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See Sean Keane Page 25



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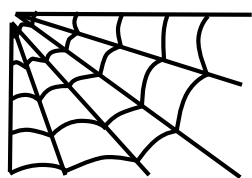
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From the Motherland

Sean Farrell



NOT A NATION OF IMMIGRANTS - YET

Where can you find a table which ranks the USA third behind Brazil and India? Where is the largest community of Lithuanians outside Lithuania? In what country did 310,000 Poles register in the five years to May this year, twenty five times the number of the previous five years?

The April 2006 census in Ireland (the republic) was for many, an eye-opener. Not only did it show the population of four and a quarter million at its highest point for well over a century, but it revealed that a quarter million had not been born in Ireland, Britain or the USA. While the British remained the largest group of non-citizens (the same is still true of the Irish in Britain), there were now 63,000 Poles, 24,000 Lithuanians and 16,000 Nigerians.

Everyone had been aware that immigrants had been arriving since around the turn of the Millennium, particularly after May 2004, when Poland and other countries joined the European Union, but, until the census, the extent had not been grasped. The census also revealed that there were far more Africans (40,500) in Ireland than Irish Travellers (22,360) and that the number of Muslims in the republic (32,500) equalled the number of Presbyterians and Methodists combined!

And now? Getting an accurate handle on the numbers three years on is difficult. A census is a snap shot at a moment in time. In between there are annual census estimates, but these are just estimates. That for April 2008 showed a further increase in population to 4,422,000, indicating continued high levels of immigration. A further census estimate is due to be published later this year and is awaited with interest. It is expected to show immigration slowing down, as the economy declines and may also indicate that many of the recent arrivals have left again. But large numbers have stayed and put down roots, while newcomers continue to arrive in considerable numbers. A sea-change is taking place in the ethnic make up of the island's population, on a scale not seen for at least 400 years.

Estimates of immigration levels and the pace of arrivals are derived from a number of sources. Most important are the statistics for Personal Public Service (PPS) numbers

issued, together with the records for work permits issued and the statistics on the numbers claiming political asylum. While there is overlapping and duplication and no way of counting those leaving the system, these figures between them provide a reasonably accurate picture of developments on the immigration front. They show Ireland evolving from a virtually homogenous society in 1990 to one today with a percentage of non-nationals among the highest in Europe.

Everyone, Irish and otherwise, requires a PPS number if wishing to deal with Irish government departments and public service providers. It is unique to each individual and can be considered as the rough equivalent of a social security number. Children born in Ireland are now allocated one; new arrivals must apply, and, it would appear, most do, soon after arriving. Work permits are not required for citizens from other EU countries apart from Romania and Bulgaria, but are required for non-citizens coming from third countries, including the USA. Finally, Ireland, like other European countries has received its share of asylum applicants since the mid-nineties, mainly from desperately poor third world countries in Africa and elsewhere.

The main reason for the influx was, of course, the Celtic Tiger and the employment and prosperity it created. Economic migrants in earnest began to arrive from 1999 onwards, lured by a country with full employment in the throes of a boom. The number of work permits issued to third country nationals rose from 6000 in 1999 to 36,000 in 2001 and to 47,000 in 2003. After May 2004, with work permits no longer required from the new EU citizens, the numbers issued began to decline. Yet even in 2007 23,604 were issued, testimony to the continuing strength of the Irish economy. In 2008, as the economy imploded, 13,567 were issued.

May 1 2004, EU Enlargement day, was the watershed. Most existing EU countries imposed temporary restrictions (for up to seven years) on the entry of workers from the ten new member states. Ireland did not. Perhaps the government, flush with economic success and aware of labour shortages, applied the argument that

any restrictions had a sell-by date and were not worth the candle. The government however can hardly have anticipated the extent of the influx which followed.

In the five years to this May more than 450,000 PPS numbers were issued to citizens of six Central European countries alone, more than the number issued to Irish citizens. Most notably 310,000 were issued to Poles, together with 64,000 to Lithuanians, 38,000 to Slovaks and 32,000 to Latvians. While many of the early arrivals are assumed to have left again, and anecdotal evidence points to many of the Poles who worked in construction moving on, others continue to arrive. Despite the economic situation, Poles are continuing to arrive at 400 a week, the others at 250 a week.

The picture is far from complete with the 2004 Ten. There has been continued substantial inflows from Britain and indeed from other "older" EU states. In addition, 22,000 Romanians have registered since Romania joined the EU in 2007 adding to the 13,000 who had registered since 2000! 8000 US citizens have registered since 2007, considerably less than the nearly 12,000 Brazilians (arriving at 300 a month) or the 10,000 Indians, but more than the Australians (4200), the Nigerians (3500), the Canadians (2400) and the South Africans (2500). Almost 6000 have registered from the

island of Mauritius since 2005! Nor do these figures take into account those in the shadows, for Ireland has its own share of undocumented, whose numbers can only be guessed at.

Migrants of a different sort were asylum seekers, who arrived in considerable numbers after 1996, when 1179 applications were made. The annual number rose steadily before peaking at 11,634 in 2002. Most of the early applicants came from Nigeria, Romania and Moldova in that order. Asylum applications are now currently averaging roughly 4000 annually. While Nigeria still leads the way, significant numbers of claimants are now coming from Iraq, China Sudan and Pakistan. Many with children born in Ireland have been permitted to stay, and a factor in the decline in numbers applying, apart

from a European-wide tightening up of controls on access, could be that children born to asylum seekers after 2004 do not qualify for automatic Irish citizenship.

Demographically and ethnically then, Ireland is changing. In 2006 there were over 52,000 non-Irish children under the age of 14, 6% of the total age group, with up to 30,000 of these non English speaking. Other countries have had to face the issues raised, and the problems posed, of assimilation, of integration, or of simply coping with new arrivals. Now it is Ireland's turn. It was complained of mediaeval arrivals from England that in time they became "more Irish than the Irish themselves". Could this happen again? The numbers then were minute. Could History be repeated with the current sizeable and diverse inflow?

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Chicago Gaelic News

Pat Hennessy



Thrilling Games at Gaelic Park

The famous clash of the ash (Hurley's) and the thud of the big ball (football) can be heard all over the southwest side this month, as the semifinals are being decided by teams of men and women competing to see who will represent Chicago at the North American playoffs at Boston over Labor Day weekend. It has been an exciting summer, and the games during the month will decide the Chicago champions.

During the season, hurling teams from Chicago, Boston and San Francisco have had to fold for lack of "New Seed" players from Ireland because of the restrictive laws. And with the recession and its many problems taking up the time of lawmakers, little or nothing can be expected from Congress at least until next year. But with the help of young Irish students during their vacation, the standard of play is almost as high as in other times.

Chicago winners, which will be determined this month, should produce some thrilling play in both codes—men and women. Now is time to see Ireland's national games played with all the skill, stamina and speed that it displays. As we have often written, hurling is "the fastest ground game in the world," and that, combined with skill, makes it the most thrilling game in the world.

Gaelic football, the forerunner of Australian Rules football, is another skillful game to watch. It too demands skill and stamina, and both men and women are all well prepared to kick that big ball with accuracy with both feet, from all angles. St. Bridget's have been worthy champions over the past few years, and have nearly always brought a national title to Chicago.

So come out and watch some

wonderful hurling and football, despite the lack of many young players from Ireland who would no doubt be here and in New York, San Francisco and Boston, but for the restrictive U.S. immigration laws. Families are well gathered at Gaelic Park, with swings and playground for the young ones, while Mom and Dad have a "cold one" and watch the thrilling action on the field. Call Melody or any of her charming colleens at the front office, 1-708-687-9323 for more information, and the time and schedule for the games, usually from 2pm until 6pm. See you at the games.

Unionists Groups Start to Disarm in Ulster

At long last, Unionist groups have started to disarm and pledge, "that their decades of killing Catholic civilians were over for good." The IRA laid down their arms a couple of years ago. Britain's Secretary of State for Ulster said it was "a historic day." But this was only achieved by threatening to take away their arms, according to a story in a recent Chicago Tribune issue. One has to ask, "what took them so long?" and what amount of harm have they done in that time.

It is estimated that the two underground militias killed nearly a thousand people in a self-declared war against the IRA. They even killed Catholics who had strayed into their Protestant areas, sometimes torturing them first to elicit "confessions" of IRA membership.

Hopefully now Justice will be served, and those found guilty will pay the price. Where was Maggie Thatcher then, saying "A crime is a crime, is a crime," whilst letting ten young innocent Irishmen die from starvation because they refused to wear the prison garb, as they were

not given a lawful trial.

Will Chicago Host the 2016 Olympic Games?

With the announcement date, October 3rd, drawing closer and closer to name the host city for the 2016 Olympic Games, Chicago, one of the favourites, is anxiously waiting with bated breath. Chicago City Council is still debating the liability for citizens if it should fall short in finance results. But Pat Ryan, Mayor Richard J. Daley's point man, assures Chicagoans and the City Council that additional insurance has been obtained and that there is no need for concern. Hopefully, the City Council will OK the assurance and that the city will be the lucky one.

Chicago is still a favourite, but the other three in the running (Madrid, Japan, and Rio de Janeiro,) are all working hard to become host, so it's still anyone's race. Mayor Daley says, "As a winner, we would provide a wonderful chance to share the diversity of our nation with a global audience. As a candidate city we are now one step closer to our goal and look forward to launching a successful bid."

Mayor Daley has already passed on the request to include hurling as an Olympic ground game to his Olympic Committee for consideration, and a letter asking for the consent of the Central Council, the ruling body of the world-wide GAA, has been received by Mr. Pat Duffy, General Secretary of the GAA, Croke Park, Dublin. Hopefully both requests will be considered and approved for the welfare of the game of hurling "the fastest and most skillful ground game in the world." Approval would also provide tremendous incentive for the many young Irish Americans learning the skills of the old caman game.

Sports Coverage from Ireland in Doubt

Setanta founders, Len Ryan and Michael O'Rourke, have expressed doubt that their GAA T.V. coverage of the games from Ireland will continue this year because of financial troubles. GAA's commercial man-

WHAT'S ONLINE ONLY THIS MONTH

We've run out of space on these pages this month for everything we would like to print, but don't despair, we are putting several things online-only at www.iannews.com.

Immigrants Musings
by Fr Leonard
Sharing a Pint
by Scott Powers
Horoscopes
by Theresa Castro

WHAT'S INSIDE

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ager Dermot Power said, "We are still in the dark until we know what the new Setanta model is going to be. We do want to get the games to our people all over the world. Pubs and clubs are all the major distribution channels for us overseas."

Setanta could not come up with the \$10 million needed to continue the contract. It was marginally profitable last year. It was founded by Len Ryan and Michael O'Rourke in 1992. Its 200 jobs in the Irish based operation are safe for now. It also broadcasts Magners League Rugby, Motor racing, and the PGA Tour.

"Setanta have been long time partners of ours," Power added, "We'd be very supportive of them and have been in communication with them throughout these difficulties. All they are saying is that they don't know until the picture clears. Our channels and other services in the US continue to broadcast."

Hopefully everything will be worked out by All-Ireland time in September. These games, hurling and football, are very popular at Chicago Gaelic Park and the other locations in Chicago. Our predictions for the finals this year are, the best of three in each code: Hurling, Kilkenny, Galway and Tipperary; Football, Kerry, Tyrone or Cork. Our guess is Kilkenny in hurling, Kerry in football.

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US Immigration Officials Take Up Residence in West of Ireland

Up to 30 US Immigration officials and their families are relocating to Clare and Limerick for the scheduled opening of pre-clearance facilities for commercial airline passengers flying to the US from Shannon Airport.

The new facilities at Shannon Airport were scheduled to be ready by late July, with similar pre-clearance facilities due to be in place at Dublin airport by November 2010. Currently, only US immigration clearance facilities are available at the two airports.

Mayor of Clare Tony Mulcahy received confirmation of the move during an hour-long meeting with the Deputy US Ambassador to Ire-

Concertina Lessons

Murphy Roche School of Irish music has announced private concertina lessons with local player David Boveri. On Saturdays this summer, both beginning and advanced students have the opportunity to improve at an accelerated pace, to establish a solid foundation in concertina fingering and technique. David teaches a unique, time-tested scale which originates from county Clare. Lessons will take place on Saturdays at 11309 W. 72nd St. in Burr Ridge, conveniently located near the intersection of I-294 and I-55. To sign up, please call 630.212.7679 or email scoil@murphyroche.com.

land, Mr. Robert J. Faucher.

"We both agreed that the new facilities, once operational, will provide a significant boost for tourism and trade between the USA and Ireland. The Deputy Ambassador informed me that Ireland is the tenth highest investment location for US companies. This is especial-

ly encouraging in the current economic climate and I have no doubt that the new facilities at Shannon will further enhance commercial links between both countries," commented the Mayor.

Mayor Mulcahy said the new pre-clearance facilities would present numerous opportunities

to develop transatlantic services at Shannon.

"Shannon will find itself in a unique position whereby US-bound passengers will be able to clear customs in Shannon before flying into any airport in the US without having to unload their luggage, clear customs and have their baggage rechecked. Furthermore, the news that the pre-clearance service

at Shannon will be available to passengers on private planes by October will further enhance Shannon Airport's ability to compete and expand in the increasingly competitive aviation sector. The US Deputy Ambassador expressed his hope to me that this will lay the foundation for the opening up of pre-clearance facilities for cargo operators", concluded the Mayor.

Decisions. Decisions. Decisions.



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Boyle the Kettle



We'll Have A Sup Of Tea

Tom Boyle



John Calloway

We lost a great journalist. John Calloway's incisive interviews on WTTW left no questions unasked or unanswered. John prepared himself well, as he always had all the facts. John was part Irish and perhaps that's why he understood Chicago politics so well.

Michael Jackson

It's a pity the price of fame extracts so much from its victims. The King of Pop was a little too far out for me. The fans that get hysterical at times like this, mystify me. They must not have much else going on in their lives. Elvis met a similar fate. I have no desire to go to Graceland or Neverland. When the Irish Tenor, Frank Patterson died, I was a little surprised and felt sorry for his family, but felt no compulsion to be at the funeral.

Pat McLaughlin

My old friend Pat McLaughlin has gone to his reward. Pat and I spent many hours working together at the Irish American Heritage Center. Pat was a plasterer by trade, and I labored for him.

Senator Burris

It's no surprise to anybody that he just can't afford to run for the Senate. Word is the Democrats don't want him to run, and he is overwhelmed by attorney's fees of \$0.5 million or more because of the Blagojevich Pay to Play scandal.

Burr Oak Cemetery

Nothing is sacred in Chicago... not even "Dem bones, dem bones, dem dry bones, now hear the world of the Lord. Toe bone connected to the foot bone, foot bone connected to the leg bone, leg bone connected to the knee bone. Dem bones gonna rise again..." So go the words of the old spiritual. Rise again they did, thanks to the ghouls, graverobbers, and the detestable degenerates who committed this crime. The whole story in all probability has not been told, how much jewelry and dental gold did they harvest? The heartache they caused those whose loved ones' graves they desecrated is unimaginable. Our sympathy goes out to these families.

IAHC Fest

We prayed for good weather, and the prayer was answered. Months of planning and the corps of volunteers made it all work. The rain stopped Friday, July 10th about 3pm. We got more rain after midnight, but that was the end of it. Saturday and Sunday were perfect. There was plenty of entertainment, food, and fun for everyone.

The fest was marred by a break-in during the night. The thieves carried off the safe and more than \$8,900. Bad cess to them! Chicago P.D., 16th and 17th Precincts, are investigating. Some people have sent in donations to help cover the loss. If you wish to help, donations can be sent to the IAHC, 4626 N. Knox, Ave., Chicago, IL 60630.

Irish Confederates

My friend Chuck McConnell recently learned his great grandfather, Joseph McConnell, was a Captain in Company F, 4th Georgia Regiment, attached to the Doles-Cook Brigade in the Army of North Virginia, C.S.A. Chuck found this out through an unexpected phone call from a 3rd cousin in Fort Worth, TX. A great piece of family history.

The Confederate Army had many Irish units. The 6th Louisiana Tigers, and the 10th Tennessee, to name two. Father Ed Gleeson, Pastor at St. James Church on the Sag, has written numerous books on the Irish in the Confederacy. His ancestors were in the 10th Tennessee, in the Army of Tennessee.

If you have this kind of family history, contact the archives at the Irish American Heritage Center if you would like to share it.

Thomas James Mulroy

Thomas arrived in the world on July 7, 2009 and weighed in at 9 lbs. 2 oz. The proud parents are Michael and Debbie Mulroy. Word came to me from a very happy grandmother, Mary Ann Mulroy.

IAHC Officers

On Monday, July 13th, new officers were elected at the Board meeting: President Bob McNamara; Vice President Alan Dugan; Treasurer Jo Ann Fergus; and Secretary Mary Johnson.

Hemochromatosis – 'The Celtic Curse'

By Dr. David Sowby

We all consume iron in our diet. Most people have a physiological mechanism that prevents the iron from building up in their bodies above a certain safe level. But one in a hundred Irish people do not have this mechanism. They have inherited a defective gene that results in their being unable to prevent the build-up of iron. This condition is called hemochromatosis or iron overload.

The condition is present from birth, but its effects don't usually start to show up for several decades. The first signs of it are fairly vague; in my case, I began to feel abnormally tired when I was in my late twenties. It would take a shrewd doctor to think of the possibility of hemochromatosis in a young person complaining of tiredness, but such astuteness is what is needed. If left undiagnosed, the condition can go on pumping more and more iron into organs such as the heart, liver, pancreas

and pituitary gland. But if hemochromatosis is diagnosed and treated early, such effects can be prevented.

The next thing I experienced, and which is common, was pain in my finger joints. Sometime later, when I was around fifty, I started to have mild heart palpitations. Up to then, none of the doctors who examined me during that time thought of the underlying cause of my problems. Finally, when I was nearly seventy, I was found to have Type 2 diabetes. This soon led to a simple blood test and the realization that hemochromatosis was the cause.

Unfortunately, the steady increase of iron in various organs had done irreparable harm. In addition to diabetes, I was found to have cirrhosis of the liver, with its increased risk of liver cancer. The damage to my pituitary gland resulted in various hormones being defective. Even though treatment was started immediately after hemochromatosis was diagnosed, the

damage done can never be repaired.

The treatment is simple. It consists of venesection, or removing a pint—roughly half a liter—of blood, in exactly the same way as is done with blood donors. At first, when the level of iron in the blood is high, venesections may be done as often as weekly. As the iron level in the blood decreases, the intervals become longer, so that eventually they need be done perhaps every six months or so. Each venesection removes about 250 grams of iron from the body. The bone-marrow goes to work to replace the blood. To form new red cells it needs iron, which it obtains from the various organs, thereby lowering their load of iron. That is the purpose of venesection.

If doctors, and members of the public, can only be made more aware of the vital need to think about the possibility of this condition, and to diagnose and treat it at an early age, the ravages produced by hemochromatosis in later life can be entirely avoided.

First Annual Irish community picnic

Saturday August 15
noon to 7 pm
free admission

- 🍀 **music**
- 🍀 **activities**
 - kiddie games & prizes
 - Irish football & hurling
 - puc fada competition
 - Bear Bag tourney
- 🍀 **free bus transportation**
 - call 312-534-8445
 - o'hagan's, gaelic park, galvin's & more
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 - \$5 BarBeque available
 - community dessert table
Bring your favourite to share
- 🍀 **one week getaway raffle**
 - Donegal cottage
 - michigan lakehouse
 - puerto vallarta condo

Irish and strong

During these hard times,
keeping our community ties strong
is more important than ever.
The Irish Community Picnic
will be held annually to reconnect the
entire Irish community.

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Immigrant or multi-generational
Northside/Southside/Westside/Suburban
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Moms and Dads
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**All are welcome and
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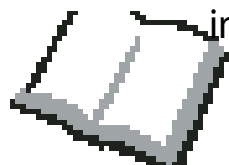
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Irish Books and Plays in Review



Frank West



Fado: A Memoir of Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness

This is a book we can all identify with. The author, Kevin O'Donnell, returned to the place in Ireland where his family came from: Arranmore Island in Donegal. He tells why his family left Ireland and came to the U.S. The author also includes poignant memories of growing up in (then) rural Mundelein, Illinois.

The book's title is pronounced "f' doe." It is "an Irish expression meaning long ago..." Traditional storytellers, or seánachais, often used this word to begin their stories.

For many generations, the O'Donnells lived on Arranmore Island, off the Donegal coast. "They survived successive waves of invasions from neighboring tribes, Vikings, Normans, and most recently, the British. They experienced the extermination attempts of Cromwell's armies in 1649... followed by the brutally enforced 18th century Penal Laws..."

After the terrible times of the Cromwellian invasions, what he couldn't accomplish, Catholic priests almost did. They encouraged the down marriage rate by viewing the efforts of men and women to get to know each other as sinful. "The Church strongly discouraged company keeping or courting, and the priests on the island had a reputation for chasing courting couples with blackthorn sticks in an effort to quell such sinful behavior." The desires for dignity and personal freedom are reasons our ancestors came to America.

Another reason is the poverty in Ireland. The British controlled the country with the landlord system. The landlords were often absent, and the people were ruled by their agents. The agents cared only for how much rent money they could squeeze out of the Irish.

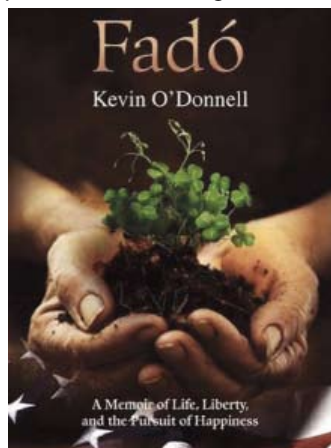
This is a description of the poverty and squalor of Arranmore before the Great Famine of 1845!

"I landed at a village... containing 24 cottages and almost the whole of it shockingly destitute, and a half-naked shoeless population immediately swarmed out... Some thrust scraps of paper into my hands with petitions written on them, praying for assistance to keep from starving, for medical assistance... and so on. Such an assemblage of wretched beggar-

like human beings I never saw."

The book is rich with historical scenes like this 1849 letter to the Illustrated London Times about a pregnant island woman: "they commenced knocking down the house, and had it half knocked down when two neighbor women... carried me out... I was carried into a cabin, and lay there for eight days, when I had the creature (the child) born dead."

This is a vast sprawling book of Irish history, about Arranmore Island in particular, and the author's personal remembrances of growing up in a distant Chicago suburb. It



contains many golden nuggets of Irish history and of the Irish American experience.

Fado, A Memoir of Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness by Kevin O'Donnell. Xlibris Corporation, Philadelphia, PA, 2009. 304 pages; \$30 hardcover; \$20 paperback.

(Locations currently carrying Fado in the Chicago region: The Irish Boutique, Long Grove, IL; The Irish Boutique, Crystal Lake, IL; Paddy's on the Square, Long Grove, IL; Donegal Imports, Chicago, IL; Shamrock Imports, Chicago, IL; and Harp & Thistle Imports, Peoria, IL.)

The Magical Tea Party

This is the second book in this wonderful series, The Three Little Lasses Series, which will eventually be comprised of seven books. The author, Sandra McCone, wants these books to encourage a child's sense of wonder and imagination, while developing reading skills.

Sandra McCone is the author of this charming and unique series. "She targeted the age group of 5-10, planning on the reader's growing along with the series. In each book, the reading level will increase, along with the content, as the lasses and

laddies take on new magical adventures, consisting of Irish myths and stories."

Please use your imagination to visualize a tea party prepared and enjoyed by three little girls. The place for the party is their grandmother's garden. They are about to have a



magical experience.

The girls sing of the pleasures of the tea party and the garden. The woods reverberate with their voices. Then they hear tiny voices singing the same song. The voices belong to three tiny fairies. The girls introduce themselves—and the magic of imagination happens.

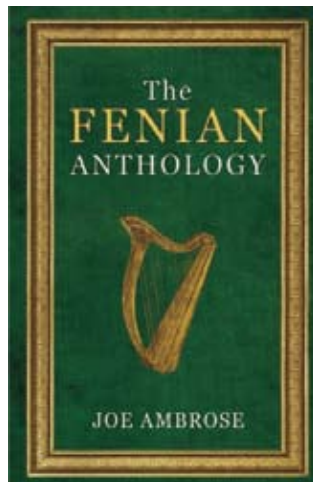
This wonderful story is about the surprise, care and kindness shown by the girls.

The Magical Tea Party by Sandra McCone. Tate Publishing and Enterprises, Mustang, CO, 2009. 31 pages; \$10.99. www.threelittlelasses.com.

The Fenian Anthology

Sean O'Casey said "the memory of the great things done will be green forever..." This book is about those deeds.

Here are excerpts from the writings of those incredibly brave Irish men who remained faithful to their dream of a free Ireland. They remained steadfast in the face of overwhelming odds. For generations, from prison cell, hillside, courtroom, and in secret "safe houses" when on the run, they kept alive the ideal of a free Ireland.

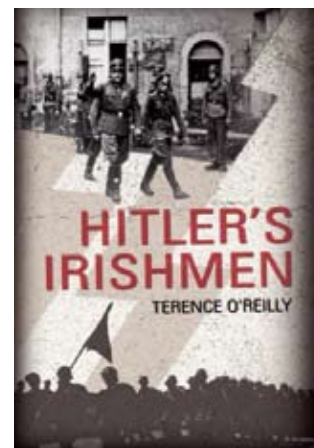


Despite the insidious power of the British Empire: its gigantic army, wealth and population (60 millions Brits to 4 to 5 million Irish), the Fenians never gave up their dream for an independent Ireland.

Who were the Fenians? They were a secret organization (Britain's spies and informers were everywhere) working for an Irish republic. They were "founded in New York and Dublin in 1858."

They withstood attacks by the British (who called them terrorists) and hate-filled attacks by the Catholic Church. Churchmen denounced them as a secret society (but aren't the Jesuits?) The Fenians never gave in: on the run, in exile, or jailed, they remained faithful to their ideal. This book is a collection of their writings, for they strongly believed the old Irish saying, "A writer's ink lasts longer than a martyr's blood."

The author, Joe Ambrose, assembles here the story of the 1798 Uprising, Robert Emmet's speech from the dock, excerpts from Knocknagow by Charles Kickham, and writings by Patrick Pearse, Michael Collins, and many others who never wavered, against all odds. What a tradition!



The Fenian Anthology by Joe Ambrose. Mercier Press and Dufour Editions; Chester Springs, PA; 2008. 350 pages; \$37.95. 610-458-5005.

Hitler's Irishmen

Do you like military history? Especially military history about the World War II period (1939-1945)? I do. And this book contains over three hundred pages of exciting information about this period.

Most of this book is about the German war effort and the German soldiers who fought in the World War.

Incredible facts about those soldiers, and their actions are presented a part of the story of two Irishmen serving in the British Army. They were abandoned on the Island of Guernsey when that British possession was invaded. Eventually they joined the German Army, and fought with it until the collapse of the Ger-

man government, in 1945.

The book is filled with many facts that military historians love. This is an example. Late in the war (1945) the German army introduced the M42 machine gun. It could fire at a rate of 1,200 rounds per minute, this sounded like tearing cloth, rather than the chatter of a normal machine gun. Because of this it was nicknamed "The Saw." It was also called this because of "its lethal effectiveness against Russian infantry attacks." It was "of such superlative design that it still remains in service with some European armies" today, sixty years later!

The Russian armies had unlimited manpower. The German soldiers were highly trained and had excellent equipment. But they were overwhelmed by the huge manpower and material history of this period. The press release says their story "draws heavily on their own accounts and on state papers which have been released in recent years."

If you like military history, you'll love this book: the story of Hitler's Irishmen.

Hitler's Irishmen by Terence O'Reilly. Mercier Press and Dufour Editions; Chester Springs, PA; 2009. 320 Pages, \$28.95. www.dufoureditions.com.

Personality Traits

Frank McCourt was a wonderful storyteller. But, he was also a wonderful person.

I attended several of his appearances in Chicago. He spoke with a gentle Irish accent, and used vivid, colorful words. The last time I saw him he told stories to 1,200 people. The listeners had to use their imaginations because his only stage prop was a paper coffee cup!

There wasn't a sound from the audience; they would have been happy if he had talked for another two hours.

Before one event my whole family met him. He was generous with the time he spent with us, and happily posed with us for a picture.

When his book, Teacher Man, was published I phoned, and told him I began teaching at about the same time he did, and told him of the many happy memories his book generated. I also told him that many of the experiences he wrote about were amazingly similar to the ones I had, even to the voices and sounds of the students.

Frank was a gentle, gracious, and genuine person. He was non-judgmental, and understood the pressures of life we all live with. You immediately sensed that you were accepted by him, and not just tolerated.

Frank was an amazing storyteller, but, he was also an amazing person. Our sense of loss is palpable.

Hooliganism

Mike Houlihan

Last month a celebrated Irish author finally died a few days after word had spread all over the Internet that he was deathly ill.

It was a fact that we had once worked together in New York City and Chicago in the mid-eighties and the relationship had long since soured and ended in a series of lawsuits in federal court.

The litigation was settled but, as with most Irish grudges, the bad blood would never be forgotten.

I received over a dozen phone calls and emails from friends as news of his impending doom reverberated on the airwaves. I guess folks were expecting me to make a snide remark or two, as the author was about to meet his maker.

But I made enough of those in the last twenty-five years. And of course, any words of compassion for his family would be branded as phony, so I'm not going there either.

I'm proud to have recognized his talent back then, and will mark his exit with these final thoughts.

His brother, with whom I'm also acquainted, owned a bar in Manhattan that took its name from a song the

brothers sang in their Off-Broadway show.

The bells of hell go ting-a-ling-a-ling,
For you but not for me,
Oh death, where is thy sting-a-ling-a-ling,

Oh grave, thy victory?

The bells of hell go ting-a-ling-a-ling
For you but not for me.

The author himself used to tell an old joke, which I find appropriate for his passing.

It seems an elderly man in Limerick had died and the priest giving

the eulogy had never met the man. The priest gave the standard sermon for the dead and then asked the congregation, "Is there anyone here who would like to say a few words about what a wonderful man he was?"

Silence from the crowd.

"Surely someone here has something good to say about this man who we are about to bury."

Not a word from the congregation.

Exasperated, the priest finally shouted at the top of his lungs, "We are not leaving this church for the cemetery until someone stands and says a few words in honor of the departed!"

Finally a lone, skinny man stood up in the back and said, "His brother was worse!"



Pictured are P.J. O'Dea and his sister, Mrs. Brigid T. Frawley, also known as Miss Bridie O'Dea. Mrs. Frawley, who suffered from polio as a child, recently passed away in Ireland. She worked as a legal assistant at the firm of McMahon & Williams in Kilrush, Ireland 64 years.

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Raised on Songs and Stories

Shay Clarke



Mary Rowley on Frank McCourt

Like the rest of you I was saddened to hear of the passing of Frank McCourt. I met Frank on a few occasions, but just to say hello and shake his hand. I have no stories to relate, but my good pal Mary Rowley knew Frank well for many years. Frank was part of the entertainment on Mary's famous Irish Festival Cruises and here's what she has to say.

"Back in 1992 I hired Malachy and Frank McCourt to perform on the Irish Festival Cruise in 1993. They were slated to perform A Couple of Blaguards together and Malachy offered to do a one-man show called Plunkitt of Tammany Hall. I asked Frank if he would do a one-man show and he replied 'of course, leave it with me.' A few months later he rang and said his show would be called The Irish... and How They Got That Way. As Frank rose from less than humble beginnings, his one man show on a cruise ship grew to a full cast performing in theaters across America and a popular PBS special."

"In 1992 Malachy was a seasoned actor, and Frank was a retired school teacher. Malachy sent me a professional promotional kit with an extensive biography. Frank had nothing

like that in the works, so I rang him and told him that I needed his biography. He said, 'What do folks want to know about me? I prefer to write in longhand, I shave in the shower, I make wicked mashed potatoes and I will not tolerate a poorly poured pint of Guinness.' I used that biography for years, until I added the sentence... 'Pulitzer Prize winning author of Angela's Ashes prefers to write in longhand' and so on."

"In June of 1993, I was with Liam Clancy and Robbie O'Connell at the Lions Head in Greenwich Village. At a table across the room sat Ellen, Frank and Malachy McCourt. The McCourts burst into uproarious laughter, which was so infectious that the crowded restaurant all joined in the laughter, without ever knowing what they were laughing about. Out of curiosity, Liam hollered across the room asking what they were talking about. Frank abruptly shouted back 'DEATH' and the laughter continued. I figured that was Frank's wit implying none of your business, because they certainly could not be laughing so hard about death. The next afternoon Frank rang and I said, 'by the way, what were you folks talking about last night?' and again he replied 'death.' He said that Malachy was telling a story about a guy that died, then

he didn't and so on, so there were Frank and I having another laugh about death."

"Frank had the knack to make anything funny. In November of 1991, he emceed Tom Clancy's Memorial Concert. He did a hilarious routine on English food. Afterwards, friends asked who the stand up comedian was as they found him to be a riot. I explained that he wasn't a stand up comic and that he was a retired schoolteacher. I could not convince them of that fact because Frank was so convincing as a stand up comedian."

"Most of my memories of Frank are of his laughter. He was emceeding on the cruise in 1998 when a choppy harbor prevented us from calling on Key West. Everyone had boarded the ship in Ft. Lauderdale, with the exception of Hal Roach, who had a prior commitment, and was on the pier in Key West awaiting our arrival. We came within about a mile, so Hal could see us from the pier and then watched us turn around and sail away. That night Frank introduced the first act and then sat in the audience writing away. When he took the stage again, he waved the paper and said 'This just in, a fax to the ship's bridge from Hal Roach. It says you're nothing but a pack of sailing Irish whores, turn that ship around and come get me.' Frank started laughing so hard the tears flowed like a waterfall out on the deck. He was wiping his tears with his fist as he struggled with laughter to get through something he penned ten minutes earlier. Hal hopped a flight to Cozumel. The next morning we called on Playa Del Carmel with intentions of heading to Cozumel. I was sitting with Frank on deck when the announcement came that we were not calling on Cozumel. Again Frank howled and the laughter tears came again. He said, 'This just can't get any funnier.' Hal hired a fishing trawler to cart him the 11 miles to our ship. Frank enjoyed many more cruises with us before and after that year but I think he most enjoyed what he called... the cruise where we were trying to keep an island ahead of Hal Roach."

"Ever the wordsmith, I got a kick out of Frank's answering machine as he said, 'You've reached the McCourt's, leave a message and we'll respond with alacrity.'"

"May your fond memories of Frank McCourt come to you with alacrity."

"Slán Abhaile, Frank and thanks for the fond memories!"

For more information on Irish festival cruises, contact Mary at www.irishcruises.com.

Blarney on the Air

Regular listeners to our Irish music show on Public Radio may have noticed recently that Bill and I are presenting the show in separate one-hour segments and, as many of you readers are also listeners, I would like to explain briefly. The Celtic Odd Couple have not split up, there is no "argey bargy" going on, and neither of us will cite irreconcilable differences, we just can't seem to find a suitable time to record together at the moment, so no scandal, just two hours of great Irish Music every Monday night on WDCB. 90.9 FM in Chicago and everywhere else on WDCB.org; blarneyontheair.com continues to archive past shows and you can contact us thru the usual email addresses blarneyontheair@me.com.

If you keep listening we will keep playing and we thank you for your continuous support.

Fadó—Kevin O'Donnell

Some of you will be familiar with Fadó as a chain of Irish-themed pubs, others will know Fadó as a line of fine Irish Jewelry available on our website blarneyhome.com, and I have been asked hundreds of times what the word means. Quite simply it means "long ago." In fact, most Irish children's stories and legends of old always started with the words, Fadó, fadó, a bit like "Once upon a time."

Anyway, when I received a copy of Kevin O'Donnell's book Fadó, I knew immediately that the bold Kevin was not talking pubs or jewelry, and I got stuck in to the story of his childhood in the Chicago suburbs, his memories of Arranmore Island off the coast of Donegal, his historical insight and staunch Catholic upbringing.

This is a book about fathers and sons, triumphs and tragedies, history and heritage. Many of you will know Kevin as the founder of Arranmore the well-known Chicago band. Now I realize where he took his inspiration from for the many songs he wrote and performed. Brilliant book, I loved it. Well done Kevin, you make me proud to be Irish.

Maurice Lennon

It seems like only a few weeks ago I told you that Stockton's Wing's Maurice Lennon was back in the Midwest, and as I expected he has

hit the ground running with a series of sessions planned for the tri-state area.

For six years, Maurice hosted weekly sessions at the Rathmines Inn back in Dublin with guest singers and musicians. Ciaran Tourish, Ronnie Drew, Johnny McEvoy and Finbar Fury were regulars and it is his intention to continue in that tradition, and offer a variety of talent from our rich pool. Among the names mentioned have been Pat Broaders, Jimmy Moore, Jim Dewan, Paddy Homan, Joe Cullen and Jeff Ward, you know yourself, all the usual suspects.

Maurice will be in McNally's in St. Charles, IL on Sundays from 4 till 7, and Foley's in the Irish Woods in Lake Geneva, WI on August 1st and 19th. We will keep you informed on new venues. Maurice has recently worked with Johnny McEvoy on his soon to be released album Never Smelt the Roses with guest musicians Sharon Shannon, Gerry O'Connor and Paul Roche—I can't wait to share that one with you on the radio.

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AND SPECIAL GUEST ARTIST
CATHERINE MARY O'CONNELL



Tradition In Review

Bill Margeson

Let's do something a little different this month. First, a review, and then some good, old-fashioned, gossip news stuff from inside the music. Sound good?

First, Fiona Mackenzie is out with a fab album, *A Good Suit of Clothes—Songs of the Emigrant Gael*. Epic title, hey? Boy, we like her voice. The entire album is in Scots Gaelic, with translations in the liner notes. Well, we THINK it is Scots Gaelic. How would we know? It could be in Irish, but as it is out on Greentrax, we suspect Scots! Anyway, as we said, we sure like this voice. Beautiful. The songs are very, very melodious, very musical. Lovely. And, the girl has soul. She can sing. Very comfortable with different keys and ambiances. This is a lovely album. There are some terrific backing musicians. Wonderful additional singers round it all out. This is where the music seems to be right now. A contemporary take on some very, very traditional sounding tunes. Almost all are traditional songs. Equally impressive are the liner notes. We don't know what Greentrax has been slipping into their tea lately, but their last several albums have absolutely superb liner notes. I'm listening to the album as I write this. Gee. This IS lovely. Really. Anyway, back to the liner notes. Wonderful. Lots of great pictures, and complete descriptions, which help put the songs into the proper context. This is a beautiful album by a beautiful singer. A standout. We'll be playing it a lot on the radio show. And, listening to it a lot at home. Get this. Rating: Four Harps

Well, we see DeDannan has reunited in their 132nd reincarnation. Despite DeDannan (Frankie Gavin's) many statements over the years that they were retiring, they never did. Not really. They'd play somewhere, and then disappear. Then play again, and disappear again. But, it HAS been a long time since there was an album. What was the last? *Hotel Conemara*? Anyway, all the original cats are long gone, leaving only Gavin. He has succeeded in grabbing Ireland's best guitar player, Mike Galvin, for the group. The regular reader here has heard us

speak of Galvin several times. Anyway, there is a big cover story on the new group on the cover of Irish Music Magazine. We'll see. DeDannan's place in the history of the music is secure. What a factory for great talent! But, there has been so much sturm und drang around Gavin and the group over the years, we'll wait a little on this latest incarnation. Right. We'll see.

As we speak, Shauna Mullin of The David Munnely Band has her new, solo vocal album at the graphic designer's. Should be out soon. She is, quite arguably, the best singer in the



music right now. Or, do you prefer Mairanna McCloskey? Deirdre Scanlon? Laura Smith? Or, The Queen, Cathie Ryan—who is WAY past due for a new album. Muireann Nic Amhlaoibh? Niamh Parsons? Shannon Heaton? Who? Well, whomever you fancy, Shauna HAS to be in the mix. Can't wait. More later.

Speaking of The David Munnely Band, they are currently in Charlie Lennon's studio in Spiddal (outside Galway), working on their brand new album! Munnely, with

Shauna, definitely has the best vocal/instrumental group in the music now. No debate. So, we'll get a double blast of the lovely Shauna, in her own solo release, and the Munnely album. Great music in the pipeline. Watch this space.

Liam Clancy not well, at all. The last of the iconic Clancy Brothers. God bless him.

We are suicidal. We missed the Shaun Davey/Rita Connelly/Eilis Kennedy/Seamus Begley/Beal Tuinne/Noel Eccles/Gerry O'Beirne/Liam O'Flynn/Lawrence Courtney, et al soiree' of an evening at the National Concert Hall in Dublin last month. It was sold out. From what we hear, our prediction was right. The greatest concert ever in the history of the entire world. Wonder if they recorded it? Will find out.

We hear that the great show in Galway, Trad on the Prom, is still doing big business, as it should. Mairin Fahy and husband, Chris Kelly, still putting out a wonderful evening of music and dance. If you are in Galway, don't miss.

Nova Scotia's Dave Gunning going back into the studio. Is there a better songwriter/performer on the scene? No. Google the lad. He is a total talent. Big-time, talented winner of a guy, and one of the nicest people in the music. We'll have the report on the new one here first. He won Song of the Year here a couple years ago with his seminal, "New Highway."

Listen to my new radio show! Shay Clarke and I split Blarney on the Air into two one-hour segments every Monday night to better feature our music. I'm on every Monday night from 8-9 Chicago time on WDCB.org, Public Radio. You can, of course, stream live on the web at www.wdcb.org. My show is the second hour every week and is subtitled, *Ireland Tonight*, as we feature the real, true Irish music for the real, true trad fan. Listen in! Ta!



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The Irish American Heritage Center, (www.irish-american.org) a 501(c)(3) non-profit membership organization, founded in 1976, is dedicated to the preservation of Irish culture, music, literature, drama and traditional dance and education, and is currently seeking an Executive Director.

This position is accountable for ensuring the mission of the Irish American Heritage Center (IAHC) and policies established by the Board of Directors are implemented to meet the goals and objectives of the IAHC. This position is responsible for the overall leadership and management of the IAHC which comprises a 650-seat auditorium, a 90-seat box theatre, an authentic Irish pub, numerous function rooms, classrooms, a banquet hall (currently under renovation), as well as an art gallery, museum, and library.

The Executive Director will be responsible for the overall leadership and management of day-to-day internal operations including IAHC staff, committees, volunteers and financial functions as well as external representation of the IAHC, as appropriate.

Overall responsibilities include (some direct, some indirect):

- Strategic planning
- Fundraising and development
- Budget and other financial functions
- Office administration
- Facilities management
- Communication, marketing and public relations
- Rental and event operations
- Programming
- Human Resource (staff and volunteer coordination)

Position Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in business administration, non-profit management or related field. Master's degree preferred.
- Minimum of seven to ten years' progressively responsible management experience with budgetary responsibility greater than \$1,000,000 per year.
- Demonstrated knowledge or interest in Irish culture.
- Knowledge of program development and implementation, marketing and public relations, strategic planning and human resources.
- Demonstrated experience in a volunteer-driven organization.
- Previous experience in a non-profit setting with an understanding of the governance role.
- Proven record of success in achieving results through volunteer leaders and paid staff.
- Experience in strategic planning and demonstration of successful execution of plans.
- Minimum three to five years' supervisory experience.
- Must be computer literate with the ability to use word processing, spreadsheets, and database software (Word, Excel, and Access).
- Must be organized and detail oriented with excellent time management skills.
- Must have strong customer service orientation.
- Must have strong team orientation.
- Must have excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- Must be able to work a flexible schedule, including weekends.

A statement of interest demonstrating knowledge or interest in Irish culture must be submitted for consideration.

Interested candidates should forward resume and statement of interest, along with salary requirements, by email to: employment@irishahc.org or Irish American Heritage Center, Attention: President, 4626 N. Knox Avenue, Chicago, IL 60630. FAX 773-282-0880.

IAHC Annual Golf Open September 12

Save the date for the 20th Annual Irish American Heritage Center Golf Open on Saturday, Sept. 12, 2009. The outing is at St. Andrews Golf Club in West Chicago at 1pm.

The price is \$100 and includes greens fees, a cart, dinner, cocktails, entertainment and prizes. The event is a fundraiser for the Center.

Tickets, contact Alan Duggan at 312-401-2603, Maureen O'Looney at 773-286-6866 or IAHC office.

IAHC Writing Classes This Fall

Have a story to tell? The Irish American Heritage Center will continue its Memoir Writing Workshop, conducted by award-winning writing instructor, Patricia Cronin.

The class gives budding writers a chance to put some of their memories on paper. The workshop will help identify key turning points in your life, and understand them against the backdrop of time and place. There will be in-class reading,

discussion and writing exercises.

This 6-week program runs Thursday evenings from Oct. 15-Nov. 19, 2009 from 7-9pm and the cost is \$60. To register 773-282-7035.

Andy Cooney CD

In his latest musical work, It'll Be Me, Andy Cooney has an eclectic collection of songs about country, heritage, faith and friendship. The CD has a tribute to Stephen Foster written after Cooney researched over 1,000 of Foster's songs. Also featured on the CD are: "You Were Never Too Far From My Mind," written by



a long time friend, Nick McCarthy; "You Raise Me Up," written by another old Irish friend, Brendan Graham, and "It'll Be Me," written by the legendary Larry Gatlin. dararecords.com. www.andycooney.com.

Gaelic Park August Events Musical Luncheon

The monthly Musical Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, August 5th, 2009 beginning at noon.

The Musical Luncheon is an exciting way to break up the week with an afternoon of wonderful food, dancing and music by Sean O'Donnell. Tickets are \$13 and include all entertainment.

Reservations 708 687-9323s.

Feast Of Our Lady Of Knock Honored

Chicago Gaelic Park will commemorate the Feast of Our Lady of Knock on Monday, August 17th, 2009 at 7:30pm.

The miracle of Our Lady of Knock began on a rainy evening in August 1879. Fifteen witnesses saw a bright light shine over the Knock Parish Church in an Apparition that included the Blessed Virgin Mary along with Saints Joseph and John. The faithful watched and recited the Rosary in the presence of this Apparition for over two hours. Miracles began only days after. Pilgrimages to Knock, Co. Mayo began in 1880 and over the years, visitors have grown to over half a million and with other exceptional healings such as that of the terminally ill. The personal pilgrimage of Pope John Paul II in 1979 to commemorate the centenary of the apparition and to recognize Vatican approval and validation of the apparition inspired even more devotion to the Shrine.

Gaelic Park honors this astonishing event with Benediction, Rosary and Procession to the beautiful Grotto. Refreshments after.

GAA Games


The Gaelic Athletic Association hosts the Gaelic games of football and hurling each weekend at Chicago Gaelic Park.

Gaelic football is a fantastic sport, resembling some elements of basketball, rugby and soccer with the rules of the game intentionally designed to keep the game moving quickly. The first record of Gaelic Football comes from the Statute of Galway in 1527.

Admission to the games is \$6. Sausages and chips, chicken sandwiches, hot dog hamburgers and ice cream, and drinks are available at all games for a small price.

Gaelic Park, 6119 W. 147th Street in Chicago. Visit www.chicagogaelpark.org for a full calendar and information or call (708) 687-9323.

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My Exciting Month

My Fourth of July was wonderful! It was a little rainy, but it didn't stop our fun. We celebrated with grandparents, some of my aunts, uncles, and cousins. We spend most of the summer in Michigan. In our community, we have a decorated golf cart parade. My family decorated it in a casino theme. We were so excited because it won an award. This is the first time our cart won in eleven years! Then there is a party at the center of the village. There are inflatables to play on,

chicken dinner, crafts to make, and a DJ. I danced with my sister, cousin, and friend. I even got to sing a Taylor Swift song in front of everyone. It was a great night! The next day, there are races for different age groups. My 1 year old cousin ran in her first race. She fell down and ran back to her mom. Hopefully, she will do better next year. I finished 3rd or 4th and I was one of the youngest in my age group.

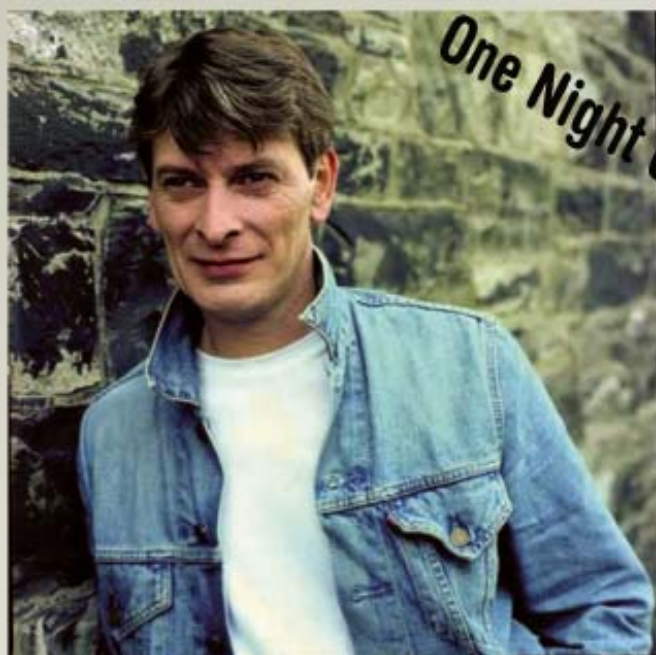
I also went to the Irish Fest at the Irish American Heritage Center. It was very fun. I ate lunch and played in the kids' area. I played a few games, made a sand sculpture, and looked in the shops. I got 2 necklaces and a really good chocolate chip cookie. I watched my dance school's performance. They did a great job, as usual! I then went to a demonstration to learn to play the bodhran. It was fun to play. The next day, we went to visit my aunt, uncle, and cousin at Magician Lake in Michigan. We went on a boat and went tubing. It was fun but the water kept going in my face. I had a better time jumping off and swimming in the lake. It was a lot warmer than Lake Michigan.

We had a lot of excitement in the little Michigan town we live in for the summer. I woke up to helicopters and police patrolling our streets. An escaped fugitive had been seen in our neighborhood. Our tennis lesson was cut short. We were on the local news. The police did not want anyone out on the streets. They told everyone to stay in and lock their doors. It was weird because it was a beautiful day and no one was outside except for police and their dogs. My sister and I at least got to go to our friend's house. Later that day, the FBI agents were knocking on everyone's door. Even when we left for dinner, outside the village, the police were checking the trunks of cars. They haven't caught the fugitives. We are a little more cautious but it's getting back to normal around here. I'll be getting back to dancing soon, so hopefully that will be the only excitement for me!

Sean Keane

August 16, 2009

7:30pm



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album is the follow up CD to their first dance CD called Step into the Beat. Even though I don't dance anymore, I still love to listen to these CDs when I workout—lots of up-tempo music to

As many families start the last month of summer, many artists are coming out with new music. The Screaming Orphans, Ellery Klein and Ryan Lacey, Girsas, Give Way, the Fuchsia Band are just a few to name. On top of all the great new music, there were a lot of great festivals last month.

The first band I mentioned, The Screaming Orphans, is a band of four sisters from Donegal. They have three albums out, Circles is their first, Belle's Isle, which is their Irish album, and East 12th Street is their limited edition album. I haven't heard a song from them that I didn't like. I first heard them at Irish Fest in Milwaukee last year when I was working my parents' booth. My best bud, Andrea and I were working, and we looked at each other and smiled when we heard their music. We never got a chance that weekend to go and see them but we heard them plenty. Since then, I've been listening to their first album and loving it. The two new albums they have are great additions to my collection, and to anybody's. On Belle's Isle, they sing in Irish, and it's lovely. Some of the best music I've heard. They are a more contemporary group, but my very traditional dad likes their music.

Speaking of traditional, The Fuchsia Band has come out with a brand-spankin' new album called i lár an aonaigh. This album has 11 tracks with a mix of instrumentals and songs. The songs are also a mix of gaelic and English. It's the band's third album, and a great addition to The Fuchsia Band collection. Another kickin' addition is Ellery Klein and Ryan Lacey's new album Kick into the Beat. It's got loads of new tunes for all dancers for their warm-ups, practices, and even competition. On the album, it's got 14 different tracks including three different set dances, a track for a treble reel, and a holiday performance medley. If only I was still dancing... This

keep me motivated.

There seems to be some newcomers into the Irish music industry. One of the groups is a band called Girsas. It's a group of girls that have known each other for many years through the Irish community, whether it be the dance community or the music community or both! Their first album came out this year and it's quite good. It's very trad but the songs have modern voices to them. It's a nice combination between the traditional music and the modern voices, quite good. Another new all girl band is Give Way. They are from Edinburgh and they have some nice music. They have beautiful voices and they really know how to play. All four girls sing, and all four play different instruments. They have more contemporary instrumental sets and more traditional songs. It's a great blend. It's just the opposite of Girsas, so if you like both bands, then you get a full circle. It's wonderful that so many people are showing their talent, and it's great talent that they have too.

If you haven't noticed so far, my column is about music. I love music with a passion. As I wrote this month's column, I was listening to a playlist on youtube filled with French rap, French pop, American pop, and British rock and pop music. I almost always have this playing when I'm on my computer and sometimes when I'm just in my room relaxing. Music is a great way to relax, and a great way to get motivated. So put a few songs from your favorite CD onto your iPod or throw a cool new CD into your player and get your summer goals completed before school starts, and the boring old routine starts... again.

Here's me signing out yet again with my LAST SUMMER COLUMN!!! Enjoy your last month of summer vacation, and keep your music on shuffle and I will see everyone at Irish Fest in August.

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Celtic Kitchen —Pure and Simple



By Julianna Leber



Tastefully Over-Served

That was the expression my French grandmother would use, with her nose pink, her eyes bright, and a big smile on her face. Grandma was a petit lady who had a laugh that could short out the old phones and left me to call her back again, laughing to start it over. When we would visit as a family, my grandma, my mom and I would sit in the dinner nook with glasses of whatever I found in her cabinet,

and that would start the evening. I loved creating drinks for us ladies, pouring Baileys or Amaretto over vanilla ice cream, or making fuzzy navel, or sipping Jameson over ice.

By the end of the evening, we'd forget about the ice or ice cream and just toast to each other. It was that atmosphere of family, garnished with alcohol, and topped off

ways had a kitchen full of wonderful food and drink.

One of my best memories of that house was of it smelling of great food. Even though most of the time it was my mom cooking, whether it was for Thanksgiving or the summer Gladiolus Festival, Grandma sat on her roost, a squeaky ladder chair with its black and white vinyl padded seat, and with drink in hand,

melt, baked chicken, different chips, snacks, and then beverages. As I started expanding my cooking techniques, I would make a variety of cakes, cookies, salads, and dinner dishes. They were simple, yet homemade and shared.

The following recipes, Baileys ice cream and 'Irish Coffee' mini cakes are upgraded versions of the bev-snacks I would put together for the ladies. These would be perfect for a relaxed evening with family and friends, or a ladies' night in. Enjoy!

Baileys Ice Cream Serves 4-6

(You need a table-top ice cream maker for this recipe.)

- 2 c. Baileys
- 3 egg yolks
- 1/2 c. sugar
- 1 pint half and half
- 1/2 pint heavy cream
- 1 t. vanilla

Put Baileys in a small sauce pan over medium heat. Let boil slowly (and watch for boiling over) until it reduces to 1 cup. Let cool.

Combine half and half and heavy cream in medium saucepan and heat to just under boiling. Remove and let cool.

In a bowl, combine yolks and sugar and beat with mixer until light yellow. Add vanilla to cooled Baileys, stir and beat into yolk mixture. Slowly add the cooled cream mixture. Be sure that it is cool, or you will end up with scrambled eggs. Blend the mixture, strain it through a sieve and pour it into the sauce pan. Cook on medium, stirring as it warms. The custard is ready when the custard is thick and you run your finger through the custard, and it stays put and doesn't run together. Let cool, cover, then refrigerate until very cold. When ready, put into prepared ice cream maker and churn. Put into freezer to harden and serve with chocolate cookies. This is a rich custard ice cream.

'Irish Coffee' Mini Cakes Makes 6

(The mini Bundts are 6 minis to a pan, found in home and cooking stores. If not available, a cupcake pan will work.)

- 1 stick butter, softened
 - 1/2 c. sugar
 - 2 eggs
 - 1 teaspoon vanilla
 - 1 c. self-raising flour
 - 2 t. instant espresso powder
- For the sauce and topping:
- 1/2 c. sugar
 - 1/2 strong black coffee
 - 1/4 c. whiskey

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with creativity that makes me smile today when sipping the newly designed Baileys (love that caramel) or sometimes even just the smell of Jameson in a glass.

My grandma Rene married my Scot-Irish grandfather Arnie Denison in the late 1930's. He was well liked in Momence, a little town south of Chicago. Family and friends would gather at their house across from St. Patrick's church to eat, drink and be merry. It was a gathering place, a house that over the years had many generations enjoying the laid back, familiar feeling of belonging. The house was the hub of activity and it al-

directed the kitchen. The excitement of a full house of people in and out the front and back doors was new to Grandma, being that for most of the year she lived alone. Mom would make a couple iced Baileys for grandma and herself, and as they talked about the past few months and planned the next week, they both relaxed to the coffee/chocolate/caramel creaminess of their beverages.

The day wore on and family and friends drifted in, laughing and hugging each other as they made their way into the kitchen. The first thing they found was a plate which they filled with potato and cheese

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Cara Dillon Returns to Roots with Hill of Thieves

Irish folk star Cara Dillon will release her fourth album, *Hill of Thieves*, September 15th on Proper American. The album marks a return to roots for Dillon, who was raised in County Derry within a close musical family. She chose ten traditional

Whipped cream

Chocolate shavings or chips

Pre-heat oven to 350°F. In large bowl, beat sugar and butter. Add eggs, one at a time, and vanilla and beat. Add espresso powder to flour, and then add slowly to mix. Spray mini Bundt pan with non stick baking spray. Spoon 2 tablespoons in each Bundt and bake for 30-40 minutes.

In a small pan, combine sugar and coffee and boil for 1 minute. Then add whiskey. Alternatively for less whiskey flavor (and potency), put whiskey in with sugar and coffee to cook out alcohol. Let cool.

When cakes are done, tap out of pan. Let cool. They will feel like dry sponge cakes. Wash and rinse the pan and carefully return the cakes to the pan. Pour the syrup over the cakes and let soak for 10 minutes.

Flip out on individual plates, top with whip cream and chocolate, and enjoy!

songs for this outing, and wrote the wistful title track in homage to her hometown with husband and producer Sam Lakeman.

Hill of Thieves offers sublime renditions of Irish classics such as "The Parting Glass" and "She Moved Through the Fair." The album also features a duet with Seth Lakeman on a fresh, arresting version of "Spencer the Rover," and an a cappella version of "Fil, Fil a Run



Ó" (Return, Return My Love) in Irish Gaelic.

Hill of Thieves received glowing critical praise in the UK where it was released in January on Dillon's own Charcoal Records label.

The recording and release of *Hill of Thieves* holds additional special meaning for Dillon, who makes a joyful return to music after the

unexpected premature births of her twin boys. Like her new sons, Dillon's musical future is healthy and growing.

Cara Dillon will tour the US in support of *Hill of Thieves* in September, locally including the Chicago World Music Festival and the Lotus Festival in Bloomington, Indiana.

About Cara Dillon: Cara Dillon has been a stellar presence in Irish music since winning the All Ireland Singing Trophy at age 14. Her growing set of awards includes the 2002 BBC Horizon Award for Best Newcomer and Ireland's 2004 Meteor Music Award for Best Irish Female. Dillon has collaborated with such artists as Mike Oldfield, Paul Brady, Martin Simpson, Phil Coulter, Iarla O Lionaird (Afro Celt Sound System) and renowned Irish group De Dannan. She was a member of folk supergroup Equation (where she met future husband and musical partner Sam Lakeman) and Oige, and her three solo albums have all received high critical acclaim.

www.caradillon.com <http://www.myspace.com/caradillon> www.properamerican.com



Pictured (L-R) are Mark Donahue, President, Fraternal Order of Police Chicago Lodge #7, Chicago Police Officers David Evans II, Kevin Ryan, Gerald Troglia, Kristopher Rigan and William Dougherty, F.O.P. 1st Vice President. Mark Donahue presented the Distinguished Service Award to these Officers recently, for their involvement in apprehending an armed suspect in a burglary in progress in the 8th District. Donahue stated, "Due to the dedication to duty and courage during a difficult situation displayed by Officers Evans, Ryan, Troglia and Rigan, a dangerous felon was removed from the streets."



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Neighbors In Need: Illinois' Budget Crisis Hits The Poor

These are painful days for Catholic Charities. The long-awaited state budget that was passed on July 15 by the Illinois State Legislature will fund human services in Fiscal Year 2010 only at an average of 86 percent of Fiscal Year 2009 levels; and there is no guarantee that all agencies will receive 86 percent of last year's funding across the board.

These budget cuts are causing a crisis of funding, the likes of which we have not seen before.

Because Catholic Charities is an accredited, not-for-profit social service agency, we operate on an annual

balanced budget that depends upon state revenue and charitable donations, in order to serve more than a million people each year. But this is the first time we have experienced this kind of prolonged crisis regarding state funding.

So, as we awaited the decision by the Legislature, we had to immediately make some serious decisions regarding some of our programs. Unfortunately, the profound effects of budget cuts made by the Illinois State Legislature have already been felt by several of our programs for the low-income children, seniors and families whom we help.

Now we are reacting immediately to protect the people who continue to depend on our help. As you can imagine, responding to increased calls for help while our revenue declines is a staggering challenge.

Decreased state funding will eliminate many of our services for the elderly, children, pregnant teens and poor working families. We are particularly concerned, for example,

for the hundreds of frail seniors who depend on our home care services to remain in their homes and with their spouses or families, and the future of the homemakers or caregivers who care for them.

At the same time, we are seeing a dramatic increase in the demands for our services. In the last year, requests for food, clothing, and utility and rental assistance rose between 50% and 80% at our 156 sites. We see more and more hungry, unemployed and homeless families and individuals coming to our Catholic Charities food pantries and suppers. The number of people at our six evening supper programs—in Des Plaines, Summit, Midlothian, Hazel Crest and the Near North Side—grew by 25%.

Demand for food at Catholic Charities' North/Northwest Suburban Regional food pantry in Des Plaines increased steadily throughout 2008, and is still climbing. In April 2008, 282 families received food and this past April, 566 families were served—more than double the number from the previous year.

But Catholic Charities remains deeply committed to helping as many people as we can. This has been our mission for more than 90 years and we will not abandon it!

To meet these challenges, Catholic Charities has created a special initiative, the Neighbors in Need Fund, to help the frailest of seniors, the most vulnerable children, and struggling families who are most in need, so that they may not slip into the deepest pockets of poverty or despair, and never make it out.

And even though a portion of state funding has been restored to social ser-

vice agencies, it cannot remedy the damage already done to our services and our clients during this period of turmoil; nor will it restore the revenue we have lost or lessen the debt we have incurred.

So I invite you—however little or much you have to offer—to join us in the sacred mission of Catholic Charities to care for our Neighbors in Need, and to make a contribution

if you can. I ask you to please pray for a resolution to this financial and political crisis, and to pray for all who are suffering its results.

For more information about Catholic Charities' "Neighbors in Need" campaign, to make a donation, or to volunteer, please go to www.catholic-charities.net/neighborsinneed or call Margaret Hughes at Catholic Charities: (312) 655-7012.

Michigan Irish Music Festival

Presented by Mercy General Health Partners, this festival opens at Heritage Landing in Muskegon on September 18-20th, with a complete weekend of live Irish entertainment, activities, and culture, and live Irish & Celtic music on 3 covered stages. Festival favorites this year include Seamus Kennedy, Kennedy's Kitchen, Switchback, Craic Wisely, Old Blind Dogs, Fonn Mor, and Blackthorn. New bands this year includes Natalie MacMaster & Donnell Leahy, Solas, Slide, and The Makem & Spain Brothers.

Other festival activities include the Irish Marketplace, children's activities, a cultural center, and an acoustic tent. A popular highlight on Saturday is the FEIS, an Irish dance competition. Sunday morning, a catholic mass will be held at 9am followed by a traditional Irish breakfast.

The festival offers an Early-In Free promotion on Friday only from 5-6pm sponsored by Family Financial Credit Union. Tickets are \$6 on Friday (5-11pm), \$12 on Saturday (10am-11pm) and \$10 on Sunday (9am-6pm). For additional information, tickets, and a complete entertainment schedule, call 231.739.2028 or visit www.michiganirish.org.

New Celtic Thunder CD/DVD

Hot on the heels of their hit North American tour, pop vocal sensation Celtic Thunder released their new CD and DVD, Take Me Home, on Decca Records last month. Recently recorded live at Toronto's Casino Rama, the set features stunning versions of brand new songs for the delight of "Thunderheads" everywhere, who will be able to experience Take Me Home when the program debuts nationwide on public television. Check local listings for broadcast dates and times.

The new CD and DVD will prepare the group's legions of fans for an extensive Celtic Thunder - Take Me Home Fall 2009 Tour beginning in NY in October, the follow-up to Celtic Thunder's highly successful 30-date spring trek which just finished May 7th in Vancouver, BC.

Celtic Thunder first entered mainstream consciousness with their smash public television debut special in 2008, released on DVD as Celtic Thunder: The Show. For more information, including tour updates, log on to www.celtict Thunder.com.

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

The Healy Law Firm is comprised of eight trial attorneys, two of whom are from Ireland. We are located downtown at 111 West Washington Street, Suite 1425, Chicago, Illinois 60602 (800-922-4500 or 312-977-0100). www.HealyLawFirm.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.

The Economic Downturn and Recent Automotive Bankruptcies Have Had Many Devastating Effects

The recent economic downturn and bankruptcies have impacted every American one way or the other. With the unemployment rate at around 10%, millions have lost their jobs. With foreclosure rates at unprecedented levels, a countless number of families have lost their homes. For the first time in recent memory, unions and employees have agreed to pay cuts and unpaid furloughs. Less publicized, but in some cases more devastating, are the impacts on seriously injured individuals from the automotive bankruptcies.

Terms of Bankruptcies Result in Terrible Hardships and Ironies

It is estimated that GM and Chrysler have approximately 100 million vehicles on the American roadways (National Auto Dealers Association Statement to the Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee, U.S. Senate, June, 2009). It is also estimated that these vehicles represent a substantial portion of all automotive deaths and injury claims (National Highway Transportation Safety Administration). U.S. taxpayers are in the process of pumping \$40 billion or more to these companies. So what protection does the GM/Chrysler vehicle owner-taxpayer get from all the governmental support? Those same taxpayers consumers have virtually no protection for injuries and death from defects

in these vehicles. Under the terms of the Chrysler bankruptcy, all the good assets of Old Chrysler were sold to the new Chrysler (comprising Fiat, the U.A.W. Union and the U.S. and Canadian Governments). Claims arising before the bankruptcy would have no access to the new Chrysler assets only to the Old Chrysler, effectively wiping out the claim.

Also, claims in the future arising from many defects in the estimated 33 million Chryslers on the road would have no opportunity to make a claim against Chrysler. So all those quadriplegics, paraplegics and brain injured individuals, whose injuries resulted from defects in Chrysler vehicles would have no claim. The same consumer / taxpayer who supported Chrysler with tax dollars would be left out in the cold if injured by a Chrysler product.

The GM bankruptcy closely followed the Chrysler bankruptcy. Due to the outrage of many individuals, including consumer advocates, consumer attorneys, state Attorneys General, and many



Jack Cannon

the hundreds of seriously injured individuals (many paralyzed and brain damaged), who had a claim before the bankruptcy saw their chances of a fair recovery wiped out. That situation created another anomaly. If a person was seriously injured from a GM vehicle defect, i.e. faulty tire, seat belts, or roof protection just after the filing of bankruptcy, there would be an opportunity to recover. If another person driving the same type of GM vehicle with the exact same defect was seriously injured, a day before the bankruptcy, there would be absolutely no opportunity to recover.

But the irony goes on. Those significantly injured before the bankruptcy whose claims were wiped out and who do not have sufficient personal assets, will have to resort to federal and state aid. So the same taxpayers who supported Chrysler and GM with a bailout will again have support the victims of Chrysler and GM defective products through Medicare, Medicaid and other sources of governmental aid.

Resolving Huge Economic Issues Required Much Care and Much Concern for All Who Are Affected

The final status of victims is still fluid because of pending legislation in Congress. However, when such fundamental rights, as the right to

politicians, the new GM was forced to recognize the future claims of victims of defective GM products. But

recover just compensation when a person is wronged, are altered, great care must be exercised to ensure that basic fairness is afforded to, in many cases, the helpless victims.

For many victims, their day in court was not only an opportunity for just compensation, but also an opportunity for vindication for them of many personal issues. Many had looked forward to their "day in court" for many years. They were devastated when it was abruptly taken

away. Representing a number of these individuals, we have seen first hand what they have gone through and know what they will go through for the rest of their lives without any hope of their "day in court" or any fair compensation.

With the Chrysler and GM bankruptcies, the ball was certainly dropped, when it came to victims of the defective automobiles.

By Martin J. Healy Jr., and Jack Cannon.

WANNA PLAY?

Young musicians come together to play Irish Music... and have a great time too!

The Academy of Irish Music students meet once a week at the Irish-American Heritage Center in Chicago. Students are divided into beginner, intermediate, and senior groups based on ability and experience. The children come from all over the Metropolitan area. Most of them participate in school bands and orchestras; many are Suzuki trained. These kids enjoy playing Irish music and making new friends.



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The Irish Rover

By James McClure



Not the Same Old Song and Dance

Kathleen Keane Headlines a Historic Night of Music and More

When multi-talented, multi-tasking musician, artist and performer Kathleen Keane steps out on stage in Evanston August 22nd at the SPACE (Society for the Preservation of Art & Culture in Evanston) venue, she will be doing nothing new and everything new.

That's because the Chicago born and bred Irish American, a daughter of two Irish immigrants from the Connemara area who met in England and married in Australia, is a world talent of such accomplishment and variety that one is hard pressed to not simply pen a staggering laundry list of Celtic artistic abilities from stage and screen to dance hall and concert venue.

Those abilities have taken her impressive body of work from Chicago to Hollywood to Dublin and back again.

You may have heard or seen of Keane without knowing it up until a few years ago, given her work in television, film and dance. But a cornucopia of new ventures is about to make her hard to miss, although some predict her upcoming concert will be hard to get tickets for if web buyers don't hit the "Advance Purchase" option.

With what is about to burst onto the Irish and popular performing scene, many Chicagoans and others throughout the Midwest and elsewhere will become familiar with Keane from Irish pub to iPod, and from festival to auditorium. The news includes the Evanston headlines show this month, a second musical album release early next year, and the ongoing launch of a new band and entrepreneurial record label with a focus on serving fellow artists.

A Look Back

To know Kathleen is to hear her, on the Irish fiddle, tin whistle and flute. She has also studied with the best (famed Irish step dancer Michael Flatley among others) and rated among the best in international dance and music competitions along the way, from childhood to adulthood. Early on, she achieved top three status in Ireland world championships in the flute and tin whistle. Just a few years, back Keane was awarded certification by the Irish Dance Commission in Dublin, having marked a perfect rating in the music portion.

As heavy in resume as she may be light on her feet, by her teens in Chicago she had founded the Keane Academy of Irish Music, in her 20's cut her first vocal and instrumental album (the self-titled Kathleen Keane), and bookmarked her many musical and artistic endeavors from the 1990's to the 21st century with acting and flute and whistle playing in the 1991 Ron Howard firefighting film Backdraft and the 2002 Capone-era epic Road to Perdition starring Tom Hanks.

Her era living in Los Angeles concluded with her appearance on the soundtrack of the 2005 Howard-directed film Cinderella Man starring Russell Crowe as the down-and-out boxer making a Depression era comeback. Television talk show and televised drama soundtrack performances came along as well.

The black-haired beauty with bright sky-blue eyes above



Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas presents an award of excellence to Kathleen O'Neill, of the Irish American Heritage Center Museum, in honor of the museum's cultural contributions to Chicagoland. Representatives of some 53 museums and exhibits came to Pappas' downtown Chicago office for a reception recognizing Chicagoland ethnic museums and exhibits.

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MURPHY'S GIFT OF MUSIC

Music is the inspiration of the soul. Michael (Murphy) Murphy felt this inspiration throughout his life - a life that was cut short on June 6, 2008 when he was struck down by a hit and run driver. Murph would have been 32 in July.

The Michael J. Murphy Music Scholarship Fund has been created to provide music instruments and lessons to children from families that do not have the financial means to provide this opportunity.

We ask that you join us by providing whatever support you can to make that a reality. A fund raiser has been scheduled on Saturday, October 10, 2009 at 115 Bourbon Street 3359 West 115th Street Merrionette Park, IL. 3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

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freckle-dappled cheeks and a glowing Irish countenance added to individual accomplishments with modeling, as well as achieving accreditation as a licensed hypnotherapist treating weight loss, stress reduction and smoking cessation.

As if being a Congressional scholar in Washington in high school, prior to attending River Forest's Dominican University on honors and international business scholarships, and graduating cum laude with a business degree and a minor in music, wasn't enough.

Individual accomplishments, whether as child prodigy or virtuoso soloist, would not preclude referring to Keane as a team player. In the widespread circles of Irish rock and folk music, she's made many a ripple as a member of noted bands including The Drovers, Wilding, Bad Haggis and the enduringly popular Gaelic Storm, which still draws festival crowds today and reached popular acclaim performing in the movie Titanic.

"I wouldn't exactly call me an underachiever," Keane says brightly with a shrug as she sips on a glass of iced coffee in a Rogers Park coffee shop, alongside the popular Irish public house where she regularly plays and leads a session of Irish musicians.

It's hard to imagine that her occasional gourmet coffee gets the job done with a continuous, and continuing, career list of rest-on-your-laurel feats that would seemingly instead be fueled by a nonstop IV drip of high octane coffee in double shot dose, set to three-quarter time.



Kathleen Keane kicks off a strong summer of performances in Chicagoland.

Summertime's Hottest Irish Ticket

Later, walking confidently in a peach sundress to the shore of Lake Michigan on a warm Windy City day, Keane, whose upcoming Evanston concert will likely sell out, is the picture of a summer filled with promise, a season filled with joy.

This renaissance woman's most recent re-tooling started, in part, at SPACE, where in March the talent booker saw Keane playing in support of Karen Casey (who appeared alongside Keane on Windham Hill's 2001 Celtic Christmas Silver Anniversary music CD) and said "you belong as a headliner here!"

And so that's where Kathleen Keane returns to do a headline show for the first time in more than 10 years. The SPACE (Society for the Preservation of Art & Culture in Evanston) is a remarkable indoor urban performance venue in Downtown Evanston conveniently at the foot of the CTA Purple Line Dempster el stop and not far from the Ravinia Festival travelers of the Metra rail passenger North Line.

A Headliner? In music and performance circles that is akin to boxing's main event, horse racing's featured race, or professional baseball's Major Leagues. Not bad for a girl who self-admittedly is "not very good at sports."

"It's a lot of work to headline a show. You oversee all aspects and are responsible for the end result," explains Keane, whose international business education now comes to the fore. "I have the confidence now to take on what will be a very unique show."

Keane's multi-faceted August headline act at the top of her game will be a reunion of sorts of with those she's performed with, for and alongside over the past 20 years in four separate decades. Variety Show isn't the correct term artistically, but it's an apt one.

All That and More

With Keane and friends doing vocals, fiddle, whistles, flute, squeezebox, and chair dancing, a more apt name might be The Kitchen Sink Tour since that's about the only thing Kathleen isn't throwing in, not to mention personally playing as an instrument.

A Chicago Irish Sampler would also do well; Musicians playing with Kathleen on the 22nd include Dennis Cahill, Jimmy Moore, Mike Kirkpatrick (The Drovers), Jim Conway, Alpha Stewart, Amy Richter, Devin Shepherd, Maureen (Keane) Staunton, Kathy Heneghan, Sheila Coyle, Colleen and Kayla Staunton and perhaps a few more. Chicago's Irish chanteuse Catherine Mary O'Connell will be the special guest artist that night.

It's a family affair, too, with Keane's talented sister and nieces included in the list of noted performers.

"I've worked with so many talented people over the years,"

Keane says with a genuine feeling of gratitude. "Having close to 20 musicians of their caliber in one place will be unique, historic and just plain amazing!"

What's new is old and what's old is new for Chicago's many faceted and talented Irish musician/singer/writer/promoter/model/dancer/actress/entrepreneur/performer.

For info on Kathleen Keane's advance tickets, music recordings and upcoming events, visit www.kathleenkeane.com.

E-mail Jim at IrishRoverJim@aol.com.



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Profiles Theatre 2009- 2010 Season

Profiles, one of Chicago's longest-running ensemble theatres, is presenting its 21st season of new and challenging works, beginning with an extended run of the hit production of *Graceland* by Ellen Faurey.

The Profiles Theatre season also includes the Midwest premiere of *The Mercy Seat* by Neil LaBute; the Midwest premiere of *Body Awareness* by Annie Baker, and Tracy Letts' modern classic *Killer Joe*.

Profiles has renovated its theatre space for the 21st season by installing two spacious restrooms, improved theatre seats and other technical upgrades.

Graceland

Now through September 13, 2009

Chicago's oldest cemetery is the backdrop for *Graceland*, the story of four lonely Chicagoans whose lives collide one August weekend while the Blue Angels airshow is in town. As fighter jets buzz the skies from dusk till dawn, estranged brother and sister Sam and Sara try

to make sense of their father's recent suicide. Sara's one night stand with Joe, an aging lothario, brings further trouble in the form of Joe's mercurial teenage son, Miles. *Graceland* is a comedic drama about the loneliness of family, the tenderness of strangers and the unexpected benefits of bad decisions.



The Mercy Seat
 Previews: September 25-September 30, 2009
 Run: October 1- November 15, 2009

Chicago Premiere of High Fidelity

The Route 66 Theatre Company will present the Chicago premiere of *High Fidelity... The Musical* at Pipers Alley Theater, 1608 N. Wells Street in Chicago. The show will preview August 7, 2009; open Monday, August 17 at 7pm; and run through October 4, 2009.

Part rock concert and part offbeat romantic comedy, *High Fidelity... The Musical* is based

on the 2000 film starring John Cusack that has become a cult classic around the world.

High Fidelity... The Musical follows Rob, the thirty-something owner of Championship Vinyl, a beloved Chicago record store. When his current relationship with girlfriend Laura goes south, Rob enlists the help of his two quirky clerks to expound on the intricacies of life and music while revisiting his former relationships to find out where he went wrong.

www.route66theatre.org. 312.664.8844.

Footloose at Theatre at the Center

Whatever the thermometer might say; this summer will be hitting the 80s on stage at Theatre at the Center! The 1980's musical *Footloose* cut loose through August 16 at Theatre at the Center, 1040 Ridge Road, Munster, Indiana.

A compelling story of teenage rebellion

overcoming the misconceptions and fears of adults, *Footloose* is an inspiring tale about embracing change and celebrating life. The smash musical features electrifying dance sequences and a dazzling hit score including 80's favorites "Almost Paradise," "Let's Hear it for the Boy," "Holding Out for a Hero," and "Footloose."



When free-spirited Ren moves from Chicago to a conservative small town in the Midwest, he discovers that wide open spaces sometimes come with very narrow minds. The repressive local minister, Reverend Moore, has convinced the town to ban dancing and rock n' roll music. Complications arise when Ren falls in love with Reverend Moore's strong-willed daughter, Ariel. Together they start to stand up for their beliefs and revitalize the spirits of the town, winning over the hearts and souls of the whole community in an effort

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Willow Springs Is Now "Irish Country"

The new, Stag's Head Irish Country Pub and Restaurant located at 8933 S. Archer in Willow Springs will open its doors to the public this month.

Long a dream of successful pub/restaurant entrepreneur/owner, Martin Cosgrave, to purchase the land and building with its beautiful brick facade, the opportunity presented itself in the down economy, and Martin couldn't resist. "The banks aren't working with me like they used too, so I'm using mostly my own money!" he laughed.

This unique building and the surrounding area has many historical aspects. It is claimed to be one of the most haunted locations in Chicago, and has been featured in many television documentaries.

Built as a roadhouse back in the late 1920's by the original owners, the O'Henry's, the Stag's Head Irish Country Pub is directly across the street from the famous Willowbrook Ballroom, where "Resurrection Mary" has been known to roam the length of Archer Avenue.

It's said that the infamous gangster Al Capone owned it at one time. The building has been rumored to have had tunnels in the basement

leading across the street and also to a nearby cemetery. The Stag's Head is nestled alongside the forest preserve which is said to be sacred Indian grounds dating back hundreds of years ago.



Martin Cosgrave aided by Michael Conneely; has been the owner of many pubs in the past 20 years, such as Irish Times in Brookfield, now owned by his nephew Martin Lynch. Martin knows what it takes to be successful in this business. The Stag's Head has taken on many changes, the biggest being the addition of a new kitchen, fireplace and an additional bar. It's an ideal

location for private parties. The old kitchen is now known as the Snug - a place to unwind with a few games and a pint of Guinness. One of the loveliest features is the waterfall and pond located in the newly paved brick beer garden and additional outdoor seating is available on the front deck.

The menu consists of the traditional Irish specialties, along with many fresh salads, sandwiches, Char-grilled entrees and a variety of seafood. All you can eat fish fry on Wednesday and Friday, and an appetizer special from 4pm to 7pm daily. The Cosgrave family would like to thank all their patrons for their loyal support through the years and looks forward to seeing them all in the near future.

Plenty of parking, and a bike trail nearby makes the Stag's Head an ideal place to gather. Go on in and check out some of the original furnishings, and memorabilia. You'll be glad you did! 708-330-5264, www.thestagsheadpub.com.



Pictures & front cover by Cathy Curry; www.4girlsphotography.com.

Below: Martin Cosgrave, Mike Conneely. Photo by Mike Healy



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FIRST DATA

On August 9th, Al James will be celebrating his 4th year of entertaining "table-side" magic at Hackney's Restaurant in Palos Park. Hackney's is an Irish-owned establishment, with Celtic artifacts in the lobby and dining room. When performing at tables, Al does card tricks, coin tricks, rope tricks, does with balloons, all the while continuing a line of patter that is laugh-out-loud funny. Hackney's is located at 123rd St. and LaGrange Rd. 77-448-8300.

AL James has been a full-time professional magician since 1971. In addition to his restaurant work, he travels all over the US doing shows. The City of Chicago gave him a Citizen's Award for hypnotizing a policeman to help him remember the license plate number of a man wanted for 12 rape cases in the Chicago area.

He does "table-side" magic at Hackney's from 4-7pm and is also available for entertainment in events in the party rooms. 773-765-1990.

Kick in for Kordas Benefit

After marrying her husband, Pat, Sue Kordas adopted the Southside as her home—and the Southside has adopted Sue as one of their own. For over 20 years, Sue has been an active member of the St. Bernadette, St. Cajetan, Marist High School, and club volleyball communities.

She is the proud mother of Kathleen (19), Tricia (18), Molly (15), and Bobby (13). Pat, an electrician by trade, is now a member of the Chicago Fire Department.

In 2005, Sue was diagnosed with Synovial Sarcoma—a rare form of cancer that attacks the body's soft tissues. Synovial sarcoma has a very high rate of recurrence, and there is no cure for it. In Sue's case, the cancer is

Al James—Making Magic at Hackney's



attacking the soft tissues in her chest, starting on her lung. Surgery to remove the first tumor necessitated a removal of about half of her right lung, and included subsequent chemotherapy and radiation treatments. Despite the aggressive treatment, within 6 months a tumor the size of a grapefruit had returned in the same area. Another round of surgery and chemotherapy followed. A trip to the world famous Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York offered no new insights into treatment. Sue has been involved in clinical trials, but the tumors continue to grow—and are now wrapping around her esophagus, vena cava, and her heart. Sue continues to endure constant chemotherapy treatments to stem the growth of the tumors—buying time until doctors can

find a clinical trial that will effectively stop the massive tumors that are housed in her chest and back.

Those who know her will attest that Sue is a fighter, and has faced this battle with a strength and dignity that astounds her family and friends. However, this fight has taken its toll on the family. Because of the ongoing treatments, Sue has been unable to work for several years. The family faces mounting medical bills that have caused day-to-day struggles, especially in their commitment to their children's Catholic education. In an attempt to relieve the financial burden on Sue, her family and friends are hosting a benefit—Kick In 4 Kordas—on September 27, 2009 at 115 Bourbon Street in Merrionette Park, IL from 2pm-7pm. The benefit committee is seeking your help and prayers. Any donations, gift certificates, silent auction items, beverages, merchandise raffle prizes, or monetary donations would be greatly appreciated. Corporate sponsors for items such as T-shirts and koozies are also needed.

Please visit their website at www.kickin4kordas.com for further information on ways you can help Sue and her family. Monetary donations can be mailed to: Kick In 4 Kordas Benefit Committee, c/o Founders Bank, 3052 W. 111th Street, Chicago, IL 60655, Attn: Sharon Duer. Or you can make a donation via PayPal on the "KickIn4Kordas" website. Thank you for your support and generosity.

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Swimming Upstream

By Charles Brady

Saint Bono Will Appear Live on the Sacred Turf. (Except it's Gone).

There have been many moments in the half-century of my existence on this strange little mud-ball that we call the planet Earth, when I have felt that I have gone completely insane, but yesterday has to rank as one of the most memorable.

When I looked at Croke Park being ripped to shreds just because a diminutive little egomaniacal singer called Bono, from the Dutch band U2, wanted different grass seeds flown in from England—I really did feel that it was time to put me in that straightjacket and hose me down.

As soon as the Leinster football final between Dublin and Kildare was over, the diggers moved in and removed every sod of grass from the place to make way for the Dutch band's concerts featuring the tedious and overblown 360 tour, which we simple mortals will be subjected to from July 24th.

You can't get much crazier than this, although I'm sure that Bono can, as he lectures us on not sending enough money to Africa. When you have an ego as big as his, you can get away with anything.

This does take the whole cake, though. I don't understand it myself, but for those who really care about such things, removing what is considered to be sacred turf just because a midget wants it so, seems, well, we'll say odd.

Everybody is now doing a damage limitation exercise, with denials flying right, left and centre but, unfortunately, what's on the record stays that way.

Here's the stadium director Peter McKenna: "The sod is coming from a farm in Scunthorpe. We could certainly get turf here but not the seed specification that we need."

[So much for "buy Irish where so many adequate people are out of jobs. Let's buy from England instead". Hell, Bono says so, what are you gonna do?]

Still, there's hope as, for a change, Irish people are angry about something: "People who were at the game were furious after the match, as they had witnessed this epic game and were not even out of Croke Park when the diggers rolled in to get ready for the U2 gig."



Mr. McKenna also added that the bill will be shared—and since hundreds of vans are taking the sod away, I can only speculate on what that bill will be—between the Dutch band U2 and the stadium directors.

Nice work, if you can get it.

But what are they complaining about, really? After all, this is U2, the band that moved to Holland as soon as they heard that they might have to pay some tax here in their own country.

They should be grateful that we have a God on Earth called Bono. Sorry, two Gods—I almost forgot about the guy who wears the tea-cosy on his head all the time, and mumbles stuff that the average human can't understand, The Edge.

We should be grateful that Bono can walk on water, heal the sick, cure the ills of Africa, and drone endlessly about the way that we're spoiling the environment, while U2 run up a carbon footprint that even the equally saintly Sting and that other bore Phil Collins couldn't do in a lifetime.

I know that I'm grateful.

Meanwhile, there is a stump of a tree down in County Limerick that every idiot in Ireland is gravitating towards because they believe that they can see the Virgin Mary in it.

They're kissing it and hanging rosary beads around the tree stumps stump.

I'm not that well up on it, but isn't there something in that big book called The Bible that tells you not to worship graven images?

Anyway, for my money it's probably the image of Bono or that other new saint that we have, Michael Jackson.

OK, they're taking me away now, as it's hard to type with a straightjacket on you.

Hope to see you next month.

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Piping It In

Jack Baker

Most of the summer is past, and next month signals the return to school for a good many of us, at least the younger part of us. Many of the great fests are already past, but some of the biggest and best take place this month. Top of the pile, as always, Milwaukee Irish Fest, none bigger, none better. Go to irishfest.com and see what's in store for us on the third weekend in August. Thursday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday—you can't see it all, so plan your visit carefully; use the website and plan on seeing Salsa Celtica, Vishten, Captain Mackey's Goatskin and String Band, and Tantrum featuring the always wonderful Kathleen Keane. Am I sounding a little "over the top" about Kathleen? You see her band Tantrum and you'll be right there next to me, crying her praises and the praises of the band she's put together. Honest to God, it don't get much better. This is not to say that these are the only bands you want to see at Milwaukee's Irish Fest. The lineup is full to overflowing with the finest talent around, it always is—but



these are some of the ones you might miss not knowing just how special they are. You won't be disappointed with the Milwaukee show, whether you go for one day or all

four—but if there's anyway you can go for all four, by all means do so.

Good news arrived the other day. The good folks who put on the Oshkosh Irish Fest are already at work on next year's show. It will be the weekend following the Gaelic Park Fest. Personally, I can't wait—a wonderful huge fest like Gaelic Park, followed the next week by a small but beautiful show like Oshkosh.

As I type this I'm still recovering from the wonderful time I had at the Irish American Heritage Center's fest. Had a good time hanging out with my fellow columnists, most of whom were there. Great chatting with Mike Houlihan, if you haven't read his book or seen his movies, get on it. This guy is a genuine Chicago treasure. Speaking of treasures, who did I see sweeping the floor in the center on Saturday morning than Bob McNamara, president of the Center but not one to stand by when there's a job that needs doing. Yeah, I'm impressed by this kind of "lead from the front" leadership. Good on you Bob, this is the kind of spirit that built the Irish American Heritage Center and will keep it strong into the future. By the way, I suppose most people have heard that the Center was burglarized on Saturday night. Some dirty bugger got the safe with the startup money for Sunday in it. This is a kick in the behind for all of us who use and are part of the center. It means we're all going to have to work a bit harder this year to help the center

get over this hit. Plan on attending a couple more functions than usual, or come down to the center on Friday or Saturday night for a great night's entertainment, or write a check if you've got the extra cash. Together we can get past this crime, and continue to build our Irish American Heritage Center. Together.

There were great performances at the center this year. Paddy Homan and his band had a great set, people were raving about it. Screaming Orphans were also outstanding; these young ladies just get better and better. I enjoyed Dyed in the Wool and particularly enjoyed Kim Bigler's interpretive dance during their last number. She never fails to surprise me. Naturally, Gaelic Storm brought the house down on Sunday night. They simply are the best band on the circuit today.

New Releases

One of the most enjoyable bands I've seen in recent years is a family band out of New York called MacTalla Mor. Lead by Mom, Patty Devlin Ofgang, who we tease, calling her the leader of the Celtic Partridge Family, this band has plowed new ground and created a sound of their own. The first part of their special sound comes from brothers Jesse and Levon Ofgang, who are two of the hottest young pipers I've seen. The second part of their unique sound comes from their sister Ilana, who has a pretty impressive set of pipes herself that powers her stunning voice. Together they have produced some of my most memorable moments in Celtic music with haunting vocals, strong pipes, and superb backing musicians. I bring all this up to introduce their newest CD, their fourth and the best so far, called The New Colossus. This CD features the most innovative

arrangements the band has yet performed, and the finest vocals by the irrepressible Ilana. This girl can sing. I regret that they are so seldom booked in this area. Come on promoters, here's a band that I guarantee you have not heard the like of before. You can hear sound bites of their CDs at their website www.mactalla.com. This is a new sound by a band that works hard at their music. Give them a try.

While working at the Ohio Scottish Games this year, I lucked into another musical treat. There are both fiddle and harp competitions in Ohio and they're both dynamite to watch. This year at the harp competition, I had the pleasure to meet two sisters who play harp duets and are known as "The Hired Hands." Sairey and Allison Miller have just released their first CD titled Something and let me tell you this CD is "Something" indeed. For those of you who were spellbound by the harp duets of Sileas, here's another pair of harpists who know the bounds of their instruments, and aren't afraid to take you there and back. Along with wonderful harp duets, which frankly would have been enough to entrance me, these ladies also perform some beautiful vocals, and back each other on a raft of other instruments. This CD has been selling like mad among those lucky to have had a chance to hear it. It's special, and wonderful, and heads above most of what I've heard coming down the road recently.

Sorry to hear of the passing of two great guys in Ohio recently. Art Sweet and Colin Cranston were two wonderful friends of mine who will be missed by all that knew them. You guys made a difference, and the sun won't shine quite so bright without you.

Slainté. You know I love to hear from you. Call me at the store 630-834-8108 or email me at pipingitin@comcast.net.

St. Patrick Fathers Concert with Margo O'Donnell

On Saturday, October 24th, Margo O'Donnell will return to Chicago with a brand new show. The St. Patrick Fathers are presenting a concert and dance at 7pm at the Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 N. Knox in Chicago, featuring Ireland's queen of country and Irish music, award-winning singing star Margo O'Donnell.

Center for music, singing, and all your favorite Irish dances.



This is a feature performance by Margo with Johnny Gleason, Joe Culen, and Ted Healy. Tea, coffee, and Irish soda bread will be served.

To purchase tickets call the St. Patrick Fathers office at (773) 973-3737. Tickets are reserved seating only and available now. Donation is \$35. Proceeds

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Mick

Mike Morley

Hell's Hotel

Writing in Britain's Guardian last October, Kirk Leech scorned the lack of public reaction in 1981 to the deaths by starvation of 10 IRA prisoners:

"At the time when this British penal horror show actually existed, few in England saw it as a cause celebre, or indeed drew comparisons with other colonial prisons that the British had overseen. The reality was that much of the British left and liberal opinion had decided long before that the struggle for Irish freedom had little to do with them." While many wore badges supporting the ANC and the PLO, and marched for the Sandinistas, they refused to support a struggle within the borders of their supposedly democratic country, having accepted that the republican struggle was little more than gangsterism and terrorism."

"This acquiescence to British propaganda played a key role in hiding the true nature of Britain's dirty war in Ireland. This cowardice effectively allowed the likes of Sands, the nine other hunger strikers and a whole political movement to be seen as criminals in the UK. No wonder the IRA believed it had to bring its war to the streets of the UK."

Margaret Thatcher had decreed: "There is no such thing as political murder, political bombing or political violence. There is only criminal murder, criminal bombing and criminal violence. We will not compromise on this. There will be no political status."

It was an incredibly arrogant and outrageous statement coming from the leader of a country posing as a beacon of democracy—a country which less than a decade before (January 30, 1972) had put an abrupt end to the N. Ireland Civil Rights Assn. with the murder of 14 unarmed Catholic marchers in the streets of Derry; and followed up two years later (May 17, 1974) with collusion in the murder of 33, and injury to 300 more, Irish civilians in Dublin and Monahan.

The occasion for Leech's column was the release of a film that at the Cannes Film Festival won both the Camera d'Or and the Discovery Award; and took the Golden Hugo at the Venice Film Festival. Its director won the Gucci Group Award at the Toronto International Film Festival. The film is *Hunger*.

Never heard of it? *Hunger* also won the Gold Hugo for Best Film, and its lead actor, Michael Fassbender won the Silver Hugo for Best Actor right here at the Chicago International Film Festival.

Fassbender was born in Heidelberg, Germany and raised in Killarney, Co. Kerry. His father is from Germany and his mother from Northern Ireland. Other film credits include *Band of Brothers* and *300*.

Director Steve McQueen is a London artist born in 1969, of Afro-Caribbean parentage. With a name like McQueen and from that part of the world, could he be a descendant of Irish slaves? Don't know.

McQueen won the Turner Prize in 1999, and was awarded an OBE by the Queen in 2002. He



was so committed to *Hunger* he put his director's salary into the film.

The Independent, UK: "McQueen's rationale for wanting to make the film was that the IRA hunger strikes were 'the most

important event in British history in the past 30 years, bar none—much more so than the miners' strike or anything else I can think of. The fact that 10 men starved to death in a British prison cell... that's pretty massive." McQueen recalls, as an 11-year-old boy, seeing Bobby Sands' face on the TV news night after night, the growing days of his hunger strike displayed at the bottom of the screen. "I asked my mother and father what was going on, and they told me," McQueen says. "At that age, it was very difficult to understand—someone who gave up eating food in order to be heard." He stops for a second. "Twenty-seven years later, that story was still baffling me, and I really needed to go and look at it visually. It was like the whole thing had never happened—the 25th anniversary of Bobby Sands' death, there was nothing in the papers, or hardly anything."



Hunger has not received wide release here. It played in New York and LA for a short time, apparently at one theater in each city. Its treatment by film distributors recalls an earlier film on the Irish conflict, *Hidden Agenda*. The 1990 Ken Loach film, a fictionalized treatment of the John Stalker Inquiry, depicted figures at the highest levels of British government conspiring with Orange paramilitaries to murder nationalist opponents. *Hidden Agenda* won the Jury Prize at Cannes and was nominated for Best European Film at the Goya Awards. But producer John Daly could not get a distributor to run the film in theatres. Daly believed in it, however, and went to the extraordinary length of reaching out to the Irish American community, inviting them to movie houses in several cities for previews. I saw it downtown at, I think, the Oriental. If there were 50-60 people there, it was a lot. Daly himself stood by to answer questions about the film.

Hidden Agenda took in a little over \$69,000 in total box office. Daly went on to a successful Hollywood career, garnering 13 Oscars and 21 Oscar Nominations for his films, including unprecedented back-to-back Best Picture Oscars

for *Platoon* and *The Last Emperor*. He died in October 2008.

So, is *Hunger* facing a Hidden Agenda treatment? The movie's total U.S. box office so far is about \$154,000—hardly a ripple.

It's been out around the world for a year now. My daughter Kathryn just completed a semester in Ireland via Northeastern Illinois University's exchange program with Limerick University. She told me the *Hunger* DVD was in Irish stores, and had she known I was looking for it, would have brought one back—albeit a PAL (European format) version.

IFC Films acquired US rights in March of '08. The company was to release *Hunger* in theatres and via Video on Demand. It also announced an exclusive deal with Blockbuster Video. It was then slated for a US opening in March this year. Then it was June. As of writing, there is no new date.

I called IFC in New York to ask about a release date, and had a hard time finding anyone involved with publicizing the film. Finally, a girl there told me *Hunger* had been released in NY and LA last year. When I implied the film had run only days or a week in one theatre in those cities, she claimed it was "about a month," and said she would get someone "involved with the film" to call me back. But the call never came. Some promotional effort!

Is the film's reception here muted for fear of waking the Irish giant? Despite Tribune critic Michael Phillips opinion that it is "a film that overall is designed, inevitably, to enrage," it is also designed to be steadfastly apolitical.

Rex Reed: "Mr. McQueen's brutal film, while refusing to proselytize or endorse the IRA's tactics and/or Bobby Sands' radical views, zooms in on the dark corners of a human ordeal nobody outside the filthy prison walls of H Block... could ever have imagined. The result is a ground-breaking canvas of degradation and torture that makes Hieronymus Bosch look like Norman Rockwell... The refusal of British photographer and visual artist McQueen, who wrote the stark screenplay with Enda Walsh, to take sides or stake out a position on the Irish 'Troubles' results in a nonpartisan film that seems more like a documentary than a narrative... It's a brilliant work of power, maturity and vision that should not be missed."

Roger Ebert: "If you do not hold a position on the Irish Republican cause, you will not find one here... There is hardly a sentence in the film about Irish history or politics..."

I'm hoping more than a few Americans will be able to see this sometime soon.

E-mail: IrishTV@ameritech.net

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For The Republic



Chris Fogarty



wrongful incarcerations. For example, Colin Duffy received his most recent injuries on July 7th from prison guards. Instead of prosecuting the Brit Intel agents who murdered Attys. Pat Finnucane and Rosemary Nelson, Duffy is now being framed for Nelson's murder. MI5/FBI converted the sixth sequential bloodless IRA property bombing into the murder of 29 in Omagh for which they blame the IRA, thus maintaining the pattern they created in Winnetka. There the Langert family massacre, perpetrated with FBI agent Lewis' gun by David Biro, was blamed by MI5/FBI agent Buckley on the IRA before framing me for it. The murderer saved me by blabbing through his MI5/FBI cover into life without parole, in Pontiac prison. Buckley is quite the frame-up artist. He framed my wife, Frank O'Neill, Tony McCormick and me (twice). He then took life-long criminal David Rupert to Ireland, and helped MI5 arrange in Omagh a greater atrocity than was perpetrated with FBI agent Lewis' gun in Winnetka. MI5/FBI's Omagh massacre was converted into the frame-up of Michael McKevitt (twice) Colm Murphy, Liam Campbell and Seamus Daly. Beyond the framing of Irish patriots, Omagh's purpose was to be "the bomb to end all bombs," the rationale for voting the Six Counties British.

RICHARD JEWELL, R.I.P. During McKevitt's Dublin "trial"

Rupert testified that agent Buckley had left him alone in Ireland to fly to Atlanta's 1996 Olympic bombing site. There Buckley et al framed Jewell for it before returning to concentrate on planning Omagh. Jewell was later vindicated and awarded \$2-3 million. All of MI5/FBI's frame-ups have impunity.

U.S. JUSTICE. Say what you will about it: all six of the Buckley gang's frame-ups in the U.S. failed when brought to U.S. justice, while all five of their later frame-ups succeeded in courts on both sides of Ireland's partition.

A KEY PART of Britain's mop-up is underway here. MI5/FBI is still at work, so despite the readily available homicide records (see www.terrorismireland.org), the news media perpetuate "IRA terrorism." Recent history is being rewritten. For example, in this paper's July edition, a columnist falsely reports that Alderman Pat O'Connor "helped pass every one of the Irish Resolutions presented to the Council over the years." While I presented essentially all of them, including the Birmingham Six one, and annual ones for Bloody Sunday, etc., some to Ald. Sheahan, others to Ald. Burke, readers will remember that a key one was the MacBride Principles for Fair Employment in Northern Ireland. It was to Burke that I presented it. After a few months delay, I agreed to have the Mayor introduce it. Months later, the Mayor's office phoned to

ask that it be spearheaded by Ald. O'Connor who needed an edge in his impending election contest against O'Malley. After further months of connivance including back-dated correspondence from O'Connor's office, it was clear that the three entrusted were opposed to passage (as was Ireland's Consul General, who spoke in Springfield against passage of the Illinois MacBride bill). I canceled O'Connor and sought an honest alderman. We chose Ald. Tom Murphy who said he'd try. He soon phoned back saying passage was ensured as the minority aldermen were securely aboard. A week later, Murphy introduced it. Only when passage was certain did Daley, Burke and O'Connor support it. Thus, credit for enactment of Chicago's key Irish Resolution goes to now-Judge Tom Murphy (who relates his very amusing confrontation with the British Consul who was chauffeured in his Jaguar out to Murphy's office at 83rd and Kedzie to dissuade him.)

GERRY ADAMS, having successfully led MI5's Good Friday Agreement which made the Six Counties British, is now promoted by his collaborators as seeking Ireland's reunification. This is bizarre. A main promoter of the GFA and its hand-over of the Six Counties now claiming to support reunification! Does someone think that Irish-America is that stupid? Someone evidently does. The July IAN includes a lengthy promotion

of that con-job. Attempting to falsely link it to an imaginary "pig-roast" during the 1798 Rising and the landing of French forces in Mayo, the promoter repeatedly refers to the French as "Span-ish." He refers to Clan na Gael as "the leading Irish Republican organization in Chicago..." His CnG is relatively new. Adams' gang started it after Adams sold out. Its members didn't care that two fellow-members were MI5/FBI moles. Chicago's original CnG has existed for a century. Only when the Adams gang failed to take it over did they set up their false-flag "CnG." The Chicago CnG had rejected them upon being warned by East coast CnGs that the same gang had joined them in such numbers as to vote themselves into control. They then stripped those CnGs' treasuries and other assets and sent the proceeds to the MI5/Adams HQ in Belfast. Chicago's real CnG owns valuable cemetery plots, the proceeds of which would have similarly gone to MI5.

WHICH BRIT REG'T starved your ancestors? See my www.irishholocaust.org.

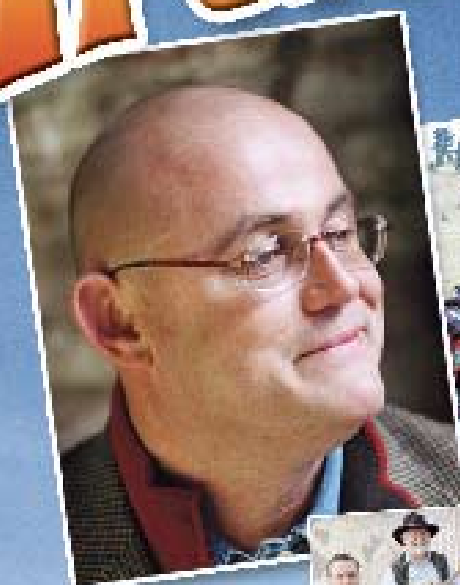
WHO ARE THE TERRORISTS? See www.terrorismireland.org. Contact me, 312/664-7651 or fogartyc@att.net.

Remaining GAA Schedule 2009

DATE	TIME	COMP	TEAM 1	VS	TEAM 2	REFEREE	OFFICIALS
SUN AUG 2	12:00	JR B	PATRIOTS	VS	FEARSES	TONES	PARNELLS
	1:15	JR H	CUCHULAINNS	VS	LIMERICK	BOLANDS	CUSACKS
	2:30	LGE	PARNELLS	VS	MCBRIDES	FEARSES	TONES
	3:45	LADIES	BRIGIDS	VS	ASHLING GAELS	ROVERS	ROVERS
	5:00	LGE	TONES	VS	FEARSES	PARNELLS	MCBRIDES
WED AUG 5	6:00	LGE	TONES	VS	MCBRIDES	PARNELLS	PARNELLS
SUN AUG 9	1:15	LADIES	ROVERS	VS	ASHLING GAELS	BRIGIDS	BRIGIDS
	2:30	LGE	BRENDANS	VS	MCBRIDES	TONES	PARNELLS
	3:45	JR H	BOLANDS	VS	CUCHULAINNS	LIMERICK	CUSACKS
	5:00	LGE	PARNELLS	VS	TONES	BRENDANS	MCBRIDES
WED AUG 12	6:00	LGE	PARNELLS	VS	FEARSES	TONES	TONES
SUN AUG 16	12:00	LADIES	ROVERS	VS	GAELS	BRIGIDS	BRIGIDS
	1:15	JR H	LIMERICK	VS	CUSACKS	BOLANDS	CUCHULAINNS
	2:30	CAM	CAMOGIE		TBA	TBA	
	3:45	JR B	SEMI FINAL				
	5:00	JR A	SEMI FINAL				
SUN AUG 23	CHICAGO FINALS		MENS JR A FOOTBALL		LADIES JR A FOOTBALL		
	HURLING JR FINAL		CAMOGIE		MENS JR B FOOTBALL		TIMES T.B.A.

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Saturday September 5
Emcee: Mike Houlihan

11-12 Academy of Irish Music
12:20-12:50 McNulty Irish Dancers
1:00-1:25 Shannon Rovers Bagpipe Band
1:40-2:40 Gavin Coyle
3:00-3:30 Foy School of Irish Dance
3:40-4:00 Irish Dog Competition Awards
4:20-5:20 Baul Time
5:30-6:00 Meyer School of Irish Dance
6:15-7:30 Three Men in Kilt

Sunday September 6
Emcee: Mike Houlihan

10-10:45 Mass celebrated by Fr Ryan
St. Francis De Sales
11-12 Irish Music School of Chicago
12:20-12:50 Tully Academy of Irish Dance
1:00-1:25 Shannon Rovers Bagpipe Band
1:40-2:40 Paddy Homan Band
3:00-3:30 Mullane-Healy-O'Brien Irish Dance Academy
3:40-4:00 Irish Dog Competition Awards
4:00-4:15 Mary Pat Kelly - Stories from Galway Bay
4:20-5:20 Catherine O'Connell
5:30-6:00 Eilish Sullivan School of Irish Dance
6:15-7:30 Katie Sullivan Band

Monday September 7
Emcee: Terry Barnes

11-12 CuRoI
12:20-12:50 Trinity Academy of Irish Dance
1:00-1:25 Shannon Rovers Bagpipe Band
1:40-2:40 Jeff Ward Band
2:45-2:55 Aileen Hume Irish American Idol
3:00-3:30 Tim O'Hare School of Irish Dance
3:40-4:00 Irish Dog Competition Awards
4:20-5:20 Gavin Coyle
5:30-6:00 Kevin Horton of Riverdance
6:15-7:30 Joe Cullen and Kathleen Keane

Wee Ones Activity Area
11am-6pm each day
Crafts, games, facepainting
Amazing Josh the Balloon Guy

Irish Dog Competition Registration at
11am-1pm each day
"The Dog House" store,
405 Robert Parker Coffin Rd
Dog Competition Judging begins at 2pm

Call Dance Instructions
Maureen Connerty
1:30 and 4:00 each day

Trunk Show—Suzanne Dahm,
Representative from Wild Geese Studio,
Handcut Irish Art
12-5 each day

Katie Toland Designer from Irish Bundles,
American made Children's Clothing Sun 12-5

Townwide Sidewalk Sales
11am-6pm each day

Gurragh Presentation - Times TBA

Author Signings

Mary Pat Kelly-"Galway Bay"
Sat 12-5, Sun 12-5, Mon 12-5

Sharon Shea Bossard-
"Finding My Irish"
"Finding My Chicago Irish"
Sunday 12-5

Kevin O'Donnell-"Fado"
Mike Houlihan-"Hooliganism"
Catherine Bourke Chambers
"Just a Boy From Home"

LONG GROVE

Irish Days

Labor Day Weekend
September 5, 6 & 7th
11 am - 7 pm



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- 12 Irish Musical Performances
- 9 Irish Dance Groups
- Wee Ones' Activity Area
- Irish Dog competition
- Sunday Outdoor Mass at 10 am
- Irish Food and Drink by Winston's
- Shannon Rovers Bagpipe Band
- Paddy's Super Clearance Sale

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