, the DeLorean travelled through time on the big screen, yet few people imagined one of the iconic vehicles would end up a few miles from the North Pole.

Home to some 32,000 people, Fairbanks is the second largest city in the 665,000 square miles of Alaska, and the small, Christmas-obsessed town of North Pole is around 14 miles southeast of its downtown.

The Alaska Highway ends in Fairbanks, and in 2017 Robert Prince (pictured) decided to drive his DeLorean over 2000 miles from Michigan, USA, into Canada, before tackling the challenging 1,390 miles of the famous road:

“I was going on a one-year sabbatical from my job in the Journalism Department at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, so it seemed the best time to buy the car and get to know it a bit before I came back up here to work. I also had saved up some money.”

He hasn’t driven it much since, he admits, “because while living in Fairbanks can be amazing, and there’s no place like it in the world, we get just four hours of very dim sunlight from November through the end of January.”

In practice, this means that his DeLorean (VIN 10381) “hibernates throughout the winters because they are brutally cold and icy, but bringing the car out is always a wonderful part of spring, after not being able to drive it for so long.”

As you might expect, Prince, 45, gets amazing reactions when he does take the car out for a drive:

“I like to say it’s the Dolly Parton of cars, because it



doesn’t matter who you are, what you do for a living, how much money you have, everyone loves it. If a DeLorean could run for president, it would win in a landslide! People just love this car, and that’s my favorite thing about it. Just seeing it makes peoples’ day,” he says, laughing when he adds that his girlfriend “thinks it’s awesome, though my ex-wife did not!”

Like many owners he was a fan of the Back to the Future films, but he bought his own because he “fell in love with the story of the car, and I felt that owning one would be in his back and knees, so not very mobile, and his hearing was going. So, when mom asked a question or told a story he couldn’t hear her.

My friend and his siblings were married with their own families. Some lived out of state and some nearby. Each of the siblings had different financial situations. All had typical challenges many of us have with trying to raise our own families. Kids in Catholic schools playing sports (both grammar and high school). Both spouses working with hectic schedules and responsibilities.

Then mom is diagnosed with Alzheimer and the doctor tells them there is no way of knowing how long she would be safe at home. So, there were decisions to be made and not a lot of time to make them as the disease progressed. Dad wasn’t going to be able to adequately take care of her.

Deciding how to take care of mom was no small task. They had to figure out what kind of care would be needed and how to pay for it. OR have mom move in with one of the siblings. But that would mean someone could be

the ultimate way to relive the 1980s.”

Even today, some are surprised to learn that the famous stainless-steel vehicles with gull-wing doors are not only real, but were originally built at a factory at Dumurry, Belfast, and that thousands are still being driven around the world.

“Thanks to living thousands of miles away from everything I haven’t been to Belfast,” says Prince, who is the editor of DeLorean World magazine, “though I have made the pilgrimage to John DeLorean’s grave because he’s buried in Detroit, not far from where I grew up and my mom lives. It’s just a small plaque on the ground with a picture of a DeLorean - and when I visited, someone had left a toy Hot Wheels DeLorean as a tribute.”

The DeLorean blueprints, unsold cars, tools and many remaining spare parts were bought in 1997, and since then DMC has operated a thriving repair and restoration business from its Texas headquarters. Luckily Prince hasn’t needed their services often, except for one thing that is a very common Alaskan problem:

“My car has a crack in the windshield. I would like to replace it, but it would cost over \$1,000, so I just live with it for now. Also, this is an extremely rural state, and you can get quite the towing bill if you break down in the middle of nowhere,” he adds.

As for the future, Prince had just finished editing a documentary about his lengthy 2017 drive to Fairbanks, but he will in fact be leaving Alaska this year:

“After 18 years of adventures, I’m ready to live close to an Ikea again. But this time my DeLorean will be coming with me in a trailer.”

home all day. With both spouses working that would mean one of them would have to quit their job. Whom would it be?

This is a dilemma many adult children face when mom or dad suffers a heart attack or a stroke or takes an unexpected fall. Or, is diagnosed with an ultimately fatal disease.

Then the questions become...“how much money do mom and dad have, what about dad’s pension, social security” And... what about insurance? Will Medicare cover the care mom needs?” “How are we going to pay for this care if mom & dad don’t have the resources?” God forbid if both need care at the same time.

Then the possibility of finger pointing among siblings of who should have known or who should have been more involved with mom and dad’s finances. It usually doesn’t end well and life savings are lost and homes have to be sold.

We all probably have a story to tell. Mostly, sad and very costly. Could be devastating if it happens to you. The national average for a private room in a nursing home is \$300 daily while semi-private is \$260. Assisted Living Facility national average is \$4500 per month.

The typical hourly rate for a home health aide is \$27. Adult day services is \$78 per day. These are TODAY’s costs. Think about what they might be in the future as the baby boomers begin to require care.

This means \$50,000 to over \$100,000 per year and growing. Are you prepared for that? How do you not GO BROKE in dealing with this unknown future liability?

There are a few government incentives to help pay for long-term care. There are programs available whereby you can “re-purpose” a portion of your IRA or annuity or savings to leverage it to be worth 3 times to pay for care.

Example: \$50,000 IRA value would be worth \$150,000 if you had to pay for long-term care.

And if you don’t need care, you still have some or all of your money to pass on to your children so you don’t die broke.

If you want more information take a few-question long-term care survey by scanning the code below with your cell phone. We will send you more information on “better ways to handle things”. Michael A. Corrigan mike@corriganfs.com Corrigan Financial Services, Inc. 708-215-5100

Master Your Money

By Mike Corrigan



Who is Going to Take Care of Momma?

Many of us have had to ask this question (or we will in the future), when mom or dad’s health changes and they can’t care for themselves.

“If I only knew then what I know now.” It’s a phase that most of us will use at least once-perhaps many times as we age. We face a new situation with little knowledge and much trepidation and inevitably, we discover that there was a better way to handle things.

Such is the case that a family friend faced with his mother. He and his siblings were completely unprepared for what they were about to go through. Mom’s cognitive health was noticeably changing. She was confusing the microwave with the oven. She was having trouble remembering things. She would repeat stories.

The dad was still around but he was 5 years older and has his own medical issues. Diabetes plus some arthritis



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Rebel Music Fest to Benefit Danny Golden

A local nonprofit has organized an Irish Rebel Music Fest to benefit Chicago Police Officer Danny Golden, who was left paralyzed from the waist down while trying to break up a fight outside a bar over the summer in the Far South Side.

The feature act of the night will be Derek Warfield & The Young Wolfe Tones. After spending nearly 40 years as founder, leader and front man of the legendary Wolfe Tones (named after the 18th century Irish Revolutionary Theobald Wolfe Tone), Derek Warfield is revered as a singer, songwriter, historian and entertainer in all parts of the world where Irish roots have been put down. The Wolfe Tones enjoyed phenomenal success with 13 best-selling albums, 3 number one hits, many television appearances and shows in esteemed venues such as New York’s Carnegie Hall and The Royal Albert Hall in London.

Local legend Kieran Byrne will be one of the opening acts along with The Chancers and The Chicago Garda Pipe and Drum Corps.

The event will be held at Gaelic Park in Oak Forest on:

Sunday February 26 starting at 6:00 pm. The music will go for 4 hours and then the musicians will lead a sing song in the Carraig Pub.

Tickets are \$50.00 and are available on [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) under Irish Rebel Music Fest featuring Derek Warfield & The Young Wolfe Tones.

In the early morning on July 10, Golden, a six-year member of the department, was out celebrating with friends and family near 104th and Western.

Golden was shot in the back after a verbal altercation turned into a bar fight that ended with two people shot, officials said. Prosecutors have said Golden was not

involved in the fight and was trying to break it up. Prosecutors and defense attorneys have not said what led to the fight. Three

men have been charged in the shooting and have pled not guilty. Golden was taken to Advocate Christ Medical Center in suburban Oak Lawn

after he was shot. Soon later, he learned he was paralyzed from the waist down.

Tom Herion, leader of the Chicago Pipe and Drum Corp. is close to the Golden family and said “Danny is working hard on his rehab every day at the Shirley Ryan Ability Lab and he is learning how to drive a car”.

A special group of Irish men and women have been responsible for preservation of the tradition of Irish ballad singing over the past 50 years. Derek Warfield is a distinguished name among them. Derek Warfield and The Young Wolfe Tones are bringing that musical tradition forward with a reverence for Ireland’s past and the energy and optimism of a new generation of Irish musicians.

Derek Warfield & The Young Wolfe Tones are thrilled to be celebrating 14 years On the One Road and are delighted to be celebrating it in style with the release of a new CD “Let The Free Birds Fly” released in June 2022, and performances all over America including some great Irish American Festivals & Venues. You can find their tour dates at www.theyoungwolfe.com.

Derek said, “We’re presenting an old tradition in a new package - and I’ve the same passion for it now as I had when it all started 50 years ago!”

After nearly 40 years performing, the legendary Wolfe Tones parted with their founder and leader - Derek Warfield. No other Irish folk group, before or since, told the story of Ireland so completely and unapologetically. But for Derek’s hunger and desire to continue to further the story of Ireland through song, an ancient tradition might have lost perhaps its most iconic figure. In 2008, Derek put together a band containing some of the finest musicians and singers in Irish music - The Young Wolfe Tones.

Derek Warfield & The Young Wolfe Tones Damaris Woods from Co. Meath and is recognized as one of the foremost banjo players in Irish music.

12 Apostles of Ireland

This month I want to remember some saints, the chosen twelve. They are all roughly from the 5th Century. I was born on St. Bridget's day, which is February 1 and starts the season of Spring in Ireland. I will give a little background of each these 12 "apostles".

Ciarán of Saigir, also known as Ciarán mac Luaigne was one of the 12 apostles of Ireland and is considered the first saint to have been born in Ireland. Although the legend that he preceded St. Patrick is questionable, however St. Patrick wasn't from Ireland. Ciarán was bishop of and remains the patron saint of the Diocese of Ossary, Kilkenny. I am also from Kilkenny, the city of the Cats.

His feast day is celebrated on the 5th of March. He is sometimes called Saint Ciarán the Elder to distinguish him from the other 6th-century Irish also named



St. Ciaran.

Saint Ciarán of Clonmacnoise, Ciarán mac an tSaeir ("son of the carpenter"), the first abbot of Clonmacnoise, Offaly. He is sometimes called Ciarán the Younger to distinguish him from the 5th-century Saint Ciarán the Elder.

Saint Brendan of Birr, Offaly, He was a monk and later an abbot. He is known as "St Brendan the Elder" to distinguish him from his contemporary and friend St Brendan the Navigator of Clonfert, Galway.

In early Christian Ireland the druid tradition was replaced with the spread of the new faith. Brendan became a pupil at the monastic school at Clonard Abby,

Meath. Twelve students who studied under St. Finian became known as the Twelve Apostles of Ireland.

Brendan of Clonfert, He is also referred to as Brendan the Navigator. He is mainly known for his legendary voyage to find the "Isle of the Blessed" which is sometimes referred to as "Saint Brendan's Island".

Saint Brendan's feast day is celebrated on 16 May.

Columba of Terryglass, Tipperary, the son of Ninnidh, a descendant of Crin-thainn, King of Leinster. Columba was a disciple of St. Finnian of Clonard, Meath.

Columba resolved to go to Rome and bring back some relics of Saints Peter and Paul.

When Saint Finnian was in extreme suffering from the plague, he sent for Columba to administer Holy Viaticum (which are the last rights). Columba himself died of the plague.

Columba or Colmcille was a missionary evangelist credited with spreading Christianity in Scotland. He founded the Abby on Iona, which became a dominant religious and political institution in the region for centuries. He is the patron saint of Derry.

Mobhí Clárainech He was the abbot of a monastery in Glasnevin, where he was a teacher. He was a relative of St. Bridget.

Mobhí was the teacher of a monastic school, where he was the tutor of many influential Irish saints.

St. Ruadan founded the monastery of Lorrha, Tipperary near Terryglass. He was known for his prophesies. ". His feast day is 15 April. Ruadan was born in Tara, Meath. Life for the monks would have been tough but simple, rising early from their beds which would have consisted of rushes or straw mats placed on the bare ground. They then would pray and fast between their domestic chores. The settlement would have been self-sufficient in those days providing everything from food, clothing, to shelter.

St. Senán mac Geircinn founder of Inis Cathaig, Clare, Ireland. According to the legend, his mother entered labour while walking through the woods; when she grasped a tree branch for support, it is said to have blossomed to foretell the virtues of the saint. The translation of "Senan "little old wise man." Senan was well read and an exceptional traveler in such times, travelling to England (see the village of Senan in Cornwall) Only men were allowed on Scattery Island while

Senan was there, and legend has it that when his sister, St Conainne died, she willed it that she would be buried near Senan. To stay true to his own edicts, Senan waited until low tide to bury her in the inter-tidal zone, which was not officially the "island", thus fulfilling his sister's wish, while not breaking his own rules.

Ninnidh (meaning one eyed) -. He is associated with shores of Lough Erne, Fermanagh and particularly the island of Inishmacsaint.

After St. Patrick's time, the Celtic Church was divided into many territories and ruled by Abbots of Monasteries, only some of whom were Bishops. St. Ninnidh built a monastery on Inishmacsaint Isle (near Devenish) circa 530A.D. and using the waterways of the time cared for the people from the Erne as far as the sea, sending his priests and monks to the local Churches.

Saint Laisrén mac Nad Froích was the patron saint of Fermanagh, Laisrén is the subject of both a Latin and an Irish Life. Laisrén is chiefly known as the founder of a monastery at Devenish,

Cainnech of Aghaboe, Louth, also known as Saint Canice in Ireland, He wrote a commentary on the Gospels, which for centuries was known as the Glas-Choinnigh

Most of what is written about Cainnech's life is based on tradition, however he was considered a man of virtue, great eloquence and learning. A lot of what is known of Cainnech comes from legend. St. Canice's Catholic Church, Kilkenny near my home.

I wanted to highlight these saints/apostles to emphasize the importance of saints in our Irish culture.

Catholics venerate the saints and look to them as examples of lives well lived in the faith. Many find comfort in the knowledge that holy people shared in their same struggles, sins, doubts, or hardships and ask specific saints to pray for them. Faith, family, respect, ambition, kindness are core values of saints.

They are believed to be people of heroic virtue and after their death have a privileged place in heaven, we believe they are alive in heaven, and we ask them to help us and be mediators for us with God.

It doesn't say in the Bible to pray to saints, but it is in our faith culture that we do this. We are only required to believe in the communion of saints, meaning we on Earth are united with the Saints in Heaven.


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The Only Constant Is Change

As a young boy, along with many others, I had designs to be a Fireman, Gunslinger or Jungle Explorer when I grew up. These were exciting occupations at the time and very suitable to my keen sense of ad-

And there were times over the years when my head was full of schedules, deadlines, HR issues and the like when I would gaze out of the office window and wonder ‘was it too late to run away and join the circus?’

Do you ever dream of doing something completely different, not just something similar to what you are

I was then graduating towards less exciting and physical positions towards ones that were somewhat dull but paid more.

Many surveys have shown that only about 10% of people who dream of changing their careers actually turn their ideas into reality. This is often forced on them through losing their job or other drastic changes. There is also another disturbing statistic which says that over 80% of us are in jobs we shouldn’t be in.

When changing careers, you should not worry too much about your specific skills. Matching your values, life experiences and attitudes to your new environment and being curious and adaptable are much more crucial for how well you will get on and

you can learn the elements of the new job afterwards as a secondary consideration.

Real change can be hard to achieve. Indeed, as individuals we call for change in all aspects of our society. We do not want to bring our car to a mechanic who does not have the latest computer diagnostic equipment or entrust ourselves to a doctor that does not have access to the latest information and techniques in health care. However, when it comes to changing the way we operate in our own professional lives we sometimes do not see the need for it. In life, as the old saying goes, we can be certain of only two things, death and taxes. Indeed, we can also be assured of a third, and that is change.

‘If you change the way you look at things, the things you look at change’ - Wayne Dyer.

‘If you always do what you always did, then you’ll always get what you always got’

venture. However, as I progressed through the various stages of education, I started to move away from these ‘dream careers’ as they were either not paying enough annual income or they simply did not exist in the real world. That was a great pity and a big disappointment for me.

doing today? Many of us tend to stay in situations that can make us unhappy in our working life. This is sometimes called the ‘golden handcuffs’ problem. When you’re very good at what you do, it is almost impossible to convince yourself to give it up, even if it doesn’t make you happy.

succeed in your new environment. Don’t be afraid of the challenge and

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Do you know anyone that is either currently or in the past Needed home care, assisted living or nursing home care?

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George Mitchell Fundraiser Sunday, April 30th

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George Mitchell, native of Co. Limerick, Ireland, moved to Chicago in 2017. On a very windy day in April of 2022, he lost control of his motorcycle and was involved in a life-threatening accident. This accident left George with a life-changing spinal cord injury and he is now paralyzed from the chest down. He spent months in the hospital fighting to live, had several surgeries, and afterwards was transferred for a short period of time to Shirley Ryan Ability Lab (formerly RIC) for rehabilitation and physical therapy. The Committee is raising funds to assist in dealing with the financial costs of his injury. The funds raised



will be George's sole source of income.

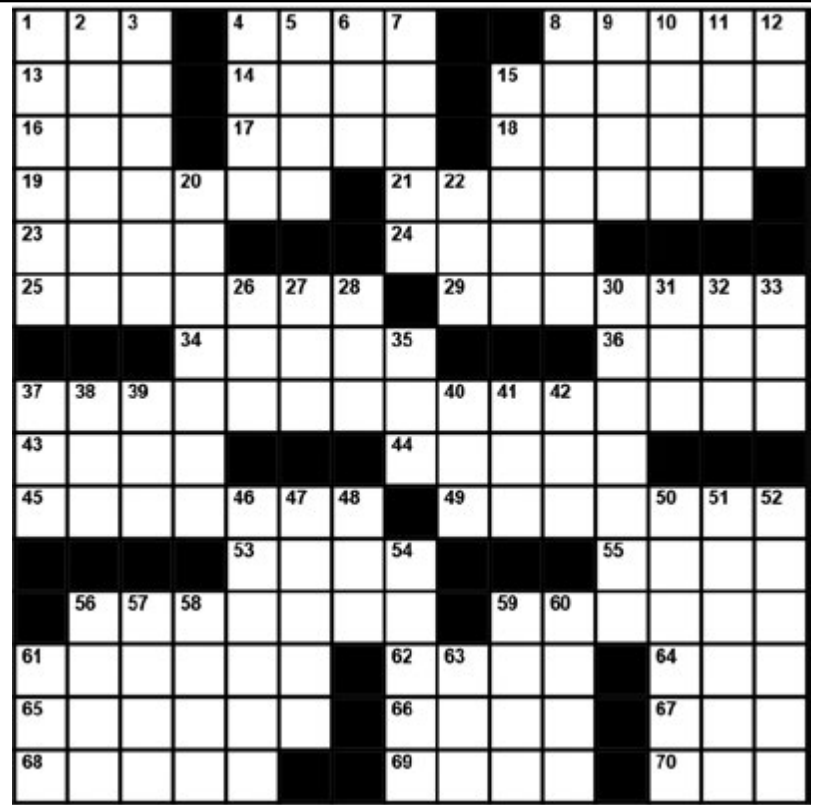
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For monetary donations, checks can be made out to George Mitchell Fund and sent directly to:

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Answers next month & online 1st week MARCH

- ACROSS**
- Asner and Begley
 - Dry Mongolian expanse
 - Motif
 - Condensed moisture
 - Land grouping off the west coast of Ireland, goes with 21 across
 - Assumed
 - One prefix
 - 3 feet
 - Take to jail
 - Force
 - See 14 across
 - Like Lucifer
 - Apiece
 - Recital numbers
 - One who tries
 - Pianist and fiddler
 - Paradise
 - Barriers for family fun
 - "___ Only Just Begun"
 - Crazy
 - Univ. College Dublin attendee
 - Good deal
 - Linguist Chomsky
 - Famed lioness
 - Bullfighter
 - Bay on the west coast of Ireland
 - Edit
 - Career descriptions
 - Stomach muscles, for short
 - One of the Furies
 - Piques
 - Pro vote
 - Puts up on Facebook
 - Actor Frobe of "Goldfinger"
 - Insidious
- DOWN**
- Draws forth
 - From the beginning
 - Take a ___ the ocean (2 words)
 - "Let's Get It On" singer
 - Kind of thermometer
 - Place for a drink
 - Privately owned (business)
 - Religious scrolls
 - Rhino's weapon
 - Barely managed, with "out"
 - Trunk growth
 - Suffix with persist
 - Baby bottom sprinkles
 - Put in the ground
 - R.S.V.P. facilitator, abbr.
 - Drink that may be served hot or cold
 - Lob's trajectory
 - Spanish for sun
 - Solid foam
 - Drapers' measure, abbr.
 - Wide shoe specification
 - Hosp. staffers
 - Stitch
 - Cries of pain
 - Speculate
 - A Law and Order version
 - Auto with a meter
 - Wood sorrel
 - Black Sea nation, abbr.
 - Passes
 - Acknowledge, in a way
 - Spiritual path
 - For ever
 - Novelist Allende
 - Deny
 - "Live and Let Die" villain
 - Prefix with drama
 - Sugary drinks
 - Finesse
 - Attendee
 - Helper, abbr.
 - Door knock
 - Anger

Major League Rugby Chicago Hounds Season Opens Soon

The Chicago Hounds will compete as 12th MLR team in the 2023 season

Major League Rugby (MLR) unveiled the team name, logo, and color scheme for its newest franchise, the **Chicago Hounds**. Commissioner George Killebrew was joined by Chicago Hounds Head Coach Sam Harris and current players Mike Mattarazzo, Sydney Shoop, and Caleb Strum, all of whom were selected by Chicago in the MLR expansion draft.

The Hounds will compete in MLR's Western Conference, donning team colors of green and sky blue. **Chicago will play its inaugural match on the road at Old Glory DC on Saturday, February 18.** The team's home opener at SeatGeek Stadium in Bridgeview, IL will be on Sunday, March 4 vs the Utah Warriors.

"We are thrilled to add the Chicago Hounds to Major League Rugby for the 2023 season," said MLR Commissioner George Killebrew. "Chicago is one of the best

sports towns in North America and we couldn't be happier to be part of the competitive landscape. Rugby has a long-time tradition in the city and throughout Northern Illinois and we look forward to growing the game even further."



Led by longtime Chicago rugby players and fans Matt Satchwell and Phil Groves, the Chicago MLR Founders Group is deeply committed to rallying Chicago's community spirit to establish rugby as America's next great sporting pastime. Satchwell, an attorney who also serves as Board Chair, has been playing rugby his entire life and for the past 20 years in Chicago. Groves is president of DAC Management and a part team

owner who has been playing with and sponsoring rugby teams in Chicago and around the world for years. Chicago MLR CEO James English led Rugby United New York to the semi-final in 2019 as their first GM, and Irish rugby legends Rob and Dave Kearney round out the Founders with their collective decades of world-class rugby on the pitch and civic leadership off the pitch.

"This is a special day for all of us," said English. "We are very excited to formally introduce the Chicago Hounds name, as well as our logo and team colors. This organization plans to continue growing the game of rugby at the grassroots level here in Chicago and build a fanbase that can be proud of the way our team operates and competes." <https://www.majorleague.rugby/schedules>

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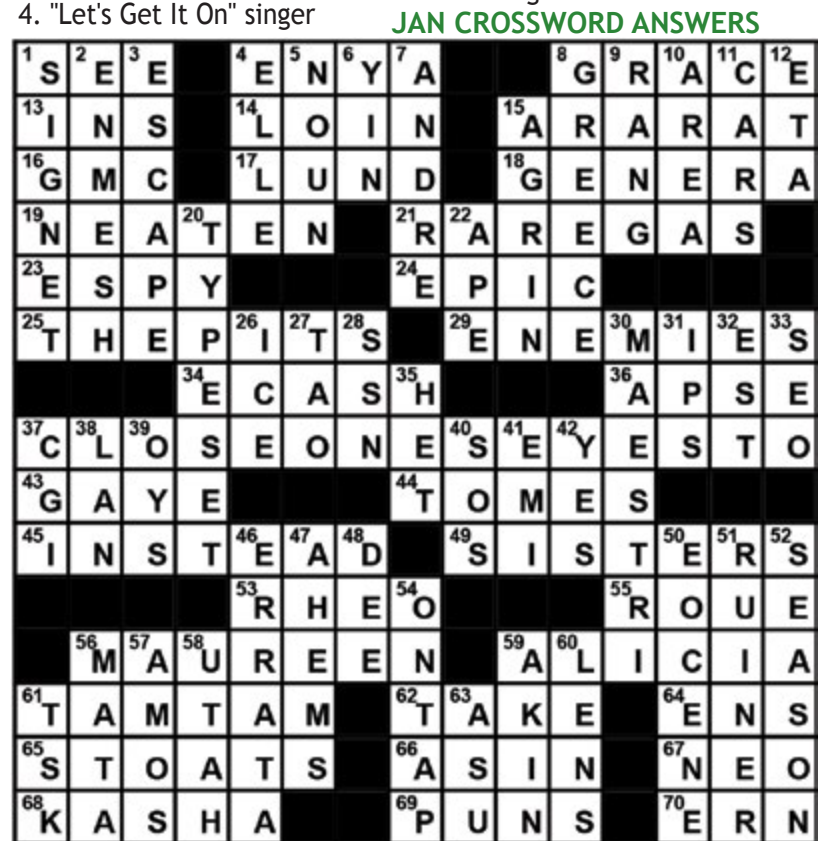
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-Chicago Sun-Times

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Celebrating the Reopening of the M J Ward Public House in Sligo on Neap Tide in Co. Sligo

By Judy Prescott

As a 2016 ‘blow-in’ to the Wild Atlantic Way on first viewing a 4 x 4 slowly edging across wet sand past the mid-1800s concrete pillars from Sligo’s Cummeen Strand to Coney Island, a snapshot of the 1977 film ‘a bridge too far’ sprung to mind. Had the tides been accounted for? Was there a Plan B, or indeed a Plan C? Indeed since 2016, the RNLI has offered a text advisory service launched described as ‘a perfect example of a community on the coast identifying a risk and working collaboratively to help save lives at sea.’ Despite perfection, parked cars are regularly inundated, reflection of mankind’s capacity to indulge in imperfection.

Inishmulclohy or Coney Island (Irish word for rabbit is coinin; the English ‘Coney’ derived from latin cuniculus, a small channel or burrow) is a 400 acre island situated immediately between Rosses Point and the Coolera peninsula in Sligo Bay. In 1841 Coney Island had 124 inhabitants. Electricity arrived by underground cable in 1999 when



Margaret McGowan was delighted to be able to acquire a colour television, washing machine and freezer. In the 2006 census there were six permanent residents, and in the 2016 three, one family whose connections trace

McGowan ‘King of Coney Island,’ who passed in June 2018.

Amidst the uncertain future generally for pubs in rural Ireland, Marie opens the pub in the summer season to serve residents and visitors. This year, in collaboration with Lough Gill Brewery, the Lincoln’s in the Railway Bar (food) and events organiser Sligo Live, she hosted ‘The Neap Tide Coney Island Festival’ funded by the Sligo County Council and the Department of Tourism, Arts, Culture Gaeltacht, Sports and the Media under their Local Live Performance Programming Scheme. This national but county-delivered effort reflects Ireland’s commitment to revitalise an industry devastated by Covid lockdowns. ‘Neap tide’ refers to the lowest tide of the year which results in Coney Island being accessible

spired by his grandmother’s singing and childhood visits to Coolaney perched in the nearby Ox Mountains which hover over the southern horizon from the island’s point of view; he concluded with his new title album song ‘Razor Wire Skies.’ Local legends Sandy Kelly and Seamie O’Dowd also selected tunes embracing multiple musical traditions and exhibiting the breadth of their mastery from Tom Moore to Johnny Cash. The Old Market Swing Band, No Crows and Old Hannah further revealed what makes Sligo a true musical mecca offering something for every visitor’s musical tastebuds.

Attendees expressed the hope that this would be the island’s first Coney Island Neap Tide Festival with more to follow, adding to the existing Sligo musical calendar like the Sligo Jazz festival (July), Sligo Baroque Festival (September), Sligo Live (October), Sligo Summer Festival (June), Cairde Arts Festival (July) and Fiddler of Dooney competition (October). Throughout the year, weekly events and gigs are held at Connolly’s, the Dunes, Strandhill, Lillies, Shoot the Crows, Gracie’s Bar, McLynns, Earlies and numerous other pubs, as well as Hawkswell Theatre with its trad@lunch series in the summer and its new venture locals@lunch launching in September

from the mainland throughout the day. The event sold out even as it was announced.

A group of local traditional instrumentalists opened the day’s events with a session of polkas, reels and jigs, as well as a set that



back to the 1750s. Marie Perret, nee McGowan, the final ‘woman from Coney Island to tie the knot’ (2013), inherited the ‘Michael J Ward’ (who in the 1911 census was 12, Roman Catholic and could read and write) pub run by her father, the late John

brought dancers to their feet. This was followed by Stephen Gormley (Moon Looks On) whose performance ranged from blues, to a bodhran-accompanied piece reflecting his encounter with a marine, to a song written during a stay on the island and another in-

(initially celebrating women’s contributions).

This rich living musical tradition contributes to making Sligo appeal to employers and employees who treasure a life/work balance for themselves, their family and friends.



How St Valentine Ended Up Buried in a Dublin Church

Relics of the martyred St Valentine are enshrined in a Dublin city-center church, thanks to a bit of Irish charm

Every year in and around St Valentine’s Day, couples from far and wide make a beeline for the Shrine of St Valentine in Whitefriar Street Church in Dublin.

Over the last few decades the church in Aungier Street, maintained by the Carmelite order, has become a traditional place of pilgrimage for all kinds of lovers.

Complete with an altar and life-size statue of St Valentine, the shrine contains an alarmed casket enclosing a number of St Valentine’s bones and a vial of his blood.

An inscription on the casket, or reliquary, reads: ‘This shrine

1800s he was a famous preacher, and one of his many fans was none other than Pope Gregory XVI.

One time Father Spratt was invited to speak at a church in Rome, where Pope Gregory was among those listening to him. It is said that in thanks and in admiration for the Irish priest’s oratory, Pope Gregory gifted him the reliquary of St Valentine’s remains.

Duly taken to Ireland, the reliquary arrived in Dublin on 10 November 1836, in a wooden casket with Pope Gregory XVI’s coat of arms, accompanied by a letter attesting to the contents of the casket.

Over time, the saint’s remains were gradually forgotten about, until a new shrine to Valentine



contains the sacred body of Saint Valentinus the Martyr, together with a small vessel tinged with his blood.’

Yes, it is true - St Valentine is enshrined in Dublin! So just how did the relics of the patron saint of love end up in the centre of the Irish capital?

Unfortunately, the story started with a rather gruesome end to his life. It’s believed that on 14 February around the year 270 AD, Valentine, then working as a holy priest, was beaten with clubs and then beheaded for defying the Emperor Claudius II, known as ‘Claudius the Cruel’.

Believing that Roman men were unwilling to join the army because of their strong attachment to their wives and families, Claudius had banned all marriages and engagements to get rid of the problem. Valentine, realising the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret. The martyred remains of Valentine were buried in Rome.

Enter into the equation an Irish priest, Father John Spratt. In the

was constructed in the 1950s. Its popularity has continued to grow ever since.

Throughout the year, the Whitefriar Street Church regularly hosts visitors paying their respects to the patron saint of love - but there is always a notable rise in pilgrims around St Valentine’s Day. If you can, visit St Valentine’s Shrine on 14 February itself, as the church holds special sermons and blessing of rings ceremonies.

After your visit, enjoy more Dublin city sites including Trinity College Dublin, Dublin Castle, the Guinness Storehouse, EPIC The Irish Immigration Museum and more. Dublin is filled with cosy pubs and restaurants where you can enjoy a romantic evening for two. The Celt pub offers an experience like no other - an evening of folklore, fine food, traditional Irish music, and dance. Or head to The Woollen Mills Eating House and dine with a lovely view of the Ha’peny Bridge over the River Liffey.

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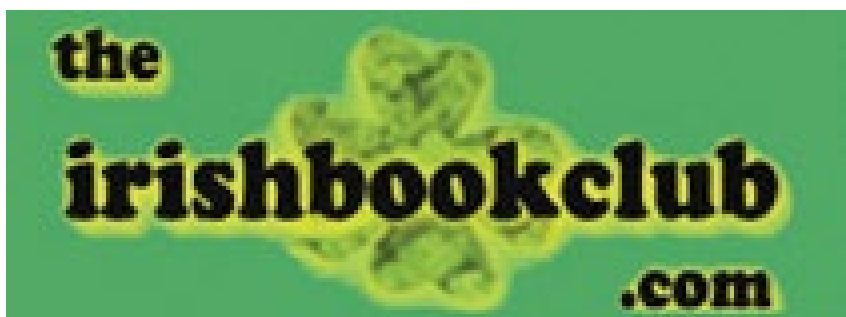
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The Board and Staff of Irish Community Services congratulate our Director, Paul Dowling, on his selection as one of *The Irish Echo's* '40 Under 40'!

Senior Events For Winter 2023

At the Irish American Heritage Center

Monthly Musical Gathering
Every month—usually on the first Wednesday—we host the *Monthly Musical Gathering*. Through live musical performances, we celebrate our shared Irish heritage. There is no charge to attend and ALL are welcome. Refreshments are served free of charge.

The Front Parlor
This gathering is named for the room in old Irish houses where people came together for important guests and special occasions. Each month—usually on the third Wednesday—we meet to share our Irish heritage and love of Ireland. There is no charge to attend. ALL are welcome and refreshments are served free of charge.

Monthly Musical Gathering	The Front Parlor
FEBRUARY	FEBRUARY
Wednesday 1st February Doors: 10 a.m. Music: 10.30 a.m. Evelyn Thom on the Fiddle! A warm Irish welcome, great music and wonderful company await you!	Wednesday 15th February Doors: 10 a.m. Program: 10.30 a.m. Chicago Genealogy 101 Learn how to find documentation on your Chicago ancestors.
MARCH	MARCH
Wednesday 1st March Doors: 10 a.m. Music: 10.30 a.m. Ray Gavin plays your favorites! Ray provides a morning of live Irish music and fun with friends!	Wednesday 15th March Doors: 11 a.m. Mass: 11.30 a.m. St. Patrick's Day Celebration With help from guests from Gaelic Park, we'll celebrate Saint Patrick with mass and live Irish music!

At Chicago Gaelic Park

The Get Together
There's nothing like a good Irish get together! Twice each month—usually on the second and fourth Wednesday—we host *The Get Together* at *Chicago Gaelic Park*. We express our Irish heritage through an engaging variety of educational programs, cultural performances, lectures, and fun activities. There is no charge to attend and ALL are welcome. Refreshments are served free of charge.

FEBRUARY	MARCH
Wednesday 8th February Doors: 10 a.m. Program: 10.30 a.m. Grandma in Antarctica Find out what made a grandma want to spend five long, cold months stationed in the coldest and driest place on the planet!	Wednesday 8th March Doors: 10 a.m. Program: 10.30 a.m. Live Irish Music We're thrilled to welcome back the talented Ray Gavin for a morning of live Irish music.
Wednesday 22nd February Doors: 10 a.m. Program: 10.30 a.m. Irish Super Foods We'll learn about healthy Irish Super Foods and even get some recipes to try!	Wednesday 15th March Doors: 10 a.m. Program: 10.30 a.m. Celebrating St Patrick 'Up North' Today, we join our friends at the Irish American heritage Center for mass and live music to celebrate St. Patrick. A bus will be available from Gaelic Park to the IAHC!





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Swimming Upstream

By Charles Brady



The Trouble with Cocaine Harry - his Royal Dog Bowl - and his Fragile Necklace

A few years ago, I noted in another publication that Prince Harry - he of the Noble House of Windsor - had been larking about with one of his Forces mates who had in turn been ragging him about his red hair. "I may have red hair", said the bold Harry. "but at least I'm not Irish".

I didn't take it seriously at all, in fact I thought it was quite funny; but it wasn't long before the usual Royal toadies and humorless sycophants were out in legion, demanding that I be beheaded at worst and sent to the Tower at best.

Still, I'm now wondering if perhaps the Ginger One wasn't being deadly serious after all. Dear oh dear, he does seem to be a delicate, fragile little soul who likes very few people.

Now please don't tell me that you haven't been reading at least a little of the endless litany of complaints from Meghan and Harold. It's really not that easy to avoid them - and let's be honest, it's a bit soap opera magnetic and car-crash

fascinating to see a guy unravelling so spectacularly into the bargain.

I mean, here's a guy who was born into a world of limitless wealth and privilege and yet seems to resent everything about his position, from having to once have lived in a gifted two-bedroom beauty of a cottage ("It was hardly a palace") that most of us would give our eyeteeth for, to resenting his older brother getting the bigger bedroom. Jesus wept. I grew up with a family of brothers and would have given a lot to have my own room, no matter what size it was.

And as to living with brothers, wasn't the story about Prince William (who has gone 'way up in my estimation) knocking Harry down - he didn't punch him hard enough in my opinion - and making him hit his ickle bitty head off the dog bowl simply priceless? AND HE BROKE HIS NECKLACE TOO! BROKE HIS NECKLACE! Ah stop, my sides are splitting! I mean, it's hardly a blood-drenched altercation

that Sam Peckinpah would have filmed in slow motion, is it?

"Stop it, William! I could have seriously damaged myself on that dog bowl - and look, now you've broken my necklace. I once single handedly removed 25 Taliban pawns from the chess board but this has traumatized me beyond endurance. Thank God I've got my therapist on speed dial."

Please, make it stop! His therapist. No wonder he and Me-Again moved themselves to California at the first opportunity. They must fit right in. ("California - home of the liberal fruitcake" as the great Frank Barone once described it.) Talking of which, if I was one of their neighbours in Montecito, I wouldn't be too happy at Action Man Dog Bowl Harry's unwise boast. In fact I'd be heading a petition to get them moved as far from me as I could. As Salman Rushdie can attest to, these characters have long memories - and there is such a thing as collateral damage.

But in Harry and Meghan's world everything is someone else's fault. Everything.

In the interests of fairness I would have to be honest and declare myself a lifelong anti-monarchist. I've always thought that in this day and age the very idea of any kind of Royalist Dynasty of Freeloaders is ludicrous. There is something

really distasteful about an accident of birth setting up an entire family (and a staggeringly dysfunctional one at that) and their assorted hangers-on for a lifetime of swanning around on private planes and gas-guzzling cars, shooting thousands of pheasants and deer whilst lecturing the peasants on all and sundry.

Still, I have to admit that the other lot have at least shown a bit of dignity in not rising to the ginger whinger's bait. 'Spare' is the name of his book. And 'Spare' is pretty accurate. If someone in Ireland calls you 'a bit of a spare' it's not meant as any kind of compliment, believe me.

Can I ask those of you in America a genuine question? Now that this dimwit thinks it is par for the course to openly brag about using magic mushrooms, cocaine and whatever you're having yourself, does it mean that he can leave America and get back in? After all, he has now admitted to serial drug use (and he leaves us in little doubt that these have been transported on royal private jets); having hallucinations in which he had conversations with rubbish bins - about his level of intellectual stimulation, one would have thought - ; and more importantly seems to be boasting about it.

Cocaine is a Class A drug. Class A drug users are not al-

lowed into the States from the United Kingdom. So yes, serious question: if he leaves his wellness center and his speed-dial therapist and his half-baked Oprah Winfrey-type Californian psychobabble in order to take a trip to, say, Europe, will this known drug user be allowed back into the country?

And these two - the half-wit of a Royal and his C-list actress wife - now intend to lecture us on Wellness and the plus side of therapy? Are you kidding me?!? Do these two look as if they are happy, as if they are at a good place in their lives?

Once again, I will have to admit that I have a horse in this race. My favourite film director bar none died largely because he became addicted to cocaine in the 70s. And yes, that was his decision and nothing could have changed that.

But I can without a doubt live the rest of my life without seeing a pampered little cry-baby of a Royal who never had to worry about money or doing a day's work in his life being feted on talk shows and making a funny punch line out of hardcore drug use. And clowns will listen to this guy and think: what a life he's had!

The more I think of this guy and just how much he is getting away with, the more I don't find any of this funny.

At all.
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Hello everyone. First of all Happy new year to you all wherever you may be.

We were fortunate to have a few gatherings over the holidays. It was the first time we didn't have our kids here to ring in the new year with us but they did blow up the traditional balloons helping to hang them inside the tatty old net curtain that we attach to the ceiling every year for the much anticipated balloon drop.

Back in the day when the kids were little we'd have their friends and parents over we would have to watch them like a hawk to stop them pulling down that tatty net curtain before midnight.

Oh the excitement once the balloons dropped it was like a herd of cattle stampeding across the room to see who could jump and bust the most balloons. Yes it was messy but they only stay little for a short time. I'd love to go back and experience it all over again .

I will say this year our kids called us at midnight and they were happy we had a houseful to celebrate with. We had friends who brought their college kids some we hadn't seen for years.

One of our friends' daughter Nora informed us that she was majoring in Creative Writing and loved writing poetry and also had a few books published. We were delighted for her so here is her story ...

Hi my name is Nora Power I am 19 years old. My dad was born in County Cork Ireland. My mom is a librarian. She even read to me when I was in her stomach. No wonder I grew up having a passion for reading and words. I

was born premature at two pounds thirteen ounces. I had many health issues. bleeding in the brain, seizures ,problems with my spinal cord to name but a few. I did not leave the hospital for over two months.

I was diagnosed with cerebral palsy when I was around two years old. I had extensive physical ther-



apy at home I also needed several more surgeries through elementary and middle school but that did not stop me from participating in swimming ice-skating, horseback, riding, and ballet. My parents had to look for schools that had classes on the first floor as I had problems going up and down stairs. As I got older and stronger I got involved in fundraising with Jim Kelly UNICEF. I raised fourteen hundred dollars to help children in other countries with food and health care. They gave me a certificate and a UNICEF teddy bear, which I treasure today.

One year we went to Ireland. My cousin Caoimhe

and I decided to start a club to stop puppy mills. Some conditions were very cruel to the animals, leaving them without food or water locked up in cages. We made stickers and bookmarks to raise money and awareness. My family presently fosters dogs from our local shelters. It's a good way to support your community. I have been writing poetry since I was thirteen. It's one of my biggest passions. I devoted all my spare time to writing. My first published poetry collection was once a document on my computer that I added poems to on a school lunch break.

I did share my poems with a few of my eighth grade teachers. They encouraged me to publish them. By the end of my freshman year of high school, I was ready to self publish 'Loud Silence and Wild Soul' through Amazon.

I was a member of my high school poetry club from the start of my freshman year until I graduated.

Being in the club exposed me to the work of other young poets like myself plus it gave me many opportunities to share my work, and receive feedback. Several pieces in my poetry collection, were written during my workshop sessions in the club.

Currently I am writing my second collection, and I plan to continue pursuing a career in writing. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank my parents Seamus and Kori and my brother Declan for their love and support by believing in me helping me to realize my dreams .

Well done Nora you have accomplished a lot in your short years. I know your parents and family here and back home in Ireland are supportive and very proud of your accomplishments.

Please support Nora Power. She has never let her



Author Nora Power with her book Loud Silence and a Wild Soul

disability hold her back. Let's show this beautiful courageous young lady some love. Her heartfelt poetry books are available right now. Very reasonably priced check them out on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com). Proceeds go to further her education.

An old Irish Blessing. (for the ladies who helped me

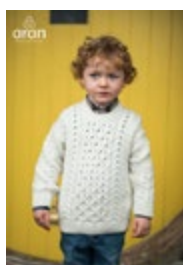
celebrate Nollaig na mBan) **May there always be work for your hands to do. May your purse always hold a coin or two. May the hand of a friend always be near you. May God fill your heart with gladness to cheer you.**

Lots of Blessing to you all til next time,



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cloth lined basin or bowl and served warm. These include Christmas pudding and countless sweet, dessert versions.

Then you have

I made a full blown Irish breakfast for my family last week. Eggs, bacon, baked beans, broiled tomatoes, mushrooms, chips, chef sauce, and black and white pudding. I began thinking of what exactly is pudding. In the U.S. pudding usually refers to a sweet custard dessert commonly flavored with chocolate, vanilla, or butterscotch. If you grew up in America you undoubtedly have eaten one of these, along with bread, and rice pudding again cooked in a sweet custard.

If you grew up in Ireland or the U.K. pudding has another meaning. Pudding is a term interchangeable with dessert. It also refers to a savory dish usually baked or steamed.

As for my breakfast, white and black puddings are casings filled pork, oats, barley, and spices, boiled then cut into slices and fried. White pudding is milder and contains onions, Black pudding is similar with the addition of pork blood but prepared the same way. Some people refer to it as blood sausage. Steak and kidney pudding is identical to the pie version, substituting a suet mixture instead of pastry and then steaming it. Most puddings are steamed in a cheese

Yorkshire pudding which is an egg, milk, and flour mixture baked in muffin type tin until it puffs and browns. I like to slice these in half longways and fill them with a savory mixture like Chicken ala King, or a Rich Beef Stew. So you see pudding isn't just pudding.

There is mention of a sheep's stomach stuffed with meat and boiled in Homer's Odyssey. It is also mentioned in writings



from Arabic countries in the 10th century. In the U.K. there is some mention of puddings from the 13th century. In the U.K. the pudding cloth invented in the 17th century revolutionized pudding making. No longer did you need to use stomachs, bladders, or intestines to stuff your filling into but you could simply wrap them in a pudding cloth and steam. This made pudding readily available and introduced puddings to the masses.

Looking in my fridge and pantry I noticed that I had some day old+ bread, heavy cream, eggs, apples, sugar, cinnamon, and vanilla. Now what can I make with this? It wasn't too much of a stretch to come up with any easy bread pudding. I'm going to serve this warm with a salted caramel sauce.

RECIPE:

Easy Bread Pudding with Salted Caramel Sauce

- 8 cups cubed day old bread (egg, or brioche bread is preferred)
- 4 large eggs
- 1 1/2 cups heavy cream
- 1/2 cup milk
- 3/4 cup sugar mixed with 1/2 tsp cinnamon

- 1 tsp vanilla
 - 1/4 tsp salt
 - 2 med or 1 large Granny Smith apples peeled and diced into 1/2 inch pieces
 - 1 1/2 oz Irish whiskey
 - 1tbls unsalted butter
- In a large bowl beat eggs. Add cream, milk, and vanilla. Mix in the sugar and cinnamon. Combining the sugar and cinnamon before adding it to the custard mix eliminates clumping. Add salt and bread cubes. Mix and allow to stand at least 4 hours or until bread is sort and custard is absorbed.

Melt butter in a saute pan. Add apples and cook for 5 minutes. Add Irish whiskey and cook until evaporated. Add sugar and stir until sugar starts to caramelize and brown apples. Add to bread mixture.

Place mixture in a buttered baking dish or individual souffle cups and bake for 35-45 minutes in a 350 degree oven or until top is golden and crispy.

Salted Caramel Sauce

- 1 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup water
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 3/4 tsp sea salt
- 1tbls. Unsalted butter

Place sugar and water in a sauté pan. Simmer until sugar turns a deep amber color. Pour in cream and stir. Add salt and butter. Keep in a warm place until ready to serve.

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Irish Movie News

By James Bartlett

Great news for the Irish at the recent Golden Globe Awards ceremony, where the Hollywood

Martin McDonagh also took home Best Screenplay, while Colin Farrell triumphed as Best Actor (Musical or Comedy).

The movie went one better, getting 9 nominations for the Critics Choice Awards (CCA), which - like the Golden Globes - are often seen as a good indicator of Oscar winners. Here it was singled out in the Best Picture, Acting Ensemble and Comedy categories, with McDonagh again listed for Director and Original Screenplay, Farrell as Actor, and like at the Globes, Brendan Gleeson, Barry Keoghan and Kerry Condon in the Supporting categories.

Alas, there was no love at all for it at the ceremony held in Century City on January 15, though sic-fi action fantasy Everything Everywhere All At Once won big - five gongs - and is definitely the big rival for Banshees in the awards race.

It's not over though: even later this month there's another shot for Banshees at the well-re-

garded SAG (Screen Actors Guild) Awards, where the same quartet have been nominated - plus Outstanding Performance by a Cast in a Motion Picture. Everything Everywhere has many chances here too, though, The SAG ceremony takes place on February 26th, also in Los Angeles.

No matter what happens, you can bet all those already-won nominations will replicated at next month's Oscars, and don't discount nods for Gleeson, Keoghan and Condon either. Banshees could get a number of other category shouts too, so we'll certainly have something to root for on March 12, when the golden trophies are handed out in Hollywood.

Though my deadline came before the 95th Oscar nominations were formally announced, hopefully also on that list will be An Cailín Ciúin (*The Quiet Girl*), an Irish-language movie shot in Meath and Dublin that made the shortlist of 15 movies vying for the statue as Best International Film.

Based on the story Foster by Claire Keegan, An Cailín

ciúin is the debut of writer/director Colm Bairéad and is again set in rural Ireland, though this time later, in 1981. The story sees Cáit (Catherine Clinch) being sent from her chaotic home to live with distant relatives for the summer - a place where she discovers a dark secret.

Fingers crossed too for *An Irish Goodbye*, which filmed in County Antrim and is one of 15 short films that have been selected out of 200 for the Live Action Short Film shortlist. Yet another rural Irish comedy with a dark edge, An Irish Goodbye follows the reunion of estranged brothers Turlough and Lorcan.

Turlough seems set to make new care arrangements for Lorcan, who has Down Syndrome, but he wants to stay on the farm - so they agree to a "bucket list" trip they find written by their late mother. The list they're on will be cut down to three to five nominees, so good luck to them all!

Finally, looking to the future

and County Limerick-born actress Ruth Negga has a nice new gig lined up: she's set to co-star as the wife of Jake Gyllenhaal in the Apple TV+ series *Presumed Innocent*, the story of a brutal murder that upends the Chicago Prosecuting Attorneys' office when one of its own is suspected of the crime.

Hang on a second? Yes, some of you might recall this idea, as it a 1990 movie starring Harrison Ford and, like this series, will be inspired by Scott Turow's novel of the same name. That movie was a cracking thriller though, so hopes are high for this extended version.

Also, later this year we will see Negga on Netflix in *Good Grief*, a comedy about friendship and secrets, which recently finished production and was written, produced, and directed by Dan Levy, famous for his role on *Schitt's Creek*. Levy will star alongside Negga too, so let's hope he has plenty of energy saved up!



Foreign Press Association rewarded *The Banshees of Inisherin* with several wins out of its eight nominations.

The dark comedy about friends and toxic masculinity in 1920s Ireland won Best Film (Musical or Comedy), and its writer/director

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 Pub menu & Pints. 5763 W 95th St Oak Lawn

Get Lucky at Clancy's!
 \$5 Free Gaming Play OR \$3 Off food order
 \$10 Minimum Purchase, dine-in only
 Limit one per person. Not valid with any other offer
 including \$10 Mad Monday pizza special. Management
 may revoke promotion at any time.
 Must present original coupon.

Clancy's is a family friendly Irish Pub with great thin crust pizza, Corned beef, Pot roast, Fish & Chips, Shepherds Pie and of course our famous Pot Roast Rolls and Irish Spring Rolls. Please join us.

**PLAY
 SLOTS
 & WIN!**

Must be 21 or older to play slots.

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BANK OF AMERICA
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Shuffle**

2023 RACE WEEKEND

Friday, March 24 - Sunday, March 26
Festival | The Mile | 8K Run | 2-Mile Walk

SHUFFLE ON CHICAGO



Use code **IRISH** for \$10 off

Code expires February 7, 2023 or while supplies last.



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Happy
valentines
day

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