

<u>irish american news</u>

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Par up-to-date information and directions, check to

www.WillCountyCelticFest.com

Reve Parting . Glass Assetted



















Motherland



On The Cliff Edge?

My local village pub has just closed its restaurant "until further notice" after two years of losses. It offered good value, unpretentious, food. It closed because of lack of custom, its fate in some ways a metaphor for what's been happening in the real Irish economy. Elsewhere one of my favourite Dublin bookshops now closes every Monday and has reduced hours during the rest of the week.

Ordinary punters, assailed by a flood tide of direct, indirect and stealth taxes, have hunkered down. In a society where government taxes on a standard bottle of wine are \$5, 20 cigarettes cost over \$12, and gas and electricity prices are among the highest in Europe, dining out has become a luxury. The anecdotal evidence for this has now been backed up by the just released latest Quarterly National Household Survey – for the third quarter of 2012. Things have certainly not improved since.

The Survey paints a stark picture. 82% of those surveyed have cut back on some spending, 25% have cut in multiple categories. 66% have cut back on outings to pubs and restaurants, 65% on clothing and footwear and 51% on groceries. 60% have cut back on foreign holidays and over a third their spending on automobiles. A quarter of those surveyed have dipped into savings to pay everyday bills.

2014 promises little solace. The property tax will apply for twelve months instead of six, already overpriced public utilities are pitching for price increases from later this year, while health insurance premiums - for those who can afford them - are set for another substantial rise. The full impact of the solid fuel carbon tax, introduced last May, will be felt as soon as the home heating season begins. Public sector workers are now beginning to experience sal-

ary cuts imposed from July 1st. Hikes in many other basics and services like public transport will further squeeze what's left of disposable incomes.

So much for the micro level.

On the macro level things seem to be panning out well with most of the heavy lifting on the economy done. The Troika targets have largely been met and the end of their stewardship seems in sight, leaving Ireland free reassert to its sovereignty by borrowing afresh on world financial markets, probably towards the end of next year.

Reducing borrowing to the recommended 5.1% of GDP next year looks easily achievable despite the projected need of the government to continue to borrow well in excess of \$ 1 billion monthly just to keep going. Some pundits are already arguing that we are so far ahead of schedule that some easing of austerity should be attempted in October's budget, where the tug-of-war is already under way.

"Normal" politics has begun to re-emerge. The usual opposition voices calling for a reversal of policy are now being joined by significant sections of the Labour Party. With the government's term well past half way and European and local elections due next year this is hardly surprising.

Labour has taken a hammering and is desperate for anything to restore its fortunes . While the party leader continues to speak bravely about its role in saving the economy, on current polls at least half of its deputies will lose their seats. The forthcoming budget represents perhaps a final chance for the junior government party to salvage something.

Support for Fine Gael, by contrast, is holding up well. This despite the decision to legislate on the thorny issue of abortion. The resulting law, while very limited in scope, criticised from all sides, and subject to a possible constitutional course, too simplistic. Relevant is challenge, has been a watershed. Keynes' comment that "When the

Not just socially, but politically. It has established Taoiseach Enda Kenny, as a formidable political leader and Fine Gael, finally, as a tough professional political party. On his hind legs Enda is not a man to be trifled with; nor, increasingly This year's budget is yet to be

decided. As I write we are stuck at the skirmishing stage, with the actual amount of the savings required -roughly \$4 billion - still in dispute. Labour wants less given the perceived wiggle room now appearing; Fine Gael wants to keep to the pre-set target. The wrangling over cuts versus taxes has yet to hot up.

What IS clear is the message coming from the real economy that consumers have little if anything more to give. Domestic demand is in crisis; people have had to adapt, but at a price - considerable collateral damage to the retail economy. The argument advanced in favour of not slashing welfare payments because they tended to be spent, thus supporting economic activity, has now acquired relevance also for the spending power of the slightlymore-affluent.

Up to now there has been widespread stoical acceptance of what needed to be done to repair the economy, and, in the main, this has been achieved without wholesale dismantling of the welfare state and social safety net. Few would dispute that some of the spending cuts imposed at the margins, especially those affecting disparate small groups at particular disadvantage, have been ham fisted at best, incomprehensible at worst, and require redress as a priority, but by and large the system remains intact. Hence the absence of the type of public and street protest seen in Greece.

However, with different signals now coming from Europe about the efficacy of austerity policy as a panacea for the Eurozone's economic woes, opinion is shifting here. The argument is that if some of those in Frankfurt are now having a rethink on austerity why the hell is the government here persisting with it. This argument is, of facts change, I change my mind." The economic situation, in Europe and worldwide, is evolving, and, with policy input feeding into and affecting economic developments, it behoves those in the ECB to take stock and amend their thinking accordingly.

There are additional flies in the Irish ointment. The target of bridging the budget deficit, so that eventually at least we can pay for our services and welfare without borrowing, continues to restrict the government's freedom of manoeuvre and means that in practice there will be little relief for the populace next year no matter

Additionally our economy is heavily dependent on exports and our recovery hopes (and plans, and strategies) are pinned on expanding those exports. There mot: "In the long run we're all has been a double hitch. Firstly dead."

the world economy is showing at best only sluggish growth, retarding our export drive. This partly contributed to a fall of \$4 billion or 6.4% in manufacturing exports this year to end June.

Pharmaceutical exports, however, which represent over half of total manufacturing exports, fell by around 10%. Much of this was the consequence of the so-called " patent cliff "when some extremely lucrative drugs - like Viagra(!) and Lipitor - came off patent. New drugs are being developed, so the fall has not been as precipitous as feared. Nevertheless the combined effect is to depress GDP this year, with negative implications for the budget arithmetic.

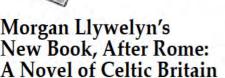
When will the hard-pressed taxpayer get some relief? Echoes of another Keynes bon





Irish Books and Plays in Review

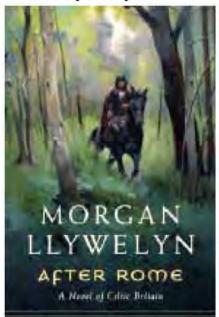
Frank West



Published by Tom Doherty Associates.

You can meet Morgan at iBAM! Chicago2013, October 12, 13, at the Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 N. Knox Ave., Chicago IL 60630. Go to www. ibamchicago.com for more information!

"The title of storyteller was, in the Celtic art is the end of a certain chapter. culture, the equal of a prince."



Therefore, storyteller Morgan Llywelyn is truly a princess because in her eighteen novels she tells beguiling and unforgettable stories of historical persons and events.

In After Rome, Llywelyn describes what it must have been like during this break period in Britain after the Roman officials and their legions of soldiers left in 410 AD. Civilization went with them.

What happened to the people who were left behind? What did they do? Howd did they survive? Was it even worth living anymore?

The answers to those questions and a description of the period could be written by a historian in a few pages. But it would be lifeless, dull and unforgettable.

Llywelyn uses fictional characters to make the period come alive. They become real for us. And, they sometimes interact with historical persons. She even has the ability to get us to feel the emotions people felt.

suing chaos, after Rome Britain, some people acted

ers showed kindness and acted with

The Saxon invaders, with their fellow barbarians, the Angles and Jutes, destroyed anything left of civilization. Feudalism resulted when warlords promised protection and set up petty kingdoms.

Each chapter is about a character or event. The next chapter is about a different character and action.

An example of Llywelyn's storytelling

A man and a woman are returning to their fortified house in the forest. They had left it carefully locked. But, as they approached, they "stopped short when the door creaked open."Wow! What

The book is so rich in telling quotes that it was hard to choose some for this review. These give you a sample of Llywelyn's beautiful language.

* "Tyrants love simple language... but we Britons have another language. The tongue of our Celtic ancestors; subtle, to see her books.

In the en- complex, filled with shades of meaning. . . The perfect weapon for resistance and subversion. As long as we retain it abandoned we can never be conquered. Overrun, perhaps; but not conquered."

* Listening to a storyteller: his magic with ruthless selfishness, while oth- brought "deities from the Celtic past slipped from the shadows to gather around him. He could not see them, but he could feel them, Cernunnos the Shapechanger and Goibban the Smith; Epona of the horses..."

> *The official religion of the Roman Empire was Christianity. Why was that religion beneficial to Roman power? "People needed to believe in Deities wiser and more powerful than themselves. Yet the figures he had been taught to revere as a child had failed him. Christianity was a sham perpetrated by men who used it to their own advantage."

> *Approaching a ruined town, the character sees a man with "a wooden cross depended from a cord around his neck. Recognizing the badge of a man who believed what he was told. A man who sought to be good and hoped to buy his way into heaven with coins laid on the palm of a priest." Visit www.irishbooksite.com and type in Morgan Llywelyn in the search area

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The Book of Kells IN CONTEXT

The Book of Kells is one of a group of Gospel manuscripts scholars call Insular Style. They were produced from the sixth through early ninth centuries in monasteries throughout Ireland, Scotland, Northern England and in Continental monasteries with Irish or English origins. In addition, all the Insular Gospels contain similarities in artistic style, calligraphic and textual traditions and were mutually influential.

The typical organization of Insular Gospel books contains what are called etymologies. They consist of:

1. A list of Hebrew names in the Gospels was compiled by Jerome in the century. Only one page of his list survives in the BoK

Cannon Tables. A concordance of Gospel passages common to two or more of the evangelists was compiled by Eusebius of Caesera in the fourth century. These tables were included in a copy book all Insular Gospel scribes used for text and illuminations.The Kells' scribes copied the numbered locations of the topics in the Canon Tables, but the corresponding numbers were not added in the text. So the Kells' Canon is of no help in locating similar passages in the four Gospels.

Virgin and Child Portrait. The BoK has the oldest existing Virgin and Child portrait. Breves Causae. Topic summaries of each Gospel.

Characterizations of each evangelist.

the four evangelists. Four

full illuminated pages of the symbols of the evangelists.

7. Each evangelist has a full page portrait. The Mark and Luke portraits are ing from the BoK.

8. A full page illumination of the first word or phrase of each Gospel.

Of the surviving 680 pages, 33 are full page illuminations and the remaining pages only two have no decoration at all. A few pages are not completed and some of the scribes' decorative techniques can be seen.

The early dates in the history of Columcille (Latinized name is Columba) and the BoK, are from a mixture of legends and written entries of various Annals that were compiled at monasteries. The Annals are the closest thing we have to actual documentation. However, everything in legends is not necessarily fictitous and everything in an Annual may not be a fact.

EARLY MEDIEVAL

Around 561, Columba led a group of monks to Dal Riata, an established Irish colony in Scotland. Around 574 he and his monks went to Iona.

From there more missions were established in Scotland and in England.

Columba died at Iona in 597.

The first recording of a Viking raid of Iona came in 795. In a second raid in 802 the church was burned. In 807 during another raid 68 monks were killed by the invaders. For safety, a group of monks left for the town of Cenannas, the site of an ancient hill fort in Co. Meath, Ireland, where the order had

acquired land. The monks began building a new monastery and scriptorium which was completed in 814.

In my research I've found that "Cenan-Symbols of nas" means "head fort." Another similar Irish name used was Ceann Lios which was Anglicized to Knelis. In 1152 a Church group called for a meeting to address ecclesiastic matters. It was called the Synod of Kells was held in the town. Afterward the town name remained Kells.

In 878, the Annals of Ulster recorded that after more Viking raids, monks arrived from Iona with valuables and relics. The description in the Annals suggest that the Book was among their valuables.

By 1007 (modern calendar) the Vikings

gradually found their way to Cenannas. Another entry in the Annals of Ulster for this year states, "Great Gospel of Columcille," (not yet called Book of Kells) "chief relic of the West-

ern world, was wickedly stolen during the night from the western sacristy of the great stone church at Cenannas on account of its wrought Shrine."

Sacred books were usually kept in boxes, called shrines, which were decorated with precious metals and Jewels.

It was found, the entry continues "two months and twenty days later under a sod."

(To simplify things, I am using the word "page" throughout this column instead of using "folio" or "leaf." If a bifolio is folded once it makes two folios. Each folio can be printed on both sides and each side numbered-1 verso or 2 recto. Each side alone can be called a "leaf." Sometimes these terms are mixed up.

Scholars surmise the pages were ripped out and discarded because they were not considered valuable by the raiders. It is estimated that between 26 and 30 pages are lost. There are around 10 missing from the beginning of the book and 12 are missing from the end.

Other gaps in the Book account for a loss of possibly 6 pages.

MEDIEVAL ERA

As a result of local disputes during the 11th century, the Church at Kells was burned down as many as five times.

In 1017 a local king was killed in the church. Sometime later, Marched, King of Tara for only 3 days was killed in the bell

For the next century or more, the control of Kells changed hands continuously. Whoever controlled the church also controlled its sizable landholdings.

At Kells, access to the Book was possible to a select group, mostly ecclesiastics who wanted to write comments, and not to the general public.

Twelfth century land charters regarding the Abby of Kells were copied on two blank pages, 6 verso (left page) and 7 recto (right page) of the Book.

Modern Era

A poem complaining about taxation on church land was written in the fifteenth century on a blank page 289v.

Bishop-elect of Meath James Ussher numbered each page in 1621. This is the same James Ussher who studied the Bible and other ancient texts and determined the world was created on Sunday, October 23, 4004 BC. He later became the Anglican Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland.

Oliver Cromwell's army occupied the ruined church in Kells in 1654 and stabled the army's horses there. The governor of Kells, Charles Lambart, earl of Cavan, to the world's everlasting thanks, sent the Book of Kells to Dublin for safekeeping. It was safe until 1661. That year, Henry Jones who later became Bishop of Meath, "presented" it to Trinity Collage Dublin.

During the next few hundred years, a number of efforts were made to repair and maintain the Book. In 1741 a folio was discovered to be folded the wrong way. It was corrected and reinserted. The original size of the Book was 14 1/2" by 10 1/4." In 1821 the decision was made to crop the Book to 13" by 91/2, rebind it and gild the edges. Some of the images were damaged. New numbering of the pages was done by J. H. Todd, at that time the Librarian at Trinity College Dublin. Another rebinding was done in 1895, but did not last and more repairs were required. During the 1920s several of the pages were kept loose for display.

Queen Victoria and Albert visited Dublin and signed a page in the Book in 1821. It was a page inserted specially for them. In 1953 the Book was separated and rebound into four volumes. At that time, the signed page of Queen Victoria and Albert was removed. At present, The Book remains in four volumes.

In 1951, a mechanical reproduction of the Book was produced by Urs Graf-verlag of Bern Switzerland with black and white pages and 48 pages in color.

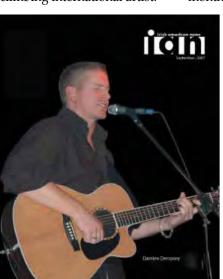
This made scholarly close reading and research possible anywhere. In 1974 a major study of the Book was published by Francoise Henry. In 1990 an exact facsimile of the entire Book was made by Facsimile Verlag Luzern using the latest technology and printing on a special vellum-like paper.

The Irish American Heritage Center has a copy in the museum for public viewing. Call me at the Center (773-282-7035 x10) for an appointment and we can meet for a tour.



Damien Dempsey at Lincoln Hall September 4th, and Michigan 9-13-14

songwriter, guitarist... former boxer? Hailing from a Northside suburb of Dublin, the six-foot two inch musician went from competing as an amateur boxer to committing himself to studying music, and has since become and Irish folk legend and a chartclimbing international artist.



Mixing traditional Irish folk with contemporary lyrics, Dempsey has given the music world six albums, and has performed with world-renowned artists such as Sinead O'Connor

Damien Dempsey: Singer, most recent album, released in September of 2012, and titled "Almighty Love" is written with a voice speaking from personal experiences and adventures, and like his previous albums, is woven with lyrics that lend to beautiful storytelling.

Dempsey will be in the U.S. this month for the first time in several

years, performing a little bit and promoting his album. His plans for the fall and winter include spending time in New York visiting friends, and traveling to Australia to work with the Australian Broadcast Company on a record deal.

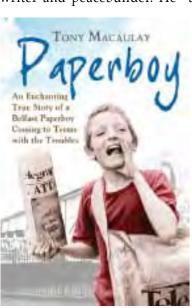
Dempsey will be visiting Chicago's Lincoln Hall on September 4th this year with his band, consisting of his percussionist, fiddle player, and guitar player, where he intends to play his music

and spread his message.

If you miss him in Chicago you can still catch him at the Michigan Irish Music Festival, September 13-14-15 where he will perform as a headliner. and Bruce Springsteen. His www.michiganirish.org.

Belfast Paperboy Comes to Terms With the Troubles in Paperboy

above right) is a Northern Irish writer and peacebuilder. He thirty-five years of 'The Troubles'



Tony Macaulay (pictured grew up at the top of the Shankill Road in Belfast at the start of

in Northern Ireland. This experience has shaped his life. Tony has spent the past 25 years working to build peace and reconciliation at home and abroad, working with hundreds of youth and community groups to break down barriers of mistrust, hatred and division. Since the publication of his first book, 'Paperboy', Tony has been invited to do book readings at a range of festivals including the 1st Irish Festival NYC, Aspects Literature Festival, Edinburgh Book Fringe, Belfast Book Festival and 'Scribes at the West' at Féile an Phobail. In Febru-

ary 2011 he enjoyed his first book tour in the USA with the Celtic Cultural Alliance, Lehigh and Desales Universities in Pennsylvania. In 2012 the WB Yeats Society of New York presented a reading of 'Paperboy' in the National Arts Club as part of the 1st



Irish Festival. The film rights of 'Paperboy' have been picked up by Titian Red Pictures, producers of the award winning 'Song for a Raggy Boy'. The sequel to 'Paperboy' is entitled 'Breadboy' and it was published by Blackstaff Press in Spring 2013.(less)

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"WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN GREEN!" September 2013 Irish American News

Minister Ring Visits Chicago

We've all heard of ways to State for Tourism and Sport in recession-proof our lives these days. Stock up on emergency funds, shore up your portfolio, cling to any job you have, be a picky buyer. Everybody is being careful these days. How, then, has Ireland managed to weather these financial times, while managing to make itself a destination on so many families' travel budget lists? Cliff Carlson of IAN sat down for a chat with Michael Ring, "The Ringer", Minister of

Ireland, to answer that question.

"I'm responsible for tourism and sport, the two most positive aspects of government (in Ireland) at the moment. With tourism, particularly, we're dealing with positive people with a positive outlook. And sport has lifted the souls, the minds, and the spirits of people in Ireland and the world, especially during these hard economic times," Minister Ring explains.

Sinead O'Connor at City Winery 11/4-6

The American Kindness Tour Makes Three-Night Stop At City Winery, November 4-6 Tickets Now On Sale

Randolph Street, proudly hosts the only Chicago engagement by iconic Irish singer-songwriter Sinead O'Connor as part of her performances, Monday – Wednesday evenings, November 4-6pm

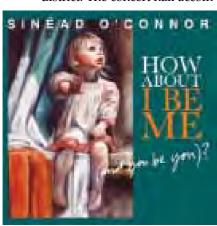
Sinead O'Connor: The American Kindness Tour: Monday-Wednesday, Nov. 4-6, 8pm(\$150/125/115)

Multi-Grammy TM award winning artist Sinead O'Connor returns to North America this fall, after triumphant, soldout performances at New York City's esteemed Lincoln Center Festival in July. Since releasing her ninth and latest LP in February 2012, How About I Be Me (And You Be You)? on One Little Indian, O'Connor has received some of the most

resounding praise to date in her 25-year, celebrated career. Songs from the album such as "4th and Vine" and "Take Off Your Shoes" have been glorious additions to her arresting catalogue which has garnered millions of record sales worldwide. Since the release of the album, O'Connor has been playing various festivals and venues around the world including Glastonbury, the Manchester International Festival, London's Barbican Hall, Wien Konzerthaus, Rome, Paris, and Stockholm to mention a few.

City Winery Chicago, 1200 W. Tickets for this special engagement are on sale now by calling (312) 733-WINE (9463) or visiting www.citywinery.com.

City Winery Chicago, a fully "American Kindness Tour" in three operational winery, restaurant with outdoor patio, concert hall and private event space, is located in the heart of the West Loop at 1200 W. Randolph, in the historic urban Fulton Market district. The concert hall accom-



modates up to 300 guests, all seated at tables with complete beverage and dining service, ensuring a comfortable "listening room" experience enhanced by a state-of-the-art Meyer Sound system. Riedel is the official and exclusive provider of glass ware, showing City Winery's commitment to enjoying quality wine in a quality vessel. American Airlines is the Official Airline and Crowne Plaza is the Official Hotel of City Winery. For more information, please visit www. citywinery.com.



Ruth Moran of Tourism Ireland, champion boxer, Henry Coyle, and Minister of Tourism and Sport, Michael Ring in Chicago to promote Ireland as a destination

And Ireland's answer to their branch of the economic decline was to invest in tourism. When the world was depressed, the Irish government decided to use tourism to bring revenue into the country, and to support the industry nationally. Despite their tough financial times, they reduced their rates for hotels, bed and breakfasts, and food, to encourage visitors from all over the world. It's become a very important industry for the country; tourism alone employs around 185,000 people in Ireland.

Because of this, within the first six months of the year, tourism growth has increased almost 16% over 2007, in large part due to The Gathering initiative, Ireland's year-long party inviting people from all over the world to come and visit in 2013. For this endeavor, the Irish government went from town to town, city to city throughout the country, calling meetings and asking people what they would be able to contribute to The Gathering. The end result has been a collection of over 4,000 reunions, celebrations, parties, exhibits, and events throughout all of Ireland, attended by international travelers.

"We're selling Ireland as a whole island this year," Minister side of Ireland? Minister Ring

Ring announced. Northern and Southern Ireland are working together to bring this important revenue into the whole country. The Gathering has made this an enormous year for Ireland.

Following this year's tourism increase, Minister Ring says they plan to keep the momentum going in two principle ways. First, they hope to bring in more visitors from word-of-mouth advertising. 90% of people who have visited Ireland this year so far have said that their vacation exceeded expectation, and that they plan to return to the country. Hopefully, that kind of positive feedback will catch fire and encourage their friends and family to plan their own Irish vacations.

Second, Ireland's next plan to draw tourism will be the Wild Atlantic Way. This will be a tour that they plan to advertise beginning in March of next year, which will take people all over Ireland to personally and intimately experience the country's beauty and culture. These will be walking, biking, or driving tours that follow routes from towns, cities, and country sides, that will allow tourists to really see Ireland. The goal is to bring in even more tourism than this year.

says that they've been trying to promote more to bring American tourist, in particular, to watch sports in Ireland. When Notre Dame played in Ireland two years ago, it brought in an enormous surge of American tourists, many of which brought their entire families for the event. "The Irish and Americans alike love their sport!"

Sport has been such an uplifting thing in these tough economic times. People are still able to sit down and watch a game with their families and friends, and that lifts their spirits and is good for their souls. Minister Ring is hopeful that more sports events taking place in Ireland will help bring even more tourism into the country. He hopes people will come to watch hurling and football in particular, as the games are tremendous fun. "Irish sports are easy for people to understand, even if you go in not knowing anything about certain games," he says. And that is likely to draw people to the sporting attraction.

"This is the time to jump into Ireland. There's great value to be got. Good culture, good music, good sport," Minister Ring ends. There is a lot to see and do in Now, what about the sport Ireland, and there's never been a more budget-friendly time to go!



A Slice of Ireland

By Cathy Cooney-Millar

James Joyce Irish Pub in Berwyn

By Cathy Cooney-Millar

The James Joyce Irish Pub is located in Berwyn, IL and is the fulfillment of the vision of its owners, Colin Downes and Brendan "Chalky" White. They both hail from Ireland-- Colin from Meath and Chalky from Dublin. As a result, the James

Joyce was designed as a neighborhood Irish pub, brought here to the States. The pub has a unique and warm feeling which can be attributed to the friendly staff and classic decor. The doors have been open since 2000 and every year has been better than the last.

Chalky arrived to the United States and met Colin in 1996 while they were both bartenders at Healy's in Forest

Park, IL. Colin grew up in the bar name? What is the principal business with his family owning bars in Dublin and Meath, Ireland. From an early age he knew his calling. Colin stated they started as an idea and he didn't want to work for anyone else. He and Chalky were living the American dream and can do

decided to open James Joyce's Irish Pub.

Colin and Chalky aim to make James Joyce's Irish Pub fun, interesting and memorable! They are always creating new ideas to celebrate different events and activities. One of their fun events is their popular Quiz night. Are you able to answer the following questions?

Which creature is 95% water?

Can you answer these ques-

tions without your smart phone?

These are some of the questions

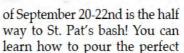
featured during the James Joyce

History, Politics, Geography, Entertainment, those are some of the categories that will test your memory. Their questions will test even the best trivia experts. If you feel up to the challenge, grab some friends, make a team, and go in and enjoy this long-time pub tradition. Their quizzes are never the same so everyone has a new chance to prove to others you're the smartest one in the room! Want to make sure you are up for the challenge? Try some of the previous quizzes on their website.

Let's face it... the year wouldn't be the same without their most sought out: Pour Your Own way to St. Pat's bash! You can What was the Fonz's Christian Nights, Halloween party, St learn how to pour the perfect

Paddy's (and Half Way to St Padexport of Jamaica? What are the dy's) celebrations, Ugly Christsix categories of the Nobel Prize? mas Sweater party, and Annual Golf Outing (just to name a few)! Check out this month's events, view some photos, and sign up on their email list on their website so you don't miss any of their

special and fun events.



pint or compete to win the perfect pint contest. You can expect to see Irish Dancers, a great band named Out for Hours and drink specials and raffles.

Their big yearly fundraiser is quickly approaching on October 5th. In partnership with the Berwyn Fire Department, the James Joyce Irish Pub will host the event and

all the funds collected will go to the Youth Burn Camp. There are tents set up outside and the street is closed to all traffic to provide enough room for the band and seating. There will be hourly drink specials, raffles and many other surprises. A bus trip to the Black Hawks game and back is

go to their website or Facebook.

Colin and Chalky have produced a gathering place where you can watch sports, while listening to music and still have a conversation. If you want goofy, fun and entertainment this is the spot!

When you are there you will have tough decisions between choosing between one of their wines on their large wine list and a shot of Irish whiskey or Scotch. They are constantly changing the Craft beer line up for the seasons and have a great selection of over 70 beer choices including Guinness on tap.

I will be looking for your smiling face there!

7138 Windsor Ave. Berwyn, IL 60402 (708)795-1100 link to map Sunday - Thursday: 12 pm - 1 am

Friday - Saturday: 12 pm - 3 am

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Murph's Gift Of Music Lives On

By Tim Moran South Side Editor Everything that surrounded the life of Michael Murphy was music. During his 32 years on Earth, he played several instruments, performed as a

member of a number of bands including "Leave" which he created, taught music lessons at the Music School in Oak Lawn and was even teaching his mother, Mary Ann, how to play

So it came as quite a shock, one that continues to sting for the hundreds of lives he touched, when Michael's life was cut short by a hit-and-run driver in Chicago's Mount Greenwood community

"He was just finishing up his latest CD," Mary Ann told the Irish American News about the time of the tragedy. "It was something we could not fathom, but we wanted to see if we could come up with something to move forward in a positive way."

Now five years after his death, the Michael J. Murphy Music Scholarship Fund has indeed turned in to something positive for 134 music students

"We have a pretty good range of students from Catholic and Public schools, the majority of which were already in some sort of music instruction classes through their school program," Mary Ann said.

Chicago.

on the south side of

The scholarship, which has an application process that runs from February 1 to April 15 every year, allows students the opportunity to enroll in private lessons to expand their knowledge.

This year, Mary Ann said that 46 students were selected - including multiple students from St. Nicholas of Tolentine and St. Catherine of Alexandria elementary schools as well as St. Rita of Cascia and Richards High School. While open to all students from the ages of 9-18, Mary Ann said the focus has

been on the kids from the south side of Chicago since there is a limit to how many can be accepted each year.

Although many of the students

use the Scholarship to help further their practice in a musical instrument, Mary Ann said there are also students who have chosen dance lessons.

Claire Maloney, a resident of Oak Lawn, and Fiona Martin have both used the Fund for lessons through the Dennehy School of Irish Dance. Olivia Aleman has advanced her dance skills through the Oak Lawn Park District. Richards High School Band Director Chuck Martin, Mary Ann says, is a big supporter of the Scholarship - teaching many of the

student lessons himself; as is the Music School of Oak Lawn, where Michael taught prior to his death.

"It's nice to see students enjoy music and learn," said Mary Ann, who helps coordinate the students with their private instructors. "Whenever I watch them play, I have so much respect because learning to play an instrument is not easy and requires dedication and practice. .

"I can see a thread of Michael through all these students," Mary Ann added. "They seem to have his motivation and drive to increase their abilities ... that is very rewarding."

To help fund the scholarship, the Fund's Board of Directors, which includes Mary Ann, Jim Latsis, Gerry Sexton, Kevin Healy, Debbie Hughes and Bob and Noreen Lassandrello (Michael's uncle and aunt), organize a benefit every other year at 115 Bourbon Street in Merrionette Park. This year, the event is scheduled to take place on October 19 from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. The cost, which is \$30 for adults,

includes a buffet, beer, wine and his death. soft drinks.

"The day is all about music," Mary Ann said. "We have bands going the entire day, raffles, silent auction items, and a spin the wheel raffle. We consider this a fundraising concert for people who come to hear great music and have a good time."

The first two benefits, in 2009 and 2011, Mary Ann called "a huge success."

One of the pre-benefit events is

"I still have the journal he kept while he was there," Mary Ann said of the 2002 visit.

With the establishment of the Scholarship, Michael's impact on music education will live on for years. But his mother says she has been "very blessed," to this day, to still hear stories on how much Michael is loved.

"People still come up to me and tell me how they felt about him and how they admired him, not



Ireland: Michael Murphy (left) loved visiting Ireland. He is seen here an Ireland beach with his parents, Jim and Mary Ann

the "Murph's Gift of Music Pub Crawl" featuring the Larkin and Moran Brothers (of which Michael was a member) and is set to take place on September 7.

Michael's love, and expertise, when it comes to music can be best illustrated from a story from 2002 - during one of Michael's two visits to Ireland.

At the time, Michael's uncle, Al Adams, had recently passed away - and Mary Ann had requested Michael perform "The Leaving of Nancy" - a favorite song of Al's, during a family reunion in Tipperary. Michael did not know the song at the time, and didn't sit down to work on it until the night or two before the event, but performed it without a glitch.

"He was very good at putting songs together and getting up on stage live so it was no effort at all. He got up there as if he knew it all along."

Michael loved being in Ireland, and was in the midst of planning a third trip, this time with the Larkin and Moran Brothers, at the time of only as a musician but as a person," she said.

To Qualify For The Scholarship:

Applicants (age 9-18) can apply online at www.murphsgiftofmusic. org. The student must not have any failing grades, write an essay on how they have become involved in music and have recommendations. Members of the scholarship's board of directors then meet with the parents, who Mary Ann has said are "very thankful" in expressing the appreciation that if it had not been for the Scholarship, their child would not have been given this opportunity.

To Support Murphy Scholarship Fund:

Musical instrument and monetary donations are always appreciated. Items to be auctioned off at the benefit are also being sought. Visit http://murphsgiftofmusic. org/murphy/donations/ to do-





Cartographers in ancient Justin Martyr grammar school. maps as "terra incognita", i.e., unknown territory.

Debate raged about what was out there in the "terra incognita"? Monsters? There might be dragons out there on the South Seas.

prejudice lately, an irrational dislike of those who aren't exactly like us. Many in our community fear these groups, scoff at them, assuming those tribes have not evolved to the sophistication of the rest of us.

Here in Chicago, those fears can escalate to outright bigotry, as it did last July in an ugly exchange at The Irish American Heritage Center Irish Fest.

I was working a table selling my books and DVDs, like any other honest merchant of his trade. Chicago author John Linehan split the table with me bigotry. and we drank beer and worked the room as fest goers cruised through. Linehan is from the

times, having no knowledge or He's written a great book "City research into the frontiers on the Life: Coming of Age in Chicago". other side of the ocean, would I highly recommend this very label those sections of their funny roman a' clef of Linehan's days as an Andy Frain usher all over Chicago in the seventies.

John and I huckstered at the people as they strolled by our table, hoping to lure them in and talk them into buying our books. An aging bimbo picked up my There's been lots of talk of book, "Hooliganism", looked it over while John and I tossed out sweet nothings to her. She finally said, "Oh, it's about Southside Irish!"

> She spit out the words "Southside" with particular disdain, as if something fuzzy was in her mouth. Her hands curdled around the book, a wicked twitch as she dropped it back on our table. She sneered as she walked away "Euuwwuh South-side".

> John and I turned to each other aghast. Had this woman actually just dissed the South Side Irish?

If only Al Sharpton were there to record this woman's bile and help us make some money out

Linehan and I were of course first encounter with this ugly deeply wounded by this venom directed our way as native

In the interest of transparency I will disclose that I was born in Evanston, baptized at St. Margaret Mary parish, just a couple blocks from my folks two flat on Estes Avenue. So I have North Side Irish blood.

I'm not ashamed to admit it, proud to have those drops of blood in my character. I still have friends in my old parish, like Anne Marie Grogan, who my brothers tormented by hiding the baby, me, behind the shower curtain in the tub when she was babysitting.

But we moved to the south side when I was two years old, emigrated to Christ the King parish. And for the next twenty odd years I matriculated as a Southsider and earned my street cred as a member of the Mt. Carmel Caravan. So it ain't like I'm a Cub fan or anything.

So yes, I am deeply hurt when some old Milwaukee Avenue skank dares to besmirch the reputation of the great South Side. Sadly, this is the not my

prejudice.

But being Southside Irish has served me well in life and enabled me to tell many people in high places to "feck off!"

I'm happy to confirm to those flat-earthers, that of course there are "dragons" there and I've drank with many of them. And while we have our geniuses, surgeons, inventors, and even playwrights, we also have our monsters and thank God for them. It wouldn't be the south side without 'em.

So let me offer this olive branch to the rest of our community. We on the South Side love you. We are all part of a big family and when we come together to work or play, all of Chicago's Irish together can work wonders. That's what's out there for those who dare to sail into the terra incognita.

So be like Ponce de Leon, Magellan, and Bob Hope! Explore and you just might find the Fountain of Youth.

The great gathering of all Chicago Irish was evident a few years ago when the Irish community of Chicago came together to help Natasha McShane, the the Southside out of the kid.

young Irish girl who was brutally attacked by a villain with a baseball bat as she and her friend walked home. The trial is starting soon for Natasha's attacker and let's pray that JUSTICE BE DONE.

That justice might include, not prison, but releasing the criminal who did this to the entire Chicagoland Irish community. Then the world could watch us work together in harmony.

The West Side Irish could get some of their best city workers together to introduce the bat wielder to the marvels of a Streets and San steamroller.

The Northside Irish could have some of their gorgeous womer castrate the hombre on a Saturday night in front of Vaughn's.

And we Southsiders would love the opportunity to bring this devil to Gaelic Park where we could all remove his head and kick it about like an aul' football

I know the entire Irish community would be as one as we greet him in unison, "Welcome to Terra Incognita Amigo!"

You can take the kid out of the Southside, but you'll never take

We were stunned by her blatant First 5K Run/Walk on the Airfield Of Midway Airport To Benefit Special Olympics Chicago Inaugural Midway Fly Away 5K, September 15

to be a part of history as the first ever 5K race will be held on the airfield of Chicago's Midway International Airport on Sunday, September 15. The Midway Fly Away 5K will benefit Special Olympics Chicago.

This inaugural event will offer athletes the opportunity to run or walk 3.1 miles directly on the airfield of Midway Airport, complete with jumbo jets and airplanes taking off and landing overhead. The race will begin and end at the Southwest Airlines Hangar.

Registration is open through September 10 at noon, by visiting www.sochicago.org. At that website, participants can create a personal fundraising page where supporters can make tax deductible donations. The first 1,000 people registered receive

Runners of all levels are invited Away 5K Run/Walk t-shirt. All said James "Skinny" Sheahan those who raise more than \$250 will automatically be entered to win two round-trip airline tickets to anywhere in the continental



United States that Southwest Airlines flies - with no restrictions or blackout dates. Prizes will also be awarded to the top male and female participants.

"This race will not only be thrilling for any athlete to take part in, but also historic as it is the first race of its kind at Midway Airport," a commemorative Midway Fly

race coordinator for the Midway Fly Away 5K.. The monies raised from this event help support the programs and activities that thousands of Special Olympics athletes enjoy each year."

Onsite registration on race day begins at 6 am until 7:30 am. The race will begin promptly at 8 am Participants should bring a photo id and check-in at the Southwest Airlines Hangar, located at 5035 West 55th Street at Midway Airport. No backpacks/bags will be allowed on the course, however there will be gear check available the day of the race. No "wheels", including strollers, bicycles, tricycles, rollerblades, inline skates will be allowed on the airfield.

Free parking for participants in the Midway Airport Economy Parking lot, located at 5050 West 55th St.



Irish American News

St. Patrick's in Joliet celebrates 175 years

By Tim Moran South Side Editor

St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 710 W. Marion St. in Joliet, will have a celebration dedicated to their 175th anniversary on Saturday, September 7 following the day's 4:30 p.m. Mass conducted by Bishop Daniel Conlon. Illinois Sen. Pat McGuire will give a state recognition during the Mass.

The ensuing celebration will include a cash dinner, raffles and entertainment in addition to raffles. Donations will be accepted.

Polka music will begin the entertainment portion of the event, followed by Irish dancers - which will begin around 6:30 p.m. Mexico dancers and Mariachi music will also be part of the event.

According to St. Patrick's Pastor Peter Jankowski, the immigrant faithful of Ire-

land in the mid 1800s were given a chance to "take root and grow" in the Joliet and Chicagoland area - helping to establish the Parish.

Page 13

"Although the membership of St. Patrick's currently is not as populated with the Irish faithful as in the past, the spirit of the Irish is very much present in the community," said Jankowski - who noted that in 2011 a daily Mass and Adoration Brigid of Kildare.

Over the years, the Irish American influence has been strong on the Parish since its inception in 1838. Jankowski says St. Patrick's has been staffed by "wonderful" Irish clergy such as John Ingoldsby (1844-1850), Patrick Faralley (1858-1869), Walter Power (1869-1886), Patrick Dunne (1886-1911) and Peter Paul O'Dwyer noon Mass is conducted in Spanish. (1911-1917).



The church's longest serving Pastor, Irishman Rt. Rev. Monsignor Philip L. Kennedy served in the area from 1917

"We are blessed to have these men and Chapelwas dedicated in honor of St. women from the past who have served as examples of faith as we keep the Irish spirit alive through the charitable life we bestow on those living among us today," Jankowski said.

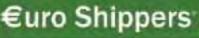
> St. Patrick's has a daily Mass at 7:30 a.m. Monday through Friday and have services on Saturday at 4:30 p.m. and Sunday at 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and noon. The

> > \$50 Dinner only



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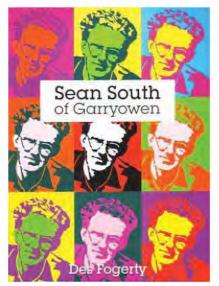




Sean South of Garryowen

Sean South achieved apotheosis on his death in 1957 in an attack on a police station in County Fermanagh, Northern Ireland. Little was known of him during his life, yet Ireland came to a standstill for his burial.

This is the story of the man himself and what lead him on a cold New Year's



Day to so challenge Britain's rule in N. Ireland.

Sean South achieved apotheosis on eircom.net. or by maile to: Des Fogerty

No.3 Gatehouse Close, Clifden

Co. Galway, Ireland

Author, Des Fogerty was born in Limerick City and educated at St. Patrick's National School and Jesuit Crescent College. He began his career in the catering industry at The Savoy on Bedford Row, Limerick. He later worked for the Rank Organisation in Dublin and Cork. The 1969 crisis in Northern Ireland found him in the Irish Army, where he served fulltime for two years. In 1975 Des went overseas as a trainee engineer with the giant American oil industry service company, Halliburton. He remained on contract basis with the company for over 20 years, working in over seventeen countries. He retired in 2005 from the Army Reserve after 35 years. He and his wife Margaret now live in Clifden, County Galway.

He is currently writing a history book about a cemetery in Dublin.

Des promotes his book lecturing at historical societies and is available for lectures

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Terminus By Mark O'Rowe

Interrobang Theatre Project is pleased to kick-off its 2013-14 season with *Terminus* by Mark O'Rowe, directed by Co-Artistic Director Jeffry Stanton, playing September 12 – October 6, 2013 at The Athenaeum Theatre, 2936 N. Southport in Chicago, where it is now a resident company. Tickets for *Terminus* are on sale through the Athenaeum Theatre Box Office at www.athenaeumtheatre. org or by calling (773) 935-6875. The press openings are Saturday, September 14 at 8 pm and Sunday, September 15 at 3 pm.

Terminus features Kevin Barry Crowley, Christina Hall and Michaela Petro.

Interrobang Theatre Project brings *Terminus*—the international sensation and tour de force of poetry and drama—to the Chicago stage for the first Midwest production with an American cast. A scours the depths of Dublin to rescue her ex-student who is about to take a life. B finds herself face-to-face with a demon and falls in love just in time. C sold his soul to the devil for the world's greatest voice, but he's building a body count faster than an audience. *Terminus* is a supernatural fantasy of interlocking monologues sweeping the audience on a helter-skelter ride through the wildest parts of the imagination, our greatest hopes, and our darkest fears. Be warned – it's not for the faint of

Dates: Previews: Thursday, September 12 and Friday, September 13, 2013 at 8 pm

Press performance: Saturday, September 14, 2013 at 8 pm and Sunday, September 15 at 3 pm

Special understudy performance: Saturday, September 28

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Irish American News

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dents/industry (with JD). Available through the Athenaeum Theatre Box Office at www.athenaeumtheatre.org or by calling (773) 935-6875. Flexible season subscriptions are available now through www.interrobangtheatreproject.org.

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Sunday September 15th, 2013 Goelk Park, 610 W. 147th Street Oak Forest, IL 60452

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"WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN GREEN!" **Irish American News** September 2013

Healy Law

Martin J. Healy, Jr.

Senior Partner

THE HEALY LAW FIRM



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

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.

U.S. Supreme Court Protects Drug Manufacturers Abandons Those Injured By Defective Drugs

Ray Harrington's

there have been many life saving drugs that have been discovered and put on the market to the benefit of those suffering from illness, disease or physical limitation. Usually, these drugs are safe, well tested and on occa-

Throughout the past century, small percentage of drugs prove to be dangerous because of certain side effects. In fact, there have been incidences were drug manufacturers continue to sell a drug that has known dangerous side effects without providing any written warnings concerning sion life saving. Unfortunately, a the side effects. Until recently,

drug manufacturer for failing to that could occur while taking a certain drug. All of that has recently

changed. In the past two years the United Supreme Court has twice issued rulings protecting large, generic drug makers by eliminating the right of injured consumers to sue when injured. The two decisions, Pliva, Inc. v. Mensing and Mutual Pharmaceutical Company v. Bartlett concluded that individuals injured by side effects present in generic drugs no longer have the right to sue generic manufacturers for their injuries.

Both of these decisions were decided by 5 to 4 majorities with the voting being along party lines. Specifically, the 5 Republican appointed Supreme Court Justices sided with the drug manufacturers while the 4 Democratic appointed Justices dissented in favor of injured consumers. The logic of the majority in both cases follows the same path. Essentially, the majority found that because the FDA requires generic manufac-

injured consumers could sue a as the original manufacturer, generic manufacturers should warn of dangerous side effects not be held accountable if those warnings are insufficient. While this logic may sound reasonable, it leaves the injured with no remedy. Specifically, the injured consumer cannot sue the original manufacturer because they did not buy the original manufacturer's drug. Further, the injured consumer cannot sue the generic manufacturer because of the Supreme Court decision.

Historically, courts have attempted to insure that there is a remedy for every wrong. This has been especially true when there is an entity profiting from the sale of a product that ultimately causes harm. It was this idea or philosophy that led to whole area of product liability law. For decades, that has been the rationale and law of this country: companies that profit through the sale of defective products must pay the cost of harm that resulted from the defective product.

For now, all of that has changed. Under the both the Pliva, Inc. and Mutual Pharmaceutical decisions, generic drug manufactures no longer can be

sued when they sell defective products that may cause great harm. These two rulings may encourage dangerous practices in the future. Large companies have always been encouraged to improve the safety of their products because of their knowledge that the companies will be sued if the product proved to be dangerous. By making generic drug manufacturers immune from suit, the Supreme Court has taken away a key incentive that promotes product safety.

As a result of these rulings, drug makers can continue to put products on the market with bad warnings knowing the product is causing harm and also knowing that no one can sue them. These companies can continue to reap profits even though the products they are selling have dangerous side effects for which no warning is being given. Ultimately this is bad for all of us because we all, from time to time, need to take prescription drugs.

There is hope however. Upon learning of these two decisions, the current President and his administration have proposed a new set of rules for the FDA to follow that may lead to a return to the prior ability to sue generic drug manufacturers. Specifically, under newly proposed regulations, the FDA will allow generic manufacturers to create and utilize new and improved warnings when they become aware of dangerous side effects. Under this new proposed regulation, the Supreme Court rulings in Pliva, Inc. and Mutual Pharmaceutical will no longer bar an injured consumer's right to sue generic drug manufacturers. Hopefully the FDA does in fact publish these new rules imposing some minor responsibility on generic drug manufacturers, but potentially

benefiting all of us. By: Martin Healy, Jr. and John P. Scanlon **Pictured**

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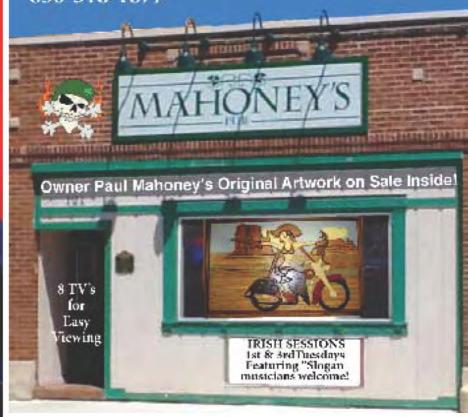
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Brown Bag

As reported by NBC News, M. Alex Johnson, "Elliot Bronstein, chief spokesman for the Seattle office of Civil Rights advised that city spokesman avoid the term, "brown bag" as racially offensive."

Liberalism to the nth degree, however there is a history to this allusion. Henry Lewis Gates Jr. said while he was in college, "Some of the brothers that came from New Orleans held a -bagparty as a classmate explained it to me, a bag party was a New Orleans custom wherein a brown paper bag was stuck on the door. Anyone darker than the bag was denied entrance."

So what's next? Should we ban brown bags nationwide? No wonder the fast food folks use white bags! Let's just bag the whole issue. What do I pack my lunch in now?

Jesse Jr.

The real losers of course are the taxpayers. Despite the fact that he entered a guilty plea and was sentenced to 30 months in prison. He quite possibly will collect disability payments and he will not lose his congressional pension. The judge actually commended him for some of his more noteworthy accomplishments while he was in office.

If it ever comes to pass would they dare to name the Pork Barrel Airport in Peotone after him? He will report to prison on All Saints Day. Ironic ... Sorry, there are no saints holding office! Picking your own prison seems to be a privilege afforded politicians or the very wealthy who seem to get to choose where they serve their time. Tennis anyone?

Sandy Jackson

I wonder if we failed to report \$600,000 in income if the IRS would let us off with 12 months in prison. I sure as hell don't think so.

U.S. Navy ship, USS The Sullivans (DD-537) was the first Navy ship to be named in honor of the five Sullivan Brothers, George, Francis, Joseph, Madison, and Albert, who lost their lives when a Japanese submarine sunk their ship, the USS Juneau, at the Battle of Guadacanal, November 13, 1942.

The USS Sullivan's associations 25th anniversary reunion will be held September 18-22, 2013 at the Marriott Suites in Deerfield Illinois. There will be a series of events. On Thursday, September 19th, attendance at a Naval recruit graduation, and a tour at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center. There banquet will be held on Saturday, September 21st at the Great Lakes Naval Station, Port of Call restaurant.

Albert Sullivan's daughter, Kelly Sullivan will be in attendance. Last year the Fighting Sullivan's were inducted into the Irish American Hall of Fame. "Fair winds and following seas to you." For information call Hal Burke at 630-515-9060 or email sullydd-537@att.net.

Milwaukee Irish Fest

As usual the Milwaukee Irish Fest had the most cultural offerings that anybody could hope to expect. One of my favorite stops is a visit to the Irish Wolf Hounds. Always brings to mind that time when I had my own gentle giant, Boru of Ballinglanna. Additionally, I always enjoy the cultural area, not so much the rock groups. Weather was absolutely gorgeous. There were huge crowds and the green shirts were everywhere you looked. If you missed it this year, put it on your calendar for next! Henry Maier Park, owned by the city of Milwaukee stages festivals all summer long. Chicago could take a page out of their book.

Harrisburg

I had an opportunity to visit my family in Harrisburg, PA with my nephew, Gary Shaffer, who is a history teacher. We visited the Revolutionary War battlefield, Brandywine, and also visited Harper's Ferry, where the Union Army arsenal was located.

My other nephew, Kevin Shaffer and I visited the Civil War Museum in Harrisburg where they had a group of Civil War Reenactors - the 41st Alabama Regiment Company I - who put on a terrific reenactment of marching and drilling.

t iBAM! 2013

We are eagerly looking forward to mid-October when once again iBAM! will take place at the Irish American Heritage Center. To my mind, this is certainly one of the premiere Irish cultural events that takes place anywhere in the USA. Join us October 10-13, and experience some real Irish culture.

Illinois Pensions

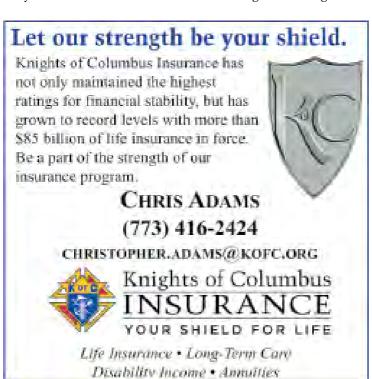
The best description I've heard is the Illinois State Legislature is paralyzed. Are they afraid to go ahead with pension reform until after the elections. Obviously, they keep beating around the bush. Speaker Madigan and State Senator, John Cullerton are not showing the leadership needed.



Dan McLaughlin, Mayor of Orland Park, was recently welcomed as the new Executive Director of the Builders Association. Dan has an extensive background in association management, construction and business issues that will benefit the Builders Association.

The Builders Association is a 107 year old trade organization representing Chicago area general contractors and suppliers.

Pictured from left to right are Treasurer Ken Egidi, Pepper Construction Company; Builders Association Executive Director Dan McLaughlin; Chairman Jimmy Akintonde of Ujamma Construction and Vice Chariman Jeff Raday of McShane Construction Company.





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A Taste of Chicago Sister Cities: Slow Food

Join like Cohony Committee of Chinam-Status Cities internal book Slow Food Chicago and the Center for BIL EVENING of great Red and beste brigh much A Taste of Chieaco States Ology Slow Food

Slow Food is a global gressevols represent that envisions a world where all people can est food that is good for them, good for the people who grow it and good for the planet.

Sample Slow Food dishes created by such deline.



e dabbelleserie as Farmhouse. the Gegs. Chicago Bahara. Hartington's Calaring & Dall and Quadrac's **Figuratio** & Wine Box Errice meate with the Academy of March Michigan

A Taste of Chicago States Olies: Slow Food is Friday. Suplember 20 from them to flow Tinkete are \$50 and include food inelings and two drift licitals for the cost but.

Scope is limited and tickets: can be purchased at week Chimago States Cities, corp.

Tee Time For Golf Open

The 20th Annual bish American Heritage Center Golf Chan is Salunday September 21 al 1gm at 51. Andrew's Golf Club in West Chicago. The event is a fundation for the Gentler and its played accomble oblin.

The ratios is \$125 per person and includes: numbers to possess a hole for \$100.

greens feet, accarl, dinner, cocidalls. entertainment and saffle prizes.

For tichels, contact Alan Dagger at \$12-401-2003 or the WHD of 779-262-7005. ed 10. You can also contact the above-



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Nonlinations gave being prepared for the 3014 Class? Deadline: September 15, 2013 Visit www.inhof.org for details.

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THE HERITAGE LINE

TIRISH AMERICAN heritage center



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President's Message

Transacts all of your briefs - from it will be a model trampia it a venderki sanner at the Genter Thenis to the voluniteers, and all who helped with reservoire building projects. Drants to all who beloed uplie our Annual Partie and Built-Picric a success. Thereto by all who helped with little. Feet. Thank you to all the volunteers and stall who beloed make it a processor of transport of the same of great proposes.

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 The Harbage Singers have manager performance planted in the Chicagoland was

· After the month of August vacation, that music returns to the Fifth Provinces.

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> Type, on Mondays from Continuous 20 Protego Mountain 4 and Westerstein. **Non-Coloties** 2 braight Marine S.

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Margo O'Donnell in Concert

It, Petita Fathers present Margo O'Demnel in concert this full in the IRUS Auditorium. Don't miss this resert-wirning bitch and Country music star, as also relates to the Confer for one night only.

Mange O'Convoll
started participing
country music at a very young age
with a local show band. The Keyneton.
Site recented her finit single in 1969,
Borry Math Septimer God, which neer a
success as was her second single, ITI
Could See the World.

Through the diges of a CAND/Food/by the Afric, released in 1668, commissi has resilicand aborton with time.

O'Domeil has been a successful singer for five decades and has sold more than one million records to date.



She has performed with purch legands as Johnny Creat, London Lynn and Dody Parton. She also presented numerous TV shows for RTE in the 1970's and has collected many search during her long contex. For the part several years, she has been performing her arrest benefit consists.

in Otherson

After the cancest, job so in the Edn Rouge for the regist, with all your broatle decree. Tee, cattles and sods broad all be served.

Margo O'Domnál in Goscert is Salanday, October 26 et Tom and Boleta are \$05

To purchase tickets, call the St. Patrick Fathers Office at 273-087-4741 or the WHO at 273-360-765. All proceeds aid St. Patrick Fathers fillusions.

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appreciated. With your commitment we can continue to sail the Center our home for all things told for many more years.

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It Starts With A Song

By Joe McShane and Margo O'Donnell

Hello everybody,

Firstly I want to thank Joe for helping me out last month. I have been busy on different projects but most of the time has been spent writing my "Autobiography". I found it very emotionally draining. I relived things from childhood up until this present day, things I thought I had dealt with but I found I really hadn't dealt fully with a lot of things.

My Mam was sick and it was a worrying time. She has just celebrated her 94th Birthday but age doesn't matter. The longer we have them around the harder it is to let go. Thankfully, she is home from hospital and for that I am truly grateful.

On the 28th of July, the people of Athlone celebrated with Brendan Shine and I attended a special "This Is Your Life" in his honour. I was there as a surprise guest and boy did he look surprised. It was real special. A wonderful tribute for a lovely man.

I have done some of my concerts over here in Ireland and a few more to coming up. I really enjoy meeting all the fans. I had a wonderful concert in the "Blue Haven" in Kilcar near Killibegs, Co. Donegal which will be televised for my 50th Anniversary next year. We had a great night and I met up with people that go way back to my early years in the music business.

I am looking so forward to Joe coming this month. We have a concert in Leeds, England on September 13 and also in Mullaghbane, Co. Armagh near his home place on September 21.

I know it will be special my friend, so until the next time

Over to you Joe. Love always, Margo

Thank you Margo,

I am really looking forward to meeting up with you and doing the shows together. Oh Boy! It's been about 14 years since I did my last gig over there. It will be great to meet up with some old friends.



Irish American News

I am in New York right now and this is one fast moving city. I think I prefer the Midwest, where life is a little more laid back. Although, I have to say the folks here are very friendly and it is a wonderful experience.

Well a few weeks ago, Margo and I did an interview with Packie Keeney. He is a very dedicated presenter from Highland Radio, Letterkenny, Donegal. Margo on the phone from Castleblayney and me on skype from Chicago. We talked about how we started writing songs together and how Margo got the song Erin Tennessee to her brother Daniel (who became one of the writers). Since then Margo and I have written dozens of songs together and God sparing us, we will write dozens more. Packie Keeney is very much into promoting song writers. He interviews at least 2 every Monday night on his show that airs from 9 till 11 pm. (Irish time). You can listen live to his show online. With the music business being so deceitful in so many areas, it's great to know that there are still people like Packie around. So I'm sure Margo joins me in thanking all the good, true and loyal presenters out there who

promote music from a pure love of the arts. We need them and appreciate them.

Talking of promoting the arts, the iBam which will be held in October at the Irish American Heritage Center, Chicago. This looks like the place to be. You can meet the authors personally and of course there is a fantastic lineup of musicians and singers. Songwriting tip - here's a little

experiment for you to try and actually it's not just for songwriting. I read a book about this particular subject and its about the left and right hand side of the brain. Without getting in too deep, this is the exercise (I should mention its for right handed people) write 10 very important questions to yourself on a piece of paper. Then put the pen in your left hand and answer them one by one. It will be a little hard to write with your left but bare with it. You will be thinking from the intuitive side of your brain and you will probably be very surprised at your answers. You might be surprised at what you can learn about yourself.

Margo and I will be doing our next write up together in Ireland over a cup of tea and one of Shirley Jones bacon sandwiches.

Until next time be good to each

Margo and Joe

This months song is a country flavored song we wrote a few months back.

Picture On The Piano

Written by Margo O'Donnell, Joe McShane and James Thacker That crazy day in Nashville, I'd been playin all day long You sat down beside me and joined in on a song Four hands on the piano and two drinks from the bar One wild night underneath, the Tennessee Stars

Got a photo that my buddy took when we met that day A moment captured side by side that afternoon on Broadway All along I guess we knew you would have to go And leave an empty heart, half a song and picture on the piano

Now you're back in Austin I'm wishin you were here A song we almost finished ringing in my ears Started drinking lone star to hold the memory As I sit here trying to revive, the sweetest melody Chorus and then Verse 3

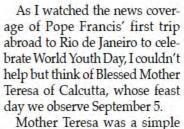
When you walked in your Texas swing set Tennessee on fire you got this good ole country boy shakin' with desire Been hoping I can find the words to bring you back again I'll keep playing half a song, until then

A Word With Monsignor Boland

The Vaice of Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Chicago

Rev. Monsignor Michael M. Boland

Administrator, President and CEO



woman. Cardinal George accurately described her when he said "she was what we saw." What we saw was a humble servant of God and of God's most destitute people. We watched her demonstrate her tireless commitment to children, the dying, the desperately poor, the hungry and homeless, the sick, the abandoned.

Her actions made her one of the most powerful people of her time. She convinced hundreds of thousands of people to care for those in need. She built relationships with the world's most influential leaders. She traveled to all parts of the globe and she won countless awards for her service. But her "power" never removed her from the presence of the poor. She never stopping touching, loving and living with those whom the rest of the world had cast off and forgotten.

Despite all the "power" that comes with the pontificate, Pope Francis also remains very simple: a people's priest who uses plain, yet profound, language and is not afraid to get close to his flock and much to the chagrin of his security detail, let his flock get close to him!

Pope Francis' commitment to a "poor Church for the poor" elevates the poor to new heights. He reminds us that those who live at the margins of society are the most important, for it is in serving the least among us that we serve Jesus Christ. During his visit to a notorious favela or "slum" of Rio, he urged that "The measure of the greatness of a society is found in the way it treats those most in need, those their poverty."

Pope Francis shares Mother Teresa's commitment to action. He raised some eyebrows when he encouraged youths to get out into their communities and "make a mess!" He wants young people to use their God-given talents to serve others, and spread Jesus' message of hope and healing in neighborhoods around the globe.

Mother Teresa was continually urging each of us to get involved. In one interview, she was asked what would make the biggest impact on the plight of the poor. She shocked the interviewer by responding not with a recommended global policy change, but with her radiant smile and the words "You and I."

Mother Teresa is famous for saying, "If you can't feed a hundred people, feed just one." Whatever each of us can do, no matter how big or how small, is profoundly important. She reminded us that by working together, we can achieve great things: "What I can do, you cannot. What you can do, I cannot. But together we can do beautiful things for God."

If she were alive today, Mother Teresa's inspirational journey of caring for the poor would be splashed all over the internet and news media. As humble as she was, she knew that media attention was critical to motivating others to action. Although it is a shame that her uplifting words and heroic deeds are no longer kept in constant view, thankfully, we have another dedicated servant of the poor in Pope Francis, whose grace and charm will keep the spotlight shining brightly on those most in need.

In honor of Mother Teresa's feast day, I would like to humbly ask to join me in helping the one million people served by Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago each year. It starts with you and I-together we can do beautiful who have nothing apart from things for God!



I walked into the food hall marquee at the Cavan Institute in Cavan town to the aroma of sausages. The food hall was full to the brim with people sampling locally produced ice cream, farmhouse cheeses, rhubarb jams, gooseberry spiced jams, black puddings, cider and chocolates. November 2012 had seen the inaugural 'Taste of Cavan' and now less than a year later over 20,000 people had spilled

with olive, basil and tomato sauce and pan fried gnocchi. If you think there may be a little Italian influence, you would be correct. Clodagh lived in Italy for some time and has combined her love of Irish ingredients with her experience in Italy. Among the many ingredients used for this recipe, she used locally sourced chickens, Donegal Rapeseed Oil, Irish Atlantic Sea Salt, fresh lemons, garlic, freshly grown herbs

16-20 different varieties of jam's Corleggy cheese chutney's and marmalades. They began at a farmers market salad, followed and last year expanded their by scallops, babusiness by moving in to a commercial facility in Cavan. They currently service 60 SuperValu monkfish and stores across throughout Ireland. I enjoyed the 3 I sampled but new potatoes had a particular attachment for and for dessert the gooseberry spiced jam. All a rhubarb baked of their fruits are sourced from local farmers or farmers around Ireland, ensuring only the finest morning, Geaof products as a result.

By walking a mere 5 steps baked scones I landed upon the 'Corleggy Cheese' booth from Belturbet, Co Cavan. The lovable and clever Silke Cropp (pictured) was there to greet me, with knife in hand,

ready to slice her various cheeses. If her packaging and presentation was not enough to entice you then a bite of one of her cheeses would.

Ann Rudden was working with her 6 year old daughter at her booth. Ann had just returned from a trip to China where she hopes to export her product 'Aines Chocolates'. Ann from Stradone village, Cavan is going

from strength to strength with her handmade chocolates. Ann is a master chocolatier and only the freshest butter and cream makes it in to her wild raspberry, zesty lime, toffee butterscotch and Sicilian lemon chocolate bars.

The evening ended with a meal in the 'Olde Post Inn' in Clover Hill, Cavan. Words fail me right now as I write this. The car pulled up alongside a picturesque old stone church, with a welcoming Inn adjacent. I walked into this 6 bedroomed Inn where I was to stay for the night and I was greeted venture 'Clodagh's Kitchen' in by the smell of turf burning in the fireplace. There really is something about this smell that draws you in and welcomes you. Gearoid Lynch, proprietor and was 'Moran's Jams'. They have chef entertained us that night.

with beetroot con and cabbage terrine then baby carrots, alaska. Later the next

roid had freshly ready along with home made raspberry jam and freshly brewed coffee. We chatted animatedly about

sustainable farming, and fishing in the Lakeland County. Gearoid told me that there is a lake to fish in for every day of the year in Cavan. 365 lakes in the county. It's funny how it country to really learn about your homeland. Cavan was friendly and welcoming. It is a county to watch. Passion runs deep here. It is evident when you hear them speak. Passion is belief and they believe in their foods.



through the doors eager to sip and see.

I had arrived just in time for the next cookery demonstration by Ireland's well loved chef, restaurant owner, cookbook author and television presenter, Clodagh McKenna. The funny thing about all of this, was as a child, I had lived next door to Clodagh but had not seen her since she was perhaps 5 years old! She arrived on stage with a smile as wide as the ocean and her eyes darted around the room, making contacting with people and acknowledging their presence. She is indeed the epitome of Irish hospitality. To say she conducted a cooking demonstration would really not do it justice as Clodagh educated people throughout. She made lemon roasted chicken and local heirloom tomatoes. She frequently offered tips, advising not to put your tomatoes in the fridge, the benefits of grass fed beef and why marbling occurs in your beef. (This was of course, for another beef recipe!) Clodagh made parmesan gnocchi and exclaimed that she felt it was only natural that we make it well in Ireland as the main ingredient is the potato. Clodagh stayed for a while to judge the 'Chef of Cavan' competition, visited with people, signed autographs and then had to drive back to Dublin for evening service at her newest Blackrock, Co Dublin.

I meandered in to the food hall, eager to sample the foods on offer. The first booth I stopped had



View From Ireland

By Maurice Fitzpatrick

Political Realignment in Ireland Imminent?

Here are two news stories that may not seem to have any relation to each other at first glance. Item one: veteran RTÉ man Bill O'Herlihy is preparing to deliver a speech at the site of Michael Collins' assassination in which he will urge Fianna Fáil and Fianna Gael to finally end their opposition and form an alliance. Item two: IMF mandarin, Ashoka Mody, just published a paper stating why the austerity doctrine has failed abjectly in Europe, citing Ireland as a particularly stark example of that failure.

So what is the connection? O'Herlihy will give the Annual Michael Collins speech on August 25th at Béal na mBláth, in West Cork, a commemoration of Collins' death and the bitterest moment of the Civil War. He will argue that the 'Civil War Parties' have far more in common now than in the 1920s and that they should do politics together for the first time since their establishment—and O'Herlihy is not alone in calling for them to kiss and

The parties, resolutely centre-right, and more right than centre in their economic outlook, have but a smidgin between them politically. Neither of them has set the country alight with major political advances since the 1960s. Differences do exist: Fine Gael's copybook has not been blotted by corruption nearly as much as Fianna Fáil's; Fianna Fáil has always claimed to be the 'Republican Party', and its leaders have traditionally employed more staunchly republican rhetoric to gain votes. But the inability of both of Ireland's dominant parties to cope with our current debacle has disaffected the electorate. O'Herlihy's hope is that their forming a coalition will enable a genuinely left-wing alternative to emerge, and a left-right political spectrum to develop as in other European countries.

Political right and left in the thick of this recession are read according to differing attitudes towards the sustainment of banking elites in contrast to the will to overhaul the financial system's grip on hitherto sovereign governments. No political party in Ireland is leftist by that definition, and this, strangely, is where Ashoka Mody comes in.

Mody shot to prominence in Irish public life in November 2010 when he, as chief of the IMF mission to Ireland, and



his colleagues rolled into town to oversee the handover of the governance of Ireland to a set of economists. A photo-journalist's

exposure of Mody as he side-stepped past a beggar on an icy Dublin street became a defining image of our loss of sovereignty. The Irish also remember how he and his team issued austerity decrees while staying at the plushest of Dublin hotels.

Nevertheless, as financial analysts go, Mody has also spoken a good deal of sense about our economic situation. He has consistently shown himself to be flexible and willing to criticise banks whose inflexibility have led to so much political and economic degeneration. My guess (it can only be a guess given how closely guarded the Troika's business has been) is that Mody has made a number of enemies by speaking against ECB austerians, which maybe helps to explain his recently taking up a sinecure at Princeton.

No longer assigned by the IMF to manage the Irish economy, Mody is free to speak his mind, and his recent suggestions have made Irish banks very cross. He has illustrated that the wave of distressed mortgages under threat of repossession, enabled by new legislation slammed through the Dáil just before it closed for summer break, are as much the banks' problem as ours. Mody argues that banks should not only write down mortgages to their current market value—the mortgages today are worth a fraction of their original valuation—but that they should create a 'new contract [that] could be based on 80 percent of the current market value'.

It will take enormous political pressure for banks to restructure their clients' mortgages to that extent as a matter of course. But Mody is right: if the Irish hold very firm, and are willing to walk away from negative equity mortgages, then banks will blink first. The banks dread even to reflect on how easily creditors can become debtors, and they do not want a portfolio of several hundred thousand unsellable residential property assets on their books.

The mortgage trauma that is about to hit Ireland, its first phase playing out between now and Christmas, will be so profound a shock that our first response will be flailing and unorganised. While many people can agree with Mody's solution, implementing it, collectively forcing the banks' hand, is a far more complex feat than any of the existent political parties are willing to countenance. Such an undertaking is beyond simply them—as the 'controversy'

that the Labour Party caused in the coalition by whimpering about reducing cuts in the forthcoming October budget bears out.

So where would the requisite organisation come from? What O'Herlihy seems to be arguing for is an increased role for the left in Irish politics, leaving the rightist parties to their own stale and unproductive devices. It would be nice to think that things could shift in such a choreographed way, but political change seldom occurs so cosily, and there is no evidence that it will

Modern Ireland lacks a tradition of radically interrogating doctrines that have been widely accepted by bigger countries in Europe and elsewhere (Michael D. Higgins as president is assuredly a new broom in this respect).

Yet new political ground is opening up and a leader who is willing to take up cudgels against the banks, which have long since acted beyond their purview, stands to precipitously gain a following. Such a movement must harness its appeal to the immediate needs of the struggling middle class rather than any doctrinaire left-wing approach. The mortgage crisis could well cause Irish politics, so stagnant for so long, to go through a major transformation.







The Haon Do Tri Score board committee is helping to raise the needed funds for an electronic remote controlled scoreboard for Gaelic Park.

Tickets are \$10 each or 6 for \$50

Drawing will be held on September 22nd on the Gaelic park patio. Winner need not be present.

1st Prize \$500 Southwest Visa card 2nd Prize is a Francesca's dinner certificate 3rd prize is a Gaelic football basket

> For more information: Haondotrigaa@gmail.com Aishling Dalton Kelly (708 774 9951) Symonne Fitzsimons (773 307 1461)

Lizzie Reynolds (773 402 9506) Mary Prendeville (630 514 447)













Maurice Lennon is one of the best fiddle players in the world, and none can argue it. His new album, The Little Ones, is just out on Clo Iar-Chonnacht to prove it. The label has been hot, hot, hot lately with a series of terrific releases, and this one is the capstone. There are 14 tunes here, all again reaffirming Maurice's place at the top. He is joined by many members of his incredibly musical family, the legendary Lennons. Charlie, Brian, and Ben all lend a hand and are ably assisted, especially

by Garry O'Briain and Jim DeWan on guitar for two of the tracks. Reels, jigs, airs, and even a waltz fill the basket. In fact, the concluding tune on the album is Maurice's widely loved classic, If Ever You Were Mine. Anyone who loves his playing knows that Maurice has fought a debilitating, physical



illness for a long time. Thank heavens that doesn't show here. He has never been better, and if music is what life is all about for a truly gifted musician, then Maurice Lennon is 100% cured. Good on him! If you know Maurice Lennon you probably already have this album. If you are not familiar with his work, this album will serve as both a beautiful introduction and a textbook as to how the Irish fiddle can be subtly, yet forcefully played. A master class, from a Master. Play on, Maurice!

Full Set is one of our favorite groups and their brand new, Notes After Dark shows why. This wonderful sextet represents the very best in young Irish music. It is a real, true display of the diversity of traditional music, played with a taste



and sensibility that belies these players' youth. They are a stunning group. There are 11 cuts on

the album. We would have wished that their vocal selections tilled newer soil than most of the selections picked here. Many of them have been heard too many times before. But, they are sung with conviction and love---and isn't that what matters? It is in the instrumentals that we get the full range of the grasp that these young people bring to the music. Each is terrific on their respective instruments. Each shows a real and deep connection with the music and their aggregate respect for it. Notes After Dark is a worthy follow

up to the group's debut album, Notes at Liberty. As we have said before, we hope that this group is set for a long run in the music. We cannot wait to get them on our radio show, Ireland Tonight, every Monday at 8 o'clock pm on WDCB 90.9 FM and wdcb.org.

Consider that a cheap plug for our show, yet a full endorsement of this wonderful group that really brings it all. Full Set, Full strength, Full on.

Fire & Fortune is a brand new, and wonderful bit of business just out from Ben Walker and Josienne Clark. It took us a couple of listens to "get" this album. That tells you something. It is rare that we listen to an album twice if we can't take it on board fully the first time. As you know, we get about 500 cd's a year, which people want us to review. Anyone who says they listen to that many cd's all the way through is lying. Most of what we get is not up to snuff, and really not worthy of review when space is so limited. The more we listen to this



duo, the more and more we like this cd, and then the more and more we listen to it and then...you get the idea. These are very brilliant young talents. There is a mix of traditional and more modern here. These two bring a creative touch. We have concluded that Josienne's vocal talents are the power punch here. The accompaniment is tasty, and very well done, indeed. Terrific arrangements. But all that would go for naught if the vocalist can't deliver. Josienne delivers. Nope, there is no doubt about it. The extra time spent with these 12 cuts is more than worth it. That time spent brings a revelation of a brilliant young duo on the scene. Fire & Fortune is a compelling debut.

Katie McNally is a wonderful fiddler out of Boston with a brand new album called, Flourish. She teaches fiddle and this album shows she is well entitled to do so. She is one heck of a fiddler. Her



style leans more to the Kevin Burke, Liz Carroll lighter touch. She does not yet have the power of attack on this album's 10 cuts that the masters like Liz and Kevin display every time they pick up the bow. That being said, she is a wonderful talent and an extremely precise musician. She obviously knows what she is doing. With this, the Boston fiddler establishes herself as a real force on the East coast and in the music generally. This album draws heavily from the Scottish tradition, and whether she is writing a new tune, or playing a classic, we want to hear more from her. One of the hardest things for a young musician to do is to establish his or her own "style". This young lady does all this with her own style and, yes, grace. She is wonderful. So is this album. Find it. katiemcnally.com Wow. We will be playing a lot of her on both Ireland Tonight and the Bill & Imelda Show, which is on the net every Sunday at noon, on LiveIreland.com. There's another easy plug following another heartfelt endorsement of a really and truly wonderful new musician on the scene, Katie McNally.

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Will County Celtic Fest September 14th

by Erin Gallagher

Will County Celtic Fest is getting ready for big fun on Sept. 14 in Joliet. There will be fun for all ages on two stages.

To honor those who serve, all military and first responders admitted free. The day jump starts at Noon with bagpipes during the opening ceremonies. After a moment of silence, the Emerald Society will start the sweet tones of "Amazing Grace" followed by the rolling thunder of the pipe band's own rock version of the tune.

Music on the main stage includes an exciting mix of traditional Irish, and just about everything wonderful that goes with it. The bands include Cutthroat Shamrock, Ploughboys, Colm O'Brien, Reilly, John Condron & the Old Gang Orchestra, and Tallymore. Each group is different in their own right. What they all have in common is talent.







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A complete schedule and sounds are on www.WillCountyCelticFest.com.

The Heritage Tent is where the St. Patrick's School All Year Class Reunion will be held. Admissions from people attending the reunion will be earmarked for the Pat Paul Memorial Scholarship.

The Heritage Stage will feature cultural events, including open Irish pub sessions, Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, learn to jig, and more.

Race fans will love meeting Indy Lights Driver Peter Dempsey. The famous Wexford driver has earned top positions on the toughest courses. He will be on hand for autographs, inteviews and photos with his race car.

The Allied Nursery Children's Area has expanded to involve numerous actives, including the Chicago Parent Magazine Wee Folk Area for the youngest among us. Kids can plant a shamrock, touch a fire truck, bounce in an inflatable obstacle course, race in potato sack, go into the petting zoo, have a face painted, attend a magic show and so much more. All actives are included in the price of admission. The Autobahn Race Zone will feature crafts and games, too. Prizes provided by Ranch Frostie.

The Keigher Academy of Irish Dance will be performing all day on both stages.

The fest is organized by the Irish American Society of County Will, the area's leading Irish group since 1981. Members enter free.

Admission is \$5 for age 13 and over. Children 12 and under are free. The event is held at St. Joe's Park, 733 Theodore Street, Joliet with free parking. There will be plenty of food, cold beer, raffles, vendors and much more. For details, maps and other information, click to www. WillCountyCelticFest.com.



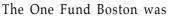
3520 St Rd 38 East, Lafayette - 765-477-0999 WWW.NINEIRISHBROTHERS.COM

Fundraiser Assists Victims of Boston Bombings

Months have passed since the Boston bomb attacks, but for many of the wounded, the healing continues. Local Chicago Irish dance and music schools will host an afternoon of music and dance as a fundraiser for the victims of the Boston bombings.

From Chitown to Beantown is

Proceeds raised will go toward the victims of the Boston bomb attacks, including the four killed and more than 260 injured. Proceeds will benefit the Richard Family, as well as the families of Krystle Marie Campbell, Lü Lingzi, Sean A. Collier and The One Fund Boston.





a fun-filled afternoon for the Irish dance and music community of Chicagoland, filled with music and dance, camaraderie and goodwill, to honor our friends in Boston.

The event is inspired by 8-yearold Jane Richard, an Irish dancer with the Clifden Academy, in suburban Boston. Jane was severely injured in the blasts and this fundraiser will raise funds for Richard's family, as well as Krystle Marie Campbell, Lü Lingzi, Martin William Richard and Sean A. Collier, who lost their lives in the bombings and post-bomb shooting.

Featured performers include the Academy of Irish Music, Dennehy School of Irish Dance, Identity Irish Dancers, Irish Music School of Chicago, McNulty and O'Hare School of Irish Dance Trinity Irish

formed to assist victims and families affected by the tragic events at the Boston Marathon on April 15, 2013 and in the days that followed. In the weeks after the Marathon, through the incredible generosity of thousands of individuals, foundations and corporations, One Fund Boston has raised more than \$60M for the victims and the families.

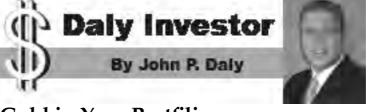
From Chitown to Beantown is Sunday, September 22 at 2pm at the Irish American Heritage Center at 4626 North Knox Avenue, Chicago. Tickets can be purchased at the door and are \$10 for adults and children 12 and under are free. There will be raffle tickets for purchase at the event for great prizes and the Pub will be for drinks. For more information, contact Kathy



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Gold in Your Portfilio

By John P. Daly

During a weak global economy and uncertain financial markets, many investors tout the benefits of holding gold. Some claim that gold deserves a significant weighting in most investors' portfolios. Gold's often-cited portfolio benefits include a strong long-term return, a hedge against inflation, and safe does the evidence build a case for holding gold as a separate asset class? Let's look at historical returns for the answers.

Investors who think of gold as having strong long-term returns base their belief on two strong performance periods in the past four decades—the most recent decade and the 1970s. These periods account for most of gold's price appreciation. After hitting a twenty-year low in 1999, gold began a steady climb in the wake of the dotcom bust, stock market downturn in 2001, and the 9/11 attacks. As the decade wore on, there were Wall Street scandals, natural disasters around the world, and record oil prices. Gold's strongest performance period has come since 2008—and investors can still recall the emotional and financial stress that came with the mortgage meltdown, volatile financial markets, and worldwide recession.

From 2000 through 2011, gold outperformed major equity asset classes around the world. In terms of real (inflation adjusted) growth, gold turned a dollar investment into \$4.05, and US small cap stocks turned a dollar into \$1.58, while the S&P 500 Index and MSCI World ex US Index lost value. Gold had a 12.3% annualized real return, haven during turbulent times. But versus -1.88% for the S&P 500 Index, -1.4% for the MSCI World ex US Index, and 3.9% for the Small Cap Index.

A dollar of gold in 1971 appreciated to \$8.91 in real terms by January 1980, when it peaked at \$850 per ounce, returning over 27% a year and far surpassing the performance of other asset groups. However, much of this rapid appreciation occurred under special circumstances in which US investors could not benefit directly. Here's why: In August 1971, President Nixon took the US off the gold standard, and the price was reset to \$38 an ounce. In 1973, the US government decoupled the dollar's value from gold, and the price was allowed to float freely. During 1974, the price of gold quickly shot up to \$120 per ounce in the free market. Beginning in 1975, the government removed ownership restrictions and US citizens were free to directly own gold for the first time since 1933.

So, US investors could not participate in gold's price appreciation during the first half of the 1970s, and if you disregard those early performance years, gold loses much of its glitter. From 1975 through 1980, a dollar invested in gold grew to only \$2.37 (versus \$8.91), reflecting an 18.4% annualized real rate of return—considerably less than the 27% return for the entire decade. Compare this performance with a 28.9% real annualized return for US small cap stocks, 6.9% for the S&P 500, and 9.4% for non-US stocks (MSCI World ex US Index) for the shorter period.

Some investors who are old enough to remember the 1970s associate the higher demand for gold with turbulent times. The decade was marked by political unrest, war, the 1973-74 bear market, two worldwide oil shocks (1973 and 1979), stagflation, Middle East conflict, and Cold War tensions. In some ways, the 1970s resembled the first decade of this century. Viewed in isolation, the periods suggest that gold offers a reliable source of returns during economic and market distress. But the details show that rising demand for gold in the US was due not only to economic uncertainty, but also to changing monetary policy and federal legislation regarding indi-

vidual ownership of bullion. Fortunately, times eventually improved—and from a broader historical perspective gold has not delivered the long-term performance that some investors imagine, especially during more stable economic periods. From 1971 through 2011, gold has provided lower inflation-adjusted growth than other assets and a lower average return—4.9% per year versus 5.3% for the S&P 500, 5.0% for non-US stocks, and 7.3% for US small cap stocks. If one disregards the 1971–1974 period when US investors could not own it directly, gold's long-term performance drops substantially. From 1975 through 2011, gold produced a real annualized return of only 1.82% and grew an invested dollar to only \$1.95. US small cap stocks returned 10.6%, the S&P 500 returned 7.1%,

Continued to next page

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Daly Investor

Continued from previous page

Some investors perceive gold as

and non-US stocks returned 5.5%.

a good hedge against inflation and

point to its recent record prices as

evidence. Gold's price has climbed

substantially in nominal terms. But

when adjusted for inflation, a dol-

lar of gold in 1980 was worth \$1.04

at the end of 2011. Of course, gold's

performance relative to inflation

has varied according to the time

frame measured. In some periods,

gold has outperformed inflation,

while in other periods gold has

failed to match it. For example,

from 1970 through 2005, consumer

prices more than doubled while

gold lost 20% of its value. Gold's

unreliable performance relative to

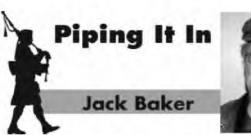
inflation also comes with much

higher volatility. Since 1970, its

standard deviation (risk) has been over 19%, compared with 1.2% for

the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

By this measure, gold is over fifteen



Irish American News

August was a great month this year with wonderful weather and some of the best festivals we've ever attended. Got a chance to see We Banjo 3 at Chief O'Neill's last month and they're still one of my favorite all time bands. Enda Scahill is the zen master of the banjo!

September brings two lovely festivals, the Michigan Irish Music Festival in Muskegon (13th, 14th & 15th) and the Louisville Kentucky Irish Festival (27th, 28th & 29th). Muskegon has one of the best lineups every year and Louisville is one of the friendliest

Derek Warrield

Let ye All Be Irish Conight

Got in an interesting load

of music this month and can't

festivals.

off with the white

wizard of Irish Mu-

sic, Derek Warfield

and his band, the

Young Wolfe Tones.

Derek brought me

his new CD and I

knew I was in for a

treat when I opened

it up and the first

thing I see is Pat-

rick Pearse's face

looking back at me.

about the songs and the events that inspired their creation. His new CD, "Let Ye All Be Irish Tonight" starts off with the title song which Derek wrote and celebrates the finest inclusive traditions of our culture. He continues on with 18 more songs, some classic and some new, some Scottish, some rebel and some just for fun. A special favorite of mine is Pearse's "Oro se do Beatha Abhaile" and it's a lovely version. So you get a lot of music, a lot of stories and, oh yes, did I mention you get the song lyrics as well. Featured prominently throughout is the

> inspired banjo playing of Damaris Woods. This young lady handles the tenor banjo with a talent that inspires all would-be banjo players, and she's a very lovely person as well.

Got to see FullSet live last year at Muskegon and I've been a fan ever since. Their new CD, "Notes After Dark" just came into my grasp and it's another gem. They tackle some damned

difficult tunes on this recording and perform very well. They do a very unique version of the his meds and is pretty talented as wait to share it with you. Starts Scottish tune "Both Sides of the well and, over all, they put out a

a wistful and joyful twist. They jump on a ragtime piece, "Reindeer" and show what masters of the music they are. The whole album is just delightful and full of surprises that will have you going back again and again to listen closer. This band's a keeper and so is the CD. A quick note about a CD that

Uncle Bill Margeson wrote about last month. "Classic Celtic Music" from Smithsonian Folkways is every bit as good as Bill said it was and good enough that I want to add my own "Amen". I was afraid that declining CD sales would drive away all the good stuff that was being gleaned from music archives but, thankfully, the good folks at Smithsonian Folkways are still hard at work feeding our souls with the good "auld" stuff. Do yourself a favor and give this one a listen, it's hard to know where you're going if you don't know where you've been and this CD is a roadmap to our history.

One of the few "Celtic rock" groups that I've found worth listening to has been Cutthroat Shamrock, despite the fact that they don't know the difference between a clover and a shamrock but they are "Yanks" after all. Their new CD is titled "A Path Less Traveled' and has a fair share of music and not just noise. I know, I sound like a grumpy old man and so I am. Still I enjoyed listening to Cutthroat Shamrock. They are musicians, their drummer takes

> sound that is energetic, loud, happy and a bunch of fun. I highly suspect that the band will continue to improve in the future and continue to put out music that meets and the aforementioned criteria. I ain't that old.

at Rampant Lion

Celtic Traders in

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Royal George Theatre? Discounts for 25 or more.

The evidence raises doubt about gold as an essential component in a portfolio. Over time, gold has not delivered significant growth relative to equities. While in real terms gold has preserved its value, it may not closely track inflation over shorter time periods. Moreover, gold's early and recent performance should not obscure the two decades in which it depreciated considerably. Finally, gold is more volatile than other asset groups and does not generate positive cash flows, reducing its potential benefit

as a portfolio stabilizer. John P. Daly is a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ and President of Daly Investment Management, LLC a fee only Registered Investment Advisor specializing in financial planning and wealth management. Phone: 312-239-1317 Email: john@dalyinvestment.com Readers are encouraged to call or email John with questions regarding Investments or Financial Planning.

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Cutthroat Shamrock

Derek Warfield is a firm believer in

sharing the history of the music Tweed" and bring out the real Villa Park, 630-834-8108 or on he plays and the liner notes are meaning of the song. They tackle line at jack@rampantlion.com always a treasure trove of facts "The Roseville Fair" and give it . I welcome your input. Slainté

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19th Ward Local Notes: Speed Cameras at Ag School and the Myth of Sole Survival

"I think that you've got to understand that if you save even Now that is a headscratcher . . one life, you are saving the whole world," Illinois Governor Pat Quinn February 6, 2012

One life is the whole world? .and very bad math.

An Italian bugler (Giovanni Martini 7th Cavalry 1851-1922)

was the sole survivor of US 7th huc iaculis - they are still at it . . Cavalry's encounter with Native America in the summer of 1876; I venture to say that the historical analysis of the event was less than positive. Slow down, Gen Custer! Ease up, there Crazy Horse! Custer -"Here, Trunk-stuffer, take this message to the whole world!" Bugler Martino - "Grazie Col-

onnello! Spero che quelli indiani sterminati voi palle così come quei riccioli. Subito il colonnello!" There have been other histori-

cal events, air traffic misfortunes these days, featuring the One Life Saved meme that falls flat even to this day - Governor Quinn notwithstanding. Hey, a sole

There are all kinds of statistics for the body counts due to anthropogenic or cosmic events in history. From the Last of the 300 Spartans, Aristodemus in Herodatus, to the Beloved Apostle John of the Gospels, right on down to the last surviving member of the original 2008 Brand Obama White House -- Valerie Jarrett. Axelrod and Bagdhad Bob, Desiree Rogers and and Rahm - Ubi Sunt?

.you know, . . . The Public Grift. Rahm Emanuel was saddled

with the debts amassed following the terms of Richard M. Daley. That he knew. He also knew that he needed revenue from revenue paying squares. Thus! Speed Cameras! Speed Cameras are intended to boost City coffers via \$50/\$100 over the speed limit times the many motorists who can not apply the cruise control mechanism in bumper-to-bumper urban traffic. Bikes will shoot by stop signs and cameras, but cars will be arrested by the unblinking eye of the Department for Revenue on the other side of the lens. Cameras are being dispatched (12 locations before Labor Day 2013) in tax revenue rich zip codes throughout the city.

Red-light cameras generated \$69 million for the city in 2010, and speed cameras likely would grow that number considerably. Speeders going 6 mph 10 mph over the limit would face \$50 fines. would face the full \$100 ticket.

Under the new law, the "safety Non fraudantes, quantum ad- zones" where cameras could op-

erate would cover nearly half the city, the Tribune found.

In addition, a Tribune analysis of federal data on crashes showed that Emanuel's proposal would have a limited impact on reducing fatalities. Of the 251 pedestrian deaths in the city between 2005 and 2009, fewer than half occurred in the "safety zones" and less than one-quarter of those involved speeding.

The cameras would run in school zones from 6 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday. The cameras would only operate on school days in school zones. The cameras near city parks would still run one hour before opening until one hour after closing. Emanuel had to agree to those compromises to win approval last fall.

Money would go toward increasing school safety and school transportation, with some earmarked for after-school programs.

The administration envisions a Those going 11 mph and over retrofit of speed detection equipment onto many of the city's 190 existing red light cameras, which are located almost exclusively on busy arterial streets.

> In my community the first of such cameras is being positioned at the Chicago Agricultural High School located at the intersections of Alsip/Oak Lawn & the City of Chicago. We are expected to nod with conviction when told by fatuous but practiced grifters like Pat Quinn and Mayor Rahm that we are saving but one child with each ticket.

> Shortly after Labor Day, we can expect columns of cameras lining Western Avenue from 119th Street South to Howard on the North, saving one child a citation, like the crucifixes set on the Appian Way by Mayor Marcus Licinius Crassus in 71 B.C., in order to save the life of just one child. To paraphrase Pat Quinn, 'Crucify One! Make Believers of the Rest!'

I always try to drive the posted speed limits. If I do not, I expect that I will be crucified in \$50 range and will pay like a good citizen; but will be damned if I am going to believe that if I save one life, I am saving the whole world.

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Irish American Heritage Center. Workshops will run on Saturday, October 5th and Sunday, October 6th Everyone is welcome, from beginner to experienced dancers. Come enjoy the lively tempo of this popular form of Irish social dancing. Registration is \$75 before September 21. Go to irishdancechicago.com for registration and further details.



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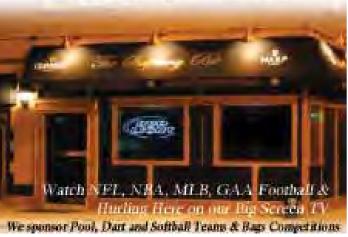


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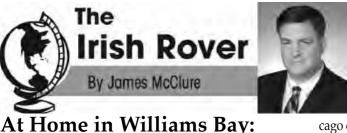
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At Home in Williams Bay: From the Shoreline to the Stars

During this column's 7 year existence the author has lived a number of places. After starting out in Anchorage, Alaska with a year's worth of "Get Your Irish Up... North!" I've move decidedly south back to the northern suburbs of Illinois but the northwestern pull of the subsequent works titled "The Irish Rover" has had me roving at first to Arlington Heights then up to the border town of Richmond, Illinois in McHenry County.

The migration, fueled partly by steadily decreasing rents in a stubborn recession, has never left me feeling far from Chicagoland, and in some ways I'm very much still in it.



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Williams Bay, on the western edge of the Lake Geneva tourist mecca, is a town of about 2600 that has always had Illinois and Chicago connections. Those of

the steel rail variety included the Chicago and Northwestern's commuter passenger line where

Williams Bay WAS the Northwestern in the

name as a terminus for commuters to a summer home astride the Geneva Lake of tour boats and sailboats or a year-round residence overlooking the iceboats skating along beneath the Chesapeake Bay-like mansions of Cedar Point. The green and gold bi-level cars of the Northwestern left Williams Bay for good in 1965, receding back to Lake Geneva in the mid 70's, Richmond in the early 80's and now the line remains as a shortened

shadow that begins in McHenry.

The twin harbingers of the rail line's demise, U.S. 12 with it's diagonal dash toward Chicago, and Wisconsin Highway 50 with its swift rush eastward to the Tri-State Tollway and U.S. 41, are joined by their younger niece Interstate 43, which runs just north of Williams Bay with connections north and south, east and west along the Cheddar Curtain from Rockford to Milwaukee.

Williams Bay can be a quiet town of small beginnings for rich futures. It was here in the buckle of the Summer theatre belt that Harrison Ford began his professional acting career about a year or so before the train left town. Turning south onto State Highway 67 off of Wis. 50, you soon pass by the vacant Belfry Players Theatre across from the new and modern Aurora Walworth hospital. A few miles east on 50 the Lazy Cloud Inn boasts the Paul Newman Suite where the young actor laid his head between perfor-

mances of summer stock. More recent actors include Gary Burghoff, Radar O'Reilly of M*A*S*H and another actor with an Irish American name--John Mahoney, who is frequently sighted in the towns alongside Williams Bay as a part-time resident and full-time afficianado of the gourmet cheese shop in Delavan and the supper club alongside Como Lake.

Williams Bay itself got on the marquee with top billing in the movie Chain Reaction with much of the Keanu Reeves and



Morgan Freeman action taking place at the University of Chicago's Yerkes Observatory, home since the 1890's to an institution that gazes the heavens having attracted Albert Einstein in the 20's, NASA in the 70's and endless weekly tour-goers students, and educators today. Another institution of learning, Aurora University's George Williams College, is adjacent to the Yerkes property and a golf course.

The liberal arts college of roughly 400 students is itself a tourist destination in the spring and summer. It's Music by the Lake concert series in the Pritzker Pavillion (yes the Chicago Pritzkers) is a Ravinia Festival of its own when the tiny campus with its own dock and lakefront swells to near the town of Williams Bay's populations with 2500 people seeing concerts from classical to country's Lee Greenwood to rock's The Doobie Brothers.

For well over a hundred years Chicago's hoi polloi has flocked to the shores of Geneva Lake. Familiar names like Wrigley, Armour and Field (as in Marshall) maintained beautiful mansions. The Great Chicago Fire helped make the Lake Geneva area a yearround destination.

The practical beauty of Williams Bay is that it offers many of the seasonal amenities of Lake Geneva (beach, boat tours, summer without the traffic and congestion.

cottages and lakeside motel rooms) but It's also a wifi paradise for the summer and permanent residents who make the

Bay home. I've channeled my inner Ernest

Hemingway on my notebook while enjoycone from the seasonal Dip in The Bay ice cream shop, a buffalo wrap from The Frosty Moose general store, and sampled organic treasures and foreign sodas (along remarkable sandwiches and deli items) from The Green Grocer, a favorite year-round spot for writing a column and enjoying an Italian soda.

Nature lovers can enjoy not only a walk on the open-to-the-public lakeshore path (and a closer peek at the mansion es-

tates) but also a breathtaking hike through the nearby marshes, savannahs and woods of the Kishwauketoe Nature Preseve just north of the bay.

Williams Bay is easily accessible to just about anywhere via I-43 just 4 miles north of the town. Along the way you see the former Williams Bay Air Force Station, a Cold War era ghost base that still features all the original barracks and buildings repurposed for storage and the

tiny Officers Village homes from the 1940s now occupied by local residents. The former radar site sits on a looming hill that is the tallest site in Walworth County.

What if you're a traditionalist and you'd still like to come to Williams Bay by rail, as Harrison Ford's Irish American father may have on his way from suburban Chicago? Simple, just take take the Metra Harvard Line and at the end of the line you're only a 15 minute drive courtesy border area taxi and limo services.

I'm blessed with an affordable vintage apartment that even has a view of the bay if you lean to one side of the window and squint. I always try to live near water, a hiking trail and the sound of train whistles. The Gage Line's lake tour boat whistles were the substitute, I thought, until one night I heard the long, familiar diesel blasts of the Wisconsin Southern freight line that travels just south of Williams Bay and on to Hebron, Illinois, through Richmond and on down to Fox Lake where the line joins the Metra commuter route into Chicago.

The sound sometimes perks the ears of my late Dad's cat Kitty as she sleeps curled next to my bedroom window ringed by pine trees and her favorite birds under the moonlight. MEOW! What's that?" MEOW Kitty at first asked with a snap of her tail and a nudge closer to my hip and arm.

"That, my Dear One," I said to the redorange tabby as the Woo-Wooo reached the shining lake waves, "that sound means we're home." Email IrishRoverJim@aol.com

County Will Morrigans: 2013 Fall Schedule

Irish American News

Week	Home	Away
9/7	TBD	
9/14	Bye Celtic Fest	
9/21	Indianapolis Hoydens	County Will Morrigans
9/28	Fox Valley Vixens	County Will Mornigans
10/5	County Will Morrigans	Chicago Sirens
10/12	County Will Morrigans	Indianapolis Hoydens
10/19	Bye	
10/26	Chicago Sirens	County Will Morrigans
11/2	County Will Morrigans	Ann Arbor

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8/24 AWAY v. Northwest Indiana Exiles 8/31 AWAY v. Illiana Misfits 9/7 HOME v. Northwest Woodsmen

9/14 OFF

9/21 AWAY v. Chicago Riot

9/28 HOME v. Fond Du Lac Wolfpack 10/5 OFF (possible fundraiser)

10/12 OFF (possible fundraiser) 10/19 HOME v. Oconomowoc 10/26 AWAY v. Chicago Westside Condors

11/2 AWAY v. Fox Valley Maoris 11/9 OFF

WINTER BREAK

3/29/14 HOME v. Rockford Ravens 4/5/13 HOME v. Green Bay Celtics

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Stone Hearth Theatre at Chief O'Neill's

Stone Hearth Theatre has announced its third season of Irish one act plays in its new home at Chief O'Neill's Pub and Restaurant, 3471 N. Elston, in Chicago. The new fall season will feature plays based on works of James Joyce and Maurice Walsh, as well as a play by Irish playwright Geraldine Aron.

Stone Hearth will present staged readings of three plays in September, October, and November, and will continue its "meal and a play" offering in its new venue. Each play will be performed twice on one day. On each day, the earlier performance will be accompanied by an Irish buffet for one price, or audience members may purchase theatre-only tickets. The later performance will not be accompanied by a meal, but the audience members may order from the regular menu.

Started in 2011 by producers Brigid Duffy and Frank Mahon, Stone Heart Theatre has presented plays by Sean O'Casey, Brian Friel, Hugh Leonard, and other great Irish playwrights, to sellout audiences at the Irish American Heritage Center. The concept of a "meal and a play" offering was inspired by Bewley's Café Theatre in Dublin. Duffy and Mahon feel that moving the series to Chief O'Neill's will offer their audiences

an even better theatre and dining experience. Earlier this year, Chief O'Neill's made the list of Top Ten Irish Pubs in the

The third play of the season, Maurice Walsh's The Quiet Man, has recently played to sellout audiences in Ireland, and will be performed at the Cong Festival, Co. Mayo, in October.

Cong is the village where much of the Oscar-winning film was shot in 1951. The performance will follow the unveiling of The Quiet Man Statue.

Here is the lineup for the new season:

The Boarding House from Dubliners by

Directed by Dennis Zacek, Artistic Director Emeritus, Victory Gardens Theatre

Saturday, September 21st @ 1 pm and 3 pm (Irish Buffet starts at 11:30 for first show)

A Galway Girl by Geraldine Aron Directed by Charles Gerace

Saturday, October 19th @ 1 pm and 3 pm rish Buffet starts at 11:30 for first show)

Maurice Walsh's The Quiet Man Adapted by Frank Mahon

Directed by Si Osborne

Sunday, November 3rd @ 2 pm and 4 pm (Chief O'Neill's Sunday brunch with first show)

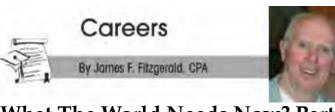
First performances: \$35 for Irish buffet and play or \$15 play only

Second performances: \$15 – play only For tickets: www.brownpapertickets.com

For More Information visit Stone Hearth Theatre on Facebook or call 847.644.5683

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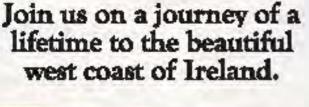


What The World Needs Now? Part 2

In my August column I said that our country suffers from a terrible lack of leadership at every level of our society. We are always hearing that "the system" is broke, well who is going to fix it? But simply stating the problem doesn't solve it. I would hope to spark further study into the concept of leadership. Ideally ethical scholars, business people, clergy and government officials would

leadership gene that we seem to have forced into hiding. Although being a leader is as American as apple pie, we attack, demonize and degrade people who take leadership positions. It doesn't seem to matter what level they reach, we criticize them.

Let us be clear, some of our "leaders" should be "thrown out" of office or their area of responsibility. These people are not advancjoin the crusade to resurrect the ing a positive program.





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How do we address the issue of lenge found that the top five charcreating more and better leaders? Let's resolve the eternal question: few leaders are born with advanced leadership skills, but rather most leaders have learned leadership skills. There is an inadequate supply of born leaders, so our society has to help develop leaders. Due to space limitations, the

global aspects of this issue will be addressed next month. This column will focus on a basic level, should you become a leader? Do you want to be a leader? If so, stand up and tell somebody that you are willing to take the responsibility and allow yourself to be accountable. That's all it takes to get on the road to a leadership role.

Why would you even think about being a leader in your community? Perhaps it is because you could get some things accomplished that need doing. Certainly there are numerous advantages to being a leader. You get a certain level of respect from people. You get more praise and support than the average person. Most importantly, you help formulate the agenda. As the famous Margaret Mead said, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." Could you be the person that initiates this group?

Clearly there are disadvantages. The responsibilities of leadership will take time from your life. People commonly turn to their leader when a crisis develops. And, the leader is commonly held to a higher standard regarding his personal behavior. His actions are more likely to be closely scrutinized than the actions of Jane or Joe Six-Pack. The very nature of being a leader tends to make your life more public. You are out in front of others. Your flaws are more easily observed.

But if you have a passion to do something, why not take the responsibility for it? Go beyond simply being the "responsible" party and accept specific accountability for your actions.

It is pretty common for individuals to doubt their leadership ability. Virtually everyone can be a leader. You need to give yourself a chance. The authors of Leadership Chal-

acteristics of admired leaders are:

- **HONESTY**
- FORWARD LOOKING
- 3. **INSPIRING**
- COMPETENT
- FAIR MINDED.

How would you grade yourself on these five traits? Please note the absence of intelligence on this list; it ranks #8.

Give yourself a little five minute test. What are the five most important achievements you have had in your life, whether in school, at work, in the neighborhood or community? Do you have any significant achievements in your life to build on?

Do you believe that you have the capacity to be a leader? Perhaps In order to give some frame of reference to this question, you really have to get into it a bit. You have to take the time to learn more about yourself. Clearly, willingness to be a leader implies that the person can tolerate some risk. They can accept responsibility. They are willing to be held accountable when something goes wrong.

As a leader-in-training, there are four things that you need to know about yourself. First, you must know who you really are. You must understand your essence. Do you have a passion for a mission? Are you ready to step up?

Second, you must know your competencies. Examine yourself; can you state the three or four major strengths you have displayed in

time now. If you are "addicted" to some activity, are you willing to table it while you are in a leadership role?

Fourth, what goals or challenges speak to you? Simply wandering around, claiming to be a "leader" won't cut it. You need to focus your activities on one or two specific challenges; otherwise your energies will be so fragmented you will not be successful in any one of your activities.

So if you agree with my premise, leadership in our society is lacking, then you may want to decide if you are part of the problem or part of the solution?

I am absolutely convinced that many of us just need a nudge or possibly a cause to bring out our leadership qualities. How about coming out of the closet during the last three or four months of the year? Don't waste your time focusing on your limitations, but rather concentrate your thoughts and efforts on your talents.

As mentioned above, we will focus on the more global aspects of the leadership crisis in my column next month. Your comments or suggestions are sincerely welcome. Carpe Diem.

James F. Fitzgerald is the president of James F. Fitzgerald & Associates, Inc., an Oak Brook, IL-based senior executive coaching and outplacement firm. Web site: Jamesffitzgerald.com. Jamesffitz37@hotmail.com.

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An Immigrant's Musings

By Fr. Michael Leonard

S.T.E.M.

To those who have been following the immigration news, the above acronym is a very familiar one. It stands for, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. It is an acknowledgment of the fact that these four elements are crucial components to the success of our economic growth. According to industrial observes and many economists, one thing is also clear; an insufficient number of well-qualified graduates in the S.T.E.M. fields is a source of concern for American companies. In fact this is one reason given for the fact that many such companies

As a result, the high-tech industries have been consistent in pushing for an expansion of visas to meet the increasing demand in the S.T.E.M. sector. This is included in the immigration bill that passed out of the Senate back in June.

are sending their work overseas.

There exists another interpretation of S.T.E.M., which is equally important to the future growth of our economy. This acronym could also be broken down as follows: Service, Team, Economy

and Memory. By Service I mean that the service industry in the US is extremely dependent on foreignborn workers. From our restaurants to our garages from our homes to our construction sites, we see immigrant labor doing very necessary jobs, and these are often taken for granted. Team for any country to grow and prosper it needs a good team in the labor force. The fact is, with the ageing native-born population we will need more and more caregivers to look after our families at home and in long term care facilities. US born folks are often not available or willing to take up these jobs and that is something we need

to acknowledge and respond to. Economy, our elected officials are

constantly giving lip service to the need to create more jobs. The fact is as the economy picks up pace moving out of recession, we need many low skilled workers to help it grow. Texas alone has 400,000 undocumented workers in the construction sector. Both morning, the elderly man said of their senators voted against the immigration bill that would offer these folks a piece of the American dream. Gentle reader, I think there is something not right with that picture. Memory, part of what makes for good policy in forming new laws needs to be a reference to our past. We need to remember that we all came from somewhere and are proud to call America home. The last time I checked, There Were 114,601 Foreign-Born Individuals Serving In The Military; 12% Of Them Were Not U.S. Citizens. Foreign-born individuals serving in the armed forces, represent 7.91 percent of the 1.4 million military personnel on active duty.

elected officials in the US House of Representatives to have a look at this alternate view of S.T.E.M. and embrace this new wave of immigrants in a manner that is just, fair and humane.

THE HOTEL CLERK

One stormy night many years ago, an elderly man and his wife entered the lobby of a small hotel in Philadelphia, USA. Trying to get out of the rain, the couple approached the front desk hoping to get some shelter for the night.

'Could you possibly give us a room here?" - the husband asked.

The clerk, a friendly man with a winning smile, looked at the couple and explained that there were three conventions in town. Boldt. This young clerk never

"All of our rooms are taken," the clerk said. "But I can't send a nice couple like you out into the rain at one o'clock in the morning. Would you perhaps be willing to sleep in my room? It's not exactly a suite, but it will be good enough to make you folks comfortable for the night."

When the couple declined, the young man pressed on. "Don't worry about me, I'll make out just fine," the clerk told them.

So the couple agreed.

As he paid his bill the next to the clerk, "You are the kind of manager who should be the boss of the best hotel. Maybe someday I'll build one for you."

The clerk looked at them and smiled. The three of them had a good laugh. As they drove away, the elderly couple agreed that the helpful clerk was indeed exceptional, as finding people who are both friendly and helpful isn't easy.

Two years passed. The clerk had almost forgotten the incident when he received a letter from the old man. It recalled that stormy night and enclosed a round-trip ticket to New York, asking the young man to pay them a visit.

The old man met him in New As we move forward, I urge our York, and led him to the corner of Fifth Avenue and 34th Street. He then pointed to a great new building there, a pale reddish stone, with turrets and watchtowers thrusting up to the sky.

"That," said the older man, "is the hotel I have just built for you to manage."

"You must be joking." - the young man said.

"I can assure you I am not." said the older man, a sly smile playing around his mouth.

The older man's name was William Waldorf-Aster, and that magnificent structure was the original Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. The young clerk who became its first manager was George C.

foresaw the turn of events that would lead him to become the manager of one of the world's most glamorous hotels. Author Unknown

Should you have any comments, questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact me at: sliabhanoir@yahoo.com or 773-282-8445

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Irish American Police Association

Annual Dinner Dance

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Former Pastor- Nativity of Our Lord -Bridgeport Chicago Police Department Chaplain and Emerald Society of Illinois Chaplain as our 2013 Irishman of the Year

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President-Fraternal Order of Police, Chicago Lodge #7, for his dedication to his Irish heritage and the Emerald Society of Illinois

To purchase tickets to the Dinner & Awards and/or to place an ad to acknowledge Father Brandt's, our Irish Police Officers, and Mike Shields, contact:

Debbie O'Connor-Dimaggio, President Emerald Society of Illinois celticknot1@comcast.net

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Michigan Irish Music Festival September 13-15

Slide, returns to the stage in rangements. 2013. "The melodies and musicianship are first-rate. They can sing, they can write, they can dance across fingerboards and piano keys, buttons, and bows, and by crikey they can play," says Irish Music Magazine. Slide includes concertina virtuoso Aogán Lynch, fiddler-guitarist Daire Bracken, bouzouki and mandolin player Mick Broderick, pianist-flautist Éamonn de Barra, and singer/ guitar/banjo/mandolin standout Dave Curley.

Damien Dempsey – Take some reggae, fuse it with traditional Irish music, add in rock and folk, and put it all through a grounded working class worldly aware yet caring consciousness, and you're some bit of the way there in describing Damien Dempsey's music. It sounds almost cliché to say it, but he is part of a rich bloodline of Irish singers from Luke Kelly to Ronnie Drew, Christy Moore to Andy Irvine. He has had a #1 album in Ireland and has won 4 Irish Meteor Awards.

Scythian – Rousing and raucous, Scythian plays kicked-up Celtic and world music with hints of Gypsy and Klezmer, all infused with a touch of punk-rock sensibility. Take a trio of classically trained dueling fiddlers, toss in a rhythm guitar, a banjo and the occasional funky accordion, then power it with the driving rhythm of a world percussionist, and you've got the impossible ingredients for a show you won't soon forget.

The Irish Descendants – have been a mainstay in the Newfoundland and Canadian music industry for over two decades. In a very short time, it was clear that they were on track to take their music on a worldwide journey!

Millish - Born of a mutual love for the Irish music tradition, Millish (Gaelic for "honey") celcomposition, improvisation and focused synergy. Though originally conceived as a traditional outfit, the members of Millish permitted their music to evolve out of categorization and into a diverse landscape of evocative melodies,

driving rhythms and elegant ar-

Sprag Session – has developed a unique style and repertoire of music. Lingering somewhere amidst the rich, soulful roots of traditional Cape Breton music and the grooves of a thousand branches of rock and funk, Colin Grant embarks on his latest project: a dynamic and thoughtful mingling of beats and melodies from an extensive host of musical influences.

Blackthorn – Traditional songs of emigration, sea shanties, lively jigs and reels, and ancient airs combine with some of Ireland's best contemporary songs for a musical experience that captures the history and legend of Ireland and its people. Each member of the band plays multiple instruments, including wooden flute, accordion, tin whistle, five string banjo, cittern, bones and more.

We Banjo 3 – We Banjo 3 is a four piece band from Galway, Ireland. The members of the group are two sets of brothers, Enda and Fergal Scahill, and Martin and David Howley. As their name suggests,

three members of the We Banjo 3 play tenor banjo.Between them, they've earned multiple All Ireland championships.

Seamus Kennedy - "It's not to laugh" says Andrew

Zahrt, Production Manager for the Michigan Irish Music Festival. "Many have tried and all have failed." Shay Clarke wrote in the Irish American News, "The hardest working superstar in the whole business is the irrepressible Seamus Kennedy, who seems to have the energy of ten men. The craic has never been better and ebrates over a decade of original it is in the good hands of Seamus Kennedy."

An Dro - This group is a union of four seasoned instrumentalists who speak from the heart with uncommon synergy. Their music is a blend of traditional and original melodies from across the globe, reaching back to the past,

with an eye to the present and the future. You'll hear traditional Irish melodies, medieval French songs, Breton dance tunes, Scandinavian refrains, Appalachian influences, Arabic rhythms, and African grooves all performed with joy and freshness.

Burning Bridget Cleary – Jack Baker of the Irish American News, described BBC as "one of the most exciting bands I've seen in the last couple of years!" Called the "Allman Brothers of Celtic fiddle bands, only prettier" (Mike Weekly, Pottstown Mercury), Burning Bridget Cleary features the remarkable musical talents of Rose Baldino and Deirdre Lockman, who lead the band with high-energy and tightly woven harmonies in both fiddle and vocals.

Kennedy's Kitchen -has been making Irish music together since 1998, averaging about 80 shows per year playing everything from backyard parties and weddings to pubs, concert halls, and national festivals. It's a mix of all things Irish from traditional to pub songs,



from toe-tapping to deeply moving....and it's always fun!

The Michigan Irish Music Festival returns to Heritage Landing in downtown Muskegon September 13th -15th,

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.

Advance tickets and a 3-day pass are available online. Patrons can save \$5 per ticket when they buy early versus the gate price. Early-In Free promotion on Friday only from 5-6 pm sponsored by Family Financial Credit Union.

www.michiganirish.org.



How Green is My Valley

My trip back to Ireland this year was made memorable by the unseasonably hot weather. I cannot remember a visit home when it didn't rain, at least once a day. You never had to listen to a weather report since the word 'changeable' was indelibly engraved into your mind from childhood. The sun would appear, followed by those ominous dark grey clouds, and then the rain. The typical Irish summer, often parodied on T-shirts, lived up to the parody without fail.

Irish people would sign up for holidays to the Spanish coast, Canary Islands and other European hot spots. A tan was something you acquired artificially, or abroad, but was unusual. One hot day was followed another dry hot day, until it became a running joke.

Of course, the prediction was that for every good day there would be an equally horrible day to endure in winter. It seemed that the deluged of sunshine was not enough to make a sufficient impression on the Irish sense of foreboding. The summer wished for was finally here, so there must be something worse on the way. They Mayan prophesy may have lead nowhere, but new Celtic declarations of doom were being forged in the minds of the sunburned.

I was delighted with the weather. Tourists, and natives flocked to the great Irish beaches. Towns and cities came alive in the warm glow of that elusive orb in the sky.



Chemists were selling out on suntan oil and sunburn applications. People were sipping their tea, drinking coffee outside the shops.

Suddenly, Derry, as I'm sure other Irish cities, took on the appearance of the often visited Mediterranean. Walkers, joggers and cyclists crowded onto the streets. The pulse of the city beat louder with each new sun filled day. It was disorientating, and unfamiliar but not unwelcome.

When I reached Dublin airport, after three weeks of sunshine, I was feeling well and truly satisfied. The hottest July in years! It was something to celebrate, and yet the unclouded skies could not quench the age-old hostilities in the north. No amount of good weather could dissuade the Orangemen from protesting against the parades commission. Taking to the streets, they raised hell because they were not allowed to parade through a Catholic area. Regardless of the weather, the deep-seated sectarianism of Northern Ireland continues to bleed into the news.

There are some things that never change. With the cesnever while lying on an Irish beach. This summer, however, sation of violence, the political strides forward, there still remains a bitter minority on both sides who are not willing to beat their swords into ploughshares. The growing tourist trade and the potential to build a declining economy have been overshadowed by an entrenched love of tradition, in which compromise is viewed as betrayal.

> The good weather brought out both the best and worst in people. While some soaked up the rays, and saw their town in a new light, others sought to subvert, destroy and undermine the will of the majority with the 'same old, same old' mentality.

> While the past should not be forgotten or ignored, it can be re-interpreted so as to foster goodwill. Tradition is important to all of us, but how it is demonstrated can either be reconciliatory, or confrontational.

> The Orange Lodges want to keep their tradition alive, remember their noble past, but surely it can be celebrated with less antagonism. Republicans might want to remember the injustices and sacrifices of the past, but they too could advocate harnessing the love of a passionate cause with the ideals of peacemaking.

> This year, the weather broke its usual pattern, and Mother Nature shone in a way that got everyone's attention. Yet the annual causes of both Nationalist and Loyalist continue to hold communities to ransom, beating out the unchang-

ing sounds of bigotry and sectarianism. The Peace Process is derailed, without fail, during the summer months, when we are reminded that for some people, the conflict is not over. It lives in the unchanged minds and hardened hearts of those committed to destroying the democratic process.

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Northern Irish people, for the most part, are jaded by this continued resurrection of fear mongering. They want to move forward into a constructive, peaceful, political forum of power sharing, but each summer this aspiration is sorely tested by the cynical actions of the extremes. The one step forward, inevitably gets dragged two steps backwards into a past event that awakens fear and misunderstanding

It's at times such as this I wish for rain.

*Terry, originally from Derry, now resides in Chicago and teaches Irish and British Literature at Loyola University Chicago. terenceboyle@sbcglobal.net

Emerald Society to Honor Fr. Brandt 9-27 at Gaelic Park

The Emerald Society of Illinois (Irish American Police Association) is honoring Father Dan Brandt, (former Pastor- Nativity of Our Lord -Bridgeport) Chicago Police Department Chaplain and Emerald Society of Illinois Chaplain as our 2013 Irishman of the Year. We will also be honoring numerous Police Officers of Irish

descent for displaying extraordinary acts of bravery when faced with danger and to Michael J. Shields, President-Fraternal Order of Police , Chicago Lodge #7, for his dedication to his Irish heritage and the Emerald Society of Illinois. The Annual Awards Night and Dinner Dance will be held



Father Dan Brandt Photo by Zbigniew Bzdak

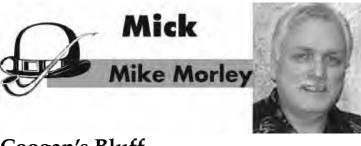
on Friday, Sept. 27th, at Gaelic Park, 6119 W. 147th St., Oak Forest, IL., at 7pm. To purchase tickets to the Dinner & Awards and / or to place an Ad to acknowledge Father Brandt's, our Irish Police Officers, and Mike Shields,

contact: Debbie O'Connor-Dimaggio, President Emerald Society of Illinois celticknot1@comcast.net





Chicago, IL 60655



Coogan's Bluff

You may have heard that last November the US embassy in Dublin refused permission for distinguished Irish author and historian Tim Pat Coogan to fly to America and begin a tour promoting his new book, "The Famine Plot". As is standard procedure in such British-inspired incidents, the extraordinary story was reported in some Irish publications, including an article in this paper's January issue by Sabina Clarke, but roundly ignored by American corporate-sponsored media.

Coogan, an Irish broadcaster and columnist, is also editor of The Irish Press newspaper and is considered a foremost authority on Irish history. So, why this well-known man of letters who regularly travels to the US was denied entrance to this country last year as though he were Carlos the Jackal would be mystifying were British 'interests' not involved.

Reading a release from the book launch, you shouldn't need an IQ of 180 to figure out why it set off a red alert in what Churchill called "the special relationship": "In this grand, sweeping narrative, Ireland's best-known historian, Tim Pat Coogan, gives a fresh and comprehensive account of one of the darkest chapters in world history, arguing that Britain was in large part responsible for the extent of the national tragedy, and in fact engineered the food shortage in one of the earliest cases of ethnic cleansing."

Calls were surely made; the word went out; and an iron curtain came

down: no travel for Coogan; no news to vary the steady media diet served up to Irish American mushrooms. It's not a new story.

The annual exchange of greetings at the White House on St. Patrick Day has always been used as a political cattle prod (lower case). Some years Sinn Fein, even when already in government, were disinvited to this event, mainly aimed at Irish Americans, while whichever president occupied the Oval Office fawned over the likes of arch bigot Ian Paisley (now dubbed Lord Bannside by QEII). In 1995 Bill Clinton invited Gerry Adams only after he agreed to discuss decommissioning of weapons. Then in '96 Clinton disinvited Sinn Fein altogether. He was applying "english" to the game.

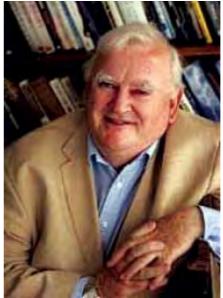
In Coogan's case, the axe was wielded by Ambassador to Ireland Dan Rooney, President of the Pittsburgh Steelers and Vice-Chairman and co-founder (with HJ Heinz's Tony O'Reilly) of The American Ireland Fund. Prior to getting the ambassadorship, Rooney was a surprise supporter of Obama for President.

Coogan, who as yet has been given no reason for the travel denial, finally got his visa on his third try after contacting Hillary Clinton, Senator Chuck Schumer, and Congressman Peter King. He received a call from an unnamed embassy official giving him the green light on November 26, one day after his by then cancelled book tour was to have started.

Ambassador Rooney, replying to the uproar caused by the visa denial, appeared to say it was out of his hands: "Let me say that each applicant's eligibility for a visa is evaluated individually and objectively under

U.S. law. No Embassy officer, including the Ambassador, has the legal discretion to disregard a finding of ineligibility..." In reply Coogan said: "As I suspect I am the only prominent Irish writer to have been barred from the U.S. in the recent past I feel I must reply to the Ambassador Rooney statement. "I have only the friendliest feelings towards Ambassador Rooney personally but have found dealing with the U.S. Embassy Kafkaesque."

On December 14, 2012, 24 days after denying Coogan his visa, and 18 days after it was finally granted, Rooney, 81, resigned as US Ambassador to Ireland.



Tim Pat Coogan will be headlining at iBAM! Chicago 2013 October 12-13

The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette reported the resignation "has been expected for some time". Rooney returned to Pittsburgh and the Steelers.

[Note: Besides being the title of a 1968 Clint Eastwood feature, Coogan's Bluff is a promontory in upper Manhattan overlooking the Polo Grounds, former home to another renowned sports club.]

I know Kafkaesque. It's the feeling I had in 2006 when I visited Ireland and stopped into not one, but several bookstores in Dublin attempting to find a book by another prominent Irish writer- Mary Macaleese, President of the Republic. The book was available nowhere in the US. The feeling came over me that I had morphed into Kafka's character Josef K, or had stepped into Rod Serling's 'Twilight Zone', when I discovered not only did no Dublin bookseller carry the book; not had one clerk or manager in any store, including Shannon's huge duty-free bookstore even heard of "The Road From Ardoyne"... nor was it even listed in their computer inventories. Winston Smith of Orwell's 1984 must be alive and well in the

English-speaking world, very busy tossing inconvenient truths, no matter the author, down the memory hole.

I wrote a column here in 2006 titled "

NAUGHTY MARY, WHIST YER GOB." describing the whole experience, including a call to the Irish consulate- whose staff had never heard of this work by their own President. Put through to the vice-consul and consul I was told yes, they had heard of the book. It was suggested I try Amazon. I explained I had done that and mentioned my experience at Shannon. "Oh, that's a small bookstore". The consuls suggested I try the big Irish bookseller, Easons (that's the first one I tried in Dublin). I said the hard cover was released in 2004. "Oh, 2004- You know they only come out for awhile and then they're gone". I pointed out that 2004 was only 2 years ago and the paperback was released just a year ago... besides, the book didn't sell out, it had never gone on the shelves in the first place. I could tell the receiver on the other end had morphed into a hot pratie. "Go to Amazon. Try Amazon". "Sure thing. Thank You".

I obtained a used copy of the book from Britain. The only bookstores selling the president's biography were located at the British and Scottish Parliaments.

So, why the iron curtain treatment? Mary's book turned out to be standard biography, But I suppose what got British, Irish and American officials' panties in a bunch was the truth she told of her family's experience being burned out their Belfast home by a Protestant mob aided by Royal police; and her account of her time with government-owned RTE as a reporter and researcher during the hunger strikes, a period she describes as "the most difficult, the darkest, the worst time of my life". McAleese has compared working for RTE Current Affairs back then to working for the East German secret police. Some former staffers maintain that up to 15 members of the Official IRA or Workers Party were ensconced in key positions at RTE. They were anti-Republican, anti-Nationalist, and courted the Unionist point of view in their programming. McAleese (in her diary): "RTE journalists...never did their research, never did their homework. They would come to Belfast and head straight for the bar of the Europa Hotel. They used to get their information, or a version of the information, from the RUC Press Office." "H-Block coverage is biased at worst, misguided at best."

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iBAM! 2013 Presents: Celtic Arts Rising October 10-13

A comprehensive weekend of Celtic culture in all its flavors and variations. iBAM!2013 is Saturday October 12 and Sunday October 13th from noon-6pm each day at the Irish American Heritage Center 4626 N. Knox Chicago IL 60630. The IAHC spans four floors packed full of Irish activities for this unique weekend, all under one roof.

iBAM! 2013 admission is \$10 daily in advance until September 30, \$15 daily after 9/30. There is a special Beckett Exhibit Grand Opening on Thursday October 10 at 8pm.

The Beckett exhibit is coming direct from Ireland and can be viewed all weekend during iBAM!. The Beckett Exhibit Grand Opening is a very special program created by the talented Chicago Irish actors group. Advanced tickets are \$15, \$20 at the door.

Artist Robert Ballagh will be showcased working live in the art gallery. Meet your favorite authors and make new favoritesbring your book form home or buy new, the authors will be happy to chat and sign all weekend.

Besides the Damian McGinty/ Ben Kelly on Friday and the Black Family Concert with Michael, Mary, Frances and Shay on Sunday, there will be live music all day in the Fifth Province as well as workshops and demonstra-

There is a lively kids activity area and kids 12 and under are admitted free. the "teenager" or "boy wonder" Pub or enjoy a hot lunch or dinner while you listen to live music

for updates and additions!

It's Showtime!

Chicago will be ground zero for the much-anticipated young Irish invasion of Derry born actor/singer Damian McGinty and piano-man/singer Ben Kelly. Damian and Ben will be together for their first concert in America on October 11th at the Irish American Heritage Center.

Ben Kelly is a 23 year old singersongwriter from Derry, Ireland, based in London. He was a Top 40 artist on BBC's The Voice UK in 2012, as a part of Team Jessie. His original song "Home" became the anthem for Derry City of Culture 2013 celebration. His sound on piano is a cross between Billy Joel and Elton John- all the raw talent needed for a uniquely Derry

Damian first came to the attention of the Producer Sharon Browne and Music Director Phil Coulter at the tender age of 14, when a CD he recorded for Charity was passed along to them. He was invited to come along to

audition for the show and was immediately cast in the role of Have a cup of tea or enjoy a nice in CELTIC THUNDER. Damian's frosty pint in the Fifth Province excitement and enthusiasm for Celtic Thunder is infectious, and after seeing him perform there Parking is free. Check back was no way he would not be part of the show. Almost 4 years on Damian has developed and grown both in and out of Celtic Thunder, he is more than a foot taller than he was when it started. He often

draws the biggest reaction from the crowd and throngs of Celtic Thunder fans have lined up for the pure-voiced Damian's autographs and t-shirts. "The fans are crazy," laughs Damian. "I don't know why they're walking around with my ugly mug on their stomach, but it's great to have fans that really love what you do." McGinty won the Oxygen reality show The Glee Project, earning him a sevenepisode guest-starring role on the hit Fox television show Glee which was later extended to 17 episodes. Damian attended iBAM! 2012 as the special guest star for two concerts with the legendary Phil Coulter and presented Phil with his iBAM! 2012 award for Music. Don't miss this rare opportunity to wines history in the making. Tickets are on sale at ibanchicago. com or call 847-872-0700. Cover photos of Damian Mc-Ginty by Stacy McReynolds VISA □International: 1yr \$85

Our Take on Social Services

By Paul Dowling



Following the summer break, September sees the return of our senior group meetings at both the Irish American Heritage Center and Gaelic Park. Once again we have worked hard to put together a schedule of events that is educational, interesting, and fun!

Irish American Heritage Center - Tara Club

There have been some important changes to the Tara Club, our senior group program at IAHC. For several reasons we have changed the day of our meeting and will now be meeting every other WEDNESDAY. We also have some exciting news - once each month we will be partnering with Tír na nóg to host joint meetings. Tír na nóg is a wonderful social group that has been serving the needs of the Irish community for many years and we are delighted to be able to work more closely with them. Our first meeting will take place on Wednesday, 11th September at 10am. We will be starting the year off with a celebra-

Gaelic Park - Emerald Club

Our first Emerald Club meeting we will be a celebration of mass. This will take place on Wednesday, 18 September at 10am.

Calling All Volunteers

We are still trying to recruit volunteers for a number of our programs. The volunteer positions on offer vary but each is a wonderful opportunity to contribute to the Irish community. These positions would be ideal for retired people, so if you or someone you know is interested in finding out more call the office on 773-282-8445.

Irish Senior Citizens Parliament

Did you know that there is an Irish Senior Citizen Parliament? No, me neither! I only discovered its existence last week when I was on the hunt for something else entirely. Regardless, I thought it might be something that could potentially be of interest to others

so I did little research and decided to share my finds with you all this month in the IAN.

What is the

Senior citizens' Parliament?

In November 1993 the European Parliament held its first Senior Citizens Parliament in Luxembourg. Irish delegates returned full of enthusiasm for the setting up of an Irish Senior Citizens Parliament. Recognizing the need for a strong voice for older people at national level the Irish Senior Citizens Parliament was founded and held its first Parliament in 1994. The Parliament has 380 affiliated organizations with a total membership of 95,000. The Parliament is non-party political non-sectarian and non-profit making. It is an autonomous organization concerned with promoting the interests of retired and older people.

What are the Objectives of the Parliament?

- To be a strong voice representing older people and their needs at international, national and local
- To promote inter-generational
- To work through the existing affiliated organisations to ensure better co-ordination of policies and activities whilst ensuring that the affiliated groups retain their own autonomy.
- To work for improvement in the quality of life of Older People.
- To develop solidarity with organisations working to improve the quality of life of Older People.
- To represent Older People's issues to Government.

The Parliament identifies issues of concern to Older People and lobby at national level to achieve them. They bring the issues to the attention of the Government and all other agencies dealing with issues affecting our members.

To find out more about the Irish Senior Citizens' Parliament you can visit its website at

http://iscp.wordpress.com.



By Charles Brady



A Few Personal Remarks on Cyber Bullying

Last night (Tuesday 13th August as I write), in a television interview, Lorraine Gallagher spoke movingly of the awful deaths of her two daughters. Mrs. Gallagher of Ballybofey, Co. Donegal was the mother of thirteen-year-old Erin, who took her own life last October after bullying both at school and on the controversial social networking site Ask.fm. Horrifyingly, her fifteen-year-old sister Shannon also committed suicide only six weeks later.

I can't even begin to comprehend what this family have gone

Last night Mrs. Gallagher spoke for the first time about Erin's suicide note. She said:

"[In the note...] She apologised. She said I'm sorry I have to do this but I'm fed up of the bullying on Ask.fm and she mentioned a name."

regard to other teen suicides-- the latest being Hannah Smith (14) of Leicestershire, England--- and Mrs. Gallagher continued:

"Thousands and thousands of children are getting bullied every day on that site. I want Ask.fm shut down because I don't want to turn on the TV again and see another kid has killed herself because they have been bullied on Ask.fm".

Of Erin's sister Shannon she said: "Shannon was the oldest; she never lived a day of her life without Erin. Everybody thought that because Shannon was tomboyish and outspoken that Erin needed Shannon. That was wrong. It was confrontations; but that's in the

Shannon who needed Erin."

After talking painfully about that dreadful Christmas she said: "I want to get justice for Shannon and Erin. "Even if they can't shut down

Ask.fm they can bring in a wall for the people who are bullying so maybe then there wouldn't be as much bullying on Ask.fm". Now that would break anyone's

heart. But I must confess that in truth I possibly wouldn't normally Ask.fm has been mentioned in have paid a great deal of attention to it. As a human being of course I responded; but as someone with no children in my life there's obviously a little distance in feeling. Or rather there normally would be; but in the past month I've had an unusual-and quite uncomfortable—insight into these poor kids.

Now, in my mid-fifties and hardly what could be described as a shrinking violet I doubt that it would be possible to bully me. That's not a boast; it's just that I'm pretty thick-skinned. Over the years, of course, I've had my fair share of angry emails and on a couple of occasions even public

write the kind of things that I often do, stick your email address at the bottom and expect everybody to think that your opinions are right all the time. Quite apart from anything else I enjoy hearing from people with a contrary view. Hell, the way that I look at it is that we should be learning all the time. In fact I think that if you still hold rigid views that you had when you were twenty some decades later then you're probably not paying attention to what the world is telling you. It's like that old saying: "If you're not a Communist by the time that you're twenty, you don't have a heart. If you're STILL one by the time that you're thirty you don't have a brain."

nature of the beast: you can hardly

Here's one example from my own life: even only a few years ago, I would have described myself as an atheist. However, after a few out-of- the-ordinary experiences, I don't think that I would be quite that dogmatic any more. In fact, truth to tell, I'm a little appalled at my earlier arrogance. I know that I'm never going to be a Godbotherer, that's for sure; but as to whether or not something of us continues after we fall off the twig, well I just don't know.

So yes, I've always enjoyed the correspondence that I've received, even when some mails seemed to have been written by someone who was frothing at the mouth and possibly in danger of a fatal seizure at any moment. But importantly, I've often learned from it.

Last month, however, one person decided to take abuse to a whole different level altogether. Nor does he live a thousand miles away; instead he lives only walking-distance from my apartment. I had in fact spoken to this guy on a couple of occasions and when he sent on mails I always responded---as indeed I do to anyone who takes the trouble and time to write. To be honest, I thought that his comments were daft. Harmless, but daft. Then, following one particular article (not for the IAN) his mails went completely ape. I'm obviously all for free speech but these went from simply abusing me to abusing someone who was dead and unable to defend himself. Angry and not a little disturbed,

I decided to make my final answer and put a big line under this. I contacted him and politely informed him that there was no point in continuing his keyboard rants and that even if he passed me in the street he was to keep going. For a while that made things worse. The emails arrived two, three and four times a day— which speaks for itself on the obsessive mentality of these guys. And this stuff was so vile that I can't even give you an example here. Hell, I'd be pressed to get it passed for an HBO show.

It got so bad that I was advised to contact the police but to be honest that will be a last resortalthough I can't really rule it out. I just feel they have enough to bother them without this nonsense from a grown man. Still, everything is kept in a folder now along with my own early replies.

I since found out that he has a history of this and in fact the previous unfortunate recipient of his attentions (not a journalist) did report him. He's now been quiet for a week but something tells me that I haven't heard the last of this.

I hadn't intended to write about it. But the interview with Mrs. Gallagher changed my mind. For the first time I got a glimpse—and it is only the very quickest of glimpses—of how any young person going through this must feel. If it can make someone like me start to open his mail with a heavy feeling in the stomach I can only imagine what it's like for a kid.

I have no idea what the answer is. Ironically I seldom use social networking at all and only give out my address because I normally like feedback, for good or bad. So it might be easy to say well, why the hell are these kids using it if they're going to be upset? But 54 doesn't think like 14. They absolutely love their networking and that's not going to stop any time soon. Ask. fm does seem to be rather cavalier in its stand, though. There has to come a time when human decency takes precedence over just making

Wait for it... you can email me at chasbrady7@eircom.net or visit my blog at www.charleybrady.com And if anyone's thinking of fixating, please Lord let it be the divine Jessica Lange!



HISTORY'S PENDULUM swings between justice and tyranny; cooperation and predation. Protestantism's exaltation of the individual resulted in predatory conversion of England's communal monasteries into exclusively personal property. Once war-lords seized England's monasteries they also grabbed exclusive control of their output, creating destitution. Though Catholic England enslaved Ireland, it was Protestant England, under Bess I, Cromwell, and Victoria, that perpetrated Ireland's three worst genocides. Victoria's, of 1845-1850., roused world opinion to support the Irish, thus sending the pendulum back towards justice. Earlier, food produced by the starving Irish nourished slaves on plantations throughout empire according to William Cobbett, British M.P. in 1834. Prime Minister Cameron's family became 1%-ers

Jamaica slaves. IRELAND'S LAND WAR, though outlawed in 1881, defeated landlordism. Britain repatriated them, most in 1900-1920. Solidarity and the shunning of landlord's agent Captain Boycott in County Mayo spread and were later adopted here. Though some Irish Holocaust survivors participated in, e.g., the US 7th Cavalry's genocide of Native Americans, Irish Land War tactics became the standard for workplace justice in US mines, railroads, factories, and construction. "Goons," what Irish-speakers called Britain's dragoons who robbed them of their crops, became part of U.S. labor vocabulary as the label for the 1%'s hit-men.

from the \$millions reimbursed for their

EUROPE'S 1% were ruling through monarchs already being deposed by the people during Britain's genocide of Ireland. The swing towards justice continued and gathered momentum. Americans were becoming ashamed of slavery and its genocide of Original Americans. Irish-Americans fought for a fairer portion of their own output. In Pennsylvania, Irish anthracite miners, the "Molly McGuires," were hanged. Others were clubbed, shot and machine-gunned by company goons and the police (who usually constituted the "muscle" used against the workers). In Chicago, mostly-immigrant labor organizers were temporarily defeated by policemen led by Chief Francis O'Neill.

HOW FAR toward justice did the

pendulum swing? FDR demolished much of Britain's empire through his "battleships for bases." On Jan. 12, 1944, FDR sent

a letter by General Patrick Hurley to Secretary of State Cordell Hull to be forwarded to Winston Churchill. FDR wrote in his cover letter: It (Hurley's magnificent letter) is in general along the lines of my talk with him. Iran is definitely a very, very backward nation. It consists really of a series of tribes and 99% of the population is, in effect, in bondage to the other 1%. The 99% do not own their own land and cannot keep their own production or convert it into money or property." Thus Iran, like all British colonies, was a massive crime scene, which FDR was about to correct. That era might have been our best in terms of foreign policy. It ended in 1953 with the Kermit Roosevelt/CIA coup that recolonized Iran.

THE MARSHALL PLAN speaks for itself (though American generosity wasn't total; "DP" [Displaced Person] was a common slur). American workplace justice peaked in the 1950s. Truman had enforced a 100% income tax rate against war profiteers. American workers were then paid approximately one-twelfth that of CEOs. Part of American pride derived from the narrowness of the pay disparity. We sneered at other nations' corruption; their wide pay disparity. America was special; a beacon. Ike's administration set income tax rates for individuals and corporations; one topped at 91% the other, 92%. Business boomed. Jobs were everywhere at union wages. As a union carpenter I entered business; building mostly single-family houses; with union subcontractors.

THE **PENDULUM RETURNS** towards predation. The criminal 1%, international but concentrated in US/UK/Israel, have usurped our government and its policies. While real wages and top tax rates were slashed, unemployment soared. Workers don't receive enough of the value of their own production to sustain the economy. Meanwhile, the educated children of union members found work abetting the criminal 1%'s grab for more, thus widening the pay disparity to its current history chasm. They become "useful fools" by parroting their boss' blaming their own predations on unions. Careers in predation are booming while producers struggle. See where the jobs are; in widening the wealth chasm by lawyer-

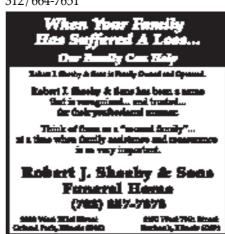
ing and accounting for the criminal 1%,

in policing, prison- and security-guards, the spook agencies, weapons design, the military, and in predatory finance/insurance which loots retirement funds and skims \$billions from what America sets aside for medical care.

THE U.S. REPUBLIC, founded in opposition to Britain, carries anti-empire in its DNA. Yet, the criminal 1% who have bribed our gov't away from us, have established their own squalid empire, British-like, to our shame, our detriment and at our expense in blood and treasure.

BACK TO JUSTICE? American unemployment, the historic pay and wealth disparity, the destitution, the judicial corruption, the millions imprisoned, equal or exceed the 1929 Crash era. Americans have become bellicose and torture-friendly. These extreme, unsustainable conditions suggest their own demise. Better times are ahead whenever the 99% decide to reassert control.

MT. OLIVET On Sunday, September 22 or 29, interested persons will gather (2900 w. 111th St) at cemetery Block 15, at the Irish Nationalist Monument, to discuss and examine fifteen grave markers. They were recently installed by Friends of Irish Freedom, Clan na Gael Guards, and the Irish Republican Brotherhood over graves of men dedicated to Irish freedom. Contact Shay (773/835-0675), Regan (708/253-7824), or me. Contact fogartyc@att.net or 312/664-7651





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The acclaimed Brock McGuire Band performs a concert of traditional and nontraditional Irish music with their signature accordion and fiddle Sat., Sept. 21, 8 p.m.,

and has presented more than 600 artists and ensembles from over 80 countries since it began in 1999. For more information on the Festival, see www.chicagomusic.org/ Ticket to the Beverly Arts Center's Brock

McGuire Band concert are free and can be reserved (limit four per person) by calling 773-445-3838, ext 200.



Beverly Arts Center, 2407 W. 111th St., Chicago. The show is part of the World Music Festival Chicago, and admission is free. Button accordionist Paul Brock and fid-

dler Manus McGuire are two of Ireland's most celebrated traditional musicians. Performing with respect for traditional Irish music and creativity as accomplished musicians, the Brock McGuire Band uses a blend of instruments to perform mostly Irish music but with a hint of American Old Timey, Bluegrass, French-Canadian, and other Celtic traditions.

Paul Brock (County Clare) has been named All Ireland Champion several times for his mastery of single row, two-button, three-button and five-button accordions. His CD, "Humdinger," was received critical acclaim and was voted Instrumental Album of the Year by Irish American News. Brock has performed as special guest with The Chieftans many times.

Manus McGuire (East Clare) is an Irish fiddler with a dazzling technique. He won Sligo's prestigious Fiddler of Dooney competition at age 14 and has continued to win

awards and recognition.

Performing with the Brock McGuire Band are Garry O'Meara (Dublin), a brilliant banjo, mandolin player and vocalist, and Denis Carey (County Tipperary), is an acclaimed pianist, composer and arranger.

The 15th Annual Chicago World Music Festival takes place Thurs., Sept. 12 through Sun., Sept. 22. It is presented in various locations, including the Chicago Cultural Center, by the City of Chicago and produced by the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events. This city-wide, multi-venue, eleven-day festival has attracted over 600,000 concertgoers

Clannad To Release New Album Nádúr

Clannad, the legendary Irish family group responsible for the timeless hit "Harry's Game", which was prominently featured in the 1992 blockbuster Patriot Games and a Volkswagen commercial, make a welcome return to the U.S. with their new album, Nádúr (pronounced: Ned-dur), the Gaelic word for Nature. The album will be available September 24th on ARC Music/ NAXOS with an early digital release slated for September 20th (now available for preorder on Amazon). Clannad plans to embark



on a nationwide tour in support of the new album beginning late September through mid-October, with dates to be announced soon. Visit http://www.clannad.ie/for U.S. tour updates.

Nádúr is a fitting title as the album sees the family band - siblings Moya, Ciarán and Pol Brennan and their twin uncles Noel and Padraig Duggan - back together on record as the full original line-up for the first time since the 1989 album Past Present. Following Pól's departure after that album, the band continued to release four highly successful albums - the last being the Grammy-winning album Landmarks in 1998. In an extended hiatus over the following decade, there was only the rare occasional performance. In 2011, Clannad were invited to per-

form a series of concerts at Dublin's Christ Church Cathedral. With the intimate and historic nature of these shows, Pól was invited along to be part of the event. The concerts were a huge success and they were filmed and recorded for a DVD and CD which were released following airings on PBS in America. This event provided the catalyst for the five of them to start seriously considering a new album but before going into the recording studio they decided to embark on an extensive tour across North America and Europe. This time together on the road helped shape the ideas they had for Nádúr.

"The fact that we'd toured quite extensively in the months leading up to recording really had an effect on the album," says Moya Brennan. "Playing live across various countries gave us a really good indication of not just what we wanted from a new album but also what the audience out there wanted to hear. We feel this record touches on every aspect of our forty year career. Every track is different yet every track is pure Clannad". Indeed, Nádúr is a very natural progres-

sion to the Clannad sound, which has been to fuse the traditional with the modern, the past and the future, with stunningly beauti-

It is perhaps best summarized by the Irish author Colum McCann, who concludes his liner notes for the album by saying, "Clannad - the family - have taken the local and made it universal once again. Is é seo nádúr dhúchasach ...this is their inherent nature.

exchange for "these cheap

"I'd go place to place.

At one place, they had

me come up and told me

to sit down. They were

asking me about school,

about the football team.

They gave me cookies

and tea and then the lady

said, Jenny will be ready

in a minute.' I asked them

who Jenny was. They

little calendars."

"It will always be so."

'Echoes' author recalls growing up on South Side By Steve Metsch smetsch@southtownstar.com

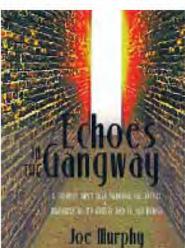
The way Joe Murphy sees it, everyone who grew up in an Irish Catholic family on Chicago's South Side in the 1950s has plenty of funny stories to share. He just happened to put his in a book.

Murphy, 68, will sign copies of "Echoes in the Gangway" from 3 to 5 p.m. April 20 at the Ridge Country Club, 10522 S. California Ave. in Chicago's Mount Greenwood community.

Murphy describes the self-published book which is subtitled "A Catholic Boy's Trek Through the Fifties — Memories of My Family and St. Leo Parish" - as a warm and funny memoir covering his life growing up in the Auburn Gresham community from

age 8 through just beyond high school. "At first, I just wanted to write it for my family. There are so many nostalgic, happy stories," he said Monday.

There should be. He grew up with seven siblings, and wrote a chapter about each one. He finished with 30 chapters about his formative years in that busy house at 79th and Peoria streets. He was a paperboy as a youth, and recounts a story about the day he went collecting tips from customers in



said, 'You're Joe, aren't you?' I said, 'I'm Joe the paperboy and I'm here to give you your calendar.' They started laughing. He gave me a buck and she told him, 'Oh, come on, give him another buck," Murphy said. He and his sister, Joan, had

fun with a friend one day, convincing him she had a twin sister named Jean. Joan twice left the room, dashed down the gangway, got into

the front door, went to her room, changed her clothing and returned as "Jean." They bamboozled the friend, who believed there really was a Jean until they eventually let him in on the secret.

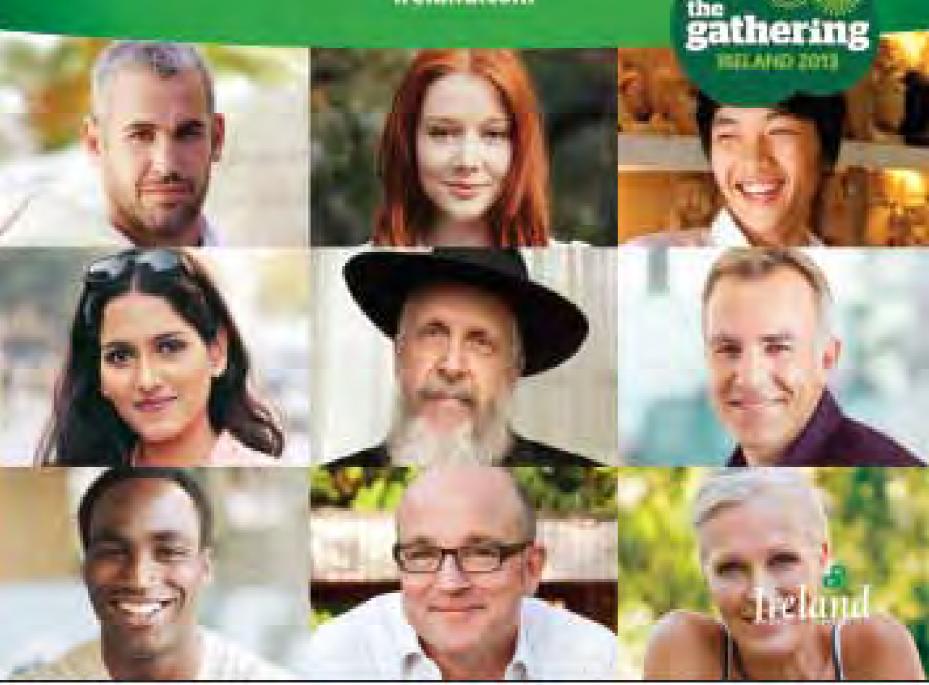
That gangway inspired the book's title. "The gangway, the sidewalk between two houses, everybody had one. That's where the words echoed. Echoes are like memories," Murphy said. The book is for sale on amazon.com and barnesandnoble.com.

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