



Joanie Madden Tops off A Great Year With the 2021 Spirit of Ireland Award

Trinity Irish Dance Company
at Auditorium Theatre
1 Night - February 5...page 15

Pictured with Joanie
is Gabriel Byrne
Story page 25
photo by Nuala Purcell



Farewell Faithful Readers!

I thank all the readers of my column. I haven't missing writing a review of an Irish book or Irish play for forty-five years. I bought all the books I reviewed, kept them all and now will donate them to the library of the Irish American Heritage Center.

To write the reviews all those years, I took time away from my family. I spent hundreds upon hundreds of dollars for the books to be reviewed. My daughter, Maureen, typed the reviews and sent them early each month to be included in *Irish American News*. When Cliff Carlson bought the paper, it had limited distribution. But he and his wife, Cathy Curry Carlson, have built the paper into a newspaper that averages 48 pages each issue.

I thank all of the faithful readers of my column. I was motivated to write and publish for the readers by a debt we owed to our Irish ancestors. My grandfather went to the 6th grade in Ireland and re-signed from the Royal Irish Constabulary when he was 23 years old, and came to America. He came to Chicago in 1905 and applied to join the Chicago Police Department. Its budget was being reformed and it wasn't until 1907 that new policemen were accepted.

One of the times I visited Ireland, I was shown a picture of him in his police uniform. I have a copy of that picture where I am writing. He only went to the 6th grade in Ireland, but he encouraged my reading about Ireland and praised the work I did for our heritage. He would be very proud of my record of reviews. The reviews, and the sacrifice to write them, encourage my readers to be proud of our Irish heritage.

Editors Note: When I took over publishing this paper in late 1991, Frank West was right there, ready and willing to extend his extraordinary record of consecutive columns.

Some of you may have noticed that his reviews were ALWAYS positive. If he didn't like a book, he didn't write about it.

Frank is this papers' biggest cheerleader, calling me or emailing me about what he liked in each issue. And while I will miss his columns we will be forever friends.

Frank, as a public school teacher for 45 years, a volunteer poll worker in Chicago, and a proud member and contributor to the iBAM! committee, I know you will fully enjoy your well-earned retirement!
Cliff Carlson, Publisher

Irish Books and Plays in Review

Frank West

Part 2 - Mother Jones, The Most Dangerous Woman in America

*Elliot Gorn,
Farrar, Straus, and Giroux*

Mother Jones had always been interested in the position of workers and unions. After the Great Chicago Fire destroyed her home and seamstress shop, this strong willed Irish woman saw it as an opportunity to pursue her goals. "She immersed herself in the labor movement of that period."

Her goal was a wage for workers that was "sufficient...so that women could stay home and children could go to school." She encouraged the coal miners in their strikes of 1897 to 1904. The miner's union, the UMW, increased its membership during the period to 300,000 by 1905. This increase in membership in the union resulted in better wages and a higher standard of living.

These strikes were outstanding successes. But Mother Jones just fought just as hard for strikes that were only partially successful. The story of her walking to a union rally in West Virginia were judges and sheriffs in the pay of the mine owners inspired miners to support the strike. She heard a graphic description of workers in cotton mills. "She took a mill job where she witnessed six and seven-year olds starting their workday at 5:30 a.m. taking their scanty lunch at noon, working until 7:00 p.m., then returning home to a rushed dinner and sleep until the factory whistle blew again."

"I have seen mothers take their books and slap cold water in their face



Thank you IAN columnist Frank West!

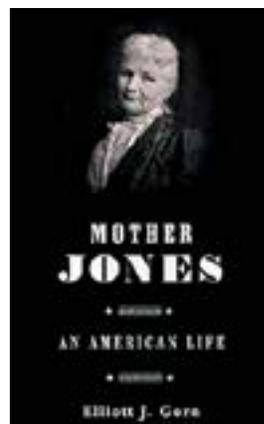


to wake the poor little things. I have watched them all day long tending the dangerous machinery. I have seen their helpers' limbs torn off, and then when they were disabled and of no more use to the master, they were thrown out to die."

This was the era of unrestrained capitalism. Of course the capitalists, like J.P. Morgan, didn't want Mother Jones to bring dignity to the workers. The days when they could be free to exploit workers was over. To the capitalists, she was truly the most dangerous woman in America.

Here is an example (from the Wall Street Journal). When Theodore Roosevelt entered Harvard, his "trust fund paid him a larger annual stipend than the university president earned in salary."

Mother Jones' autobiography: "Sometimes the text reads like religious testimony...at other times it more resembles a melodrama of class oppression and resilience. There are defeats on these pages, but not defeatism."



A powerful example of her deep concern about child labor in her march with children who were crippled and maimed around the dangerous machinery. They had to work fourteen hour days for sixty cents. She brought these children from the Kensington area of Philadelphia. They were travelling to Sagamore Hill in Massachusetts to ask Theodore Roosevelt to restrict child labor on a national level. When they got there, he wouldn't walk the few hundred feet to the road to meet them. National laws to stop child labor would finally come about in 1938 during the New Deal.

Mother Jones had a profound influence on America. She encouraged the development of strong, industry-wide unions. They brought better wages and got stability, which meant a better standard of living.

The typical work day in her time was twelve hours long—the work week, six days long. We have a lot to

be thankful to Mother Jones for. "Elliot Gorn's energetic and dramatic account of her life shows how the poor, elderly Irish widow became the most dangerous woman in America."

Services we Offer

- Live-in 24/7 Care
- Come and Go shift
- Personal Care
- Medicine Reminders
- Transportation to doctor/dialysis/shopping/events

Calls us at 708-361-7845 or Live chat us at www.AishlingCare.com

HAPPY
NEW YEAR!



NON-MEDICAL COMPANION HOME CARE

708-361-7845

www.AishlingCare.com

Aishling Companion Home Care
Keeping your loved ones Home, Healthy, and Happy



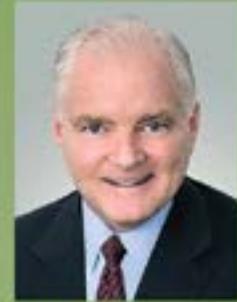
HEALY SCANLON

LITIGIAL ATTORNEYS



Martin J. Healy, Jr.

Stay Healthy ~ Stay Safe!



John P. Scanlon



David P. Huber



Kevin T. Veugeler



Matthew M. Gannon



Neil Schelhammer

Of Counsel



Matthew J. Healy



Terence Geoghegan



Terry Sullivan



Joan M. Mannix

Practice Areas:

Personal Injury • Product Liability • Interstate Trucking
Construction Accidents • Nursing Home Neglect • Professional Malpractice
Railroad & Aviation Accidents • Workers' Compensation

111 West Washington Street, Suite 1425, Chicago, IL 60602
312-977-0100 * Toll-Free 800-922-4500 * www.healyscanlon.com



Two Ceili teams from Lavin Cassidy recently won first and second place in the "Over 15" 4-hand ceili at this year's Mid-America Oireachtas, which was held at the Schaumburg Renaissance Convention Center. Pictured (l to r): Marykate Daly, Ava Green, Clare Worley, Kate Hulne, Margaritte Kenah, Maeve Begley, Alannah Justinich, and Maggie Olk.

Appearances

Cuts
Foil Highlights
Color
Waxing
Perms
Gifts/Jewelry

Call Mary 847-825-7615
229 N Northwest Hwy, Park Ridge

McGuire's SMALL
GARLAND FLOWERS

DAILY DELIVERY Worldwide Service

You'll LOVE our Floral Displays!

1-877-244-3181
garlandflowers@yahoo.com

Mike Houlihan and Peggy Lombardo-Ryan enjoying the camaraderie at the 2021 Irish Fellowship Club Luncheon, December 3rd at the Chicago Hilton and Towers. ↓↓



PERIODICAL

ISSN #1085-4053 USPS #013454

January 2022 Vol. XLVI #1

Founder Bob Burns

Publishers Cliff Carlson and

Cathy Curry Carlson

Advertising Sales Cliff Carlson

Photographer Cathy Curry Carlson

Contributing Writers, Katie &

Emmett Fitzpatrick, Katherine Iannitelli, Ryanne Gallagher Johnson

Maureen Callahan

COLUMNS AND REVIEWS

Books Reviews Frank West

Careers James Fitzgerald, CPA

Catholic Charities

Connemara Daly Bill Daly

Counties of Ireland Tom Butler

Gallagher's Advice Caroleann Gallagher

Game On! Chris Wheaton

Generation Next Conor O'Connor

Getting to Know the Irish Tina Butler

Good Grief Josephine Coleman

Healy Law Martin J. Healy Jr.

Home is Where the Heart Is

Aishling Kelly

Immigration Nation Fiona McEntee

and Alex George

In Harmony Siobhán O'Neill Meluso

Irish Community Services

Paul Dowling and Michael Collins

Irish Rover Jim McClure

On the Upbeat

Maryann McTeague Keifer

Mick Mike Morley

Notes from the Archives

Barry Stapleton

Roaming the Gloaming Estelle Shanley

Show & Tell Cathy Cooney-Millar

Starts With A Song Joe McShane

Swimming Upstream Charles Brady

Terry From Derry Terrence Boyle

View from Ireland Maurice Fitzpatrick

#IrishNewsChgo

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

Irish News, Inc. is published

monthly on the 1st of month

SUBSCRIPTION

• 1 year \$35

• 2 years \$55

• 3 years \$75

Canada 1year \$45 • 2 year \$65

International: 1 year \$90

(Periodicals Postage Paid at Palatine,

IL, and other mailing offices)

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to

Irish News, Inc.

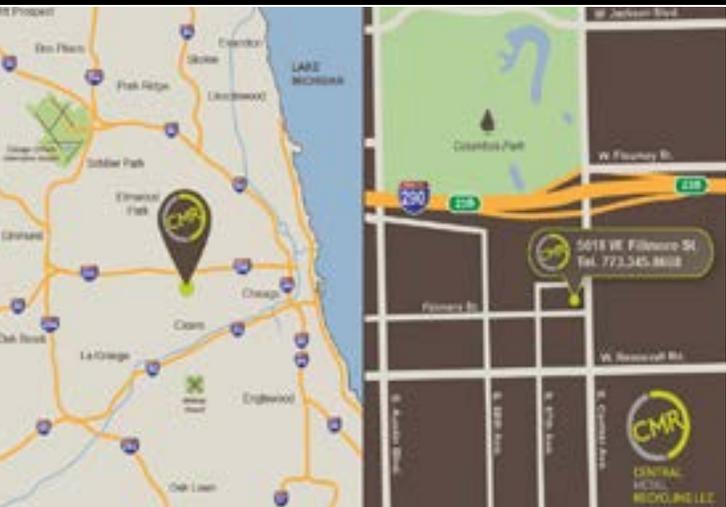
PO Box 7, Zion, IL 60099

CENTRAL METAL RECYCLING, LLC.

5618 W. Fillmore St. | Chicago | Tel. 773.345.8608
CENTRALMETALRECYCLING.COM

- Buyers of:
- COPPER
 - ALUMINUM
 - BRASS
 - STEEL
 - STAINLESS
 - CAST IRON

Your Scrap Metal Connection



Law Offices of Thomas W. Lynch, P.C.

Thomas W. Lynch Noreen C. Lennon Robert W. Maucker

Solving Debt Issues for Business and Individuals

9231 South Robert Road, Hickory Hills, IL 60457

(708) 598-5999

We are a debt relief agency. Our services can include helping people and businesses file for relief under the bankruptcy code



PUBLISHERS STATEMENT

The opinions and statements

expressed in this newspaper are

entirely those of the authors,

and do not reflect in any way the

opinions of Irish American News.

Distribution 12,013 monthly

cliff@
irishamericannews.com

847-872-0700

irishamericannews.com

Queen's University Launches Norman Houston Study Northern Ireland Award

Queen's University has created an international scholarship in memory of honorary graduate and Former Northern Ireland Bureau Director, Norman Houston OBE.

The new scholarship will support a student from a low-income family in the USA to undertake a semester at the University as a visiting student.

Queen's Vice-Chancellor Professor Ian Greer said: "At Queen's we offer a world-class education

that prepares our students for leadership and citizenship in a global society, two attributes that Norman Houston exemplified in his work as a diplomat.

"Norman was a great advocate for widening participation in international education and supported initiatives such as the Ulster Project and Washington Ireland Program for many years. As an institution, we are proud to create this award in partnership

with the Northern Ireland Bureau, honouring Norman's legacy in the USA and beyond."

Applications for the award will open in February 2022 and Queen's will welcome its first recipient to campus at the beginning of the new academic year in September.

The award will provide a full-tuition and accommodation package for a 'study abroad' semester at Queen's and will be offered to a



Norman Houston attending the iBAM! 2012 Gala at the Irish American Heritage Center

Bureau Andrew Elliott said: "The Bureau is delighted to support this award, in memory of our friend and colleague, Norman Houston.

"We also recognise, as Norman did, the enormous value that can be added when tomorrow's leaders in the US have experience of university life in Northern Ireland during their formative years. Norman would have been thrilled that this award is being made in his name."

student from the USA with high financial need. The Northern Ireland Bureau, Washington DC, will also support this scholarship, providing return flights for the student.

Director of the Northern Ireland

Full details of the award and the associated application process will be published in January 2022. Enquiries can be sent to Senior International Officer for North America, Anya O'Connor: anya.oconnor@qub.ac.uk

Irish marching society Is endorsing....

McNULTY SCHOOL OF IRISH DANCE

For Irish Dance in ROCKFORD!!!

Registration Is Now Open For Fall Irish Dance Classes

Come Out and Try A 30 min. Youth or Adult Class on Wednesday December 8th 2021

- Experience the Exhilaration . . .
- Be a Part of the Fun . . .

Join our Wednesday Evening Irish Step Dance Classes at The Nordlof Center Starting January 12th

For information/registration Contact:
McNultyDancers@gmail.com
224.639.8644
or
www.irishmarchingsociety.com
815.218.8449

These materials were created by McNulty Irish Dancers and the Irish Marching Society a 501(c)(3) non-profit. This is NOT a school district sponsored or endorsed activity.

Quality **Shamrock TUCKPOINTING**

- ◆ Caulking
- ◆ All Brick Repairs
- ◆ Chimney Repairs
- ◆ Fully Licensed & Insured

OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE

CALL JOHN GALLAGHER FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

PHONE: 708.388.2871 FAX: 708.388.2872

We Offer:

- Companionship
- Respite Care
- Personal Care
- Health & Fitness
- Homemaking
- Meals
- Errands/Transportation
- 24/7 Live-In Care
- Activities

Testimonials

"Destiny Senior Care has proven to be an excellent caregiver company, servicing a wide variety of clients. As an RN working in a primarily geriatric field, I have made many referrals to Destiny as I am very confident in the skills, knowledge, and compassion their caregivers have to offer my patients. I have personally seen the employees of this company go above and beyond any other private duty/companion companies I have had experience with. Their clients have nothing but the best to say about their care and services."

Jillian P.

DestinySeniorCare.com

DESTINY Senior Care

Hearts Connected
"Where Seniors Come First"

Hi, I'm **Annie Nestor**. I was born in Ireland and have family from Galway, Mayo and Kerry. I'm a locally owned Home Care Agency founded in 2015.

After 50 yrs in early childhood education and owning several child care centers, I decided to pass the baton. Our children are the third generation in our family to start schools and after seeing their success & passion I decided to venture into another area of caregiving, **seniors!** I thought, I'm not going to retire I'm going to RE-FIRE!

Working with seniors reminds me of my wonderful years teaching children loving, laughing, and appreciating the joys of life.

HAPPY SENIORS singing old favorite tunes is music to my ears. Now I get to continue doing what I love with a new generation.

Mission Statement: Destiny Senior care provides a new beginning for our clients and families throughout the Chicagoland area so they can enjoy the benefits of staying home but also thrive in an environment filled with quality loving care!

Our **Caregivers** are screened and must go through an interview process. Each person is fingerprinted and must abide by all policies. The personality of a caregiver is extremely important for your loved one, as we want the best possible person for you. We are a team working together in the best interest of all concerned.

We offer the nationally acclaimed program **Ageless Grace**, which is offered throughout the U.S. and around the world. **Ageless Grace** is a fitness and wellness program featuring 21 simple exercise tools designed for all ages and abilities. The exercises are natural and organic & focus on the healthy longevity of the body & mind.

15774 S. La Grange Rd Orland Park, IL 60462

708-670-5970

Home Financing that feels good.

The neighborhood home lender you can trust.

- Buying a home? • Refinancing your home?
- Want to know your home equity options?

Start here! Schedule a free home financing review: emarquettebank.com/WelcomeHome

Easy digital application. Helpful Mortgage Specialists. Great rates.



MARQUETTE BANK

Love where you bank

1-888-254-9500

Member **FDIC**

All home financing subject to credit approval.

NMLS #462926



Mary Pat Flanagan
Sr. VP North American Sales

JEM Tours
Ireland, Britain and Beyond

is dedicated to customized group travel, offering a very comprehensive and highly collaborative touring experience for all needs.

JEM Tours caters to everything from private car tours to exclusive large groups.

The **JEM Tours** team has over 80 years combined touring experience and have worked closely together for 25+ years! Through the extensive contacts and travel partners built up over the years

JEM TOURS
CAN TAKE YOU THERE!



Mobile **312-914-0982**
Landline **608-862-3453**

mp.jemtours@gmail.com

Offices in Wisconsin, Dublin, Ireland
www.jemtours.com

“From Ireland to Chicagoland”

Happy New Year!

Specializing in:

- **AUTO ACCIDENTS**
- **TRUCK CRASHES**
- **CONSTRUCTION SITE ACCIDENTS**
- **PREMISES LIABILITY**
- **MEDICAL MALPRACTICE**
- **NURSING HOME ABUSE/NEGLECT**
- **WORKERS COMPENSATION**

ALL CONSULTATIONS ARE FREE!

DWYER & COOGAN, P.C.
www.dwyercoogan.com



312-543-4642
cgallagher@dwyercoogan.com

444 N. Northwest Highway
Suite 153
Park Ridge, Illinois 60068
312-782-7482

Hailing from a working background Caroleann zealously represents all types of injured workers in the Workers Compensation Arena and is committed to protecting and vindicating the rights of people who are injured by the negligence of others.”



Caroleann Gallagher



Thomas G. Mulvey
M.S., P.T., M.B.A.

Thomas Mulvey founded **Athletex Sports and Orthopedic Physical Therapy** in 1992 with the mission of offering quality rehabilitation that educates the patient from acute onset to their maximal functional level.

- American Physical Therapy Association (Sports, Orthopedic, and Private Practice Sections) member
- American Academy of Sports Medicine member
- Illinois Physical Therapy Association member

We offer Orthopedic, Neurologic, and Sports Rehabilitation.

We also offer Sports Specific Training for Athletes.

ATHLETEX accepts Medicare, Worker's Compensation and most PPOs and HMOs.

Athletex Physical Therapy has been delivering quality and comprehensive Physical Therapy to the Southland since 1992.

4004 W 111th St
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
708.424.4047
708.424.4025
fax 708.424.4591

11140 W 179th St
Orland Park IL 60462
708.478.7225

athletexpt.com



WHERE
EVERY
PATIENT
IS TREATED
LIKE A
CHAMPION!



First National Bank of Brookfield

9136 Washington Avenue, Brookfield, Illinois (708) 485-2770

Construction Team

Buying, Selling or Refinancing a Home or Apartment Building?
Our Mortgage Specialists can Make That Happen!



Apartment Buildings



Peter
Peter@fnbb.com
708-921-0024



Dan
harringd@fnbb.com
708-485-2770



Home-Condo-Townhouses

Principal residences or rental properties - Builders welcome. We also finance bridge loans if you are downsizing or moving to another home. Call Tom Boyle to discuss your project with us (630) 666-9867

www.FNBB.com



Hibernian Media Hosts Irish Film Star John Connors & producer Tiernan Williams Jan. 21-23!

Hibernian Media Board Member Geno Cooney is excited to announce that Irish film star John Connors will be visiting Chicago the weekend of January 21-23, 2022, for an encore screening of his film *ENDLESS SUNSHINE ON A CLOUDY DAY*. Director John Connors and producer Tiernan Williams couldn’t attend the Chicago premiere of the film last September but will personally appear Jan. 21-23, to meet Chicago’s vibrant Irish American community for an encore screening of their terrific film.

John Connors is one of the most recognizable faces from Irish film and TV. He is

ENDLESS SUNSHINE ON A CLOUDY DAY will be screened: Friday January 21st at The Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 North Knox at 8PM, 773-282-7035

Saturday January 22nd at The Siskel Film Center at 5PM at 164 North State Street, Chicago. 312-846-2085

Sunday January 23rd - 3PM at Gaelic Park 6119 147th St, Oak Forest. (708) 687-9323

Screenings followed by discussion with filmmakers & informal cocktail reception.

The film follows the final journey of popular Instagrammer, Jade McCann, and her father Anthony. Winner of the Audience



a multi-award-winning actor, writer, and director. He has two Irish Film and Television, (IFTA), awards to his credit for best Actor and best Documentary. He is better known from his appearances in the Irish TV Series “Love/Hate” and the box office smash “Cardboard Gangsters”.

Both filmmakers are the creative force behind Cluster Fox Films, their innovative Irish production company currently on the cusp of international renown. Chicago Irish audiences are encouraged to attend any of the encore screenings and meet two of the most creative and inspired minds in Irish film today.

Hibernian Media Board Member and former Irish American Heritage Center President Gene Cooney has facilitated the Chicago personal appearance tour of these emerging Irish filmmakers.

Award for Best Film at the Virgin Media Dublin International Film Festival in March 2020, this inspirational story is a reminder of the toxic nature of social media and the enduring truth in every soul as, “A family comes together to fight the ultimate fight and learn that love is more powerful than death.” It’s a story about a family battling to stay together with the odds stacked heavily against them. The film examines life in the face of one’s own mortality. A beautiful portrayal of acceptance, positivity, and the ability to find meaning in the darkest of times, resulting in the discovery of “Endless Sunshine on a Cloudy Day”.

Geno says, “Don’t miss this opportunity to meet the filmmakers in person this month in Chicago! Special thanks to Culture Ireland and Hilton Chicago for hosting these artists.”



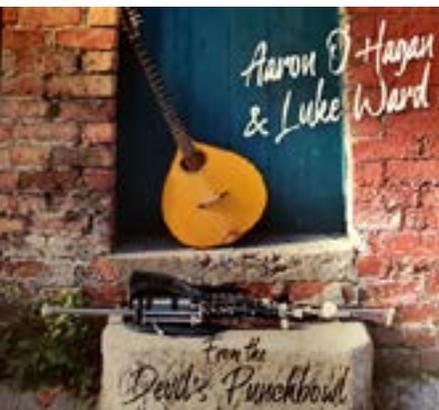
Euro Shippers Can Ship by Air or Sea
 Autos/Truck • Commercial Products • Food
 Household Goods/Personal Effects
 Human Remains • Exhibition Materials
 (Ship To & from Any U.S. Zip Code)

Weekly Service To & From Ports Around the World!
 Individual Boxes • 20 Ft Containers
 40 Ft Containers • Ro-Ro • Oversized Freight
 Get a FREE estimate at www.euroshippers.com
 Call: 708-233-1987 or
 email: info@euroshippers.com

EURO SHIPPERS — Your Import & Export Shipping Experts!

Flood Brothers
 DISPOSAL/RECYCLING SERVICES

Proud To Be The ONLY Family-Owned Irish Waste Hauler In Chicago



Music is beginning to be released again, and several new albums have just arrived in the mail. It is so good to see music being written, arranged, and recorded again after the damper we experienced due to Covid.

Two Belfast natives, Aaron O'Hagan and Luke Ward, debuted their album *From the Devil's Punchbowl* at the Queen's Hotel November 13th during the return of the Ennis Trad Festival. Aaron is a musician, teacher and maker of uilleann pipes and exquisite wooden flutes made with sterling silver keys. Introduced by his granddad to music, he has been a student of flute magician Brendan Mulholland and piper Patrick O'Hare.

He began making reeds and pro-

gressed into creating high quality pipes and flutes.

Luke Ward is a talented bouzouki player who has been immersed in the traditional music of Belfast for over 20 years. He is a much-requested teacher both in Belfast and around the world and has recorded with Martin Tourish of Altan.

If you are a lover of the uilleann pipes, as I am, you will want to order this album and squirrel away time to sit and fully enjoy it several times the first opportunity you get to experience it. Aaron is one of the smoothest players I have come across. His playing is strong, yet beautiful and controlled. While the pipes are considered one of the most difficult instruments to play and master, Aaron has them down in spades! Luke's bouzouki accompaniment enhances the entire listening experience. While Aaron has his own style, you will hear the influence of Brendan on the flute sets. Joining them on this album are Melanie Houton on fiddle, Cillian King on keyboards, Dermot Walsh on drums, and the magnificent Robbie Walsh on bodhran. Comprised of 10 cuts, a mixture of their own composed



On the Upbeat

By Maryann
McTeague Keifer

pieces and those of others, this album is going to be in high contention for Traditional Album of the Year. You can order *From the Devil's Punchbowl* on Aaron's webpage, and order you should!

Thirty years on the scene and recently named to the Scots Trad Music Hall of Fame, Old Blind Dogs have just released their 14th album, *Knucklehead Circus*.



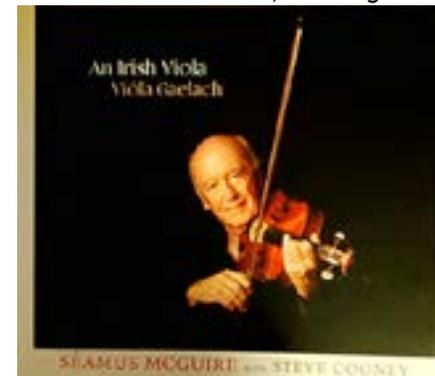
The name put a smile on my face as it was as one of my Dad's famed names for any of us who erred in judgement. For those new to OBD, the band are all incredibly accomplished Scottish musicians including fiddler and lead vocalist Jonny Hardie, guitar, bass, cittern player and vocalist Aaron Jones, master of the pipes, and whistles Ali Hutton, and percussionist and vocalist Donald Hay.

The album is full of get up on your feet and dance energy and the famous OBD sound. The band wanted to create an album that was positive and joyous for their audiences who have been starved for live music. "We wanted to focus on those silver linings and throw in a little social comment to hopefully create an enjoyable, cohesive and uplifting album." They certainly accomplished that!

There are several tunes composed by Jonny and tune sets by Ali interspersed with traditional tunes and those of others such as Gordon Duncan. There are folktales such as John Barleycorn and Harry Brewer included, and all are given the special arrangements so well known of Old Blind Dogs. This is a live concert I am praying we will be able to attend during two in the works US tours being planned for 2022.

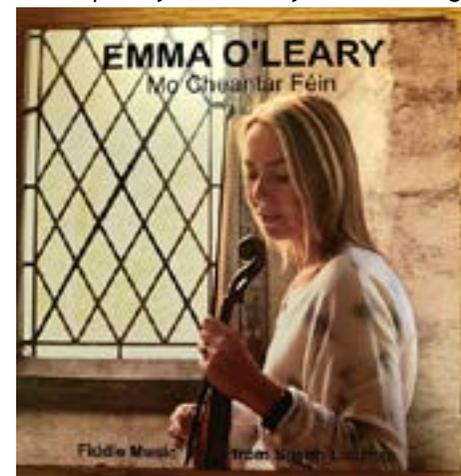
Two extraordinary musicians paired up

for what was to be a locked down project, and just debuted a trad lover's masterpiece, *An Irish Viola* *Viola Gaelach*. Famous fiddler, Séamus McGuire wanted to record traditional tunes highlighting the special range and deep warm tones of the viola. Choosing last year's Lifetime Achievement Award winning guitarist Steve Cooney to accompany him was genius. The album includes tunes such as "Lad O'Beirne's Reel," Turlough O'Ca-



rolan's "Madam Maxwell," and self-composed sets like "The Dreamer's Reel."

Better known for its role in slower tunes, Séamus wanted to explore using the viola for more uptempo and dance tunes. He found certain composers' music such as O'Carolan, Paddy Fahey, and those of Clare and south Sligo leant themselves to its qualities. Steve Cooney agreed to come on board, and added his creativity and musicianship to the album sets. This album is a sit back and enjoy your drink masterpiece you will find yourself looking



on Bouzouki, Emma's fiddling is expressive and joyful. There is one beautiful air, An Raibh Túag an gCarriag, and the remainder of the seven cuts are a mix of dance tunes-hornpipes, jigs, reels, slides, and Kerry polkas. The album is truly captivating from start to finish and another delight for the traditional music lovers.

Four new albums and all are very worth owning! I am looking forward to announcing the 2022 ACLSR Music Awards in next month's column. Biodh mí mhaith agat!

**An Authentic Irish Pub
the whole family can enjoy!**

6070 N Northwest Hwy
Chicago, IL, 60631
708-831-5142
mysticrogueirishpub.com

MYSTIC ROGUE



Manhattan Irish Fest RETURNS in 2022!



Friday/Saturday March 4-5

GREAT ENTERTAINMENT!

PARADE * 5K RUN * RAFFLE

FOOD * GUINNESS * FUN

Admission buttons \$10 in advance \$15 at the gate

And a big "THANK YOU!" to our 2020 Sponsors!

Gallagher's Pub
Advantage Paving Solutions
Berkots Super Foods
First Bank of Manhattan
Fritz's Saloon
Fiesta Pizza (Italian Fiesta Pizzeria)

Hawk Auto
Illinois Eye Associates, LTD
Manhattan Collision Center
Manhattan Family Chiropractic
Manhattan Mechanical Services LLC
Prairie Contractors, Inc.

Black Toe Running
Agave Azul Mex. Restaurant
Lanlois Insurance Agency
Grand Prairie Animal Hospital
Village Realty, Inc.



www.manhattanirishfest.com



Where did the year go? For better or for worse 2021 is now in the books and the promise of a New Year is upon us. The New Years resolutions are made and some have already broken. The one resolution that everyone should make is taking the time to enjoy life. Don't wait for a special occasion go out and enjoy a meal at you favorite restaurant because everyday is a special occasion. We are so fortunate to live in or nearby one of the most vibrant cities in the U.S. Everything about Chicago is world class. The options for dining and entertainment are infinite. January is also the month I travel to Ireland to attend a trade fair called Showcase at the R D S in Dublin. This is a four day event, and we use every minute of it to check out new offerings from Ireland's best crafters and manufacturers to bring the best that Ireland has to offer to The Irish Shop. We have been attending this show since 1991. It also affords the opportunity to dine at some of Dub-

PEGGY Kinnane's
IRISH RESTAURANT & PUB
8 N. Vail Avenue
Arlington Heights, IL 60004
Tel. 847-577-7733 Fax. 847-577-3886

*Good food. Good friends.
Just a great time. See you at Peggy's!*

Hours
M-Th 11am-1am
Fri & Sat: 11am-2am
Sun: 11am-1am
www.peggykinmanes.com

THE LARKIN & MORAN
BROTHERS

For Booking: www.celticratpack.com

lin's finest restaurants and pubs, something I look forward to every year. Did you know that the Republic of Ireland has eighteen Michelin star restaurants and six of them are situated in Dublin. Another Michelin award is Bib Gourmand and it highlights restaurants that serve three course meals under 40 Euros. These restaurants are scattered throughout the Republic and give Foodies the opportunity to experience really great food at affordable prices. The trend has been farm to table utilizing the freshest ingredients sourced from local purveyors creating a unique Irish dining experience. Irish cuisine has really come into it's own. I remember when the only place to get a decent meal was at a hotel usually serving something called Continental cuisine in other words heavily sauced entrees and a mixed grill. Those days are long gone and the level of dining in Ireland now rivals any European country.

Dublin also boasts a number of craft micro breweries giving Guinness, Smithwicks, and Harp a run for their money. So if your able to travel to Ireland this year don't hesitate. I guarantee you will have a great time no matter where you go.

The goal for my column this year is to take you on a culinary journey using everyday ingredients to elevate your dining experience. I will also include cooking techniques, the proper use of spices, and what you have on hand in your pantry to perfectly execute any recipe. Your only



commitment is the desire to do so. With my Irish shop, restaurant consulting, and did I mention 13 grandchildren, I have a fairly busy schedule. In saying this I cook dinner every night or myself and my wife Anne and it usually takes less time than it does to order something in with far superior results.

There is a French term called mise en place. It literally means having everything in place. This is very important when cooking or baking anything. So let's get started with something easy and one of my favorite go to recipes.

Sautéed chicken serves 4

24oz boneless chicken

1cup flour seasoned with salt, pepper, dried parsley, thyme, rosemary, and garlic

2tablepoons unsalted butter

1tablespoon olive oil

Place chicken breast on a cutting board narrow side to the right and cut $\frac{3}{4}$ inch diagonal slices right to left.

Put slices one at a time in a gallon zip lock bag or between two sheets of plastic film and flatten with a meat tenderizer or heavy bottomed pan until pieces are about $\frac{1}{4}$



thick and even. Do this with the remainder of the chicken and dredge each piece in seasoned flour. Combine butter and oil in a large heavy skillet and add chicken breasts. Do not over crowd. You may have to do a few batches adding more butter and oil if necessary. Cook 4-5 minutes over medium on each side heat until golden brown. At this point you can make several variations with the same chicken.

Piccata

Add white wine, lemon juice, capers. Reduce by half and add parsley and 2oz of unsalted butter. Swirl pan to incorporate the butter into a light sauce. Plate chicken on linguine pasta. And pour sauce over the chicken. Great with asparagus

Parmigiano

Season flour with 3tablepoons of grated parmesan cheese. Sautee chicken and add marinara sauce to coat all of the chicken breasts. Place chicken breasts on a cookie sheet and sprinkle with parmesan and mozzarella cheese. Place in a hot oven or under a broiler until cheese is melted. Serve with penne pasta tossed in marinara sauce and steamed broccoli

Mushroom

Sautee chicken breasts and remove from pan add 1 cup sliced mushrooms, I prefer cremini, or shitake with the stems removed, 1clove chopped garlic, 1small onion or shallot diced, 1/4

teaspoon of thyme and unsalted butter. Cook over medium-high heat to evaporate any liquid from the mushrooms stirring constantly, being careful not to brown the onions and garlic, add white wine, or Marsala and reduce by half. Add $\frac{1}{2}$ cup frozen peas. Finish sauce with 2oz unsalted butter whisking to form a silky sauce. Garnish with fresh parsley. Serve over farfalle pasta

Gaelic

Dip chicken breast in a mixture of whole grain mustard, and melted butter. Dredge in seasoned flour and sautee 4-5 minute per side

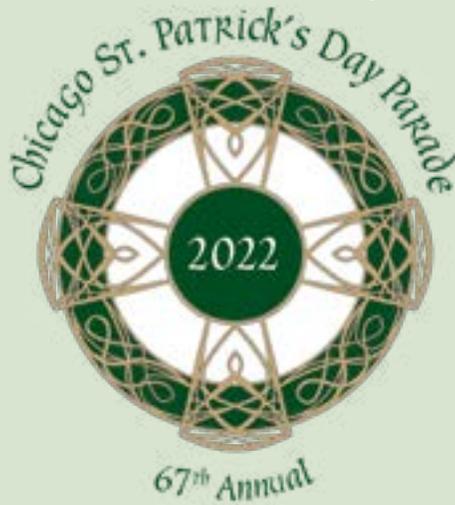
When browned add 2oz of Irish whisky. Tilt pan to flame. When flame subsides add $\frac{1}{4}$ cup heavy cream and chopped parsley. Serve with creamy mashed potatoes, pan roasted root vegetables (carrots, parsnips, celery root, turnip or rutabaga) cut into 1 inch pieces and seared in a heavy skillet with a tablespoon of butter until lightly browned reduce heat and cover. Cook for 10 minutes season with at and pepper.

Three variations of one cooking technique.

I hope you enjoy them.

Slan.

Proudly Sponsored by Plumbers Local 130, UA Since 1956



**Join us at
Plumbers Hall
as we Honor
the 2022**



Grand Marshal, John Griffin

**CBC Tickets
INCLUDED
WITH PARADE
SPONSORSHIP!**



**Tickets
\$100 each,
Table of Ten,
\$1,000**

**& Announce our Guest of Honor at the
CORNED BEEF & CABBAGE DINNER
January 27th**

Doors open at 5pm, Dinner at 7pm

**Tickets at www.chicagostpatricksdaysparade.org
(Ticket Deadline is Friday, January 14 no exceptions!)**

Proof of Vaccinations will be required per the City of Chicago Ordinance effective 1/3/2022



**2022 QUEEN CONTEST
SUNDAY, JANUARY 16, 2022 - NOON
DEADLINE
FOR ENTRY APPLICATIONS
IS JANUARY 3, 2022
www.chicagostpatricksdaysparade.org**



Plumbers Hall, 1340 West Washington Blvd, Chicago

Lizzie McNeill's
Irish Pub

YOUR DOWNTOWN IRISH PUB
LOCATED ALONG THE SCENIC CHICAGO RIVER



400 N. McClurg Court, Chicago IL
(312) 447-1992
lizziemcneillschicago@gmail.com

PRIVATE EVENTS RIVERWALK PATIO SEATING

Proudly serving Chicagoland
since 2010

McGonigal's
PUB



105 S. Cook Street, Barrington
www.barringtonpub.com
847-277-7400

ARTHUR J. MURPHY



- Real Estate Attorney
- 40 years experience
- Personalized attention
- Reasonable rates

Retain an experienced property law attorney to represent you in the purchase or sale of residential or light commercial real estate.

MURPHY & SMITH, LTD.
Serving Chicagoland for 40 Years!
312-427-3650
arthurmurphy@murphyandsmith.net



Everyone was against it! Friends cautioned, daughters fought, argued and scoured as only post-menopausal daughters can. I listened, I recognized the fear they harbored. They even ventured into the prohibited arena, reminding me of my age. How many times have I told them, age is only a number enhanced by a social security check! Age has not thwarted the ambition I developed at my father's knee in the land of my birth, Dundalk, County Louth, Ireland. Even my brother in Boston, a recently retired physician, sent graphs of bulging Irish Covid deaths plus immense medical data spelling out risks of traveling to foreign parts, especially Ireland where he emphasized the pandemic hit hard. He warned I might get into the country but if I became ill, there'd be an absence of care since Irish hospitals were filled to capacity. I scoffed, turned a deaf ear determined to attend the wedding of my forty-seven year old nephew Philip Kirk, a hard driven man, entrepreneurial since birth, the only son Type to enter text in a family of five sisters. No wonder his father dotted on him, the only two males in a houseful of women! His Dad fond of boasting his young son was the best lad in the whole of Ireland, while mothers and sisters stood by rolling their eyes and carried on with their duties. Well and truly vaccinated as required for travel, paying a ransom for nasal tests to ensure I could get out of the US and eventually arrive in Dublin. I was prepared for the dampness and chill of a November visit in Ireland, the dark mornings and evenings but unprepared for the emotion of a wedding on Thanksgiving Day. I was equally unprepared for the tsunami of gratitude for an American life, three adult daughters, grandchildren and the dynamic experiences and awards I achieved in journalism. Readers who left Ireland for a new life in America, we departed as Irish men and women, and we assimilated, a necessary component into this new land where opportunity bedazzled. As I arrived into Dublin Airport, a ceaseless emotional experience, welcomed by cousin Phyllis who drove to County Louth I recalled the emotion of the day I was naturalized, the pride of

it although I was still Irish. I was considered American days following the birth of my first daughter. A momentous occasion! The wedding invitation was delivered from Ireland in a phone call. I was the only one attending from the US since the wedding was scheduled on Thanksgiving Day. Once again I faced daily the misgivings of my travel plan, determined to represent the US family, Los Angeles to London to Dublin. Daughter's whined, critical of my determination leaving an empty seat at the Thanksgiving table. Yes, I was riddled with guilt imposed at home, on top of pressure from Ireland. As one manipulative Irish druid forwarded a list of the elderly sickly cousins I'd probably see for the last time, the pressure squeeze was definitely on from the Emerald Isle. On the flight from London to Dublin I chatted with a passenger Marie Desmond living on a Chestnut Farm in Jersey in the Channel Islands. I learned about Ethel her donkey who developed cancer on its nose and legs. "We weren't sure she'd escape the meat-man and cancer," she explained, and managed to collect sufficient funds for the donkey's surgery. What I did not know, and perhaps you didn't know either, donkeys always need a partner and Ethel's partner Emmet could have died of loneliness if Ethel died. Back to the Wedding. It was held in Castle Leslie Estate, Glasbough, County Monaghan, a 17th century Italian Castle built by a Scotsman for his daughter. I had the privilege of staying overnight in the Red Room, a massive suite where Paul Mc Cartney spent his wedding night. Owen McNaughton, the elderly hotel luggage carrier confided the marriage did not last. His announcement needs no other comment! "It flattened," he drawled. Settling into my sumptuous accommodations that included a fireplace, large four poster bed, a life sized decorated and illuminated Christmas Tree and a bathroom. A knock on the door produced the tuxedo clad seven year old family kid named Vincie arriving for a visit. He actually came to warn me the Red Room was haunted. I gasped in mock horror, making the sign of the cross for his benefit. "If you hear him during the night, make no sound for he'd batter the face of you and you'll be all scabs for the wedding." He asked if I'd seen the bathtub. I had, the longest bathtub I'd ever seen, long enough for three adult bodies to lie down head to toe. Vincie announced the bath was the very first one introduced in Ireland! I thanked him for his advice about the ghost and the historic info about the first bathtub! As he departed he referred to me as Missus America, and when I gently corrected him, he quipped: "that's what you sound to me." The wedding, a five star event, the beautiful bride Niamh aged 31, the groom 47, each of them in their youth had children out of wedlock, now a ten year old boy and a 14-year old girl, both of them redheads, a built in comfortably ready-made family. This for me was a demonstration of the new Ireland. So too was the five course dinner, two hundred guests, the band of musicians and singers imported from Dubai, played and sang until six the following morning. A large gathering of hungover guests stumbled into the dining room for the complimentary Irish wedding breakfast. A night to remember! A memory to cherish. Estelleshanley@aol.com

Ireland Tonight
with Your Host
Maryann McTeague Keifer




90.9 FM

Every Monday 8-10pm CST

Tune in or stream for the best of Irish & Celtic music and its musicians

Trinity Irish Dance Company to Fly High at Auditorium Theatre February 5th Then off to New York City, Milwaukee and Tokyo!

Trinity Irish Dance Company (TIDC), is not only getting back on their feet after two years without live performances - they are flying higher than ever. Rebounding from an extended intermission, the Chicago/Milwaukee-based TIDC will bring their unique vision to renowned theaters this winter and spring - from their February 5th one-night-only appearance at Chicago's Auditorium Theatre to New York City for an epic week-run at the Joyce Theater, and Milwaukee's Marcus Center for the Performing Arts to Tokyo's Orchard Hall where they will end a three-week summer tour of Japan.

With an increased clarity of vision, dynamic new artists, and an ever-evolving fresh approach to a beloved traditional form, TIDC continues to lead the way artistically in a genre filled with overly-commercialized, formulaic Irish dance productions. The innovative, understated and integrity-filled non-profit TIDC is an idea whose time has come, and they are poised to leap to a whole new level.

Chicago audiences will be out in force at the iconic Auditorium Theatre on February 5th to feel the thunder of their awe-inspiring hometown company and cheer them on as they gear up for a week-run at New York's iconic Joyce Theater, the high watermark for dance worldwide.

"New York's Joyce Theater is everything ... professional dancers dream of spending a week on that stage, but very few ever realize that dream. We have so much gratitude for the opportunities on the horizon," said TIDC Associate Artistic Director, Chelsea Hoy.

While Founding Artistic Director, Mark Howard's cutting-edge work transports, inspires, and leaves audiences feeling whole, it is the strength of the company's mission and Howard's contagious artistic vision that brings dancers and musicians together from around the world. From Galway to New York and Mexico to Portland, individuals with unique abilities, inspiring stories and a collective

passion are moving to the Chicago/Milwaukee area to join the TIDC movement. TIDC's newest company of high-powered athletes have been in training all summer and fall and are the most diverse since its beginnings in 1990.

supposedly career-ending injuries.

Fran dedicated himself fully to rehab and set new goals for the concert stage, but after auditioning and being turned down by multiple commercial Irish dance shows, he had given up on any

where I come from. Growing up in Irish dancing, I've always felt annoyed that I was known as 'the Mexican guy,' because I felt my nationality was valued far more than my talents. Now, I no longer see my nationality as something

were over, she was accepted into the company and was being immersed in the creation of new work, embarking on her first tour of Japan, and quickly gravitating toward the center of revitalizing TIDC and reintroducing its legacy to the world of performing arts dance. Graduating from Loyola University with degrees in psychology and photography, Chelsea is a powerful activist and artist who has been entrusted with TIDC's ethos and future.

"I never feel as whole or powerful as I do with my dance shoes on. TIDC not only gives me a platform to feel this power, but I get to experience firsthand how that feeling becomes shared - amongst the artists and extending out into the audience."

While all company members are encouraged to contribute to the creative process, not long ago, Chelsea was afforded the opportunity to co-choreograph an ambitious piece with Howard. The result was a crowd favorite and instant classic called *An Sorcas* (The Circus), which will return to the Auditorium Theatre stage in February and have its New York premiere at the Joyce. *An Sorcas* is a playful romp through the juxtapositions of spectacle and substance, with (of course) TIDC's emphasis on substance winning in the end.

Danielle Masbruch feels that TIDC has changed her life in unimaginable ways. She grew up dancing in

Tacoma, Washington, beginning later than most at age 10, and attending a TIDC performance as a child at the Washington Center in 2003. Danielle danced competitively until she was 18, with dreams to one day audition for TIDC. At that time, she was a part of a religious organization that discouraged serious involvement in anything other than the ministry, leading to an early end to her dancing career. Five years later she decided to return to an

Continued to next page



Francisco Lemus is a percussive force with unwavering dedication and lightning fast feet. Reigning from Puebla, Mexico, Fran began tap dancing at age seven and gained interest in Irish dancing after seeing it on YouTube. At the age of 12, he traveled two hours to the nearest lessons, ultimately outpacing the instruction available to him and joining a Texas-based Irish dance school (Inishfree), training himself in Mexico and visiting his teachers in the US a few times a year. He became a groundbreaking Latin American dancer, placing 6th at the World Championships, winning top honors at the US National Championships, and twice becoming the US Southern Regional Champion before succumbing to



chance of dancing professionally - and then, after a year of pandemic came the return call from the TIDC. While the commercial world of Irish Dance celebrates and seeks sameness, TIDC celebrates uniqueness and individuals who will bring the work to life in new ways.

"As an artist, since training with TIDC, I have already made a huge jump in terms of confidence and alternative thinking. Working with Mark (Howard) is a one of a kind experience. I know how rare it is for me - or anyone - to get to be nurtured by someone with that level of skill, innovation, and vision. When I got to work with him one-on-one, he encouraged me to think about my place of origin. To make it mine. To find my power - not just my personal power, but the power of

to be ashamed of. Mark got me to understand that it's something that's empowering me.

It's all starting to click. With TIDC, it doesn't even feel like I'm dancing. I feel like I'm in a different dimension, doing things I didn't know I was capable of. It's just magic. I've spent my life wanting to fit in. Now I feel like I can just be Francisco."

Chelsea Hoy, TIDC's Associate Artistic Director and an uncanny percussive force on the dance floor, grew up in Denver, Colorado. At age nine, her aunt drove her and her sister through a snowstorm to see the Trinity Irish Dance Company perform in Beaver Creek, CO. Flash forward a decade, after she thought her dancing days



GIVE THE GIFT OF TRINITY IRISH DANCE

20% OFF
ONE MONTH OF CLASS

GIFT COST: \$55.00
PURCHASE BY: 01/31
Valid thru Jan 2022

HAPPY NEW YEAR

ELMHURST
LAKEVIEW
NEW SIDE-IAHC
PALATINE
WESTERN SPRINGS
MILWAUKEE
MADISON

877-326-2328 x101

Wedding Traditions are Special

Whether carrying on a family tradition or starting a new one, celebrate your lasting love, eternal friendship & loyalty to each other.

The Irish Cottage
BOUTIQUE HOTEL
Galena, Illinois

Outdoor Ceremonies • Unique Receptions & Rehearsal Dinners
Personalized Menus • Complete Wedding Packages
Onsite Wedding Consultant • Licensed Irish Officiant

www.GalenaWedding.info or 815-776-0707

SUBSCRIBE TO: Irish American News
Published 12 Times Yearly For First of Each Month

Keep the news coming by subscribing today! It's your news and your newspaper. Enjoy the convenience of home or office delivery. Know someone who would enjoy receiving their own copy each month? Why not get them a gift subscription as well!

Makes a Great Gift!

check the appropriate box

1 year \$36 or 2 year \$65 3 year \$75

I Want To Subscribe For Myself Starting The Month Of _____

Name _____
Address _____
Phone () _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Card # _____ Expires _____

Send Check or Credit Card info to: Irish News Inc. PO Box 7, Zion L, 60099, 815-473-0732

I Want a GIFT Subscription for a Friend Starting the Month of _____

Name _____
Address _____
Phone () _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Card # _____ Expires _____

Continued from previous page

important part of her life: dance, and soon thereafter, decided to leave the religious organization and therefore her entire community behind to start a new life. "In that life, I felt like I was swimming upstream and it just didn't seem to fit me." At the age of 25, long after most hang up their competitive shoes, she began qualifying to represent the USA at the world level. Ultimately, a successful audition with TIDC at the beginning of 2020 led to her packing up her life in the days leading up to the pandemic and moving herself across the country to Chicago. She arrived the first day of lockdown, unable to meet any of the company members in person for more than a year. As a dental hygienist that had been flipping houses in Tacoma for years, she changed careers and is currently balancing her full-time job as a realtor with her new lifestyle as a professional performing artist.

"I remember exactly where I was when TIDC responded to my audition email. I was in a really bad spot after ending a toxic relationship, walking through my neighborhood to clear my head. I saw the email come through and

it was like a door opened and unlocked an opportunity for my life to change"



Kait Sardin is a dynamic force with a wide range of movement styles and a massive social media following. Kait grew up in Orlando, Florida, and spent time in Long Island, New York where she attended Hofstra University pursuing a B.S. of Biology. Dance has been a part of her family since her father grew up break dancing on Chicago's streets. As a young classically-trained ballet dancer, she saw Irish dance one day and said "yes please." Her natural gift for step dance technique would take Kait's 16-year successful competitive career to the international level. During the pandemic, she began her own creative journey of fusing Irish dance with hip hop, vogue, jazz, and contemporary, sharing videos on her social platforms and developing herself as a versatile mover. "Kaitrock," as she is known to over 30,000 Instagram

followers, is a perfect fit for TIDC due to her range of movement genres and willingness to step outside of the box. Her new role as a highly visible professional performing artist combined with her large internet following make for a perfect opportunity for Kait to inspire children of color to pursue whatever they want.

"For me, Trinity Irish Dance Company is a place that isn't bound by anything. And we continue to transcend." -Kait Sardin

The TIDC artists' dedication to each other and their craft is born out of so many things, but a few instantly come to mind: their mission to elevate, their roles as creators in a space that is not being driven by money or commercial gain, and their knowledge that they are the tip of the spear in terms of saving Irish dance from the circus it can sometimes be.

To learn more or make a donation, visit trinityirishdancecompany.com.

To buy tickets for their February 5th performance, visit auditoriumtheatre.org or call 312.341.2310.



Outside
Al Fresco
Dining

- ▶ umbrellas
- ▶ heaters
- ▶ fire pit

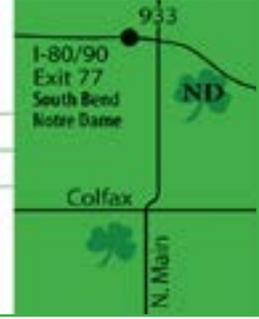
Fiddler's Hearth
Family-Friendly Public House
fiddlehearth.com

Inside
6' social distance in dining room and bar
ND football fans

tripadvisor

#1 of 22 Bars & Pubs in South Bend
#2 of 278 Places to Eat in South Bend
Certificate of Excellence

127 N. Main
574.232.2853



Joe McShane
JOEMCSHANEMUSIC@YAHOO.COM

Available for
Festivals, Clubs,
Dances, Weddings
and all
Church Occasions

847-226-4056

IRISH AMERICAN UNITY CONFERENCE

For 36 years working for peace and justice in a united Ireland

Become part of the Solution!

visit www.iauc.org • like us on Facebook

P.O. BOX 55573 WASHINGTON, DC 20040 800-384-3300

TRINITY IRISH DANCE COMPANY

FOUNDING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR MARK HOWARD

“A cool vibe...
stretching the limits
of what Irish dance
can do aesthetically
and rhythmically”

— *Chicago Tribune*

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5 @ 7:30PM



AuditoriumTheatre.org
312.341.2300

- Save 10-15% with the Family Pack!
- Groups of 10+ save 20%!

“MADE IN CHICAGO” DANCE SERIES

AUDITORIUM THEATRE
CHICAGO'S LANDMARK STAGE EST. 1889

50 E Ida B Wells Dr | Chicago, IL

2021-22 SEASON SPONSORS

The Florian Fund

Dance Sponsor

MacArthur
Foundation



PALMERHOUSE
A HILTON HOTEL

Official Hotel Partner

CHICAGO
MAGAZINE

Magazine Sponsor

“MADE IN CHICAGO” DANCE SERIES SPONSORS

Joyce
Chelberg

Pamela
Crutchfield

Patti Eylar and
Charlie Gardner

TRINITY IRISH DANCE COMPANY

Marsha and
Phil Dowd

Presenting Sponsors



Honorable James M. McGing

**Personal Injury, Including:
Medical Negligence,
Construction Site Accidents,
Truck, Auto & Motorcycle,
Nursing Home Abuse & Neglect
Workers' Compensation**

**Former Supervising Judge
Celtic Lawyer of the Year 2019**

Call (773)-467-8000



Congratulations to Rose Marie O'Neill, (Center) who received the 2021 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Irish Fellowship Club at their celebratory Christmas Luncheon. (l to r): Nieces; Libby Lamb Lucas, and Katie Lamb-Heinz celebrated with her!

AG **Amazing Grace**
SENIOR LIVING
ASSISTED LIVING & MEMORY CARE

Ask about our
Advanced
Disinfection
Technology!

**2nd Annual Free Pie Giveaway! Call to RSVP!
Friday, Nov. 19, & Tues, November 23, 9am-5pm**



Contemporary Living Personalized Care

Amazing Grace offers a variety of inviting floor plans to choose from, each well appointed with a sophisticated, timeless charm. Best of all, we provide Assisted Living and Memory Care services all on 1 campus at an accessible cost-so you can enjoy every moment with total peace of mind.

Rest assured, Amazing Grace has invested in next generation virus protection technology

COMMUNITY AMENITIES

- Large Multi-Use Event Area with Stage
- Beautiful Chapel Available for Daily Worship
- Onsite Theater Room
- Game Room with Simulated Bowling
- Bistro for Coffee, Snacking & Connecting
- Art Studio, Beauty Salon & Fitness Center
- Picturesque, Park-like Private Walking Grounds

AVAILABLE SERVICES

- Assisted Living & Memory Care
- 24/7 Professional Staffing
- Housekeeping & Laundry
- Bathing, Dressing & Grooming
- Scheduled Transportation
- Medication Management
- Physical & Cognitive Therapy

**Schedule a tour today! 773-250-7000
or email info@amazinggracesenior.com
7432 W. Talcott Ave., Chicago, IL 60631 - AmazingGraceSenior.com**

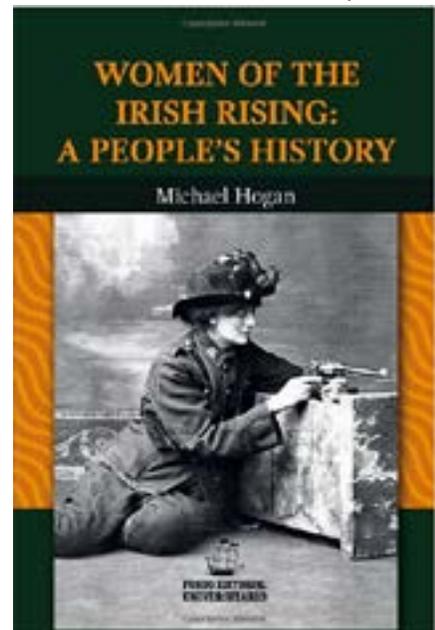
Women of the Irish Rising

In his important and engaging new book, Michael Hogan redresses a longstanding wrong by explaining and historically documenting the contributions of women who courageously and selflessly served the cause of Irish nationalism during the Irish rebellion of 1916 and after. Hogan skillfully weaves their active engagement for the cause as gun runners and snipers, secretaries, aides, and nurses, into a complex web of political, social, and economic forces.

Based on a rich panoply of primary sources, including diaries and journals, news accounts, proclamations, and other archived historical information, Hogan's book is enriched with a range of visuals—a timeline of the weeklong rebellion with maps and charts, images of guns and flags, along with a treasure-trove of pictures of the key women and men who planned, coordinated, and led the insurgent uprising.

Hogan puts the contribution of women in the larger context of the history of the rebellion and incorporates a detailed account of the Easter 1916 uprising in the larger

political context of the fight for women's and worker's rights, as well as in the economic context of the conflict between capitalist and socialist values, and in the historical context of the First World War. His story is one



of revolution—in gender roles, class structures, and social and cultural values—a story that has been playing out in Ireland for more than a century.

www.drmmichaelhogan.com

Michael Hogan Michael Hogan is the author of 27 books, including the best-selling Irish Soldiers of Mexico and which has been the basis of an MGM movie and three documentaries.

Tuesday January 11th One Night Only!

Mystic Rogue Irish Pub

6070 N. Northwest Hwy. Edison Park, Chicago 7:30PM

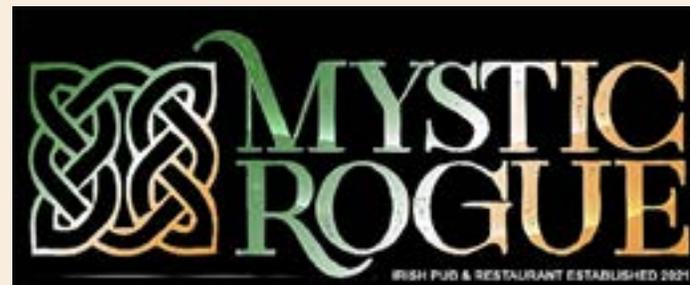
Join the taping of our

PBS TV show - OUR IRISH PUB!

*starring Katie Grennan &
The Chancey Brothers - LIVE!*



All are welcome!
708-831-5142 to reserve seats!





BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices Chicago

WISHING YOU A HAPPY
New Year!

TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS HERE AND IN
DUBLIN, GREYSTONES, DINGLE,
GORTA DUBHA, BALLYGANEEN AND
LETTERKENNY

Kim Patton
REALTOR
773.445.4442
kimpattonsells.com
kpatton@bhhschicago.com



Dear DUP: True Freedom Depends on Vaccination!

The Johnson-led government in the United Kingdom kicked up a fuss in December after passing regulations that require businesses to check vaccination status of patrons against COVID-19. Noncompliance with this new regulation can result in a fine of up to £1,000. Among those throwing a temper tantrum is the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) in Northern Ireland.

DUP member Paul Frew, who is also a Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) in Northern Ireland, addressed an "anti-certification" rally in Stormont. "We will not stop fighting until these certifications are removed," Frew exclaimed from the rostrum.

The nasty politics of the DUP aside, Frew's acceptance of the anti-vax movement is just plain asinine. Not only is he essentially encouraging his constituents to put their life on the line in the name of some strange definition of freedom, but he is also indirectly putting all Irish at risk.

The open borders between Northern Ireland and the Republic allow for goods and people to move freely between the two countries. After the violence that rocked the island during the 20th century, no one is advocating for a return to a hard

border. But as a side effect of this seemingly never-ending pandemic, there is no real practical way to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 across the border.

It's a well-established fact that vaccination reduces the transmissibility of COVID-19 substantially, even if an individual experiences a breakthrough case of infection. As of this writing, 76% of the Republic of Ireland is fully vaccinated, while only 68% of Northern Ireland is fully-vaccinated. That's a marked difference in the rates of vaccination, especially when one considers that the Republic has almost three times the population of the North!

So why are there still so many idiots refusing to get the shot? In the US, anti-vaxxers initially said they weren't going to get it because the vaccines didn't have official FDA approval (they had Emergency Use Authorization, but didn't get full approval until recently). Once the Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson shots were officially approved by the FDA, however, most of these people refused to get it anyway. Why? I think this all boils down to a matter of pride. Once these people made the conscious decision not to get vaccinated, they refused to change their mind for fear of being seen as weak-willed. They've stuck to their guns and placed their pride above their own health and the health of their loved ones. Now, almost two years into this pandemic, we have the tools to stop it dead in its tracks. But we won't, because these people refuse to get over themselves. As a result, there's still no end in sight. The vulnerable will continue to die from COVID, and these anti-vaxxers will continue to act like nothing is wrong. Stateside, they'll refuse to even wear masks, despite it being the second-best option for stopping the spread. So to Paul Frew and anyone else concerned with their "freedom" over common-sense public health precautions being taken by the UK or any other country, I say this: our true freedom DEPENDS on getting vaccinated! Shouldn't we all be free to enjoy life without fear of an early death? Shouldn't we all be able to sleep at night knowing that our loved ones are safe? This is what true freedom is, and it is achievable if everyone that is eligible to get vaccinated does so.

The Voice of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago

By Sarah Loffman, Mgr of Special Projects for Children, Youth & Family Services

Mentoring is one of the most powerful ways to impact a young person's life. That is why Catholic Charities is pleased to promote awareness of mentoring during the month of January, which is National Youth Mentoring Month.

To be sure, having a strong relationship with a caring, nonparent adult is beneficial for all youth, but it can be life-changing for youth who are struggling with grief and loss, are challenged by poverty, or are having trouble with social or behavioral issues.

Research has shown that youth who meet regularly with their mentors are less likely than their peers to start using drugs and alcohol, have better attitudes about school, are less likely to skip school, have higher high school graduation rates, and are twice as likely to go to college. They have more self-confidence, reduced anxiety, and fewer depressive symptoms. Mentored youth have improved attitudes, behavior, and interpersonal skills; are more likely to be involved in sports or extracurricular activities; and have better relationships with parents, teachers, and coaches.

It is amazing that mentoring can have such a profound impact on nearly every aspect of a young person's life! They call this the "ripple effect" because having a relationship with that one caring adult

who is a constant, positive presence, ripples through all facets of life—academics, athletics, emotions, behaviors, self-esteem and more.

Youths aren't the only ones who receive benefits from mentoring. Like all friendships, the mentoring relationship is reciprocal. Mentors learn tremendously from their mentees and find that they become better friends, students, co-workers, spouses, and parents.

The effectiveness of mentoring emanates from the power of meaningful relationships. As our faith tradition reminds us, we are created to live in community—to be in relationship with one another, giving and receiving support in a spirit of mutuality. In a world that is becoming increasingly isolated, it is no wonder that mentoring is such a powerful antidote to the challenges facing youth today.

Catholic Charities' two mentoring programs are integral to our mission, giving youth the belonging they crave and helping them feel connected, empowered, and loved. Our Lake County program serves youth ages 9-12 and is a traditional one-on-one program matching youths with volunteer adults who receive training and regular support. In Back of the Yards, we serve youth ages 12-15 in a group-based peer mentoring program. We know that peer influence becomes increasingly important as youth age, so it is critical to help

PIZZA · SUBS · CATERING · DELIVERY
Come for the Pizza - Stay for the Pint!

Clancy's

PIZZA PUB

EATATCLANCYS.COM 708-422-1110 4624 103rd St, Oak Lawn



IRISH SESSIONS AT CLANCYS 103rd John Williams sessions Tues, Wed, Friday & Sat
Early learners session Wednesday

Book your holiday party or catering now!

Now Open!
Clancy's 95th
Irish Neighborhood Tavern
Pub menu & Pints. 5763 W 95th St Oak Lawn

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

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

PLAY SLOTS & WIN!



Must be 21 or older to play slots.  ACCELENTERTAINMENT. www.aceentertainment.com

Celtic Woman



POSTCARDS FROM IRELAND

APRIL 7TH ROSEMONT THEATER ROSEMONT, IL

GET TICKETS AT CELTICWOMAN.COM

Look for me on the County Wide Ballot Democrat - June 28-2022

Law Instructor at Illinois Kent Law School and DePaul



Russ
Hartigan
For Judge

Member Illinois Appellate Lawyers Association

 Found Highly Qualified by the Chicago Bar Association

- Found “Highly Qualified” for the Circuit Court Position by the **Illinois State Bar Association**
- Found “Highly Qualified” by **Chicago Bar Association**
 - Served as Berwyn Township **Committeeman**
 - Served with distinction as a **Judge** for six years
 - Served as President of the **West Suburban Bar Association**
 - Served as **President of Lyons Township Democratic Organization**
 - Served as elected President of the 45,000 member **Illinois State Bar Association**
- Served as **Lyons Township Supervisor, Trustee and Township Trustee of Schools, and Trustee of the Village of Western Springs.**

Contributor to the library & Longstanding member of the Irish American Heritage Center
Taught and Coached at St Bartholomew School and at Marist High School
All four Grandparents from Ireland!

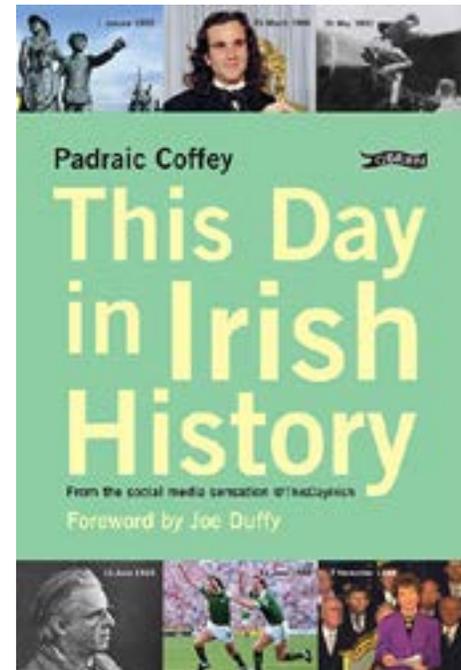


John Williams, Catherine O'Connell and Jimmy Moore performing at the Irish Fellowship Luncheon held on December 3, 2021 at the Chicago Hilton and Towers, Michigan Avenue in Chicago.

This Day in Irish History

by Padraic Coffey,
(The O'Brien Press)

From the social media sensation @thisdayirish, this book is a one a day almanac of Irish history. You may know all about the Easter Rising and the Good Friday Agreement, but did you know that the hypodermic needle was invented in Tallaght? Or that Dublin was the first city in the world to have a woman stockbroker, decades before London or New York? Or that the formula used to create the video game Tomb Raider was sketched on a bridge in Cabra in the nineteenth century? You may know all about the Easter Rising and the Good Friday Agreement, but did you know that the hypodermic needle was invented in Tallaght? Or that Dublin was the first city in the world to have a woman stockbroker, decades before London or New York? Or that the formula used to



create the video game Tomb Raider was sketched on a bridge in Cabra in the nineteenth century?

Available at major book sites.

Being Irish

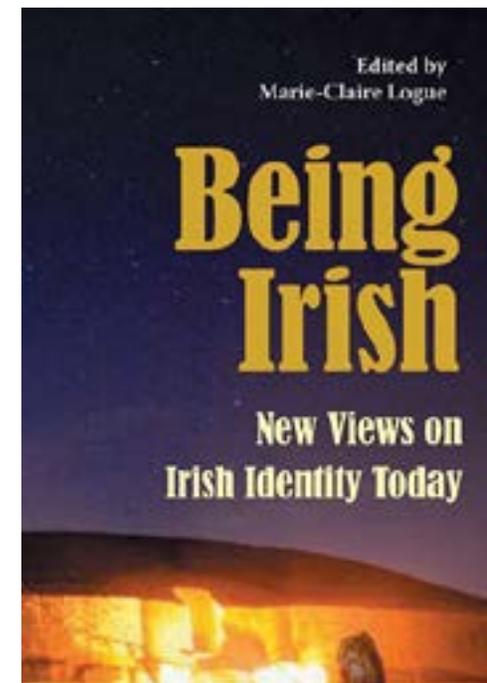
by Marie-Claire Logue

What makes the Irish unique? Why do over 70 million people worldwide embrace their Irish heritage? What does it mean to be Irish today? These

asylum seekers, students and others - each trying to give expression to that special something that is more or less recognizable as Irish. This is not a sociological study; it consists of highly personal responses to a question of identity.

Twenty-one years ago, Paddy Logue compiled the original edition of Being Irish to better understand the recent changes Ireland had undergone. Now his daughter, Derry-based solicitor Marie-Claire Logue, takes up the challenge to take a fresh look at Irishness, this time against a backdrop of Covid-19, Brexit, economic insecurity, a less powerful Catholic Church, and a changing Northern Ireland.

There is a particular emphasis in this collection on a new generation of Irish, both home-grown and recent arrivals. These 20-40-year-olds embrace their Irish identity as fervently as their elders, but don't necessarily have the same values, concerns and aspirations. Here the voices of this new generation can finally be heard.



and other questions are addressed in this fascinating new book.

Being Irish gathers a diverse group of 100 people of all ages - including well-known musicians, writers, sportspeople, journalists, political and religious leaders, community activists,

Above all, the captivating life stories contained in Being Irish will provide an illuminating and entertaining look at what it means to be Irish today.

Marie-Claire Logue is a solicitor in Derry, Northern Ireland.

Available at major book sites.

COMING SOON:

IRISHTV.US presents:

PLAID WRAP

A coat of many colors reflecting the Irish experience in a diverse America; with more interviews and commentary, along with music and entertainment performances.

WATCH FOR IT!

Monday at 7 pm < Tuesday at 2 pm -
channel 19 cable in Chicago.

Online: Irishtv.us, Irisheye.us





Chicago Gaelic Park

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



Happy New Year!

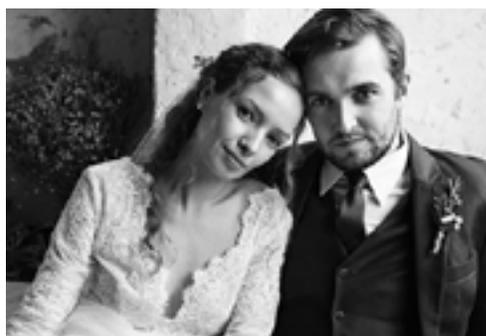
We're looking forward to a great 2022 and we hope you'll be along for the ride as we continue to foster and promote Irish culture as a productive part of Chicagoland's wonderful Chicago Irish community.

Two of the highlights on our calendar this year are Gaelic Football and Hurling events. Gaelic Park will be the host location for both the GAA Continental Youth Championships and the USGAA Finals this summer.

In the first part of 2022 we look forward to the screening of *"Endless Sunshine on a Cloudy Day"*, *the Merry Ploughboys Party*, *the Derek Warfield and the Young Wolfe Tones Concert*, and *Ireland on Parade*. You are also very welcome at our *Tuesday evening ceili dances*, *monthly Masses*, and *Monthly Musical Luncheons*.

The Carraig Pub invites you to come out for *Tuesday Night Tringo* and *week-end live entertainment*. "Carraig" means "Rock", and while you're at the pub enjoying the warmth and the craic, you can try our new The Rock Irish Lager, signature cocktails, and fine whiskeys and desserts.

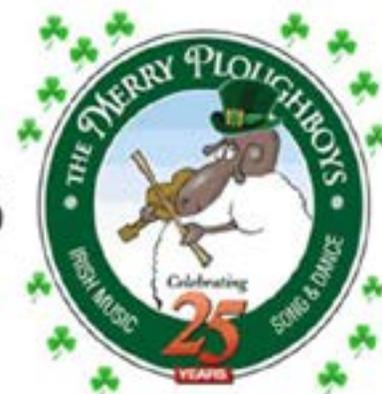
Is mise le meas,
Bill O'Sullivan



Selected Dates Available
For Your
2022 Weddings & Events
In our newly remodeled
Emerald Room,
Our Tara Room,
Our Celtic Room,
Our Patio And In Our Pub



THE MERRY PLOUGHBOYS Party!



Appearing at

Chicago Gaelic Park

Saturday February 12, 2022

Tickets \$25.00

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

Chicago Gaelic Park

6119 W. 147th Street - Oak Forest, Il. 60452

708-687-9323 / ChicagoGaelicPark.org





Chicago Gaelic Park

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



Information or questions call
Chicago Gaelic Park (708) 687-9323

Membership

NEW RENEWAL Family \$50 Individual \$30

Name _____
last first initial

Spouse
(if joining) last first initial

Address _____
street apt/unit #

city state zip

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

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

phone: 708.687.9323 fax: 708.687.0120

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

Derek Warfield and the Young Wolfe Tones

Performing in
the Emerald Rm
Sunday,
FEBRUARY 27
6:00-9:00 pm
Tickets \$30 each
708-687-9323



ENTERTAINMENT IN the Carraig Irish Pub

January - Live Music!

7th Joe Cullen 7.30pm

8th Damien Patrick 8pm

14th Bernie Glim 7.30pm

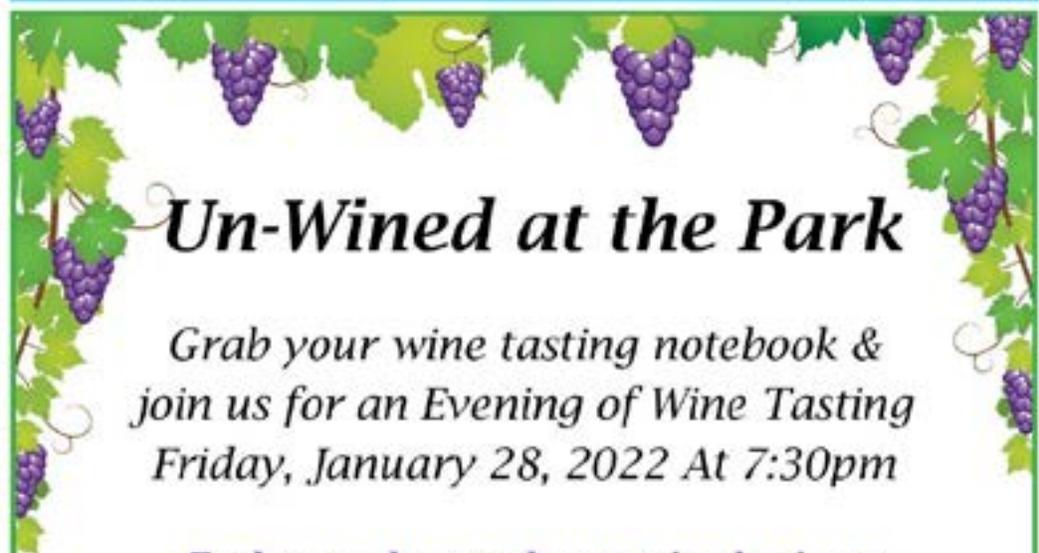
15th Ray Gavin 8pm

21st Kieran Byrne 7.30pm

22nd Liam Durkin 8pm

28th Gerry Haughey 7.30

29th Damien Patrick 8pm



Un-Wined at the Park

Grab your wine tasting notebook &
join us for an Evening of Wine Tasting
Friday, January 28, 2022 At 7:30pm

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

Cost is \$35 per person & includes light appetizers

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

Reserve your seat by Friday, January 21st
708-687-9323

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



Gaelic Park can be found on
FACEBOOK AND TWITTER!
TAKE A MOMENT AND "LIKE" US!



10 2011-2020
IRISH AMERICAN
HALL OF FAME

After a two year delay due to Covid 19 restrictions, the Irish American Hall of Fame is finally set to induct its Class of 2020! Visit www.iahof.org for more information on our 2020 inductees and to purchase tickets or tables.

We look forward to seeing you and once again celebrating our heritage and so many outstanding Irish Americans.



CONAN O'BRIEN
Arts & Humanities



LIZ CARROLL
Arts & Humanities



KATHLEEN KENNEDY
Business & Industry



AMBASSADOR JEAN KENNEDY SMITH
Public Service



JOHN F. McDONOUGH
Sports



MONSIGNOR JOHN "JACK" EGAN
Religion



FATHER JAMES F. MAGUIRE, S.J.
Education



RACHEL CARSON
Science



JAMES F. COYNE
Hometown Hero Award

NEW GALA DATE

SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 2022

THE ERIN ROOM • 6:30PM • \$150-\$200

For tickets or tables, visit www.iahof.org or call 773-282-7035, ext. 10

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

4626 NORTH KNOX AVENUE, CHICAGO, IL 60630

Join us and help us celebrate our 10th year!

View From Ireland

By Maurice Fitzpatrick



Northern Ireland Brain Drain

2022 will see the establishment of a Technological University (TU) for Ireland's west and northwest. This decision forms part of the Irish government's policy of pooling the resources of institutes of higher education to create new universities. There are now TUs in most parts of the country, which highlights the government's inability to take a similar initiative in Northern Ireland. Now the government's frustration with that situation is starting to show.

Minister for Higher Education, Simon Harris, visiting the Derry campus of the University of Ulster in December, did not conceal the government's impatience: 'Obviously we're awaiting a proposal. My understanding is there's been a lot of collaboration between LYIT [Letterkenny Institute of Technology] and Magee [Derry], and particularly intensive collaboration in the last number of weeks, and I'd be hoping that in early 2022 we could receive a very detailed proposal as to how we could do more in Magee and do more in the north west region'. Harris' veiled criticism of the University of Ulster for failing to show enough initiative for cross-border education is new. The government has traditionally been measured in opining on the 'domestic affairs' of the 'other jurisdiction', outside agreed engagement in spheres such as security and foreign affairs. That engagement has expanded to many other sectors since the Good Friday Agreement, but an awareness of the limits of its reach prevails in Dublin. Minister Harris'

speaking up on these matters is discomfiting for the University of Ulster inasmuch as it shines an awkward light on its values and attitude towards Derry.

If the University of Ulster were pragmatic about receiving Irish government support and cross-border co-operation it would have drawn down the implicit offer of money from Dublin to expand long ago. With Letterkenny being absorbed into a TU across the western seaboard, the prospects of its amalgamation with nearby Derry is now much more remote. That narrows the options available for new higher educational structures in Derry:

an independent university for Derry or the status quo ante.

However, there are profound problems with the status quo. UU has a three campus structure (with campuses in Derry, Coleraine and Belfast) and its management has relentlessly disinvested Derry. Courses and units of studies migrate eastwards to the well-funded campuses in Coleraine and, above all, to the Belfast campus, recently expanded through 250 million of taxpayers' money. Yet the Irish government's silence regarding this injustice is nothing compared to Northern Irish political parties' unwillingness to champion increased educational opportunity in Derry.

Based on current trends, Ireland's fifth biggest city will not get its own university until partition ends—and there is a

causal nexus between the two. Impoverishing Derry (and western Northern Ireland generally) is a time-honoured strategic policy adopted by various iterations of government in Belfast, rooted in sectarianism and insecurity about Derry's cultural affinity with the rest of Ireland. It is a disgrace that incumbent nationalist representatives in the North fail to oppose (or even mention) the blocking of the expansion of university education in the city.

A recent study conducted by Pivotal, a public policy forum in Belfast, explored why a preponderant number of university students left Northern Ireland to study elsewhere, and why fully 88% of those who leave do not want to return. It found that political instability, ineffective government and poor community relations were push

factors. Notably, though, the study also found that a 'range of higher education courses, greater availability of places and a higher quality student experience elsewhere were motivating factors' to leave Northern Ireland.

The young people surveyed condemned the politicians who have, on the unionist side, not worked the Northern Ireland Protocol to the advantage of their society. They also criticised politicians on the nationalist side who harp on a United Ireland while issues that concern a younger demographic, such as higher education and climate change, are airbrushed. While the constitutional question will endure for as long as Northern Ireland does, it behooves political leaders to give it an appropriate weighting; and to also consider what motivates the Southern electorate, which will be co-equal in determining a unity referendum. A IPSOS poll taken in the South in December found

that 62% of people polled want a United Ireland. However, 79% would not accept paying more taxes or accepting cuts in public spending to achieve it. A great deal more work towards mutual understanding and acceptance is needed for a unity referendum to pass on both sides of the border. This appears to be a vindication of the government's current policies to unite educational institutions across the island and to fund cross-border study and research. The government is prioritising the unification of people and a shared culture over the constitutional question.

Meanwhile, Sinn Féin's lead on the government parties in the South continues to grow. A Behaviour and Attitudes survey in December found that Sinn Féin's support stands at 34% compared to 23% for Fianna Fáil and 20% for Fine Gael. Consequently, Sinn Féin's strategy on unity with its territorial focus remains germane in the debate on the constitutional question. Sinn Féin routinely articulates an aspiration for a united Ireland. Yet its continued defence of the terror adopted to achieve that aim during the Troubles is toxic to many. For some younger Sinn Féin elected representatives, there is a growing awareness that repudiating IRA violence may make it easier for the electorate to support them. Sinn Féin spokesperson on Housing Eoin Ó Broin's call on Gerry Adams to apologise for his participation in a recent puerile Christmas video, which offended the families of IRA victims, is one example. However, leader of Sinn Féin Mary Lou McDonald did not support Ó Broin's position. McDonald is a skillful politician but it remains to be seen if she can deliver the single most important reversal that Sinn Féin has to complete to have the authority to govern in Ireland. On a recent visit to New York City she announced that partition will soon end. But making proclamations in the Big Apple is a good deal easier than taking responsibility for the past. Or establishing a university in Derry.

DUBLIN IRELAND AUGUST 2022

Aer Lingus COLLEGE FOOTBALL CLASSIC IRELAND

NORTHWESTERN vs NEBRASKA
AUGUST 27, 2022

AVIVA STADIUM | DUBLIN, IRELAND

CALL TODAY!

5 Day / 4 Night - \$1449 Land Package Includes

- Game Day Ticket to Wildcats vs. Cornhuskers
- Private Coach Transfers to and from Aviva Stadium
- 4 Magical Nights at the Exclusive City Centre Iveagh Garden Hotel
- Get Stuffed Full Irish Breakfast Daily

AUTHENTIC IRISH TOURS TRAVEL AGENCY
2502 BEECH ST, SUITE 40, VALPARAISO, IN 46383
Contact Martin Hughes | (219) 308-0832
airishtours@gmail.com | www.airishtours.com

IATA #15616134

Authentic Irish Tours

Irish Arts Center, Honors Joanie Madden and Petco Ceo/Chairman Ron Coughlin

Irish Arts Center (IAC), based in New York City and renowned for presenting dynamic, inspiring, collaborative experiences of the evolving arts and culture of Ireland and Irish America in an environment of warm Irish hospitality, held its **Welcome Home Spirit of Ireland Gala**, Friday, December 10 at Cipriani 42nd Street.

Always a memorable event, this year's gala—in the week that IAC opened its state-of-the-art new building—is one of the most meaningful celebrations in the organization's nearly 50-year history. The gala honored Petco CEO and Chairman Ron Coughlin and 2021 National Heritage Award-winning composer, recording artist, and performer Joanie Madden.

The Welcome Home Spirit of Ireland Gala featured performances from Camille O'Sullivan, the Cork-born Irish-French cabaret chanteuse who "performs with mesmerizing intensity that threatens to shatter the stage" (*The New Yorker*), and whose performance *Where Are We Now* was the premiere event in Irish Arts Center's inaugural season in its new building; and Joanie Madden and Grammy-nominated, Irish-American supergroup Cherish the Ladies. Madden, deemed by *The Irish Voice* "among the most brilliant whistle players ever recorded," is this year's Artistic Honoree. Notable guests will include IAC Honorary Chair and Golden Globe-winning actor Gabriel Byrne, Oscar-winning director Terry George, and Emmy-nominated actor Aidan Quinn.

The gala honored Petco Chief Executive Officer and Chairman Ron Coughlin with the 2021 Spirit of Ireland Award, annually celebrating an individual who embodies the spirit of the Irish: tenacity, creativity, resilience, integrity, humor, charisma, and indomitability. Coughlin has exemplified all of these characteristics throughout a remarkable career at PepsiCo and Hewlett Packard, and most recently at Petco. Pets, as companions who have helped so many through recent moments of

isolation, have never been more important—and IAC recognizes Coughlin for his leadership of a company that has trail-blazed new standards in pet health and wellness, including through its pet-lifesaving nonprofit foundation, Petco Love. He joins a distinguished history of Spirit of Ireland Award winners including rock icon Elvis Costello; former Xerox CEO Ursula Burns; Oscar-, Emmy-, and Grammy-winning artist Steve Martin; and other luminaries.

The gala was a moment to rejoice at the opening of Irish Arts Center's \$60 million new home, a magnificent new cultural destination for New Yorkers.

About Joanie Madden: Joanie is one of the world's most influential Irish musicians, with an accomplished career as a composer, recording artist, and performer. As a young musician, she advanced through the competitive music circuit and became the first American to win the Senior All-Ireland Championship on the tin whistle in 1984. Her solo albums *Song of the Irish Whistle, I and II* (1996, 1999) are among the most successful whistle albums ever sold.

In 1985, Madden began leading what is now one of the most successful - commercially and critically - music groups in Irish traditional music. *Cherish the Ladies*, the first all-female troupe of its kind, has gained international fame through its 35+ year history, and has notably achieved honorable status within the symphony hall environment, including engagements with The Boston Pops Symphony and The Glasgow Royal Concert Hall. Her multi-dimensional understanding of music is informed by decades of casual seisiúns and professional production work, and complimented by a broad understanding of Irish cultural practice (including

dance); this, with her vibrant charisma and heartwarming sincerity, has instilled amongst fellow artists a unique level of trust in her leadership and direction, while preserving a genuine sense of collaboration and partnership.

Madden continues to bear the mantle of tradition-keeping through regular educational engagements, such as Joanie Madden's Musical Tour of Ireland, a popular bus tour through Ireland with a focus on ethnomusicology, and the joyous maritime musical adventures she hosts aboard Joanie Madden's Folk 'n' Irish Cruises. She leads workshops at the storied Catskills Irish Arts Week (Durham, NY), and has served as Director

serves as Chief Executive Officer and Chairman for Petco, a category-defining health and wellness company with more than 55 years focused on improving the lives of pets, pet parents, and Petco partners.

Coughlin joined the company as CEO in June 2018 and is responsible for driving Petco's business strategy, direction, and overall company performance. With more than 25 years of experience in consumer products and technology—working with some of the top brands in the world—his expertise lies in transforming businesses by honing strategy, cultivating high-performing teams, propel-

and Solutions, and SVP of Sales, Strategy, and Marketing.

Prior to joining HP, Coughlin spent 13 years at PepsiCo in a range of senior executive roles, including Chief Marketing Officer of PepsiCo International Beverages. In that capacity, he was responsible for marketing activities across Pepsi, 7 Up, Gatorade, and Tropicana in all markets outside of the US.

Coughlin's family hails from County Cork, with Irish ties in his grandfather's family line (Coughlin) and his grandmother's (née Lawler). He earned a bachelor's degree in international marketing from Lehigh University and a master's degree in business administration from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University.

Coughlin is based at Petco's National Support Center in San Diego; he and his twins love taking their yellow Lab, Yummy, to Dog Beach in Del Mar.

About Irish Arts Center

Irish Arts Center, founded in 1972 and based in Hell's Kitchen, New York City, is a home for artists and audiences of all backgrounds who share a passion or appreciation for the evolving arts and culture of contemporary Ireland and Irish America. We present, develop, and celebrate work from established and emerging artists and cultural practitioners, providing audiences with emotionally and intellectually engaging experiences in an en-

vironment of Irish hospitality. Steeped in grassroots traditions, we also provide community education programs and access to the arts for people of all ages and ethnic, racial, and socioeconomic backgrounds. In a historic partnership of the people of Ireland and New York, Irish Arts Center recently completed construction on a fully funded \$60MM state-of-the-art new facility to support this mission for the 21st century.



Joanie Madden is having a wonderful year in spite of COVID! Here she is in Chicago on October 23, 2021 receiving the iBAM! Award for Music 2021, alongside Larry Kirwan, receiving the iBAM! Award for Performing Arts.

of Augusta Heritage Celtic Music Week (Elkins, WV). She actively mentors flute and tin whistle students, and has proudly coached three All-Ireland Champion-winning tin whistle musicians. In 2021, the National Endowment for the Arts named Madden a National Heritage Fellow, the organization's highest honor for traditional musicians working in an American context.

About Ron Coughlin: Ron

ling innovation, re-engineering cost structures, and driving global sales and marketing.

Coughlin came to Petco after four years serving as President of HP's Personal Systems segment, a \$33 billion global business that offers consumer and commercial products and services. Previously, he served as HP's SVP of Consumer PCs, SVP of LaserJet Hardware and Commercial Document Services

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE JANUARY 2022

Happy New Year!

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and holiday season! Thank you to all who have joined us at the Christmas Bazaar, the Christmas Tea, for Christmas caroling, at our New Year's Eve parties, at one of our concerts in December, and/or joined us in the pub for a pint and a bite to eat! The decorations looked great, but the festivities we got to enjoy together were even better! It was a very merry season at the Irish American Heritage Center, and it's always a good time when we get together!

2021 was another interesting year. While we are still in the midst of the pandemic, I feel that we had stronger footing navigating the pandemic this past year than in 2020. The Irish American Heritage Center secured grant funding that allowed us to sustain our organization through this past year and will

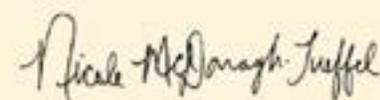


allow us to continue to look forward with events that support our mission. We had many new and existing successful events and fundraisers, and our Gift Shop had another busy year. This wouldn't have been possible without the dedication and hard work of our employees and volunteers; by working together, we continue to drive the organization! We continue to expand our reach with in-person events and the Fifth Province, along with our followers on social media and digital newsletter. The future is bright for the IAHC, and I'm so excited for what this next year holds for us!

If you were considering contributing to the Irish American Heritage Center as part of your holiday giving but didn't get around

to it, you can still contribute to our Annual Appeal. This annual fundraiser goes towards maintaining our building and financing capital projects, and planning and hosting future cultural events. The funds we raise during the Annual Appeal gives us a jump start to our year and helps with our planning and budgeting for what we can accomplish and what events we are able to hold during the upcoming year. Every dollar counts, and all money raised goes directly towards the mission of the IAHC in supporting the culture of our Irish and Irish American heritage.

Until we meet again, stay warm, safe, and healthy!



Nicole McDonagh-Tueffel, President
Irish American Heritage Center

A call for Artists

The Irish American Heritage Center
biennial juried 2-D exhibit

theme:

Springtime Inspirations

Opening reception: March 12th 6 p.m.-9 p.m.

Closing reception: May 1st 1 p.m.-5 p.m.

Deadline for submissions: February 12th 5 p.m.

For more information go to: irish-american.org

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER  UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN

4626 North Knox Avenue • Chicago, IL 60630 • (773) 282-7035, ext. 10 • www.irish-american.org



Coming to the Center . . .

**The traditional Irish music superstars
return to perform in the Mayfair Theatre**

Help us welcome one of the greatest touring trad bands today.
Before the show, the Pub will be open for a pint or a bite!

Sunday, February 27th, 2022

5:00pm-10:00pm

Tickets: \$35, \$30 for members



SCREAMING ORPHANS

**Will be performing in the
Irish American Heritage Center's
MAYFAIR THEATRE**

Friday, March 18th, 2022

7:00pm

Tickets are \$25

*Don't miss the opportunity to see
this amazing show!*

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER  **until we meet again**

4626 North Knox Avenue • Chicago, IL 60630 • (773) 282-7035, ext. 10 • www.irish-american.org

ROBERT BURNS SUPPER!

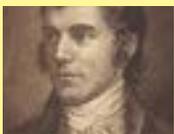
(born 1759, died 1796)

Celebrate

Robert Burns

261st Birthday at

Ashling on the Lough!



25 56th Street
Kenosha, WI 53140
Mon-Thurs 3-10
Fri 3-11 - Sat 10-11
Sun 10am-10pm

*Haggis appetizer *3-Course meal, *3-Course Scotch Tasting *Bagpiper & the inimitable Bards, Frank Gleeson & Josephine Craven reciting & performing the Great works of Robert Burns!
Tix \$80 each at 262-653-0500

(WEAR YOUR KILT IF YOU HAVE ONE!)

ashlingonthelough.com (262) 653-0500



Purchase a Gift Card or sign up for our Loyalty Card today!
Available at all Harp & Eagle locations



GET AWAY TO ONE OF OUR FOUR IRISH THEMED HOTELS IN WISCONSIN! - YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU DID!

Clarke Hotel & Pub 314 W Main St Waukesha WI 262-549-3800	County Clare Irish Inn & Pub 1234 N Astor St Milwaukee 414-272-5273	St. Brendan's Irish Inn and Pub 234 S Washington St Green Bay WI 920-884-8484	The Ennis Inn Pub and Hotel 201 James Street De Pere, WI 54115 262-653-0500
---	---	---	---

No Sniveling!

Get Away to Wisconsin!

Windy City Irish Radio
is movin' on up...
... the dial!!

Sundays Noon-1pm
WNPZ 750 AM
&
Wednesdays 8-9pm
WSBC 1240 AM

Check out our podcast at
www.windycityirishradio.com

DANCE LESSONS

M^CNULTY IRISH DANCERS

Adult & Children Classes
(3 years and older)

8 locations in Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin plus new virtual classes for all ages -

Contact:
Barbara McNulty Heneghan
224-639-8644
email: mcnultydancers@aol.com
www.mcnultyirishdancers.com

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

5917 W Irving Park Road Chicago
(773) 777-3944
Gibbons Funeral Home
134 South York Road Elmhurst
(630) 832-0018
The Oaks Funeral Home
1201 E Irving Park Road Itasca
(630) 250-8588

www.irishfuneralhome.com
"Family Owned and Operated For Over 80 Years"

When Your Family Has Suffered A Loss... Our Family Can Help

Robert J. Sheehy & Sons is Family Owned and Operated.

Robert J. Sheehy & Sons has been a name that is recognized... and trusted... for their professional manner.

Think of them as a "second family"... at a time when family assistance and reassurance is so very important.

Robert J. Sheehy & Sons Funeral Home

(708) 857-7878

9000 West 151st Street Orland Park, Illinois 60462
4950 West 79th Street Burbank, Illinois 60459

STONECARPET A Division of The Sexton Group

Commercial Flooring Replacement and Installation Applications

Soy Step is a superior composition of quartz chips blended with our proprietary epoxy resin. The odorless mixture gets troweled to a 3/16" layer over existing tile, wood or concrete surfaces. The finished surface is slip resistant, waterproof, non-porous and very durable. A floor will not trap odors, requires no periodic resealing and eliminates the need to clean or repair grout.

Pawtucket Falls Healthcare Center, Pawtucket, R.I.

- Kitchens
- Dishrooms
- Cooler Boxes
- Bathrooms
- Shower Rooms



- Indoor Pool Decks
- Locker Rooms
- Laundry Facilities
- Service Areas
- Mechanical Rooms

Call or email Michael Sexton:
847-421-2230, michael.sexton@stonecarpet.com



— FEBRUARY 12, 2022 —

THE BALL IS BACK




The Drake.
A HILTON HOTEL

TICKETS ON SALE NOW
chicago.irishnetwork-usa.org

ARE YOU A GOOD SAMARITAN?

I am convinced we need to return to the past--we need to be more helpful to our neighbors, whoever they might be. It seems that some of us have gone astray. Maybe the start of this new year presents us with an opportunity to be a kinder neighbor to those around us. Rereading the story of the GOOD SAMARITAN could be a place to start. In brief, a Samaritan helped a fellow traveler who had been robbed and beaten, he took him to a nearby inn and arranged to have him cared for until

he returned. When on his way back he could have simply ignored the inn, but he didn't. He covered any additional expenses the innkeeper incurred caring for the man. Have you ever helped a person as the Good Samaritan did? Frankly, I would expect that we all have ignored a person in need at some time or another in our past.

What would the world be like if we helped someone who was struggling whenever we saw them? Of course some small portion of our population will not help anyone, but the real question is would WE help? We can help in so many different ways. Helping a senior citizen get in or out of their car, or load heavy items into their trunk is an easy way.

Let's consider how you could adopt and adapt the helpful attitude of the Good Samaritan to your everyday work life. How often does a fellow employee

Careers

By James F. Fitzgerald, CPA



are "too busy". The individual you help may very well remember your assistance, however incidental, for years to come. It is likely that they will speak well of you to your fellow employees, including your boss. Haven't you had such a person help you along your life's journey?

You don't have to wait for a plea for help to be of assistance to fellow employees, neighbors or strangers. You can probably tell they need help just by looking at them. If you make a genuine inquiry, there is a good chance that the individual you ask will tell you at least part of the problem they are facing. Frequently people don't want you to solve their problems, they just want someone to listen to them.

The example of helping employees may seem like an obvious thing to do. But opportunities to be a Good Samaritan are in front

turn to you for advice or insights on how to handle some problem? Do you willingly help his person, or do you demur because you are simply "too busy"? How about helping a new employee in your shop or office as they adjust to the new environment? When you have the opportunity to be of assistance, take it. St. Therese realized that she could never do anything great for others, so she committed herself to doing "little things". Take such opportunities to enrich your own life. When I counseled people going through the job search, I regularly recommended that they reach out and help others. It made them feel good and it enhances their own self esteem.

Being helpful to the "new guy" sets you apart from others who

of us all the time. Will you help a fellow employee better understand the lay of the land? Will you stand up for an employee being unjustly criticized?

When I was laid up with some health issues several years ago, my neighbors shoveled our driveway and our sidewalks for the entire winter. And we had a lot of snow that year, but our driveway and sidewalks were always snow free. And they did it without a word. They were just being really great neighbors. That year we had a lot of snow, but our driveway and sidewalks were always snow free.

I know this column might seem to be somewhat of a repeat of a recent issue but another reminder may really help to make someone's day.

Being a modern day Good Samaritan is helpful to both the giver and the receiving party. In my experience, the first words out of a person's mouth when he describes another individual has a lot to do with how that person is perceived in the small things they do. So being a Good Samaritan has some real benefits for you and your career. So if you have an opportunity to be helpful, take it; we need more kindness in our lives. I don't say this very often, but trust me on this one. Merry Christmas and have a very great New Year. Please accept all my very best wishes for you and yours in 2022. Carpe Diem.

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION. People are always blaming their circumstances for what they are. I don't believe in circumstances. The people who get up and look for the circumstances they want, and if they can't find them, make them. George Bernard Shaw, Irish-born writer.

What lies behind you and what lies in front of you pales by comparison to what lies inside of you. Ralph Waldo Emerson.

JAMES F. FITZGERALD spent most of his life advising and counseling others. He retired as of December 31, 2020. # 630-420-0362 jamesffitz37@hotmail.com

- RESIDENTIAL
- COMMERCIAL
- Industrial
- Low Voltage Solutions
- Gato Automation
- Cctv
- Intercom Systems

Celticon
Electrical Services

773-540-9535
People creating progress!

Winstons

4701 WEST 63RD STREET CHICAGO
773.767.4353

7959 WEST 159TH STREET TINLEY PARK
708.633.7500

MADE FRESH DAILY:
IRISH SAUSAGE
BLACK PUDDING
WHITE PUDDING
SODA BREAD
BACON
CORN BEEF
SMOKE BUTTS

FULL LINE OF IMPORTED FOODS

Product Available at Fine Irish Shops All Over Chicagoland

WE SHIP UPS
anywhere in the U.S.

MAKING FINE IRISH SAUSAGE FOR OVER 40 YEARS!

FOR THE FINEST IN DINING TRY

ASHFORD HOUSE RESTAURANT

FOR THE VERY BEST IN IRISH CUISINE
STEAKS • CHOPS • PASTA

7959 WEST 159TH STREET TINLEY PARK
708.633.7600
WWW.WINSTONSMARKET.NET

Irish-Founded, Award Winning U.S. Immigration Attorneys



Services Include:

- Family-Based Green Cards
- Fiancé(e) Visas
- U.S. & Irish Citizenship
- Deportation Defense
- Business Visas
- Artist & Musician Visas

info@mcenteelaw.com (773) 828-9544

Mary Ellen Considine



Office 312.266.7000
Voice Mail: 773.687.5181
Cell: 773.704.4250
Efax: 781.609.9527

maryellen.considine@cbexchange.com

1910 N Clybourn Ave
Chicago IL 60614



Enjoying Ourselves Once Again at the 2021 Irish Fellowship Club Luncheon!



WHO CAN'T WAIT TO SAIL AGAIN?!



JOIN OUR 2022 7-NIGHT CARIBBEAN GROUP CRUISE

FEBRUARY 27, 2022 - OASIS OF THE SEAS

Sailing to Perfect Day at CocoCay (Royal Caribbean's Amazing Private Island), St. Thomas and St. Maarten



- Central Park Balcony \$1,597 per person
- Ocean View Balcony \$1,768 per person
- *Crown & Anchor members will receive additional savings

*Prices include: Deluxe Beverage Package (alcoholic & nonalcoholic drinks), all taxes, AND \$100 onboard credit per cabin

A refundable \$250 per person deposit is due at the time of booking. Limited cabins are available.

CALL GADABOUT TRAVEL 708-974-1300 OR EMAIL GADABOUTTRAVEL@HOTMAIL.COM



FREE



CHICAGO GAELIC PARK

JANUARY
WEDNESDAY 19TH JANUARY
DOORS 10AM - PROGRAM 10.30AM
Live Irish Music
 Join us to kick off the new year with some good craic and live music. Ray Gavin is back to perform another set of traditional Irish tunes!

FEBRUARY
WEDNESDAY 9TH FEBRUARY
DOORS 10AM - PROGRAM 10.30AM
Train Your Age
 Joni Grant is a personal trainer who will teach you how to 'train your age'. As we age we face bone and muscle loss, balance issues, and loss of mobility; Joni will tell us how to combat these issues!

WEDNESDAY 23RD FEBRUARY
DOORS 10AM - PROGRAM 10.30AM
Chair Yoga
 Our friends over at Body & Brain Yoga will be teaching us some low-mobility yoga. Yoga can increase flexibility, muscle strength, and energy! Join us to learn how we can stay fit without leaving our seats.

MARCH
WEDNESDAY 16TH MARCH
BUS DEPARTS GAELIC PARK 10AM
St. Patrick's Day at the IAHC
 Join us at the Irish American Heritage Center to celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a mass followed by live music. A bus will be available from Gaelic Park to IAHC and back. Registration Required. Call 773-282-8445

WEDNESDAY 23RD MARCH
DOORS 10AM - PROGRAM 10.30AM
Student Takeover
 Our student intern takes the reigns! Who knows what kind of creative program they have in store for us!

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

JANUARY
WEDNESDAY 12TH JANUARY
DOORS 10AM - PROGRAM 10.30AM
Chair Yoga
 Our friends at Body & Brain Yoga will teach us some low-mobility yoga. Learn how to stay fit while staying seated!

WEDNESDAY 26TH JANUARY
DOORS 10AM - PROGRAM 10.30AM
Personal Histories
 Dan Gelfond has spent years collecting personal histories around the world. Today he will recount these interviews and explain the importance of documenting our lives.

FEBRUARY
WEDNESDAY 2ND FEBRUARY
DOORS 10AM - PROGRAM 10.30AM
Monthly Musical Gathering
 Join us for another morning of good craic and live Irish music performed by Terry Byrne on vocals and guitar.

WEDNESDAY 16TH FEBRUARY
DOORS 10AM - PROGRAM 10.30AM
Wild Irish Women
 Theresa Choske is back to share the wild stories of lesser-known women from Irish history!

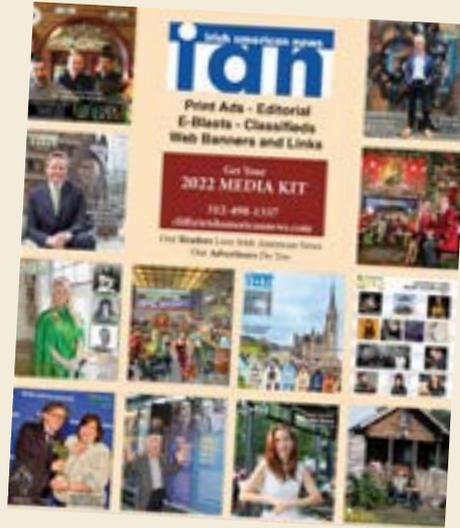
MARCH
WEDNESDAY 2ND MARCH
DOORS 10AM - PROGRAM 10.30AM
Monthly Musical Gathering
 As always, this is a chance to sit back, relax, and enjoy some live Irish music performed by Terry Bryne!

WEDNESDAY 16TH MARCH
DOORS 11AM - PROGRAM ENDS 2PM
St. Patrick's Day Mass & Music
 Join us as we celebrate St. Patrick's Day and host our friends visiting from Gaelic Park!

Is your business rebounding?

Start the new year out with an ad and REBOUND FASTER!

We've got 30+ years of experience Helping Readers and Advertisers get together.



SPECIAL OFFER to NEW ADVERTISERS!

20% off RATECARD and FREE ARTWORK for a Year!

call 312-498-1337 or email: cliff@irishamericannews.com



Authentic Irish Goods

Irish Ann



www.irishann.com

Galway Fellowship Club

Is Proud To Host Its



40th Anniversary



Dinner Dance

Chicago Gaelic Park

6117 W. 147th St, Oak Forest, IL

Saturday, January 15th, 2022

Cocktails 6:30pm | Dinner 7:30pm

Music By Gerry Haughey & Joe Callen

Tickets \$90 Open Bar | Door Prizes

Special Guest

Joe Canning

FOR TICKETS, PLEASE CONTACT

BERNADETTE (708) 408-5994 | TINA (708) 214-9059

SET SAIL WITH US

FREEDOM OF THE SEAS MAY 20-23, 2022



Celebrate all the missed birthdays on our 3-night cruise sailing from Miami to Perfect Day at Cococay Private Island and Nassau, Bahamas



Refundable Deposit of \$100 per person

PRICES:

- Inside Cabin
 - \$631 per person
- Mid-Ship Balcony Cabin
 - \$776 per person
- Larger Mid-Ship Balcony Cabin
 - \$816 per person

*Price Includes Deluxe Drink Package and \$50 On Board Credit per room



To book Please contact Gadabout Travel at 708-974-1300 or gadabouttravel@hotmail.com

West Suburban Irish Celebrate by Gathering Together at Quigley's Irish Pub in Naperville!



Paul Santucci, Tom Johnston, Mike Reidy



Mary Corrigan, Mike Reilly



Winnie Jones, Nancy Quigley, Mike Jones



Terry O'Dowd, Chuck Corrigan



Kevin, Colleen McQuillan, & Mike Reilly

Getting to Know the Irish

By Tina Butler



This month I want to highlight the topic of Garbage/rubbish. It isn't a nice topic however poverty, terrorism and disease aren't either, but we have to try and improve where we can. The issue came to mind when a student asked me, "what does Carbon footprint even mean?" "It is the total amount of greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide and methane) that are generated by our actions. The average footprint for a person in the U.S is 16 tons, the highest in the world. (One ton is 2,000lbs)

Garbage—"wasted or spoiled food from a kitchen, a thing that is considered worthless or meaningless, unwanted data in a computer's memory". In Ireland single-use plastics are banned. In the States we are lucky that we put our garbage on the curb every week and it gets removed. When we wheel it out to the front it is out of sight, out of mind. Some countries don't have it so lucky; some people live next to a landfill or garbage dump.

I will highlight some differences about garbage that are found in Ireland. In some parts of Ireland (countryside) the garbage hauler doesn't travel/collect in those parts. Therefore, it's the responsibility of the homeowner/villager to take care of their own garbage. They have to take it to the rubbish depot. There are some people in Ireland that choose to take their garbage to the depot because it is cheaper.

In the States we mostly have a flat rate of \$20.00 a month for collection no matter the weight or number of bins we put out. In Ireland the garbage cost is measured by weight. In the States average garbage removal, your utility bill is roughly \$14.00 month. (Costs can vary city to city)

I think garbage is a huge global problem and thankfully many are talking about it and discussing ways to better manage our waste management.

Ireland is the leading country in Europe for recycling electronics. (Weee, Waste electrical, electronic, equipment directive) Some of the Irish waste companies include Panda, Greenstar, Thorntons and Greyhound. The process starts with the sorting of the piles of materials, first by hand and then by machines. It gets baled and the majority gets sent outside of Ireland.

The seriousness regarding garbage is their side effects cause many health problems, for example air pollution, is one of the top 10 killers on Earth. In 2012 over 6 million people died from air pollution." WHO (The world health organization was founded in 1948 its headquarters is in Switzerland).

In the Pacific Ocean there is a great garbage patch. It is a collection of plastic/garbage in the north Pacific Ocean. It is killing fish, needless to say.

Each American produces more than 1,700 pounds of garbage a year. (Natural Defense Council). The country with the least garbage is Andorra (between

France & Spain) but it also has a tiny population. We have to consider population when discussing waste. Denmark recycles its waste and uses the by product to produce electricity. Germany is the leading country for the way it handles waste. They have seven bins for each household. They are very strict with rules/regulations of they handle waste.

It is said that Greece started the first garbage service program. (probably sometime BC)

There are some things that are illegal to throw out in our regular garbage bin they include: paint, oil, mercury thermometers, RX drugs, electrical, lawn chemicals, smoke detectors, moth balls, gasoline, fireworks, tires and asbestos (airborne carcinogen).

I think recycling is often misunderstood, 91% of plastic doesn't get recycled. Only some fraction of what we're sending out in plastic gets recycled. And too much ends up in our waterways. Recycling is good and needed but it's not all being recycled. There will soon be more plastic in the oceans than fish. Also, with all the pollution ending up in the oceans fish are eating plastic and naturally dying off. 1.2 trillion gallons of sewage and industrial waste is dumped into US water.

Plastic is the number one source of ocean pollution. Humans dump eight million metric tons of plastic into the oceans each year.

Lake Karachay in Russia is the most polluted spot on earth

The lake is located in the southern Ural Mountains in Russia. It was used for decades as a dumping site for nuclear waste. Spending just 5 minutes near the lake unprotected can kill you.

While having researched facts on garbage I'll never look at garbage the same. We have to ask where does it all go? Of course, a landfill. In the U.S the biggest landfill is in Nevada. Globally India has the biggest landfill, it's over 100 feet high. There are pros and cons of the landfills. The cons include it leads to deforestation, respiratory disease, asthma, infectious diseases, we lose topsoil, it produces air pollution and bacteria. A naïve question I used to ask, why can't we just burn all the garbage? We can't burn all the trash because you will end breathing in the toxins and they would be another problem. There are some benefits to landfills we can extract renewable green energy from the garbage.

Some things we can do to help this problem include recycle, donate your clothes, meal plan (reduces food waste), bring your own bag to the store, and compost.

Movies about this issue, Wasteland, Trash, A plastic ocean, and Plastic paradise.

Gaelic for the month:

Garbage-truflais
Recycle-athchursail
Bin-bosca bruscair

"We need to address our nation's mounting garbage problem by generating less garbage." Wendell Ford

"People tell me I'm extravagant because I want to be surrounded by beauty but tell me who wants to be surrounded by garbage?" Imelda Marcus

MoLanive@yahoo.com

Good morning Ireland Radio on GlobalIrishradio.com or gir.ie



Hosts: Tom Flannery & Katherine O'Sullivan

www.WhiskeyMick.com



Booking contact:

whiskeymickbooking@gmail.com



LET'S TRY THIS AGAIN!

You are invited to join Gadabout's 2022 Europe Cruise!

Sailing September 16, 2022 for 10-nights on Celebrity Reflection

Sailing out of Rome. Ports include Corfu, Greece; Olympia (Katakolon), Greece; Dubrovnik, Croatia; Kotor, Montenegro; Sicily, Italy (optional tour to Taormina); Naples, Italy (optional tour to Capri); Florence, Italy (Optional tour to Cinque Terre)

Price Includes:

- All Beverages (alcoholic and nonalcoholic)
- All Gratuities
- Internet Package
- One night of Specialty Dining

- Obstructed Balcony \$2,584 per person
- Non-obstructed Balcony \$2,604 per person
- Non-obstructed Ocean View \$2,714 per person

*Concierge & Aqua Class Cabin's are available upon request

\$250 REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT IS DUE TO SECURE A CABIN. LIMITED CABINS ARE AVAILABLE AT THIS LOW GROUP PRICE

CALL GADABOUT TRAVEL AT 708-974-1300 OR EMAIL GADABOUTTRAVEL@HOTMAIL.COM



CHICALBA BAGPIPING SERVICES

Weddings • Parties
Funerals • Corporate Teaching

Dave Johnston
(630) 534 4964
www.chicalba.com
dave@chicalba.com

CORRIGAN FINANCIAL SERVICES

Specialist in Creating
Tax Advantaged
Retirement Income Solutions

Call Mike Corrigan
708-482-3800
LaGrange, IL.
mike@corriganfs.com

Working with Families and Business Owners
since 1980

OLD ORLAND INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.

Since 1946

"We sell Peace Of Mind."

HOME • LIFE • AUTO • HEALTH • BUSINESS
ALL TYPES OF CONTRACTORS

14308 Union Orland Park, IL 60462
708-349-2000

Catherine O'Connell

BEST SELLING
CD!

AVAILABLE NOW IN IRISH SHOPS

Songs From My Father

www.catherineoconnell.com
847-721-2299



The Irish Fellowship Club of Chicago welcomed our members and guests back for an outstanding Annual Christmas Luncheon at the Chicago Hilton. Chaired by Michael G. "Mick" O'Rourke, the Annual "President's Luncheon" honored Rose Doherty for her service to the Club as the 2020 President and recognized the extraordinary dedication of board member Rose Marie O'Neill with the Lifetime Achievement Award.

The Club was delighted to have Sr. Jean Dolores Schmidt, BVM of Loyola University offer the invocation celebrating the Christmas season. The luncheon is also the Annual Meeting for the Irish Fellowship Club. Nominating Chair, Hon. Maureen Connors presented the slate of officers for 2022 including President, John Wrenn and 1st Vice President, Bob Flood. The slate passed unanimously. President John Wrenn addressed the membership thanking them for their support and outlining his goals for 2022.

After lunch, John Wrenn thanked Rose Doherty for her service as the 2020 President of the Irish Fellowship Club. Rose Doherty thanked the officers and members of the Club for their support during a difficult year, "2020 was an unusual year, to say the least! I want to thank everyone who supported the Irish Fellowship Club and Foundation with their generosity throughout the year. While we were only able to host the Golf Outing in person, I am grateful to the chairs of all of the events for their hard work. I am particularly grateful to my family and my firm, Legacy Professionals. I personally have seen the strength of the Chicago Irish community in my own family."

The Irish Fellowship Club recognized Rose Marie O'Neill for her dedication and service to the Club for over 50 years. Rose was the first woman to hold a seat on the board and has served as an active, engaged leader, organizing trips to Ireland and supporting the mission of the Club and Foundation. As said in the Luncheon Program Book, "Rose has championed dialogue and understanding on behalf of Ireland around the world and has shown herself to be a larger than life Chicagoan of generosity and high hospitality. Her leadership and generosity to the Irish Fellowship Club of Chicago has few to equal it." The Club was pleased to present her with a Lifetime Achievement Award.

Consul General Kevin Byrne shared greetings from the Irish Government and an update on the Consulate's activities. Jim Coyne, Chairman of the St. Patrick's Day Parade, announced that Hon. John Griffin, a past President of the Irish Fellowship Club, will be the Grand Marshal of the 2022 St. Patrick's Day Parade to take place on Saturday, March 12, 2022.

Guests enjoyed the talented singing of the St. Ignatius College Prep choir as they entered the ballroom and special guests were led to their table by the Shannon Rovers. Harpist Mary Sue Redmann entertained the guests during lunch while Jimmy Moore, John Williams and Catherine O'Connell shared Christmas carols in the Normandie Lounge following the luncheon.

The Irish Fellowship Club is grateful to our sponsors, raffle donors, table buyers and guests for their support of the Foundation's work to provide scholarships to each of the Catholic High Schools in the Chicagoland area as well as grants to Chicago Irish cultural organizations.

St. Patrick's Day Dinner 2022

Please mark your calendars for the St. Patrick's Day Dinner on Friday, March 11, 2022 at the Hilton Chicago. More information will be available at www.irishfellowshipclub.com shortly.





Irish film star
JOHN CONNORS



and producer
TIERNAN WILLIAMS

in Chicago
January 21-23!

ENDLESS SUNSHINE ON A CLOUDY DAY

will be screened...

Friday, January 21st at 8pm

at The Irish American Heritage Center • 4626 North Knox, Chicago

Saturday, January 22nd at 5pm

at The Siskel Film Center • 164 North State Street, Chicago

Sunday January 23rd at 3pm

at Gaelic Park • 6119 147th St, Oak Forest, Illinois

Screenings will be followed by discussion with the filmmakers and cocktail reception. • **Admission \$10 with cash bar.**

Let's give a great *Chicago Fáilte* to our visiting Irish artists/activists as they present their extraordinary film.



Culture Ireland
Cultúr Éireann

Cluster Fox  **Hilton**
CHICAGO

Amy Grant

One of the best ways I know to recoup my youth is to watch a singer or band from my high school or college years still performing. YouTube is a great source these days as music venues seem to have long since given up on the traditional "no recording or photography" announcement in the era of the smart phone.

Six time Grammy winner Amy Grant, once labeled the "Queen of Christian Pop," is still going strong and still strongly going, having just finished a grueling fall and winter tour capped off by a string of Christmas concert dates at home in Nashville. Amy, like me, was born in November, 1960 though you wouldn't know it to look at her which I got to do in person in the late 1990's and again in November when she had two concerts in the Chicago area. One was at the newly reopened Des Plaines Theater reinvented as a concert hall, and the other in Crystal Lake at another vintage theater.

Both venues impressed me as a wonderful place to see your favorite singer, and having met Amy several times it seemed like the continuation of an old conversation in theaters where every seat felt like you were up front. Amy definitely carries on a dialogue with her fans, many of whom have stuck with her from her heydays in the 80's and 90's where her venues numbered seats in

the tens of thousands like the United Center.

Coming from what a genealogy web site describes as English-Irish-Scottish-Welsh roots, Amy has shown an Irish hardiness to press on through troubled times buoyed by her Christian faith, most recently having had open heart surgery in 2020 and last year a bout with Covid.

I first got to meet her thanks to a bit of Irish wit when on an AOL "Friends of Amy" internet site I wrote a "Top 10 List" in the format made famous by late night talk show host David Letterman. I welcomed to her to being 35 years old two weeks after by noting two benefits of having turned the legal age for running for president. Given Bill Clinton's indiscretions one item on the list was "young enough to run for president" and the next was "young enough to run FROM the president."

I also predicted that this year when she reaches 62 she will get free McDonald's French fries as in the 1990's promotion for seniors. Only time and 10 months will tell.

Her first husband, fellow singer-songwriter Gary Chapman, e-mailed me that what I wrote was hilarious, and that he just shared it with Amy. The timing was such that seconds later I wrote back "Well



give her a hug for me and tell her I'm glad I gave her a giggle." He instantly wrote back "I just did; she dug it."

I confirmed that in person when I met her by surprise in the balcony of the famous Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, where she sat in the cheap seats in the balcony unobtrusively supporting Gary as he hosted a series of popular Sunday variety shows. There was an aura around her that other fans have described, a sense of peace and being surrounded by angels or the Holy Spirit, or both. I was a little star-struck at first meeting the girl I had a crush on in high school when she first started recording Christian albums. After exchanging pleasantries she started looking for lost keys in her purse, my skeptical wife at the time said that was a gracious Southern way of saying the conversation was over. Knowing now her self-deprecating humor and down to earth nature, I have since deduced that she lost her keys.

Later I was invited out to Gary and Amy's home for a large dinner and music-in-the-round backyard concert to benefit the crisis pregnancy center in Nashville. After saying hello in the kitchen as several of her sisters made up the desserts for the evening, I was dispatched to place floral wreaths in the pool on a beautiful Tennessee night.

The last time was at the United Center in Christmas 1996 which was jammed to the rooftops with screaming fans of her top hit "Baby, Baby," written several years before

about her new daughter Milly. I remember her hugging me as with other fans in a "meet and greet" before the concert. I got a little extra attention as she raised her head up after brushing my cheek with her curls (insert geek wonderment) and apologized for getting her makeup on the shoulder of my new gray chalk stripe suit. After brushing it off she very sincerely said that she hoped I would



enjoy the concert and wanted it to be a real gift of the season. I was too smitten to point out that she was brushing off the dust from my closet, not her makeup.

Now 25 years later, that baby Millie is having her own baby this month, and Amy is even better performing in the intimate setting of a theater. As the years go by it gets harder and harder to hit the high notes, and you could tell she was really pushing it and succeeded with heartfelt effort, "aided by my backup singers helping me reach the high ones."

She is a very genuine person, if that doesn't sound disingenuous. I went to her sound check and she sincerely wished the small

gathering of hardcore fans that she hoped they enjoyed her several songs and hoped they had a good time. I reminded her afterward that she wasn't in St. Charles; she laughed and shook her head as the night before she welcomed the audience to St. Charles, unfortunately the venue on the tour was changed from there at the last minute.

If you doubt her humility or faith consider an incident that happened during the tour.

Several months earlier she and manager Jennifer Cooke were going through the airport security line and became separated.

Jennifer grew somewhat concerned and went back to look for Amy, and found her down on her knees tying the shoelaces of a young mother struggling to carry her baby and several belongings.

Jennifer said of the experience, "That simple gesture spoke volumes about what it means to exhibit Christlike love at all times." She then declared "I need to be more like Jesus... and more like Amy."

PALOS COUNTRY CLUB

The ultimate in elegance for your wedding. . .

WE FEATURE:

- Accommodations for 20-400 guests
- Rooms with views of our beautiful golf course
- Outdoor patios, ideal for dining *plén airé*
- Gazebo wedding ceremonies for the romantic
- Custom designed menus to complete your perfect day

Ask about our special packages for July and August weddings!

13100 Southwest Highway
Orland Park, IL 60462
www.paloscountryclub.com
(708) 448-6550



Mention
this ad
and
receive special
pricing
on your
wedding!



A family tradition of Irish Radio in Chicago Since 1951
Jack, Denise, and Ed Hagerty Host



THE HAGERTY IRISH HOUR

9 am - 11am Saturdays WPNA 1490 AM



I’d like to highlight Judge James J. Comerford. He went to school with my father, Michael. Another famous Comerford you may have heard of is Martin Comerford a hurler from Kilkenny, they are probably related.

I will first start with the tasks and qualifications a judge must have. They need to exhibit proper judicial temperance, patience, tact, courage, understanding, to be steady and alert. Judges don’t do all of their work in the courtroom; they perform certain duties in their chambers. They research laws and regulations, issue opinions and case decisions, supervise the work of law clerks, meet with attorneys to discuss cases and encourage settlement, and establish court rules, hear allegations of the prosecuting and defending parties, listen to witness testimony, rule on the admissibility of evidence, instruct the jury, question witnesses, determine liability or damages and most importantly determine guilt or innocence of criminal defendants.

It is a job that most wouldn’t want because of the responsibility or pressure it brings to the individual. A judge deals with a lot of stress and probably gets a lot of headaches. In any case a very important and crucial position and vital role to play for society.

James J. Comerford was born in Muckalee, Co. Kilkenny like me. He was a nationalist, judge, parade organizer & a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in New York. He served as the chairman of the New York City St. Patrick’s Day Parade for almost 20 years. His father was John, and his mother was Julia Kavanagh (Carlow). Comerford’s dad was politically minded, he was a member of the district board in Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny. He was also active with campaigns supporting Charles S. Parnell. (Member of parliament, Co. Wickow). Comerford attended Muckalee school however he legally didn’t go to school very much while he lived in Ireland his father wanted him to work the farm. His father John’s nickname was the “Rat”, I never found out why. When James was about 16 years of age, he joined the local Irish Volunteers. He was working on the farm by day and sleeping in a different place by night. A few years later he was captured by the English and used as a human shield in a shootout. He has nine lives for sure. He left Ireland for New York in 1925. He worked various construction jobs, factories, cleaning windows. A friend recognized that he was very intelligent and suggested he go to school. he attended Columbia university and Fordham university and earned a law degree. He was appointed assistant district attorney. Two years later was honored in the magistrate court.

Eamon De Valera came to the States, James handled his engagements. Comerford was a stern, tough, and to the mark judge who was greatly respected for his fairness on the bench.

Some countries with the worst judicial system in the world Afghanistan Egypt Cambodia they’re not known for upholding the rights of its citizens. I will end with this poem “Many of us are dreamers, in 2022 become doers.

Make your thoughts actions and become pursuers.
Don’t make resolutions without an action plan.
The secret to success is right in your hands.

Thomas Edison discovered more than 1000 ways, to not invent a bulb of light,
But eventually, through determination, he found the solution to get it just right.

If he had stopped at nine hundred ninety-nine,
You’d be reading in the dark, and might miss a line.
Take the first step, do something outrageous,
The act of doing, will become quite contagious.
Don’t let pride ever cause you to stumble,
Baby steps are still progress and keep us humble.
It’s better to move slowly then to turn or hide,
Keep your eyes focused, let God be your guide.”

unknown
My wife Mary & I wish all of our kind readers a happy & healthy 2022!

If you have any questions, call (708) 425-7021



Game On!

By Chris Wheaton



The cold dark days of January have arrived. The holidays are over, the Bears still stink, baseball is probably going to be locked out and the Blackhawks are still a huge disappointment because of the way they handled the sex abuse scandal. Where does the sports enthusiast turn to during these trying times? The answer is easy, reach out to one of your Irish hurling teammates to reinforce why you love the GAA sports.

One of my "go to" guys is none other than Owen O'Connor who has been playing with the Naperville Hurling Club since shortly after its inception. Owen arrived here from County Cork in 2016 after a storied career with the Blarney Intermediate Club in Cork and equally impressive stints with the senior clubs for Muskerry and University College Cork.

It was a serendipitous Facebook search that introduced Owen to Naperville Hurling shortly after his arrival in the United States. Owen was kind enough to give me his insights on what makes the Irish sports special and how they are so different than the American professional sports. Owen said "there really is no comparing the sense of community and family you feel when you grow up playing hurling and Gaelic football. The GAA club is the center of the community and the kids you are playing with at 9 years



old are the very same lads you will be training with and fighting alongside 15, 20 years later." He went on to emphasize that where you are born and live is where you play and explained how you play hard to make your family and parish proud. Owen added that even at the highest level, it is still an amateur sport and

"the same fellas you see on television playing in front of 80,000 in Croke Park, you will see the next day working behind a desk at the bank, or teaching kids in the local primary school."

When asked what he loves about playing with Naperville Owen said that the sense of community is very similar to back home and that it provides an outlet for people to get together regularly to form friendships, to get healthier, to learn a new sport and experience an important part of a different culture. I think Owen was spot on when he said "with all we have gone through the last two years, feeling a sense of community like we do at Naperville Hurling is more important now than ever before, our Naperville club is so welcoming and we cater to all skill levels; from those who have had a hurley in their hand since they could walk, to others who have never touched one." Owen encouraged all of our readers to check out the Naperville Hurling website at naperhurling.com or just

show up at one of our training sessions. The club truly does have something for everyone.

I finally asked my friend to tell me his favorite hurling memory and as expected he had a difficult time narrowing it down to just one; "I have been fortunate enough to have so many awesome memories playing this amazing sport through the years, from reaching the underage All-Ireland Final with his best friends, winning two All-Ireland's with UCC playing alongside some of the best hurlers in the country, winning the first ball in his club intermediate debut, and scoring a goal in a championship game in Pairc Ui Chaoimh. Owen went on to say that he would be remiss if he didn't mention his most recent favorite memory which was coaching and captaining the Naperville men's team to a National Championship in 2017 in the Junior B Division.



Owen O'Connor

It was abundantly evident that Owen O'Connor has tremendous passion for the game of hurling as do most Irishmen who have played. It is a thrill for me and my teammates to take the pitch alongside someone with his skill level, having played at the highest levels of the game. Something like that can only happen in the GAA sports. I doubt that a Chicago Bear would show up and play in your family's annual Turkey Bowl on Thanksgiving morning but a couple times a week we get to rub elbows and swap stories with true Irish legends!

Celtica Gifts

1940 W Montrose Ave Chicago 60613

773-784-7712

www.facebook.com/CelticaGifts
WWW.CELTICAGIFTS.COM

Offering a Unique Selection of Celtic Gifts & Food

Royal Tara - Cara Crafts
Galway Crystal - Belleek
Jewelry - Sweaters - Tea
Breakfast Meats & More

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE!

SADDLE UP FOR A "FUN(D)" RAISING EVENT FOR:

#J.O. STRONG

RACE NIGHT

JANUARY 7TH
2022 FRIDAY

FIREWATER SALOON
6689 N. OLIPHANT CHGO, IL

1ST RACE STARTS AT 7:30PM
CASH ONLY

JOIN US FOR A GREAT NIGHT AT THE RACES

16 BIG SCREEN TV'S SPLIT THE POT JOSTRONG.ORG

Recent high school graduate John O. was the passenger in a rideshare vehicle that was hit by a train in August 2021. Community members, family & friends are working together to fundraise & advocate for his recovery efforts. Visit www.JOstrong.org for more details.

COME & RACE
PROCEEDS
BENEFIT
JOSTRONG.ORG

4/3/2022 SAVE THE DATE FOR THE
#J.O. STRONG BENEFIT

Like us on facebook.com/FriendsofJ.O.Strong & Instagram [j.o.strong](https://www.instagram.com/j.o.strong)

GOOD GRIEF

BY JOSEPHINE COLEMAN

This is a beautiful poem by Martin O'Hara. He wrote this for all the Irish who live in exile on their own across the world especially at this time of the year. A beautiful, sad tribute felt by us all at some stage in our lives.

An Exile Christmas

by Martin O'Hara

It was Christmas Eve in London and an Irishman called Joe stood by an upstairs window that looked on the street below.

He could see the shoppers passing by their voices filled with cheer as they shouted happy Christmas and a prosperous new year.

As he looked around his little room that for years had been his home. He was fifty years in London since he crossed the oceans foam. His youthful days behind him now and his working days long gone in retirement his days were spent on his own to carry on.

He could hear a church bell ringing on the street across the way where mass was celebrated on the eve of Christmas day. Then a choir started singing to the strains of silent night came drifting through the window into Joe's old flat that night.

As he listened to the singing he began to shed a tear for he always felt emotional on Christmas eve each year when old memories came flooding back and his thoughts began to stray to his childhood days in Ireland long ago and far away.

He could see again the old thatched house at the corner of the lane. Oh what he'd give to be a lad and back there once again. The candle in the window to light a welcome way for the virgin and the Christ child on the eve of Christmas day.

The holly and the ivy and the cards around the fire and his mother's Christmas cooking that would fill you with desire. The boxes left for Santa in the hopes he would call with the toys to play on Christmas day was the happiest times of all.

As his memories began to fade and reality set in he was back once more in London in his little flat again. He drew his coat around him and sat back in his chair and for all those in his memories he began to say a prayer. He asked the lord to grant them rest in the land beyond the sky for all the folks he once shared Christmas with in the happy years gone by.



Tomorrow at the center he will meet his old friend Jack an Irishman just like himself who never went back. They will have their Christmas dinner and a glass or two of beer as they join their old acquaintances and the friends they love so dear. Everybody has their party piece to raise a bit of cheer at their Christmas get together in the center every year.

So to all our Irish exiles in the land far off and near the blessing of this Christmas time we wish you all this year. And although we are divided by land and sky and foam a very Merry Christmas from the Irish folk at home. The End

Well, what did you think? Wasn't that just lovely. I'm not ashamed to tell you I shed a tear or two but my kids will tell you I seem to cry at the drop of a hat especially at this time of the year when we are missing the presence of our loved ones and remembering the good times growing up as kids anxiously awaiting Santa.

Here's another one for you if I can squeeze it in. We all remember waiting on the postman right? He was our life line to the outside world not a lot of telephones around back then. (I have got to stop showing my age!

The Postman

by Martin O'Hara

The postman was a popular man in a time long ago. As he battled on his bicycle through the hail rain and snow. He brought the news from far away and took letters back again. The only link to the outside world that the people had back then. His requirements weren't many just a bicycle and a sack filled to the brim when he set out but empty coming back. To the parish wide and the mountainside his journey would begin with the letters all delivered before returning home again. Now the postman in the times gone by was known to one and all and he used to stop and chat awhile when to a house he would call. The only person for the day that some people might see for that time in the countryside is how it used to be. For the parents of an exile in some far of distant clime the postman was the only link between them at that time. And when he'd have a letter from their loved one far away with delight he'd bring it

to them for that would make their day. They'd fill him in on all their news of their loved ones gone away. And sometimes he felt to these families that himself he did belong. He knew who was dead and who got wed. There was some news every day if a child was born in some house or if someone went away. The price of cattle at the fair how the turf was doing on the bog. The house were the danger lay be aware of the cross dog. And the Christmas times were special as many will remember the postman with the Christmas cards and parcels in December. Back in the day that was the way in Ireland long ago. Communication in those times the people didn't know so the postman played a vital role in those bygone days I think to the outside world for many it was their one and only link. The countryside is different now when the postman makes a call some houses they are empty with no one home at all. The letter in the letterbox is how it's done today no word no chat or welcome but a memory that has stayed with me forever was when my mother used to say can anybody tell me did the

postman pass by today.

Lovely isn't it?

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and Healthy New Year!



Fresh Baked Soda Bread Scones, Meat Pies, Sausage Rolls

for your

TRADITIONAL IRISH BREAKFAST

Fresh Sausage, Rashers, Boiling Bacon
Black & White Puddings

Belleek, Galway Crystal, Books, Clothing, Jewelry

• T-Shirts • Hats • Flags

• Stickers • CD's • Novelties

We use UPS to Ship Worldwide!

SEASONAL FALL HOURS!

M CLOSED TUE-FRI 3-7
SAT 10-5 SUN 10-3

6346 W GUNNISON ST
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60630

gaelicimportschiago@gmail.com

facebook [gaelic imports Chicago](https://www.facebook.com/gaelicimportsChicago)

773-792-1905

FAX: 773-792-1925

Located NW Side of Chicago!

BIBLE BINGO

A Comedy with God, Games, & Goofy Prizes!

by Vicki Quade

Now in its 11th year

Bible Bingo

Fridays at 8 p.m. & Saturdays at 8 p.m.

Greenhouse Theater Center
2257 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago
Box Office: 773-404-7336
Tickets are \$35 Group Discounts Available

5 p.m. Saturdays & 2 p.m. Sundays



Swimming Upstream

By Charles Brady

The Frog in the Pan (Revisited)

'The frog in the pan of cold water.'

No, don't panic; don't start sending out the guys with the white coats and the butterfly nets quite yet. Later, perhaps. I'm not having a senior moment and I know that it's a metaphor for the way in which society is going that I've used before. But by Heavens it is becoming more and more

appropriate, that frog in the pan.

I first heard that expression from writer Gore Vidal all of thirty years ago. But I'll get back to that in a moment.

What I want to talk about for now is something that I believe is wrong. Fundamentally wrong and which scares me. And it should scare you.

That is quite simply the demonizing of those in Ireland who have chosen to not be vaccinated against the Covid virus. And, of course, throughout Europe as well. In some countries - I'm looking at you, Austria (and shame on you, people who should know better) and very soon Germany and points adjacent - we are now seeing mandatory vaccinations.

Think about that for a moment. Mandatory. How the Hell did we ever once again circle around to this stage, having learned nothing?

One of the clauses that was put in following the Nuremberg Trials was that we should have control over what is done to our bodies. That should be paramount. Well, with the sterling example of that great humanitarian Dr. Mengele and others fresh in the collective mind, we weren't going to go down that road again, were we? Except that...here we are.

Now, to be clear: I have been given the Pfizer vaccination twice and I've also had the booster. Side effects? I'd say look at the beard that my cute little Bad Santa baby face is able to grow for the first time. It's up there in the corner of this article. Coincidence? Maybe. But if Pfizer want me to do ads for bald men who want sudden growths of hair across their shiny bonces, then I'm in. For the right sum of course. And yes, I'm being facetious, trying to lighten things up a bit. Still, I was never able to grow much of a beard before. Just saying.

Where was I? Oh yeah. Anti-vaxxers. It's one of those terms that didn't even exist a couple of years ago. Yet it is suddenly being used in this random way that

irritates me. No, scratch that. It frightens me. It terrifies me. I've actually heard opinions from normally rational people that anyone not taking the vaccine should be left to die if push comes to shove. And it's not all on one side either. From the other side comes this appalling new/ old word 'purebloods', used by unvaccinated people who consider themselves superior to those who have been vaccinated.

Does any of this sound familiar? Any of it? Offer up a surrogate group of *shudder* evil doers for your woes and all will be well? Kristallnacht, anyone?

Can you recall less than two short years ago how we were all being fed the blatant lie that 'we are all in this together'? Now we are at each other's throats, anti-vaxxers against the purebloods, society once again divided.

Do we ever learn?

And at the risk of going full-on Howard Beale on you, please put down this article right now and reflect for a moment on the fact that I'm a part of the media who are manipulating you. And by God have we been doing that - and doing it well. Don't trust me, I have my own agenda. Don't trust anyone.

Anti-vaxxers are now pariahs. But it is a catch-all phrase. I don't bother talking to them anymore because they are so blinkered that they will immediately launch into some weird diatribe where they try to cover every rabbit hole that they have gone down whilst doing their 'research' on the internet.

It is a phrase that should not include those who are AGAINST taking the vaccination. They are a completely different species and the arguments I have heard

from them are reasoned and well made. These people have genuine concerns and should be listened to, not dismissed and lumped in with the headbangers.

We are seeing - bit by tiny bit - our freedoms being taken from us. It more than likely started long before this pandemic occurred. But it has surely accelerated since.

The first time I heard the expression that I mentioned earlier was in Tim Robbins's brilliant 1992 satire 'Bob Roberts'. Gore Vidal, that most maddening and fascinating of American essayists and political gadfly, whilst basically playing himself, explains that if you take a frog and throw the poor thing into a pan of boiling water then it will jump around in agony and die a painful death.

However, if you gently place it in a pan of cold water and ever so gradually turn the heat up then it will just sit there, docile. And of course, die a miserable death.

That's us. That's what is happening to us. It is Death by a thousand small cuts.

A few weeks back I came across a comment on some newspaper site. The person writing it was ruminating on how insidious this whole thing has now become:

"What are people complaining about? It's only a face mask. It's only an injection. It's only another injection. It's only a booster. It's only two weeks to flatten the curve. It's only isolation. It's only a quarantine camp. It's only a yellow star. It's only a train ride. It's only a shower."

Overly dramatic? Yeah, maybe. But then I think of what is gradually - ever so gradually - happening all over Europe. I think of myself last week waiting to get into the Druid theatre in Galway and having to meekly hand over not just my Covid clearance but my photo ID, just like a good little obedient 1930s German...and I wonder. I'm wondering about that a lot lately.

You see, I don't want to end up like that frog in the pan of cold water, just sitting there and not noticing how hot things have gotten.

Until it's way too late.
charleybrady@gmail.com

We ♥ New Clients

hair by **O'HARA** & friends

50% OFF HAIR SERVICES

708-239-1111

7008 W. 127th St. Palos Heights

HOURS: Tuesday 11-7 Wednesday and Thurs 11-8 Friday 9-5 Saturday 9-4 Sunday 11-6

Must present this ad for discount. Cannot be combined with any other offer.

www.oharaandfriendssalon.com

AWARDS: BEST OF CHICAGO'S SOUTHWEST 2014, REALITY-BELL SIGNATURE SALON

FIRST TIME CLIENTS ONLY



Stay in a Manor at a price that's gentle on your wallet!

Gurtenard House in Beautiful Listowel, Co. Kerry
Irish-American Owned and Maintained. Home to John B. Keane's Pub, Irish Writers Week, Jimmy Deenihan! Close to Dingle, Tralee and on the Ring of Kerry! Call 011-353-87-348-1580 or email kathy@gurtenardhouse.com - www.gurtenardhouse.com

Patrick Carney - Real Estate Broker **dreamtown**

Cell **773-343-4142**

Email patrick.carney@dreamtown.com

Web dreamtown.com

4553 N Lincoln Chicago, IL 60625

Co. Mayo born Chicago resident since 1992
Helping clients sell and purchase properties
***single family homes *condominiums**
***townhouses *multi-unit buildings**
see my bio at www.dreamtown.com

December 18, 2021 - Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary Billy and Anne Lawless!



Held at the University Club,
Downtown Chicago

Above photos
by Elena Grigore



Movie News - January 2022

by James Bartlett

First things first: Happy New Year to all of you! I hope your Holidays were fun and peaceful, and that you have managed to stay safe, especially since the latest variant of COVID-19 seems to be attacking us all with a vengeance.

At the moment it is hard to say how Omicron (which sounds like a really evil Transformer, doesn't it?) might affect the upcoming festival and awards season, but the nominations for many of them are out at least - and as usual, Irish talent features prominently.

The 27th Critics' Choice Awards have already been postponed (they were due to happen last month), which must have been a blow for them. With around 500 reviewer members from radio, television and online, they were looking to take the place of the Golden Globes, who were hit by many scandals last year.

Nominations are still coming though, and as expected, writer/director Kenneth Branagh's semi-autobiographical childhood tale *Belfast* has racked up plenty of nods at Critics' Choice: Best Picture, Best Director and Screenplay for Branagh, Best Supporting Actor/Actress nods for Jamie Dornan, Ciarán Hinds, and Catriona Balfe, plus Best Cinematography, Best Editing, Best Production Design, Best Young Actor for Jude Hill, and Best Ensemble - that's 11 in all, the same as awarded to *West Side Story*.

The Oscar shortlist was announced too, and Van Morrison has been shortlisted for Best Original Song for his track "Down to Joy", though if he makes the cut, he may well be up against U2's "Your Song Saved My Life" from *Sing 2*, Billie Eilish's "No Time To Die" from the James Bond movie, and Beyoncé's "Be Alive" from *King Richard*. *Belfast* also got listed in the Best Sound category shortlist as well; the shortlist isn't for all awards, however.

Van Morrison, 76, has been nominated for a Golden Globe for this track as well, and there were Globe nods as well for Dornan, Hinds, Balfe and Branagh in the

same categories as above, with the movie getting seven Globe nominations overall, tying with period drama *The Power of the Dog*. The Globes ceremony - not televised this year, due to the aforementioned scandals - is due to happen on January 9.

Interestingly, in the Screenplay - Drama category at the Globes, Branagh is up against Adam McKay, writer/director of satire *Don't Look Up*. McKay's parents are from Cork and Antrim, and both of them - plus Jamie Dornan - will be receiving the Oscar Wilde Award a few days before the Oscars ceremony on March 27, so let's hope they'll all be friendly that night. It might be a nervous St Patrick's Day for everyone too.

Either way, it's great to see Ciarán Hinds, an excellent and very busy actor, finally getting some recognition from the industry, but even he seems to be bested by another hard-working Irish actor, Liam Neeson, who was recently seen filming in Barcelona, Spain.

Marlowe is based on the 2014 novel *The Black-Eyed Blonde* by Wexford author John Banville and is, of course, inspired by Raymond Chandler's stories of the legendary detective. It stars the 69-year-old Ballymena man Neeson as fictional character Philip Marlowe, and sees him drowning in debt and loneliness - until, of course, a beautiful blonde arrives and asks him to find her ex-lover.

It sounds like classic noir, and with Sligo-born director Neil Jordan (*Michael Collins*, *The Butcher Boy*) at the helm, and a supporting cast including Dubliner Colm Meany, Danny Huston (of the famous Hollywood dynasty), and the screenplay adaptation by Irish-American William Monahan. It's almost kind of an Irish story through and through, with Diane Kruger, who plays the eponymous mysterious blonde, the only



one not from the island.

Coincidentally, Hinds will be joining Neeson in Ireland in March for the *In the Land of Saints and Sinners* shoot. As I mentioned last month, it's a thriller set in a remote village where a newly retired assassin (Neeson) finds himself drawn into a lethal game of cat and mouse with a trio of vengeful terrorists.

That's perfect Neeson territory for sure, though before that in early February we'll be able to see something very different from

him. Showing at IMAX and large screen cinemas across the US, he's narrating *Ireland*, a 70mm short movie that takes audiences on an action-packed journey across the Emerald Isle, exploring its wild, natural beauty and rich, cultural heritage.

With world travel coming back - or at least, it seemed to be - a trip to the Emerald Isle in on the agenda for many people, and his gravelly tones might just make you take the plunge!

Looking forward again into 2022, make sure you keep an eye for *The Northman*, a Viking revenge epic directed by Robert Eggers, and set in Iceland around the turn of the 10th century. Filming took place across the North of Ireland, with a carefully-guarded Viking village being constructed in Torr Head.

It saw some huge Hollywood names coming across the Atlantic (Anya Taylor-Joy from *The Queen's Gambit*, Nicole Kidman, Alexander Skarsgård, Ethan Hawke and Willem Dafoe), and is due to be released in theatres here in the USA in April.

Another movie coming soon that was filmed in the North was *The School for Good and Evil*, which is based on the best-selling series of young adult fantasy novels by Soman Chainani.

The story follows the adventures of teen best friends Sophie (Sophia Anne Caruso) and Agatha (Sofia Wylie), who are among a group of girls and boys who are taken to an institution and trained to become fairy tale-like heroes and villains.

ERIU

*I am Ireland;
I feed on dreams
And that which seems
Impossible.*

*I am Ireland;
A sad heart's history,
I am the mystery
Impossible.*

*I am Ireland;
I am music and rhymes
From oppression and times
Impossible.*

*I am Ireland;
The spirit from pain;
Behold, I attain
The Impossible.*

© Roberta Mckenna Byrne

UNFORGETTABLE EDIBLES Catering
Local Sourcing • Global Recipes

ST. PATRICK'S DAY CATERING

Visit
WWW.UECATERING.COM
to see all of our
Irish specialties

It Starts With A Song

By Joe McShane



Happy New Year! Everyone, I hope you had a wonderful Christmas. Unfortunately, it was a sad Christmas for some people. So many folks were caught up in the devastating tornadoes and lost their homes and their loved ones across the US. At least 30 tornadoes were reported across six states: Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Missouri, Mississippi, and Tennessee. The worst-hit was Kentucky. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all those families.

So, I feel blessed that I got to spend a lovely Christmas with my family in Chicago and meet up with friends I haven't seen for a while. Then, my son Declan came to Ireland with me and we got to hang out and also brought the New Year in together at our local pub, Donnelly's in Silverbridge. Declan just keeps on improving at the music, so much so that I get advice from him these days. He lets me know when I'm not playing the right chords and I love it.

I'm looking forward to playing at the Nathan Carter weekend in Glasgow later this month. It feels a little strange sometimes, I know my brother Nick R.I.P. would have probably done this weekend with Nathan. It will soon be 2 years since he passed away and it doesn't feel any easier. I guess I'll never get used to not seeing him again. We used to talk on the phone every day and visited each other whenever possible. I'm sure lots of you have similar feelings about loved ones. I guess I should be thankful that he was part of my life and we shared some special times traveling many places with our music. I remember the day he was born and I remember his infectious smile. So, I carry that smile around in my mind always. Like Declan, Nick taught me a lot. I remember one day I was complaining about someone to him and he put his hand in his pocket and pulled out a little card. He said, "I've had this for a while and it has

helped me, Joe I think you need it now". I still carry it around with me everywhere I go. It's the prayer of St. Francis.

I want to mention and send my belated congratulations to Joannie Madden, for her many achievements, especially this year. In 2012, Joannie was named a Fellow of United States Artists. She is a recipient of the 2021

National Heritage Fellowship awarded by the National Endowment for the Arts. It is the United States government's highest honor in the folk and traditional arts. She was honored at iBAM! in October of 2021 also. She is an outstanding musician and performer who just wins the crowd over with her great musical talent and her one-liners that have the crowd full of laughter. Joannie is of course the leader of the group 'Cherish The Ladies'. If you haven't seen or heard them, you're missing out on a great experience.

This month's song is one I co-

wrote with my son Declan, and it's an uptempo country/folk song called 'Home Town Lovin' (small town company).

Happy New Year! From our house to yours!

And as always, be good to one another, Joe

Joe's FaceBook Music Page
[Joe's FaceBook Songwriter Page](#)
[Website](#)
[Joe's ian Monthly Columns](#)

Hometown Lovin' (small town company) Written by Declan and Joe McShane

V1
 I used to think the edge of town was way out of sight
 Now I wonder what my hometown buddies are doing tonight
 Been gone away too long and my mind keeps driftin' home
 I gotta swallow up my pride and pick up the telephone

V2
 You know tall concrete and bricks were never worth a lick
 Compared to the hedgerows and trees back in the sticks
 Where neighbors always greet you with a smile upon their face
 I finely smelled the coffee this city's not my place
 Chorus
 I know just what they'll say, we hope you're back to stay
 Boy it seems a lifetime since you went away
 I know the busy city, won't be missin' me
 I need some hometown lovin' and some small-town company

V3
 A handshake full of friendship and how is all your kin
 Great to see you back in town how you keepin' how you been
 I left the city far behind I'm back in my hometown
 It's so great to have you home they'll say we hope you'll stick around

Chorus
 Yes I knew just what they'd say, we hope you're back to stay
 Boy it seems a lifetime since you went away
 Now I know that big ole city, won't be missin' me
 I need some hometown lovin' and some small-town company

Declan and Joe McShane

Kitchen Party Ceili Radio
 at 9pm Central on WICR FM 88.7 or www.wiconline.org.
 Also Monday at 4pm Central on WXTF 97.9 FM in Harrisville, Michigan, and on Friday 6:30 am Central on Blues & Roots Radio, bluesandrootsradio.com

Call O'Grady and Start Packing!

Eileen O'Grady Newell

BHHS Chicago
(773)406-2216

EOGRADY@BHHSCHICAGO.COM

VIEW LISTINGS AT: WWW.OGRADYREALTY.COM

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY
 HomeServices
 Chicago

Park Ridge Office
 122 Main Street, Park Ridge, IL 60068

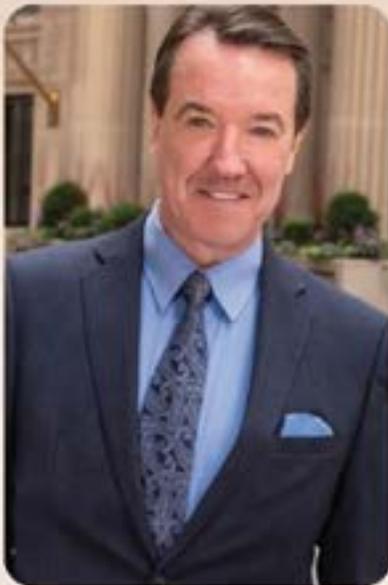
Consultations are free of charge and welcome!
 Never too busy for your referrals



Shannon Law Group

A Professional Corporation

Trial Attorneys



Jack Cannon

jcannon@shannonlawgroup.com



Joseph Shannon

joseph@shannonlawgroup.com

Practice Areas

Construction Accidents
Wrongful Death
Lyft and Uber Accidents
Mesothelioma

Workers' Compensation
Personal Injury
Medical Malpractice
Insurance Bad Faith

Trucking Accidents
Motor Vehicle Accidents
Round Up
Railroad & Aviation Accidents

Call today for a FREE consultation

(312) 578-9501

Shannon Law Group

A Professional Corporation

135 South LaSalle Street, Suite 2200, Chicago, IL 60603
3550 Hobson Road, Suite 403, Woodridge, IL 60517