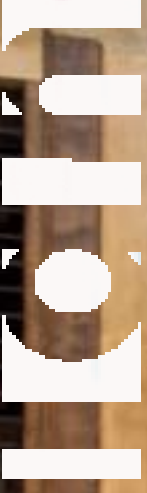




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# Swimming Upstream

By Charles Brady



## The Shiners; and Why We Should all Become Isolationists Once More

I have a grudging admiration for Sinn Fein. How could you not have?

They have, through their military wing—you know, the ones that called themselves ‘freedom fighters’—the Irish Republican Army managed to bomb, mutilate and kill their way into the highest corridors of power in England.

Nice one, Gerry. Those Armani suits look good on you. They really do. And you are so reasonable these days. Then again you always were reasonable because that’s your talent, isn’t it? To be the ‘acceptable’ face of murder? How nice for you. Well, what the hell, it got you to where you always wanted to get. You got to rub shoulders with people that you despise.

As your old Nemesis Thatcher would have put it: “Funny old world.”

Even when you wilfully ignored your niece who had been sexually assaulted by your brother you still tried to make yourself out to be the victim through all of those appalling years in which she came to you for help and got... none.

To defend the indefensible; to speak in those slightly hushed but undeniably cultivated and reasonable tones that your lackeys love to hear, well you’re good at it, and since your band of disciples hang on your every breathless utterance, then why wouldn’t you play the string out right to the end?

Why wouldn’t you be a smug git? I’m old enough to remember when there was a time that you yourself couldn’t allow Martin McGuinness loose because he would actually have said all the things that you, as the ultimate diplomat, couldn’t say.

These days of course he is as good as anyone when putting across the latest reasonable string of sound bites as any one of you thugs do.

To tell you the truth, Gerry, he’s actually better at it than you are these days. You’re losing it in a way that can only put you up there with Mad Mel Gibson, except that you are far too clever to ever let yourself be taped in a compromising position.

As Mad Mel now knows, all that sanctimonious rubbish that you lock up in some compartmentalised part of your brain pan eventually comes out: and when it does, it doesn’t look very pretty.

I should know: I spent miserable years of writing stuff that I didn’t really believe. Thankfully that ended for me a decade ago. I’m not the wealthier for telling the truth (as I see it, by the way) and I’m poorer, but a hell of a lot happier. As much as any thinking man can be, that is.

Yet here we go again: Sinn Fein have stated their position on the upcoming and historic visit of Britain’s Queen to the shores of this so-called Republic of Ireland. Of course you left it to a couple of your flunkies to articulate this over and over in the past weeks because slippery characters like yourself and good old Martin always have to have a bit of wriggle room when push comes to shove.

What are we aiming for here? Becoming as insular as we were under the Nazi sympathiser De Valera? Sorry, forgot that we’re not supposed to mention that Ireland was the only country in Europe that flew the flags at half mast when they heard that Adolf had scattered his addled brains across the top of his desk.

You have done very well out of the Good Friday Agreement: you managed to get the Brits to let all of your bombers, thugs and murderers out of jail on a “Get Loose Free card.”

You even managed to get IRA creatures free who had murdered a policeman in the Republic who was just doing what he was supposed to be doing by stopping your kind.

In any other country except the strange Wonderland of Ireland this would have meant, if not the death penalty, then at least life in prison without hope of a parole.

Instead the British have bent over to accommodate the hilariously one-sided Good Friday Agreement, as if they are supposed to be grateful to murderers because they’re not going to bother us any more as long as we and the British keep bending over for every concession that is asked for.

Well, all the thugs are out of jail now so you got your wish; indeed you probably got more than you had originally bargained for.

I want you, Gerry Adams, to email me at the address below and explain to me how you can have your flunkies, along with yourself, justify posing around London when you can not even accept the visit of a reigning monarch from our nearest neighbours.

I would never underestimate a guy like you in the slightest. Your early book *The Politics of Irish Freedom* knocked me out completely. It was superb, concise and told me everything that I needed to know... or so I thought.

I should have left it where it deserved to be twenty-odd years ago. I just flicked through it for the first time in years and there’s kind of a few contradictions in there.

Still, you were young and so was I, so we’ll let that one go. (Well, we were kind of young.)

The Queen visiting here would be a great boost not only to tourism but to trade, something that we badly need after the laughable attempts of Brian Cowen and Lenihan.

Is it not time to put all the ‘800 years of tyranny under the English’ to rest?

Most of us now have worked in England at one stage or another over the years. Many have English wives or husbands over there,

(Christ, you would think it was a million miles away as opposed to a skip over the Irish Sea), and many live here now quite happily.

Times have moved on: we here in Ireland—and I’m talking about the average person, not some fringe lunatics—just accept that we are all working, either consciously or unconsciously, towards a common goal.

Don’t get me wrong, now: the likelihood of me turning up during old Betty’s visit and waving a little Union Jack in the air like some demented half-wit is absolutely nil.

Why would I need to? Trust me on this one, and I guess that you have already figured this out: we will have enough of our own ass kissing politicians here who will be elbowing each other out of the way in order to have a photo shoot with Aunty Betty.

That’s a given.

In the meantime I can only hope that her

hapless but rather entertaining husband will add to the gaiety of the nation. Yes, we are of course talking about Prince Philip, the Greek gigolo who latched onto Betty’s coat tales at an early age—and let’s face it, she was pretty fanciable back in the day.

Maybe he’ll come out with another good one like introducing himself to we peasants with something like: “And how are all of you potato-picking Paddies these days? Still got those thick red necks, eh? By the way, thanks for blowing up Mountbatten. Never could stand the bloody man. Moving along, what? And your name is... what? Maureen? Obviously not Irish since you don’t have that ghastly red hair that my supposed grandson Harry has. Never did trust him you know, even though he looked rather fetching in that swastika armband.”

Ah we can only live in hope.

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Raised on Songs and Stories



Shay Clarke



Irish Fest at the Center

What a great weekend at the Irish American Heritage Center as they continued to celebrate their 25th year with a great festival lineup. The Elders, Scythian, Eileen Ivers and Immigrant Soul, The Tossers, The Makem and Spain Brothers, Kevin Flynn and the Avondale Ramblers, James Conway and The Boils, Joe Cullen and Teresa Shine, Kevin Prendergast and dozens entertained huge crowds, as for the most part the weather was gorgeous. Noticeably absent from the schedule were The Four Courts, who have proven their chops at other Center functions and are one of the best “trad folk” acts to emerge on the Chicago scene. Kevin Flynn and The Avondale Ramblers are set to become another breakout band in the months to come. The Larkin And Moran Brothers were brilliant too.

Irish American Hall of Fame

The winds of change blowing around the Irish American Heritage Center have produced some terrific new concepts, first being the Irish American Hall of Fame. This new national organization will honor

noted Irish Americans and their contributions to Arts, Business, Public Service, Sports and other areas. The public are encouraged to visit the website at www.iahf.org to learn more about the Hall of Fame and to nominate potential inductees. Anyone may nominate a candidate.

Arthur Guinness Day Music Festival

Saturday, September 25th at the Center will feature Gaelic Storm in a day to celebrate “The Pint of Plain.” World class beer, world class venue, world class lineup. Tickets are \$15 in advance until the end of the day on September 23rd and \$20, thereafter.

The High Kings are set to perform at the Center on Tuesday, August 17th at 7:30pm. This is an event that I have been looking forward to for many years. Their new album, Memory Lane, has just been released in the US and Martin Furey, Finbar Clancy, Darren Holden and Brian Dunphy are sure to provide some very special memories.

Nuala Kennedy and AJ Roach

I was delighted to have Nuala Kennedy and AJ Roach as guests

on Blarney On The Air last month. Nuala is from Dundalk, County Louth, lives in Scotland and was touring with AJ to promote her new album, Tuned In, which was recently released on Compass Records.

I had played Nuala’s debut album, The Red Shoes, a few years back and I had been introduced to AJ’s distinctive voice by Craig Scotland at his home in Fort Worth last November.

They played and sang live at the WDCB studio in Glen Ellyn, and judging by the phone calls we received, the listeners loved it. I have mainly thought of Nuala as a flute player, but I was amazed and enthralled by her voice, so much so, that I just gave up on the music I had chosen for that night’s show and let them at it. It was a rare treat indeed.

Books, Music and Video

Father’s Day and friends returning from summer vacations in Ireland provided me with some great books and videos from home. It’s like that sometimes, either a feast or a famine, but you need to know about them.

Holy Water is a great laugh. Set in Ireland, four boys hijack a truckload of Viagra, hide it in the Holy Well, where it seeps into the village water supply with predictable results. Memorable one-liners abound, funny stuff, but a pity it was filmed in the south of England.

Pure Mule is an RTE mini-series set in County Offaly. It focuses on the weekend carryon of young

locals at the height of the Celtic Tiger and then revisits them years later for an extra episode, The Last Weekend. Brilliant characters and brilliantly written.

Ship of Fools, Fintan O’Toole’s book about the rise and fall of the Celtic Tiger came highly recommended and should be compulsory reading for Irish and Irish Americans alike. Backhanders, bribery and corruption on a grand scale as our politicians, bankers and developers made a “pig’s mickey” out of our developing economy. The fallout will go on for years.

The Fethard-on-Sea Boycott by Tim Floney chronicles the tale of the Cloney family in rural Wexford. 1957... The Catholic Church... a small village... a mixed marriage. It’s a great story of a time when a mixed marriage had consequences. It became at the time a national scandal and more recently the subject of the feature film, A Love Divided.

YouTube has more Irish music than you can shake a stick at, but check out Bright Blue Rose/Four Courts filmed at the IAHC in March by IAN’s Cathy Curry and Weekend Irish/Barleyjuice which was filmed at Irish festivals last summer by Kay Brewer. Both are brilliant.

World Cup

It was my favorite World Cup ever, full of surprise, excitement, heartache and shock. As we watched France, Italy, England, USA, Brazil and Argentina go home early. Talent beat out hype and the cream rose to the top. Spain reigned in South Africa and deserved the final victory. My tinnitus is beginning to fade along with the sound of the pesky vuvuzela.

Bits And Pieces

Ringo turned 70, Hugh Morrison’s new album Robert Burns Rocks is brilliant. Kasir, a Danish/Irish trad band will be at Milwaukee Fest and will play several gigs in the Chicago area. St. Alexander’s Catholic School in Villa Park are having an Irish Festival the weekend of August 13th, 14th and 15th.

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## Irish Books and Plays in Review

Frank West

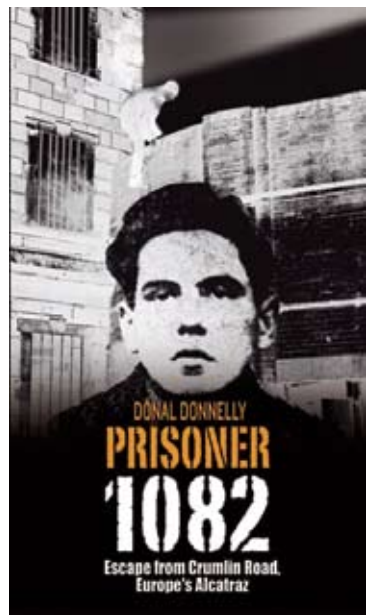


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### Escape From Europe's Alcatraz!

In Prisoner 1082- Escape from Crumlin Road, Europe's Alcatraz, Donal Donnelly tells the story of how he escaped from that prison.

Crumlin Road Jail in Belfast was said to be escape proof. It was so secure and fortified that it was called Europe's Alcatraz. It was impregnable--one one could break out. But on a cold winter in 1960, Donal Donnelly did.

Seach lights lit up the walls, police marksmen manned the guard towers, the prison wardens were constantly vigilant.

However, motivated by passionate devotion to the ideals of the IRA, two young Irishmen were making an escape. They had sawed through the window bars in their cells and had gotten to the top of a 25 foot wall.

They had made a rope of strips of

bedsheets and wires. It broke when Donnelly was part of the way down the outside of the wall. The man still on top of the wall fell back inside the prison. Donnelly was outside, and despite the pain, he realized he had only seconds to get away before the guards would come.

"12,000 Royal Ulster Constabulary and B Specials began one of their biggest manhunts." They never caught him!

In the dedication, he thanks the "brave and often nameless people... who assisted me fifty years ago at great personal risk.. to ensure my freedom."

### Uncommon Valor 1916, and the Battle for So. Dublin Union

Another book filled with excitement, adventure and super human bravery is Uncommon Valor 1916, and The Battle For The South Dublin Union by Paul O'Brien.

The South Dublin Union was



a complex of many buildings that included hospitals, living quarters for patients and doctors, churches, and even a bakery. It covered over 50 acres.

It commanded the southern approach to Dublin that the British army would have to use. So in the Uprising of 1916, it was occupied by 120 Irish volunteers. They were commanded by Eomonn Ceannt--whose picture I respectfully keep at my front door.

Commandant Ceannt and his men would ensure that every inch of the South Dublin Union would be contested... This would be a model for modern urban guerrilla warfare.

Great pictures and maps tell the story of how a small force of highly dedicated Irishmen held off the huge British force sent against them. They held out for a week, until ordered to surrender by volunteer leaders trying to prevent more bloodshed.

Eomonn Ceannt was ordered to leave the South Dublin Union and march his men to central Dublin to surrender. A witness described their arrival. "The whole column marched splendidly, with guns slung from their left shoulders and their hands swinging freely at their sides. They wore no look of defeat, but rather of victory. My eyes were riveted on [Ceannt] so tall was his form, so noble his bearing, and so manly his stride. He was indeed the worthy captain of a brave band who had fought... for Ireland."

Within days he was dead. Shot by the British. They were convinced they had destroyed the 1916 Uprising.

However, they had overlooked one of the prisoners. He was Michael Collins and he was their implacable foe. Against an enormous British army, he was to lead the Irish forces to victory.

Dufour also presents these minutely documented books about 1916-1923 period of Irish history. The authors are careful to be historically accurate, but lively.

### The Irish Civil War

by Tim Pat Coggan and George Morrison

A classic. It has many great pictures from this period. It is written in journalistic style, is lively reading, and is eerily contemporary.

During the 1916-1923 period, idealism and powerful emotions propelled ordinary people to accomplish extraordinary things. (Out of print). More by Frank West next page



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## The Munster Republic, Civil War in North Cork

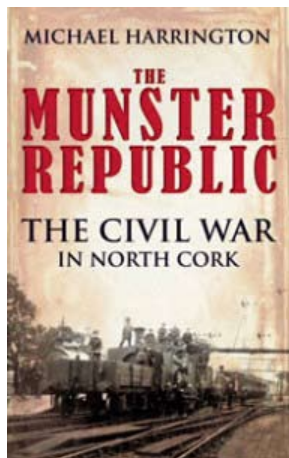
Along with the history of the Civil War in Cork, this book describes an event that caused the Civil War!

Partition, the Civil War, "The Troubles" in the North, the Good Friday Agreement, even the recent Bloody Sunday Reports are results of that 1921 decision.

Returning from the safety of America, deValera met four times before the truce of 1921 with Lloyd George, the Prime Minister of Britain. The meetings took place in London on July 14, 15, 18 and 21, 1921.

The author quotes historians: "is anyone so foolish as to believe that when Mr. deValera was closeted with Lloyd George for a week that they were discussing independence," and later "Mr. deValera... ascertained exactly how far England was prepared to go." The author quotes another historian "the achievement of a republic through negotiation was impossible."

Yet, knowing an all-Ireland republic was impossible, deValera sent Michael Collins to attempt to do what he knew was impossible. That decision



by deValera caused the Civil War. And that decision caused Ireland to be afflicted with untold human suffering for generations to come.

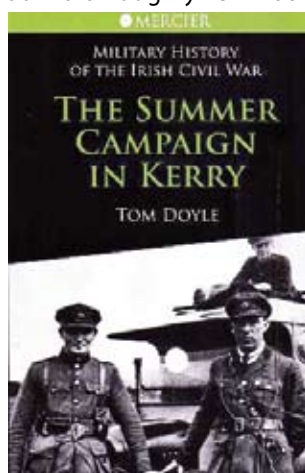
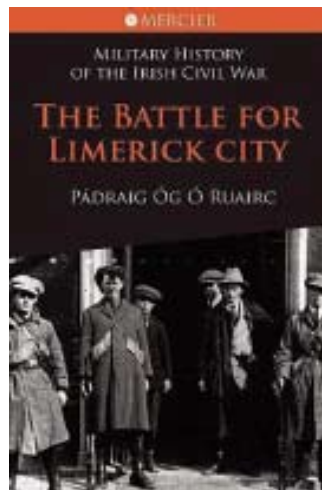
Also about this period Dufour presents the first of a ten book series about the Military History of the Irish Civil War.

### Battle for Limerick City

by Padraig OG O Ruairc  
Those opposed to the new national government hoped to establish a republic in Limerick. This book is about the Strategy used by both sides and the fierce fighting that followed.

This marvelous book is thoroughly researched, features a 67 page bibliography of interviews, books, internet sources, etc., and a 20 page index. It is a compendium of the struggle for independence in Dublin.

As I was finishing this review, another book in the outstanding mercier series the Military History of the Irish Civil War, arrived from Dufour Editions.



## The Summer Campaign of Kerry

by Tom Doyle

Those units of fighters opposed to the new national Irish government retreated to the west of Ireland. There they hoped to establish a republic in the Kerry-Cork-Galway-Limerick area. This was to be the Munster Republic.

In a series of brilliant amphibious landings, national army troops were put ashore at various places on the Atlantic coast. The anti-treatyites quickly found national soldiers in front of them, and now, they were encircled. Surrender soon followed—many were permitted to go into exile, if they promised never to return to Ireland. And some came to Chicago.

### Fascinating Irish Folklore Book Available

By Mike Houlihan

My friend Marian Newman sent me a copy of a book put together in her community in Swinford called A Story Told to Us Last Night. I'd like to recommend this book to all Irish American News readers who are interested in history, mythology, and tales from the old country. Marian will be selling the book at Milwau-

kee Irish Fest in August. Visit her and pick up a copy at the author's tent.

The book is 240 pages and is available for \$35 in hardcover and \$24 in softcover.

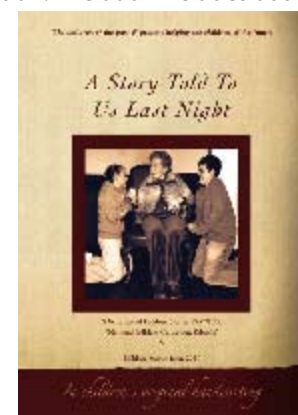
The book uses a selection of local stories from the 1937/38 National Folklore Collection, schools, and stories written by the children of 2010 from Midfield National School. All stories are in the children's original handwriting as were the original stories of 1937/38.

The editors have been granted permission from University College Dublin, owner of the copyright, to publish the stories, making A Story Told to Us Last Night the first time that UCD have given permission to publish the stories in the children's original handwriting other than the one off illustration in a book-- which refers to the folklore collection. The book includes both photographs from the past and present also.

In 1937 the Irish Folklore Commission, in collaboration with the Department of Education and the Irish National Teachers' Organisation, initiated a revolutionary scheme in which school children were encouraged to collect and document folklore and local history. The children collected the material mainly from their family members as well as other older members of the local community or school district.

There have been 1,000 first edition hardback books published and the remaining in soft back. - Hardback is on sale for €29.99 (\$35.00) and softcover for €19.99 (\$24.00).

All proceeds from the sale of the book will go to the school development fund. [www.midfield-development.ie](http://www.midfield-development.ie)



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**RadioCelt.com Launches Compass Records Showcase**

Get ready Chicago, the Irish are taking over local radio. Multichannel Internet radio station, RadioCelt.com, has recently announced the launch of a new channel reserved exclusively for world leading Celtic record company Compass Record artist.

The station, titled "Compass Records Showcase," will be available to listener 24

hours a day and will feature newer, current artists as well as past favorites like Solas, Liz Carroll, Beoga and Teada. And with Compass' acquisition of other Celtic record labels, such as Green Linnet Records and Mulligan Records, the song catalogue is truly endless.

RadioCelt itself was founded in 2004 by

Irish singer and producer Michael Londra and broadcasts from the Near North base in Chicago.

The station calls attention to Celtic music worldwide and through the power of the Internet, brings together Irish music fans from all over the globe.

To listen, visit [www.radiocelt.com](http://www.radiocelt.com).

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A former manager with the 'Erin's Own' Hurling club in Chicago is to take on the challenge of a lifetime by driving a large van full of medical aid through 13 countries and delivering the payload to the beleaguered civilian population of Gaza.

**Padraig McShane**, now an independent councillor back home in his native County Antrim, will be joined by John Quinn, a lifelong friend.

A journey of some 4000 miles will be made twice as difficult as the lads plan to sleep in the small cab of their vehicles to cut down on costs. The two men will hand over the vehicle and the supplies to a humanitarian aid organization when they arrive in Gaza and will



engage in aid work themselves.

The humanitarian journey was the brainchild of Padraig who was moved to direct action, after recent attempts to lift the Israeli siege of Gaza by sea.

Councillor McShane said, "I was always aware of the plight of the people of Palestine and Gaza in particular but the actions by Israeli Special Forces in attacking the International Aid Flotilla indicated to me that action had to be taken. That action had to be both direct & humanitarian. When we witness a natural

disaster in the world it is exactly that, a disaster. When we witness a man-made disaster, it is a shame on all of us and shows our failings as human beings.

The Warsaw Ghetto was wrong. Auschwitz concentration camp was evil. What the Israeli Government are now doing to the civilian population of Gaza is both wrong and evil."

The men set up a small committee to raise funds for the project and in doing so 'Antrim to Gaza' was born. They received a positive response to the initiative at home and are

hopeful of receiving a similar response in America.

Padraig said, "I am appealing to the best traditions of the Irish Diaspora to dig deep and help fund this project. The Irish community has endured a long history of suffering and have responded positively when others required our help. I hope we can keep up that tradition."

If interested in donating, send checks to: 'ANTRIM TO GAZA' and posted to Northern Bank, 24-26 Ann Street, Ballycastle, County Antrim, BT546AD, Ireland.

For any enquiries please call Padraig McShane on 0011442820768934 in Ireland or Regan McShane in Chicago at 708-253-7824 and Shay McShane 773-835-0675





## From the Motherland

**Sean Farrell**



### The Home Front

Ireland is now well on the way towards the next general election. Many observers doubt the ability of the coalition to last beyond this year, let alone run to full term in mid 2012. Even though it could be argued that the economy is now in a state of fragile equilibrium (revenue more or less on target, unemployment more or less static) there is a weary public acceptance that things will not get easier, that several tough budgets lie ahead and that the Celtic Tiger chickens are coming home with a vengeance.

Opinion polls indicate that, recognizing that any alternative government would have to pursue fiscal policies and tough measures broadly similar to those the government has taken since 2008, the electorate seems determined to hold Fianna Fail in particular (in power since 1997) responsible for bringing the crash about. Public ire has been compounded in recent weeks by growing awareness of the human cost of the crash and the necessary remedies, set against the amounts committed to bailing out the banks. Stealth cuts affecting carers for the mentally and physically disabled have brought people onto the streets while public attention has now also begun to focus on the housing and mortgage time bomb.

For better or worse the government has pursued a particular policy towards the banks and the developers, including a wide ranging guarantee covering the banks and their investors. No one has answered satisfactorily what the immediate consequences for the economy of not issuing the guarantee in September 2008 would have been. Yet the issue has clearly left a sour taste when combined with the money sunk into buying the banks' doubtful loans, leaving only a bare cupboard for everyone else. There is no money to stimulate the economy and little beyond words to offer succour to those in financial straits, including, for the first time, significant numbers from the politically important middle class.

Given the Irish attitude to property ownership, the housing and mortgage situation may prove perhaps the bitterest legacy of the Celtic Tiger. The economy going belly-up is seen as a problem for society, or the EU. The debt of the individual is very much a personal problem. Factor in property

and many raw nerves are exposed. The spending spree on property during the boom touched a great many people. Properties were remortgaged; equity was drawn down, often for frivolous consumer spending. But most went into the property boom, fuelling it. Credit, cheaper than ever before, was widely available. Nearly everyone who could, borrowed. Young people, first time buyers, scrambled to get on the property ladder while they still could. And now ... the party feeling has been replaced by a hangover.

Currently the housing market is stagnant. Property prices have crashed, by between 33% and 50% depending on location. Virtually all new units bought since 2003 or 2004 (the level to which prices have now fallen) are in negative equity, and prices have yet to bottom out definitively. Demand has all but disappeared. Compounding this, the banks, so recently profligate with lending, have now rediscovered prudence, prompted by a new and tough financial regulator, and will only lend small multiples of income and no more than 80% of the cost, further discouraging new and first time buyers. There is no trading up as those already in at the bottom are crippled by negative equity. Very few new houses are being built and much of visible construction consists of project completion on behalf of creditors. There is no prospect of improvement in the short term.

The country is sprinkled with "ghost estates", located mainly (but by no means entirely) in rural areas. These date from just before the crash and include partially completed houses, as well as estates and apartment complexes all but finished but with few or no buyers or occupants. Estimates of the numbers of unoccupied or unfinished dwellings vary widely but the number is considerably in excess of 100,000. Many, particularly in the west, are unlikely ever to be viable. Some form of triage approach appears most likely with some estates destined to be abandoned or demolished, others earmarked for fire sales (any fire sales in desirable areas are likely to depress the market further).

Mortgaged properties in negative equity can be broadly divided into two—those where the owner is coping and those where the owner is under pressure on the mortgage (job gone or income reduced or with a

short term loan falling due). The first group face no immediate problem and collectively will aim to hunker down in the expectation that prices will rise again in the medium term as the economy recovers.

The pressing problem lies with the second group and this is now fast becoming a political issue. Many are young or first time buyers who got mortgages of up to 100%, sometimes more, for amounts of \$250,000 or up. Many are currently in negative equity of at least a third. Where jobs have been lost there is simply no way the mortgage can be met. The bald figures are that, at the beginning of July, one in twenty five residential mortgages (32,321) were three months or more in arrears, a figure expected to increase rapidly as temporary moratoriums on repayments expire and as interest rates inevitably rise above the current historic lows. There is no risk sharing with Irish mortgages. The keys cannot be handed back. The borrower remains liable for the full amount of the loan—a financial albatross which threatens to retard the pace and strength of any economic recovery.

The government has, up to now, approached the issue warily. The lending institutions were prevailed upon initially to delay taking action over arrears and so far this has worked in most cases. This is probably due as much to the weakness of the institutions (what would they do with a surfeit of repossessed properties in a falling market in any event?) as to the government's entreaties. In early July a government-sponsored expert group suggested a negotiating process for borrowers in difficulties but left open the option for the banks to repossess failing all else. Time will tell how successful this approach will be. The last thing the government wants is a flood of repossessions and/or bankruptcies affecting ordinary people.

The group's next report, due in September, is to deal with the elephant in the room—negative equity—and is expected also to consider the hot potato of possible debt forgiveness. The debate on this has already begun, focussing on possible percentage write downs by the lenders, and/or the state assuming part of the loans. Among the arguments against are that writing down would further weaken the banks and that the state has no money to intervene. A further point has been made that to bail out those in trouble would invite "moral hazard," i.e. the delinquents—or others—would do it all again given the chance. I cannot recall morality being invoked when the banks and developers were being rescued! And if the banks merited help for the benefit of society, who is to say that people do not? This one will run,

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**New Vatican Rules**

"Isn't this where we came in?" We often said this after we went to see a movie and got there after it started. Believe it or not, the new rules don't require bishops to report sex abuse claims to the police, and there are no sanctions for those who cover up abusers. What else could we expect from Pope Benedict XVI?

Women priests? Gynophobia is rampant at the Vatican. Any woman who attempts to be ordained and anyone who assists her is immediately excommunicated.

Anybody who abuses a mentally challenged person is now on a level with sexual abusers of children. Do you remember the scene in the movie The Magdalene Laundries when the mentally challenged young woman Crispina was forced to perform fellatio on the predatory priest? The Magdalene Asylums were not even included in the Ryan Report.

**ACLU**

The American Civil Liberties Union says the Arizona immigration law threatens civil rights and public safety. They left out the part about the Democrats needing the Hispanic vote. They left out the part about criminal activity, drug smuggling, and those who smuggle and exploit illegal aliens holding them hostage for money and forcing them to perform sexual acts. It's all about the money. So whose civil rights are being violated?

Why did the Mexicans want to leave their country? The answer is, criminals have taken it over. The gov't and the army has lost control of the border towns.

Have you ever crossed the Canadian border? I know I have many times, and had to produce identification every time. Every country I ever visited other than Canada, made me show them my passport. Once again, the lone exception to that was the time I crossed the Mexican border into Nogales, back in the late 80s.

**Reverend Kevin Gray**

This 64-year old priest from the Hartford, CT, Catholic Diocese reportedly has stolen \$1.3 million from Sacred Heart Church. The money was spent on luxury hotels, expensive restaurants,



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clothing from Brooks Brothers and Armani. The "clinchers"—male escorts from Campus Escorts in New York. Does the

Archbishop of Malines in Mechlen, Belgium. The police confiscated all computers, DVDs, CDs, documents and cell phones, and nobody was allowed to leave the building. The search lasted for nine hours, from 10:30am to 7:30pm. The police also opened a crypt in St. Mechlin's Rombout Cathedral looking for documents and they carried away 500 sexual abuse files from the Adriaenssens' Commission in Leuven.

**LeBron James**

Who cares where he goes? And why did Jesse Jackson, Sr. view Mr. Gilberts' harsh criticism of LeBron as something akin to slavery? Jesse said Gilberts' "feelings of betrayal personified a slavemaster mentality." He also said the owner saw James as a "runaway slave." C'mon Jesse! The man will make tens of \$ millions in his lifetime, if he doesn't screw it up. We need more men like Shaquille O'Neill who stayed "grounded," totally in touch with the real world. Shaq couldn't stomach Kobe Bryant's ego in Los Angeles, and left town. Michael Jordan gave LeBron a thumbs down, saying he never would have done what James did.

**Lindsay Lohan**

What a waste of time! What a nasty little girl. Grow up!

**The Rod and Patty Show**

Can you believe the language? F-ing this and f-ing that. Buying clothing, his and hers, \$400,000 worth, holy crap! The question is, will all of his rhetoric lead to a conviction? You have to wonder why the Democrat ever put him in the State House, especially the second time. If convicted, he will appeal. If he loses the appeal, he will go the federal tennis camp in Wisconsin.

**Chicago P.D.**

Four police officers have been killed in just four months time. When policeman who are armed and in uniform are being gunned down, what chance to do ordinary citizens have? My cousin from Ireland is visiting Chicago for a few weeks. He has been advised to steer clear of the South and West sides.

They should resurrect the idea of bringing in the National Guard to patrol the streets in Englewood. Condolences to the families and fellow officers of Michael Bailey, Thomas Wortham IV, Thor Soderberg and Alan Haymaker.

**St. Mel's Windows**

When St. Mel's Holy Ghost Catholic Church closed, two of the stained-glass windows from the Sacristy were given to the Irish American Heritage Center. Now, some 20 years later, we opened the crates and have decided to put the windows on exhibit. In order to do so, we first had the windows inspected by the Drehobl Art Glass Company and they are in need of minor repair and cleaning, which would cost \$1,200. In addition, we would need to build oak frames for the windows, which will be backlit when they are on display. To accomplish that, we are seeking a total of \$3,000. If you would like to contribute to this project, please send a check to the Irish American Heritage Center, addressed to the "St. Mel's Windows Project," 4626 N. Knox, Chicago, IL, 60630. We would appreciate your support.

Peter Principle apply here? The Peter Principle states that people are promoted to their level of incompetence. Was he robbing Peter to pay for Peter? He allegedly used stolen money to pay for Harvard tuition for a man he met in the park. He has a problem with the Church's position on homosexuality. Imagine this man serving you Communion or hearing your confession. Bless you Father, for you have sinned. I wonder if he's a liberal Democrat.

**Arizona Law**

The state of Arizona Senate Bill 1070 is 16-pages in length. The following provisions are part of the Bill:

"F. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN FEDERAL LAW, OFFICIALS OR AGENCIES OF THIS STATE AND COUNTIES, CITIES, TOWNS AND OTHER POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS OF THIS STATE MAY NOT BE PROHIBITED OR IN ANY WAY BE RESTRICTED FROM SENDING, RECEIVING OR MAINTAINING INFORMATION RELATING TO THE IMMIGRATION STATUS OF ANY INDIVIDUAL OR EXCHANGING THAT INFORMATION WITH ANY OTHER FEDERAL, STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY FOR THE FOLLOWING OFFICIAL PURPOSES:"

"1. DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY FOR ANY PUBLIC BENEFIT, SERVICE OR LICENSE PROVIDED BY ANY FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL OR OTHER POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THIS STATE."

"4. IF THE PERSON IS AN ALIEN, DETERMINING WHETHER THE PERSON IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE FEDERAL REGISTRATION LAWS PRESCRIBED BY TITLE II, CHAPTER 7 OF THE FEDERAL IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT."

**Sheriff Joe**

"The Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio launched its 16th crime and immigration sweep in a stretch of desert in the southwestern U.S.-Mexico border, on Thursday."

"Although the next crime suppression operation had been announced for July 29, Arpaio said the one-day sweep was executed sooner due to reports of many drug and immigrant smugglers activity through the Vekol Valley."

"Arpaio ordered the deployment of a powerful belt-fed .50 caliber machine gun to be on site during the operation to ensure deputies' safety, as there have been recent reports of violence in the desolate desert areas."

"If anyone shoots at our deputies, they are going to have a problem," said Arpaio in a news conference in the minutes prior to the sweep."

**Belgian Police**

The Pope is angry over Belgium Police raid investigating suspected pedophiles among the clergy.

The raid took place at the residence of the



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Tommy Sands performs at the IAHC on Wednesday, August 11 at 8pm. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at the door.

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The High Kings perform at the IAHC on Tuesday, August 17 at 7:30pm. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at the door, by calling 773-282-7035 or visiting [www.irish-american.org](http://www.irish-american.org).

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1985-Super Bowl, Super Bears! Michael Jordan's rookie year, topsiders and button downs, freshman year at the U of I. Springsteen, Simple Minds, "We Are the World", Reagan-omics, and Michael J. Fox time travelling. These are some of my memories of 1985. Since I was a freshman in college in 1985, most of what I remember from that year is not really suitable material for this format. However, for my parents, aunts and uncles and a whole generation of Irish immigrants and Irish Americans, 1985 will forever be remembered as the year they bought the old Mayfair College and began the work on their dream; the dream that has become our Center today.

An army of volunteers descended on the old discarded building in the spring and summer of 1985. The place was littered with graffiti, broken glass and had become a hangout for gangs and other undesirables. Word spread far and wide in the Irish community and everyone began pitching in to make the broken-down facility a home for the Irish. It wasn't very long before the gangs and graffiti disappeared and the dream started to take some shape. There are great stories from those early years about the mechanical and engineering challenges the old building posed, tales of hard



work, camaraderie and herculean efforts by the volunteers. It's a story about a community that was developed and strengthened by the common goal of creating our own place; a place for the Irish to call home. For twenty-five years the dream has been realized and expanded upon. Volunteers have come and gone with so many of our founding generation no longer with us, but there have always been new ones to come along and pick up the torch. Over the next 12 months, we will be taking the time to celebrate our past with dozens of special events marking our 25/35 anniversary. 2010 marks 25 years in the building and 2011 marks 35 years since the organization was formed. We started at Irish Fest last month and will continue on until Irish Fest next July. Twenty-five years is an amazing accomplishment and one that deserves to be recognized and celebrated.

Today, our Center is as alive as it has ever been. We are in a new growth phase that is a testimony to the vision and

foresight of those who came before us. We have more than 700 new members already in 2010, we continue to improve the building itself and are offering more and more programs, concerts and events for our members than at any time in the past. We look at this anniversary celebration as so much more than a tribute to our past. It is a call-out to the future and to the world that we have arrived. It's an invitation for the entire Irish community in Chicagoland to become a part of our Center and to celebrate our rich heritage and culture. Our hope is that by celebrating our past, we can capture the desires of future generations to not only celebrate their own heritage but to play a part in enhancing our culture for future generations. Our goal is that 25 years from now when our children are out in the world and they tell someone they are Irish from Chicago, the immediate response is, "Chicago? Have you ever been to the Irish American Heritage Center?"

Just as Michael J. Fox taught us so many years ago, you can go back to make a brighter a future. Join us as we celebrate our past and build our future together.

Robert McNamara, President  
Board of Directors, Irish American Heritage Center

## Irish Fest Draws Thousands Festival Is A Huge Success

Our 25th annual Irish Fest was a tremendous success! Thousands of people gathered at our Center over the three days and by all accounts everyone enjoyed themselves. At the date of print, the final accounting was not complete. We will provide final numbers in a future newsletter.

The festival continues to be an amazing showcase of our Center; what it is and what it can be. With an expanded slate of cultural programming, more than 500 people listened to lectures, learned some basic phrases in Irish, laughed with comedians, enjoyed theatre, got lost in poetry, listened to music or met a new favorite author. Irish Fest allows us to show the different characteristics of the Center to brand new audiences, and we spared no efforts this year. Many new fans of the Center were made that weekend and we look forward to seeing those new faces at future Center events.

The real story of Irish Fest is what goes on behind the scenes. Hundreds of volunteers give time and effort over the weekend, but the success of the festival is a direct result of the hard work done by our festival committee and IAHC staff. The committee begins its work in January and continues through the entire weekend. It is an amazing group to work with and represents a great cross section of volunteers from first time members to veteran volunteers who have been involved since the Navy Pier days. These volunteers are a great testimony to our Center and how it appeals to all generations and interests.

Yet, everyone knows that Irish Fest is all about the music and this year was no exception. We have developed a reputation for bringing in top-notch

entertainment and our headliners certainly delivered. Eileen Ivers killed during the rainstorm on Sunday night! From the crowd reaction, many of them didn't even know it was raining. The Makem and Spain Brothers were excellent again and these lads continue to get better and better every time we see them. The Tossers rocked the house of Friday night bringing in the young crowds. The Elders had everyone up and singing and dancing on Saturday night. Each year it seems that one act steals the show and Scythian was up to the task this year. The boys from D.C. were amazing and people are still talking about their performance.

Throughout the weekend, things just seemed to get better and better. We had our largest Mashed Potato Eating Contest to date, the ShamROCK Stars was a hit for both the kids and adults this year, the Folk Tent was packed all weekend, Kevin Prendergast and the ceili had big crowds in the Erin Room, the children's area was wall-to-wall with happy little fest-goers, the Hooley Hook-Up was a tremendous start to the weekend (any love connections out there?), the Friday night beer garden brought in more than 50 first-time fest goers, and all of the local dance schools and bands were on top of their game.

All of these things combine into a perfect storm and provide us with one of the best festivals in the city. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to work the weekend. We can't do it without you. Special thanks, again, to our festival committee. They are the best in the business. Thanks to all of our members who came out to enjoy the weekend. We'll see you again next summer!

25 35  
1985 1976

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

1985—2010

Celebrating 25 years in our building

1976—2011

Celebrating 35 years as an organization

#### 25/35 Anniversary Events

Arthur Guinness Music Festival	Sept. 25
Featuring <b>GAEILIC STORM</b>	
iBAM Irish Books Arts and Music	Nov. 6-7
25/35 Anniversary Gala	Feb. 19
25/35 Anniversary Mass	Feb. 20
25/35 Anniversary Members Event	May 2011
Irish American Hall of Fame	
Black Tie Induction Ceremony	May 2011
Seven Nights in Erin	Oct. 2011
<i>The IAHC travels to Ireland!</i>	

#### Other 25/35 Anniversary Events

Silver Saturdays: special anniversary celebrations held one Saturday/month starting in September

Special Concerts: a series of concerts will be held in celebration of our anniversary year.

IAHC Picnic: a classic event returns

Keep an eye on our Center website and newsletter for additional anniversary updates!

[www.irish-american.org](http://www.irish-american.org)





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**Executive Director's Message**  
**Building History**

I have arrived at my one year mark here in August as the Executive Director of the Center, and boy, has it gone by in a blink.

I have dedicated quite a bit of time across the last year to working with the board, staff and key volunteers to solve for some of the Center's largest management challenges and to re-position the Center for financial strength—I can say with great pride that we have made remarkable strides in that time.

We have also made progress in building stronger relationships across the Chicago Irish community and adding new and high quality events, such as iBAM and the Green Family Festival. We have expanded our cultural partnerships in welcoming the Seanachai Theatre Company, the City of Chicago Pipe Band and Chicago Academy of Piping and Drumming, the north side men and women's GAA clubs; the Aisling Gaels, the McBrides, and the Padraig Pearses; the Irish Music School of Chicago, and the

Chicago Cultural Alliance all into the IAHC family. We have grown our membership by several hundred people and generally increased the amount of programming and activities on offer for our members and the community.

Plenty of hard work remains ahead as we look to further professionalize our operations by improving process efficiency and coordination, continuing to cultivate a performance-driven culture, adding new staff and key skill sets, building a stronger fundraising infrastructure and making key technology upgrades. The more exciting work lies ahead, though, in dreaming anew the future of the Center. An enterprising group of men and women painted a vision 25 years ago and then built their dream. It is time to celebrate the work that has been done and the ethic and character



that has driven the work, but also time to refresh our poetic memories and imagine the Center of the next quarter century. Feel free to stop by and speak up, as all voices are welcome... old and new.

**Our Man, Kevin Moran**

Please keep one of our best volunteers, Kevin Moran, in your prayers, as he fights his way through a difficult bout with cancer.

Since coming to the Center, I have adopted Kevin as an uncle, because I feel like he is family. However, I'd imagine that I am not alone in that, as Kevin makes everyone feel like family. He is one of the few men that I have come across that is universally loved and universally appreciated for his hard work and extraordinary contributions to the Center. Fight like hell, Kevin!! We are all rooting for you.

*LITTLE FLOWER, IN THIS HOUR, SHOW YOUR POWER.*

Onwards,  
 Tim McDonnell, Executive Director  
 Irish American Heritage Center

**Tee Time For Golf Outing**

The 21st Annual Irish American Heritage Center Golf Open is Saturday, September 18, 2010. The outing is at St. Andrews Golf Club in West Chicago at 1pm.

The price is \$100 per person and includes greens fees, a cart, lunch, dinner, cocktails, entertainment and prizes.

For tickets, contact Alan Duggan at 312-401-2603, Maureen O'Looney at 773-286-6866 or the IAHC at 773-282-7035, ext 10.

The event is a fundraiser for the Irish American Heritage Center.



**Save the Date for the Second Annual iBAM! Celebration**

**Two-Day Celebration of Irish Books, Arts and Music**

The Bogside Artists from Derry, Northern Ireland and Irish author Frank Delaney are just some of the names appearing at the second annual iBAM!, an Irish book, art and music celebration held at the IAHC on November 6 and 7, 2010.

Sponsored by Irish American News, the Irish American Heritage Center and theirishbookclub.com, iBAM! features



book signings, panel discussions, art exhibits, lectures, theatre performances, live music and Irish dance, by Irish and Irish-themed authors, artists and musicians. Utilizing every floor of the IAHC, both days feature a dazzling array of cultural talent for children and adults alike.

Check your September issue of the Irish American News for further information or visit [www.irish-american.org](http://www.irish-american.org).

**Irish Fest Photos**



4626 N. Knox Ave., Chicago, IL 60630 • 773-282-7035





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 heritage center Chicago, Illinois



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## August 2010

August 6	Francis O'Neill Ceili Dance	Fifth Province	8pm
August 11	Tommy Sands in Concert	Erin Room	8pm
August 14	Poker Tournament	Fifth Province	noon
August 17	High Kings in Concert	Fifth Province	7:30pm
August 29	Genealogy Meeting	Library	1pm

### Regularly Scheduled Events

Tues.	Quilting and Needlework	Room 208	9:30am
	Traditional Irish Art Class	Room 308	7pm
Wed.	Quilting and Needlework	Room 208	7:30pm
	Open Music Session	Room 302	7:30pm
Thurs.	Irish Heritage Singers Rehearsal	Room 304	7:30pm
Fri.	Francis O'Neill Ceili Prac.&Dance	Room 111	8pm

## Irish American Hall of Fame Asks for Nominations

The newly formed Irish American Hall of Fame announced the first call of nominees for the honor of being named the organization's first honored winners.

The organization, founded by members of the IAHC, strives to honor Irish American individuals whom have contributed to society in on or more areas, including: arts and humanities, business and industry, education, public service, religion, science and sports; and the honor must also go to individuals whom have positively shaped the Irish American identity in the United States.

Nominations for the first class of inductees will be accepted through November 15, 2010. From there a screening committee will determine a slate of candidates which will be voted on by distinguished individuals representing

academia, government, business and Irish-affiliated organizations across the country. Winners will be honored at a special banquet in May 2011.

Although the organization's inception comes from Chicago, the Irish American Hall of Fame strives to have a national focus. Eventually, the members wish to have a bricks-and-mortar museum founded for its inductees as the organization grows.

For more information and to submit candidates, visit [www.iahof.org](http://www.iahof.org). Eligible nominees must have at least one parent with Irish heritage, are citizens or long-time residents of the United States, be well-recognized within the Irish American community and be distinguished in one of the award categories.



## the fifth province

All shows start after 9 p.m.

### UPCOMING ENTERTAINMENT

#### August 2010

Fri, 8/6 Ceilí Mór  
 Sat, 8/21 Seamus O'Kane and Jimmy Moore

During August, there will be live music on Saturday nights only, unless otherwise noted.

Bar Opens at 7pm in August



No Cover  
 Free Parking

Drop by for the very best in traditional and modern Irish music.  
 Pub food is served from 6pm-10pm.

## 2010 Irish Fest Raffle Winners

Thanks to all who bought tickets and to the organizations that donated prizes.

**GRAND PRIZE:**  
 2 round trip tickets to Ireland from American Airlines  
 Patrick Steiner

**FIRST PRIZE:**  
 4 tickets to a Chicago White Sox game  
 Henry McGill

**SECOND PRIZE:**  
 2 tickets to a Chicago Cubs game  
 Moira Dargis

**THIRD PRIZE:**  
 4 tickets to a Chicago Fire game  
 Bridget Looney

**FOURTH PRIZE:**  
 4 tickets to Steppenwolf and 4 \$25 dinner certificates  
 Morgan Connolly

**FIFTH PRIZE:**  
 Unique piece of Waterford Crystal  
 Name: Margaret P. Minogue

**SIXTH PRIZE:**  
 A Mary Sweeney art print  
 Bill Stack

**SEVENTH PRIZE:**  
 2 tickets to Billy Elliot, the Musical  
 Jose Salcido

**EIGHTH PRIZE:**  
 Bill Baldwin  
 Bakery Basket from the Galway Bakers

### The Heritage Line Staff

Kathleen O'Neill, Editor

#### Contributors:

Alan Duggan  
 Tim McDonnell  
 Mary Morris  
 Mike Shevlin

Mary Griffin  
 Bob McNamara  
 Sheila Murphy

Pam Marshall  
 Stacy McReynolds  
 Leslie Singel





**THE HERITAGE LINE**  
**IRISH AMERICAN**  
**HERITAGE CENTER** Chicago, Illinois



WWW.IRISH-AMERICAN.ORG

**170 Sign Up for Membership at Irish Fest!**  
**2010 IAHC Membership Drive Member – Get A Member Contest**  
**You Can Still Win a Trip to Ireland!**

The drive to 2010 New Members in 2010 continues! 170 new members joined The Irish American Heritage Center during our festival in July making it a total of 770 new members this year! That's just over 38% of our goal and the registrations keep coming in.

In an effort to strengthen our organization, we are looking to expand our membership and bring our mission to as many people as possible. As members you are the best possible sales people we could find to spread the word about our organization. In fact, we are so confident that our members will do a great job of recruiting our membership that we are offering a trip to Ireland as incentive! That's right, you could be going to Ireland.

Encourage a new person to join

the IAHC and you have the chance to win a trip for two to Ireland. It couldn't be easier, each of us probably knows someone who should become a member or has become a lapsed member.

*If you are not a member – join today and you can start recruiting members to get into the contest.*

**The goal for 2010 is 2,010 new members!**

Get your family and friends to join and Win a Trip to Ireland or other great prizes.

**Contest Rules:**

1. All current IAHC members are eligible to recruit new members for this contest.

2. Multiple referrals are

allowed. For each person that you recruit, you get an additional chance to win! The more new members you find, the better your chances are of winning. Our goal this year is 2010 new members!

3. The person who recruits the most new members wins a party at the Irish American Heritage Center for themselves and 25 guests.

4. For the purpose of the contest, the new member must not have previously been an IAHC Member within the past year.

5. Members whose membership expired at the end of

2009, may renew their membership and then be eligible to refer new members for the contest.

6. Referral entries must be a new member and not an addition to an existing IAHC family membership.

7. New members that are recruited for this contest may in turn also recruit new members and be entered into the contest.

**How to enter:**

• Once you have identified a new member for the IAHC, have your member fill out an IAHC Membership Form or contact the office for details.

• On the top of the new member's form, insert your name in the, "I was recruited by" space.

• Have the new member complete the form and submit it with dues to the Center for processing.

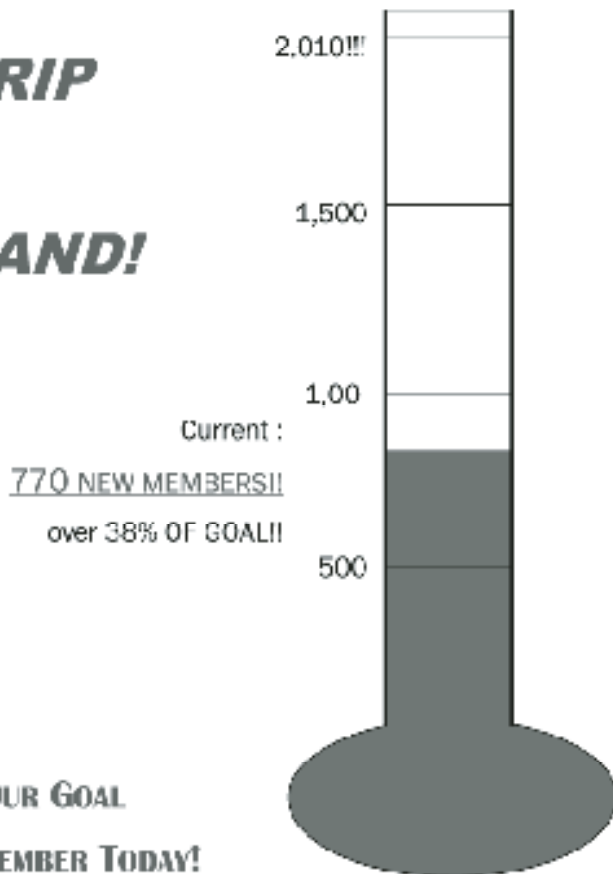
• **Membership Forms** are available below or on-line at [www.irish-american.org](http://www.irish-american.org).

All new membership forms for the contest must be received at the IAHC office by 12/31/2010 for entry into the contest. Winners will be announced at a 25/35 Anniversary Members' Event in January 2011.

**2010 IAHC Membership Drive**

**Member – Get A Member Contest**

**WIN A TRIP  
 FOR TWO  
 TO IRELAND!**



HELP US REACH OUR GOAL

RECRUIT A NEW MEMBER TODAY!

**2010 NEW MEMBERS IN 2010!!**

I was recruited by: \_\_\_\_\_

**BECOME A MEMBER**

Chicago boasts one of the finest Irish Centers in the world. Become a part of it.

Running, maintaining, and upgrading the Center is a big job that takes big commitment. Your membership helps make the Center happen.

To join call 773-282-7035 x10, visit [www.irish-american.org](http://www.irish-american.org), or fill out the form below. Send payment to:

The Irish American Heritage Center Membership  
 4626 N. Knox Ave  
 Chicago IL 60630

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp \_\_\_\_\_

3 Digit code on card's back: \_\_\_\_\_

**Individual Membership**

**Annual dues**  
 \$30/year or \$50/2 years

**Family Membership**  
 \$40/year or \$60/2 years

**\$250 - Harper**  
 3-year membership  
 no annual dues

**\$500 - Bard**  
 5-year membership

**\$1,000 - Chieftain**  
 10-year membership without annual dues

**\$2,500 - High King**  
 25-year membership without annual dues

**\$5,000 - Saint**  
 Lifetime membership without annual dues











(L-R) Clare Dwyer, Officer Michael Paul, Commissioner and Vice President, Kathleen Therese Meany, with the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, and Jane Nealis, former police officer.

At the February Monthly Service Award Meeting, Mark Donahue, President of the Fraternal Order of Police, Chicago Lodge #7, presented the Distinguished Service Award to Chicago Police Officers Michael Paul, Steven Jacoby, Brian Sloyan, Ruben DeAvila, Juan Rivera, Steven Robbins, Steven Swain, and Paul Woods, for their "dedication to duty and courage in a difficult situation" in which an armed and dangerous offender was permanently removed from the streets of the City of Chicago.

### Friendly Home Service: Helping to Take Care of Family and Friends

After working a full day, who wouldn't want a little time to themselves?

Friendly Home Services offers affordable rates for those families who need time to relax. Services include: assistance for the elderly--by certified caregivers and CNAs, companions, housekeepers, drivers, babysitters/nannies and domestic couples.

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Interested? Call 773-545-7776 because one call does it all!

### We Get Letters

Dear Mr. West,

Upon reading your recent review of De Valera In America, I feel compelled to put pen to paper and set the record straight. First, your job as a commentator "journalist" is to state the facts correctly. But like the liberal media in this country, you let your personal opinions intervene.

Fact: Did you know De Valera was the last commander to surrender in 1916? Your slight on his courage is appalling.

Fact: It was the local IRA commanders that fought the Tan War. Michael Collins was director of intelligence in Dublin.

Fact: The IRA soldiers were almost, to a man, anti-treaty. Blaming De Valera for the civil war is just living in the blue shirt politics of the 1920s and 30s. This brings no real good to peace and unity in today's Ireland. On the question of the money collected in the United States, this is clearly an attack by you on the man's personal character. Where are the facts to back up your accusations? You also label the Irish Press Newspaper as a propaganda tool.



### Pappas Honors Chicagoland's Ethnic Chambers of Commerce

Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas presents an award of excellence to Thomas Lynch, secretary for the Chicago Irish American Alliance, in Pappas' downtown Chicago office. Chambers of Commerce and business organizations representing many of Chicagoland's ethnic communities were honored at the gathering.

Let me tell you, as a person who grew up in Ireland, the paper was to be found in 90 percent of homes. Are all Irish people propagandists too? You are clearly playing with politics here instead of stating the facts. Any student of Irish history knows De Valera was never wanting for courage—he spent more time in prison than out of it during this period.

You need to get your facts straight, Mr. West. You may be well intentioned, but the truth needs to be told here. We do not need someone like you trying to rewrite Irish history.

Thank You, Jack Stewart



### Notre Dame Football Analysis Coming to IAN

Former Chicago native, Brian Boru Clarke, a freelance writer who has followed Notre Dame Football for years, speaks from the perspective of both fan and critic. An aspiring actor, he studied at the Walnut Street Theatre in Philadelphia and with director Mike Lemon at Mike Lemon Casting. Fighting Irish fans will appreciate his keen post game analysis.

Look for his perspective in upcoming issues and on the web at [www.iannews.com](http://www.iannews.com).

### New DVD Set Commemorates The Tumultuous Years

Shanachie Entertainment presents a new DVD compilation set featuring two breathtaking documentaries that cover the death of old Irish rule and the birth of the new Irish Republic.



In *Mise Eire* (I am Ireland), the viewer follows the history of the Irish war for independence through actual newsreels from the period. The documentary covers the years 1896-1918, starting out following the independent movement through the eyes of such prominent figures as Michael Collins and Eamon deValera and concluding at the election victories of 1918.

Produced in 1959, the film became an instant classic among documentary films and historical coverage and was notably the first full length Irish language film ever made. The new release provides fans plenty of special features and new never-before-released footage.

The second documentary, *Saoirse?* (Freedom?), continues from where the previous film leaves off. *Saoirse?* follows the turmoil between 1919 to 1922, covering the War of Independence by showing its guerilla warfare attacks and reprisals, the Truce and Treaty, the establishment of the Free State and the outbreak of the Civil War.

Like in *Mise Eire*, this film provides newsreel coverage and follows the actions of some of Ireland's most notorious freedom fighters.

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# Daly Investor

By John P. Daly



## Convert or Not to Convert, That is the Question

We just entered into the second half of 2010, and I continue to receive questions from concerned investors as to whether a Roth conversion is a good move for them. For those of you who are still considering a conversion, or those who do not know what a Roth conversion is; this month's article is aimed at providing you with more education and guidance before making the move.

Starting on January 1, 2010, the rules regarding Roth IRA conversions changed, allowing all investors the option to convert their traditional IRA accounts to a Roth IRA. Prior to 2010, only tax payers with a modified adjusted gross income under \$100k were allowed the option to convert. This new tax law has created quite a bit of attention and has left investors with a tough question, should I convert?

### What is a Roth IRA?

First, let's address the differences between a Roth IRA and a Traditional IRA. Roth IRA's are funded with after tax dollars and like traditional IRA's, the earnings grow tax free. One difference comes at the time you start taking withdrawals. With a Traditional IRA, withdrawals are taxed at ordinary income tax rates. With a Roth IRA, the withdrawals are TAX FREE.

Another difference is when you are required to take your money out. In a traditional IRA you must take "required minimum distributions" (RMD) starting at age 70 1/2. With a Roth IRA no RMD exists. This means you can keep your money in a tax deferred account longer.

When taking into account these advantages, the Roth IRA seems to be the better solution. However, converting your traditional IRA to a Roth IRA might not make financial sense for you. Here are some things you need to consider before making the switch.

### Can you pay the taxes?

When you convert to a Roth IRA, you are required to pay taxes on the amount you convert. Basically, you are paying taxes now for tax free withdrawals later. If you plan on using your IRA money to pay the taxes, a conversion probably will not make sense. If you have non IRA money available to pay the tax bill, a conversion might make sense. The new law also allows investors who convert to a Roth IRA in 2010 two tax payment options. One, pay the entire tax bill in 2010, or option two, split the taxes equally between 2011 and 2012. Splitting the tax bill over 2 years might sound like a better deal, but you have to consider the risk of higher tax rates in the future.

Another factor you have to consider is the loss of growth or earnings on the money you use to pay the tax. If you convert a \$150k IRA and you are in the 28% tax bracket; you are looking at a \$42k tax bill. You have to consider the potential future earnings potential on that \$42k and compare it to the benefit of future tax free withdrawals to see which one makes more financial sense.

### What is your time horizon?

Depending how close you are from taking withdrawals from your IRA account will

also have an effect on whether a Roth conversion makes sense for you. In order to take TAX FREE withdrawals from a converted Roth IRA, the account needs to be open for at least 5 years. So if you make the conversion in 2010, you have to wait until 2015 before you take any withdrawals. Also, remember the RMD benefit. If you do not plan on taking IRA withdrawals until late in retirement or if you plan on passing your IRA to your beneficiaries, a Roth conversion could be a good option for you.

### What is your tax rate at time of withdrawal?

For many investors, their income tax rate during retirement will be lower than their current rate. This is important because you may possibly pay a higher percentage of tax on that money now, than if you waited until you are in a lower tax bracket during retirement. The other variable to consider is that no one knows what the tax rates will be in the future.

One thing is clear about the Roth IRA conversion, it is not for everyone. If you are considering a conversion, you need to take into account many factors about your individual financial situation and make some educated assumptions about what the future holds. My best advice for anyone considering a Roth IRA conversion is to talk to your financial advisor or financial planner. They have the tools necessary to run detailed scenarios on your specific situation to make sure you make the right decision.

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

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[www.michiganirish.org](http://www.michiganirish.org)

**Michigan Irish Music Festival**

**September 17-19 • Heritage Landing, Muskegon**

Our festival features live music on 3 covered stages. Featuring Gaelic Storm, Lenny, The Elders, Mike IE and more. Get in FREE on Friday, 5-6 pm only (sponsored by Family Financial Credit Union)

*Budweiser* *Family Financial Credit Union* *Heritage Landing* *Michigan Irish Music Festival*

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Tradition  
In Review

Bill Margeson



Well, it has happened again. Aside from our annual encouragement to you to get to Milwaukee for this year's Fest—ALWAYS fab—it has happened again. In writing a few in-depth reviews the last few months on Kevin Burke, Brian Finnegan and Alan O'Leary, we have let slip a number of goodies. So, brace yourself, darling. This is gonna be one of those machine gun columns covering 11 albums. One quick note. Have you Googled Copperplate Distribution as we have encouraged you? No? Copperplate is the best place in the world for the true trad fan, and if you are not familiar with it, and Alan O'Leary, you cannot call yourself a real trad fan. And, best of all, sign up for Alan's free monthly podcast. It is the best and most enjoyable trad music program in the world. No argument. Rest assured, we will continue to flog Copperplate. Our job is to bring you the best. Here we go with a blur. This will be a rapid fire guide to the best stuff out in the past few months (or longer) that we haven't told you about yet. Your job is to find it. Good place to start is the aforementioned Copperplate site, and The Rampant Lion in Villa Park.

1. Danu is out with a brand new treat, Seanchas. The group has had some personnel changes. This is their best album, showing total musical maturity and understanding. The early leader for Vocal/Instrumental Album of the Year. The tunes are sensational, deeply trad and played to perfection. It also has the added benefit of featuring the best female singer in the trad business right now, Muireann nic Amhlaoibh. This album is just about perfect.

2. The best female group in Irish music is The London Lasses. Easily. No debate. A sextet—well, there is one guy, Pete Quinn. But, this is about the women. Incredible musicians and singers. Never mind that they are all gorgeous. Well, that helps. The fourth album is By Night & By Day. This music is so wonderful, it stuns us that all the major Festival venues in America are not booking and flying the Lasses in. The festival bookers are totally asleep at the wheel.

Now, you're not. Get this spectacular piece of musical, trad business. Marvelous.

3. Michael McGoldrick is a god in the business, and we're told—a great guy. His new album is, Aurora. Available through Compass. This man cannot put a step wrong. Lots of guests on the album, but he may be the definitive flute and whistle man in the music. His arrangements are heavenly. This is totally brill. A must have. It IS McGoldrick, for God's sakes. The most copied guy in trad, and with good reason.

4. Speaking of McGoldrick, he co-founded the popular, Lunasa. The group is out with its newest, La Nua. It is not their best ever. Too much of that Middle East tempo, minor key crapola pioneered several years ago in an album entitled, East Wind from Andy Irvine and Davy Spillane. A tragedy, as it featured a Balkan thing. Lots of groups were, and are still, influenced by it. Pity. Dreadful. Having said that, when Lunasa plays the real stuff—and there IS a lot of real stuff here—they are quite possibly the best in the music. We love Lunasa, and bow deeply at the Kevin Crawford/Cillian Vallely throne! Come home, boys! Still and all, you, dear reader need to have this album. Wonderful in toto.

5. We're only two years late to the dance on this one. Les Charbonniers De L'Enfer. My pal, Beth Parks, tells me that the name means something like Hell's Charcoal! Anyway, French-Canadian.

St. Lawrence/Quebecois thing. Fab. Quintet. All a cappella. Remember La Bottine Souriante founders Andre Marchand and Michel Bordeleau? Incredible. The album is La Traverse Miraculeuse, (sic). Unequaled harmonies to make you swoon. We play them regularly on the radio show. And, the foot rhythms! Driving, insistent, powerful, sexy, and we don't understand a damn word. No need to. FAB! Google the group. Wow!

6. Finbarr Fagan is a Chicago boy—one point in his favor, since he came here from Ireland. Point two for the lad is his new album, Live In Chicago. Point three is his voice. Well, he does Irish rock. Unlike almost all other groups and singers, he does it well. When he takes a trad tune and rocks it, we still like it. We have never reviewed an act like this in 25 years in this column, and it will be another 25 before we do again.

Unless Finbarr puts out another album. A great time. Go see his show. Enjoy.

7. Kasir is a young trio from Denmark. Yup, Denmark. Their aggregate age is about 38 (just kidding). Good heavens they are wonderful. We have told you our music is worldwide, and here is more proof. They are young, incredibly capable on their instruments. If they sound a little too much like Flook, so what? These three will surely chart their own path. This is exciting music, and it is a thrill to see these young guns at the start of what will be a tremendous ride. Superb first effort from three young winners. Notice how we keep using the word, "young"? Jealousy. Go Kasir!

8. Two years ago, flautist Catherine McEvoy was our Female Musician of the Year. Here she is with Micheal O'Raghallaigh on concertina and Caoimhin O'Raghallaigh on fiddle. The album is Comb Your Hair and Curl It, and it is perfect. Pure. Trad. Magic from three magicians. There is no album recently that we have listened to more. Just get it. You'll hear the real drop. Stunning.

9. Caladh Nua is another young group out with a stunner, Happy Days. What a quintet! Fab songs meet wonderful, wonderful tunes—played to the last note. Think Carlow, Kilkenny and Waterford. Think brilliant. We have listened and listened and listened, and we still are. We are also late to this dance with this group, but we ain't leavin'. We're here now as long-haul fans and we can only hope these musicians stay together for still more magic. And more. And... Caldh Nua! Spectacular beginning.

10. Finvarra's Wren is a group out of Detroit. Mostly family. Now, when we think Detroit, we don't think trad. But, now we might! This is a really tasty treat. We really like it! The Perkins family meets Cheryl Burns, Terence McKinney and Marty Sonenberg. Result? A heck of an enjoyable album, where we didn't exactly expect one! Good on 'em! They were recently at the Heritage Center here. Hurry back! Lovely! Oh yeah, the album's title is Haven't Yet Lost My Ears.

11. Last one. Out of space from our Fuehrer publisher. Pulling Out The Stops is a cleverly titled button box album from Dan Possumato. Kevin Burke leads a host of guest stars whose very presence tells you this is good stuff, and indeed it is! Lots of tunes and songs—all trad and all solid! Nice one, Dan!

Ta for now. Don't forget to listen to Maryann Keifer and me every Monday night from 8-9pm on WDCB, 90.9 fm, and www.wdcb.org online. The best in trad. No nonsense. No foolishness. Irish music to the bone.

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## Careers



By James F. Fitzgerald, CPA

(Part Two)

### What are the Characteristics of the Most Admired Leaders?

This article will explore four more of the characteristics that the authors, Kouzes and Posner, say are ones that our most admired leaders demonstrate. The top four most highly desirable ones were discussed in last month’s column: honest, forward-looking, inspiring and competent. Here are the four addressed in this column:

- Fair-minded
- Supportive
- Broad-minded
- Intelligent

Yes, of course, measure “your” people against these twelve factors, but be sure to remember to measure yourself against this same standard.

#### Fair-minded

Perhaps we all think we have a gut level definition of this term. It is as fundamental a concept as we have. We have all heard children say this about their sibling(s), “they aren’t being fair, Mom/Dad.” Certainly you have heard people say, “my boss is a hard nosed person, but s/he is fair.” We place a lot of importance on that assessment. The Random House dictionary defines fair-minded as “characterized by impartiality” and “unprejudiced.” Leaders, whether business executives, military people or governmental officials, ought to be seen as fair-minded. They demonstrate their fair-mindedness by being willing to listen to all sides of a dispute before providing some solution or conclusion to the matter.

As you think about your style, can you honestly say that you are fair-minded? If not, I would suggest that you make it a priority item over the next several months. Projecting a fair-minded approach to your fellows, whether peers, subordinates or superiors may provide positive rewards to you.

#### Supportive

This can be a tough concept at a practical level. I believe that most, if not all, of us would say a superior enhances his effectiveness by supporting the members of his “team.” Yet, we frequently see subordinates who are hung out by their bosses without a shred of support. If you are there for me, I am not likely to forget it for years and years. Yes, we all want to be supported by our superiors, but do we provide support to them also? In my experience, supportiveness is a two way street.

#### Broad-minded

Interestingly enough, the definition of broad-minded reads very similarly to fair-mindedness, “free from prejudices or bigotry.” When someone says they are “broad-minded” what comes to your mind? Do you see it as a positive attribute? Clearly the work that



Kouzes and Posner have done indicates that most us value this quality in our leaders. This characteristic indicates that the person is likely to be willing to consider other options. People always seem to appreciate it if you are willing to listen to their ideas, however far out they may initially seem to be. It certainly enhances the likelihood that subordinates will feel valued.

Being broad-minded gives you access to more and different ideas. Imagine the world, or more importantly your corner of it, if you were not receptive to new ideas. For example, if you continue to resist the reality of social networking, you fail to get a complete picture of things. Obviously this exposure to a myriad of “other” ideas makes your job of discernment more difficult. But it’s worth the extra effort.

When was the last time you watched a movie, read a book, or listened to a speaker, whose point of view was 180 degrees opposite of yours?

#### Intelligent

There are all kinds of theories about intelligence. For example, the concept of nature or nurture has been debated for years. Playing Beethoven’s or Mozart’s music at your baby’s bedside may or may not raise the level of intelligence of your child. Clearly we have all read some Sunday supplement that absolutely guarantees your child’s IQ will be substantially increased if they have been listening to selected classical music.

My personal observations suggest that smart children give a lot of indications of their intellectual level very early in life. Then life happens, and a child may be raised in a mentally abusive environment. Or they don’t have a healthy, balanced diet that allows them to develop physically and intellectually.

When Johnny or Judy reaches adulthood the die may be cast for them. But the real differential as they age is their willingness to continually learn. If TV or computer games are the only mental “food” they have, it’s not likely that they will grow intellectually. It would be similar to putting contaminated gas into a high performance car and expecting superior performance; our minds don’t work as well as they could, if they have been fed a steady diet of mind-numbing TV shows or video games year after year.

Ask yourself, what have you done in the last twelve months to stimulate yourself intellectually? Have you read some significant books in the last year?

Do you engage your friends and/or your children in intellectually demanding conversations or do your conversations revolve only around sports, “those” TV shows or other junk news. Have you made it a practice to knowingly read books or magazines or newspapers that represent points of views that are opposed to your basic beliefs? When we discuss politics it surprises me that people tend to categorize you as a liberal or conservative, as though no one could be balanced between the two established positions. No matter what your present intelligence level is, you can be smarter if you seek the counsel of a mentor, namely an older and wiser person who can assist you in analyzing a given situation.

Are you surprised that Intelligence is only 8th on the list? Frankly, I would have thought it would be higher. But don’t you know some highly INTELLIGENT people who can’t determine the need to get in out of the rain? Intelligence is not all that it is cracked up to be.

The authors of The Leadership Challenge state that their research has allowed them to prioritize these characteristics from the most important to the least important. We have just reviewed #5 through #8. Are they really important? Try to picture a situation where a person who gets a high rating because s/he is committed to honesty would be considered closed minded rather than broad minded. By the way, have you found yourself considering how your most or least favorite politician would stack up against this twelve point standard?

As I have indicated previously, I have enjoyed writing about this subject a great deal. We will cover the last four characteristics in next month’s column. Please consider how you would rate yourself against this twelve part standard. I would be interested to hear your views on this subject. Hopefully the columns on this subject will prompt you to consider how you might grow on one or more of these characteristics. Carpe Diem.

James F. Fitzgerald is the president of James F. Fitzgerald & Associates, Inc., an Oak Brook, IL-based senior executive career transition and executive coaching firm. Phone: 630-684-2204. NEW email: jamesffitz37@hotmail.com.

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## For The Republic



Chris Fogarty



THE “IRISH” GOV’T is intensifying its cover-up of the Irish Holocaust of 1845-1850. Last month you read here that the Irish Consul General’s expensive “Irish famine” promotion with Quinnipiac University will remain open to the NYC public until Sept. 9th. Here is how to detect such Big Lie operatives: 1) they always grossly understate the murder toll, and 2) they never, ever mention the Food Removal that constituted the genocide.

IRISH “FAMINE” BOOKS.

Before buying, look for its list of British regiments that starved the people. If it omits that info its purpose is to bear false witness to genocide, to make those millions of human beings seem sub-human. Beware if it doesn’t name those regiments and doesn’t fully report the overwhelming force they used to wrest crops from their growers to the ports for export. The best book, Cecil Woodham-Smith’s *The Great Hunger... did name 25 regiments and the specific locations where they vio-*

lently seized and removed the crops, but she limited those data to a total of about four full pages and then buried those truths in hundreds of pages that contradicted or otherwise covered them up. She fudged her math to understate the murder toll and blamed the deaths on the following: “Irish women had fatally forgotten how to cook anything but potatoes,” “Gov’t relief measures, though well-intentioned, failed.” “The Irish were feckless, lazy, violent, improvident,” etc. C W-S’s book falsely states that more grain entered Ireland from England than into England from Ireland. She also falsely wrote that Ireland would have starved even if all Irish crops had been kept in country. But she deserves respect for falsifying history far less than any other “famine” writer, and for surviving decades of slander by Irish/English academics for mentioning the Food Removal.

“FAMINE PORN” is the genre of Irish “famine” books. Such writers seek profit by converting that genocide into cheap emotions such as a “tender love story among degenerates and their rotten potatoes,” rather like an Auschwitz in which doomed people indulge their ethnic addiction to Zyclon B despite heroic Nazi efforts to rehabilitate them. These pornographers strip the dignity of those the Brits once stripped of their crops. They wallow in death and suffering while attributing it to the victims’ “fecklessness.” It’s history’s only genocide with organized cover-up artists. They used to deny that food left Ireland while the people starved, but abandoned that falsehood (after confrontations with people carrying my Mass Graves of Ireland pamphlet). The Food Removal is the one historical fact that the False Witnesses cannot concede without conceding all, so here are those comprehensive data:

THE CONSTABULARY were Britain’s first line of offense in removing Ireland’s foods. Its officers were English, its rank-and-file increasingly Irish. During the depths of the Holocaust it totaled 12,900 carbine-armed men.

THE COUNTY MILITIAS. The British government paid their expenses, but their commanders were Ireland’s English landlords. Each county had one; but Cork, Limerick and Mayo had two. The ranks were originally English but Irish tenants were eventually enrolled and served their landlords to Ireland’s detriment.

THE BRITISH ARMY was summoned when combined (but ambiguous) forces of constabulary and militias didn’t prevail. Listed here

by county-and-town, by year, and by name are the reg’ts HQ’d in each town. Each HQ could have detachments stripping foods from three or four nearby counties. A lone number indicates reg’t of foot, C indicates cavalry; D, dragoons; DG, dragoon guards; H, hussars, and L, lancers.

ANTRIM: Belfast 1845, 5th; 1846, 26th; 1846-1848, 3rd; 1847, 49th & 74th; 1849-50, 13th; Moyle 1847, 68th.

ARMAGH: No HQ.

CARLOW: No HQ.

CAVAN: Cavan town 1848, 57th.

CORK: Ballincollig 1845-46, 3rd H; 1848, 8th H, 12th L. Bandon 1848, 12th L. Buttevant 1845, 61st, 1846, 85th, 1848, 26th; 1849, 41st; 1850, 48th. Cork City 1815-53, 1st; 1819-54, 39th; 1835-46, 85th; 1840-48, 12th L; 1845-46, 16th, 24th; 1847, 1st D, 47th, 48th; 1847-48, 67th; 1848, 15th, 49th; 1848-49, 70th; 1849-50, 26th; 1849-51, 12th L; 1850, 68th; 1850-51, 41st. Fermoy 1845, 60th; 1847, 44th; 1848, 12th L, 6th; 1849, 83rd; 1850-54, 62nd.

DERRY: No HQ.

DONEGAL: Ballyshannon 1849, 57th.

DOWN: Newry 1846-47, 44th; 1848, 1st.

DUBLIN: Aldboro House 1848, 48th; Beggars Bush Barracks 1847, 68th; Castle Barracks 1845, 65th; Richmond Barracks 1850-54, 62nd; Royal Barracks 1846, 68th; 1847-48, 75th, 85th; Kingstown (Dunlaoire) 1846, 68th; Phoenix Park 1849, 71st; Dublin City (assigned variously to port duties, provisions escort duty along the canals and roads to the city, or en route to the interior): 1845, 1st D, 8th H, 6th, 32nd, 60th, 66th, 70th, 1845-46, 44th, 67th; 1846, 2nd C, 30th, 41st, 64th; 1846-47, 3rd; 1847, 26th, 68th, 71st, 74th 83rd; 1847-48, 4th H; 1847-50, 85th; 1848, 7th H, 75th; 1848-49; 48th; 1848-50, 17th L, 43rd; 1849; 2nd, 40th, 55th, 60th, 71st, 74th; 1849-50; 6th D; 1850, 5th DG, 31st, 45th, 49th, 57th, 62nd, 71st.

FERMANAGH: Enniskillen 1846, 5th; 1847, 48th, 92nd; 1848, 48th; 1848-49, 57th.

GALWAY: Dunmore 1848, 68th; Loughrea 1847, 85th; Portumna 1847, 85th; Spiddal 1848, 68th; Tuam 1848-49, 68th; Galway city 1846, 40th; 1847, 49th; 1848, 49th & 68th; 1849, 68th; 1850, 3rd, 68th.

KERRY: No HQ.

KILDARE: Athy 1846, 68th; Droichead Nua 1847, 6th D, 1847-48, 2nd C; Naas 1846, 68th; 1847-50, 71st; Robertstown 1846, 68th.

KILKENNY: Piltown 1848, 85th; K City 1847, 64th; 1848, 75th, 83rd; 1850, 67th, 92nd.

LAOIS: Portlaoise 1846, 68th;

Mountmellick 1846, 68th.

LEITRIM: No HQ.

LIMERICK: L. City 1845, 15th, 24th; 1846, 83rd, 85th; 1847, 55th, 59th, 74th; 1848, 64th, 92nd; 1848-50, 3rd; 1849, 47th; 1850, 68th.

LONGFORD: Granard 1848, 68th; Longford town 1845, 2nd C; 1846, 8th H; 1847, 6th D; 1848, 13H, 68th; Mullingar 1845, 54th; 1846, 6th; 1846-47, 68th; 1847, 41st; 1847-48, 68th; 1850, 62nd.

LOUTH: Drogheda 1847, 68th; Dundalk 1845, 11th H; 1846, 1st D, 2nd C, 68th; 1847, 17th L; 1848, 6th D; 1849-50, 13th H.

MAYO: Ballinrobe 1850-51, 5th DG; 1845-48, 68th; Castlebar 1845, 30th; Westport 1849, 68th.

MEATH: Navan-Oldcastle 1846, 68th; Oldcastle 1847, 68th; Trim 1848, 68th.

MONAGHAN: No HQ.

OFFALY: Banagher 1847, 85th; Birr 1846, 75th; 1846-47, 85th; 1849-50, 89th; 1850, 3rd. Daingean 1847, 1848, 68th; Edenderry 1847, 1848, 68th; Shannon Harbour 1847, 85th; Tullamore 1847, 1848, 68th.

ROSCOMMON: Carrick-on-Shannon 1847, 68th; Castlerea 1847, 1848, 68th; Elphin 1847, 68th.

SLIGO: No HQ.

TIPPERARY: Cahir 1845, 4th H, 1845-48, 1st D; 1846, 13th H; 1847, 8th H; Clonmel 1847, 2nd C; 1848, 47th, 68th; 1849, 64th; 1849-50, 92nd; New Birmingham 1848, 85th. Newport 1845, 37th; 1850, 48th; Templemore 1845, 69th; 1847, 70th; 1848, 55th, 85th; 1848-49, 59th; 1849, 49th. Thurles 1848, 60th, 74th, 85th. Tipp. Town 1848, 43rd.

TYRONE: Dungannon 1848, 85th.

WATERFORD: Curraghmore 1848, 4th H, 3rd, 85th. Portlaw 1848, 85th. W. City 1848-49, 85th.

WESTMEATH: Athlone 1845, 34th; 1846, 49th; 1847, 7th H, 75th; 1848, 2nd; 1848-49, 2nd C; 1849, 31st; 1850, 48th, 5th DG. Kilbeggan 1847, 1848, 68th.

WEXFORD: New Ross 1848, 85th. Wexford town 1848, 68th.

WICKLOW: No HQ.

WHICH BRIT REG’T starved your relatives? See [www.irishholocaust.org](http://www.irishholocaust.org).

WHO ARE THE TERRORISTS re Occupied Ireland? See [www.terrorismireland.org](http://www.terrorismireland.org).

GOOD FRIDAY AGREEMENT; beneficial? See [www.michaelmckevitt.com](http://www.michaelmckevitt.com), [www.friendsofcolinduffey.com](http://www.friendsofcolinduffey.com), and [www.freegerry.com](http://www.freegerry.com). In Maghaberry prison the Brits have reimposed pre-Hunger Strike conditions.

MY BOOK is being proof-read and will soon be printed. Reach me at 312/664-7651 or [fogartyc@att.net](mailto:fogartyc@att.net).

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## A Word With Father Boland

The Voice of Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Chicago

### Reverend Michael M. Boland

Administrator, President and CEO



## St. Mary of Celle Family Strengthening Center

Recently, I received a wonderful letter from the grandmother of a child in Catholic Charities' preschool program for toddlers and children aged two through five at our child development center within the St. Mary of Celle Family Strengthening Center in Berwyn. In her letter, she praises "the director, all the teachers, the aides, the receptionists and the janitorial staff" as "the greatest! ...accommodating, courteous and very friendly." Her grandson is now thriving, and she herself—after passing the required training and background checks—is enjoying her new role as a volunteer and chaperone at the Center.

Needless to say, this is good news! And this multi-generational family's happy experience is only one example of many that children, mothers, fathers, grandparents and guardians appreciate the St. Mary of Celle Child Development Program.

Opened in the summer of 2008 after a major renovation of the parish's former school building by Catholic Charities, the Family Strengthening Center is

a partnership between St. Mary of Celle Parish and Catholic Charities. Located at 1448 S. Wesley in Berwyn, in a residential neighborhood, the Center serves the needs of the residents of both Berwyn and Cicero.

The St. Mary of Celle Family Strengthening Center provides two major programs: the Child Development Center that includes an affordable early childhood education/childcare program for children ages two to five; and a "family center" that includes a gymnasium, cafeteria and classrooms, where family members of all ages can meet for information, activities, classes and workshops.

Catholic Charities Child Development Centers have served the preschool care and educational needs of the children of poor and low-income working families, of all races and religions, for more than 30 years, and currently operate in 9 neighborhood centers in Chicago and two suburbs—ensuring the overall health and wellness of the children.

Perhaps Catholic Charities is better

known for feeding and clothing the hungry and homeless, our in-home services and meals for homebound seniors, our adoption and maternity services, or some of our other 150 programs.

But Catholic Charities was founded in 1917 to help poor and struggling families and children. That is a major reason why making affordable child care available to low-income families is an important part of Catholic Charities' mission. Along with federal and state tax relief programs, such as the Earned Income Tax Credit, affordable child care programs help to keep working poor families from losing employment and sinking further into poverty.

When working parents know their children are cared for in a safe, clean, nurturing environment in which they can grow, learn, have fun, and prepare for kindergarten, the whole family becomes more secure, joyful and healthy. We know from research that affordable child care for working parents provides the opportunity to become financially stable through decreased absenteeism and more opportunities for promotion. Children who receive early care and education are less likely to drop out of school or become a teen parent. Supporting affordable child care is a tremendously powerful "anti-poverty" tool, and letting our legislators know this is very important.

The St. Mary of Celle program for

the two- to five-year-old children is a very active program of early childhood education and development. The children learn early reading, science and math skills, observation skills, solve problems, and increase their vocabulary: with all the activities directed by a trained teacher. And they learn to have fun together, playing and socializing with other children. They eat a nutritious breakfast, lunch and snacks. Each child is assessed three times per year, and lesson plans are developed that meet the needs of the children. Over ninety percent of staff are bi-lingual in English and Spanish.

For these little ones, everything is fun! And new, and full of learning opportunities—whether going on walks, or playing outdoors or in the large gymnasium. We can learn a lot

from them!

The St. Mary of Celle Family Strengthening Center is a unique and blessed expression of Catholic Charities' mission "to support, individuals, families and communities based on the value and dignity of human life," because it supports and gives new life to whole families, enabling each member of the family to work, live and grow in knowledge, security, peace, joy and dignity.

May you and your families enjoy these August days; and please keep all struggling families in your prayers.

For more information regarding enrolling your child in the St. Mary of Celle Child Development Center, please call (708)303-3650 to schedule a tour. Our hours of operation are between 7am and 6pm.



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**The Celtic Traveler**

by Maureen Callahan



Chateaubriand, to explore at low tide. But be mindful of the strong undercurrents and time of day. Beaches disappear quickly making it impossible to

**France's Celtic Traditions Steeped in Brittany**

If you drink one Guinness too many and wake up disoriented, you might forget you're in France altogether. Lined with spectacular beaches and misty, apocalyptic headlands, the peninsula of Brittany tugs away from mainland France, meticulously maintaining its Celtic mannerisms. Between the acres of kelly green meadows and stone cottages and fences, it has the look and feel of Erin herself. This area can get touristy, but much less so than the Riviera. For a break of French without leaving France, come to Brittany.

Present-day Brittany has its roots in the 5th to 7th centuries, when Britons fled Anglo-Saxon invaders. Traditions are carefully guarded. Once all but dying, Brezhoneg, the Breton language, was spoken mostly by the older generation of area families. Similar to Welsh or Cornish, the last decade has seen a resurgence of the now more respected regional language. There are several ways to explore the area. From Paris, it's roughly a 4 hour drive to the region's capital of Rennes. Access to a car definitely makes exploring this region easy. France's high speed TGV train makes many runs daily between Paris and Rennes, with connecting trains to smaller coastal towns. The two hour trip offers beautiful scenery and an easy way to sneak in a getaway weekend from Paris, although certainly worthy of longer.

If you have the time and energy, consider bringing a bike on the train or renting one when you arrive. The narrow cobblestone streets and gorgeous countryside give way to mile after mile of gnawed-away sea cliffs best appreciated as close to the scenery as possible. There are also safe and reliable bus lines from Rennes to almost any other town in the area.

Rennes is the main stop-over and gateway to France's most charming region. It's worth a short look around on your way further out to the coast. One of France's most beautiful gardens can be found in the fountains, sculptures and labyrinths of the Jardin du Thabor. The Porte Mordelaise, the last remaining piece of the city's medieval wall, makes a photo stop on the way out of town.

Just one hour from here is St. Malo. Park yourself in this same town from which explorer Jacques Cartier set sail and combine a seaside getaway with a convenient base for exploring the region. One day, and you'll see why Monet found this area a captivating subject of so many paintings. Stroll along the 14th century stone ramparts. They provide an excellent walkway with a view of the old city. Look out across the water to notice the small stone house a few hundred meters from shore where Daniel Defoe penned Robinson Crusoe in solitude.

Wander along the sandy beaches and take in the atmosphere via the salty sea air. Walk out to the small île du Grand-Bé, the rocky tomb of

walk back after tides return. This stretch of The English Channel makes a nice place to swim any time of day.

The Guinness flows steadily at St. Patrick Irish Pub—24 rue Ste. Barbe—St. Malo's first Irish pub. Friday night sessions offer music and dance every bit as traditional as found in Galway. Compliment your traditional pub food with one or more of the 50 whisky choices. Traditional Breton hard cider is the regional drink, and one not be missed. There are dozens of choices—some dryer, some sweeter—but each village is proud of its local offering.

St. Malo is a great place to explore a traditional Breton market. On Tuesdays and Fridays the heart of the old city bustles with the hawking of fresh caught fish, local farm produce, cheeses, and traditional woolen clothing similar to Irish fishing sweaters.

Nearby Dinan is perfect for a day trip. Perhaps the best-preserved medieval town in Brittany, it is also one of the prettiest and not overrun with tourists. Dinan came to be under its former maritime links to Flanders and England. 14th-century houses line winding candlelit cobblestone streets leading into the town square. Here, traditional artisans carry on their trades as they have for centuries. Stroll down rue du Jerzual to see residents creating regional souvenirs from glass, wool, silk and leather. Each July, Dinan hosts the Rencontres Internationales de Harps Celtiques. This weeklong festival celebrates Brittany's Celtic roots through harp music and traditional Breton dancing, which is somewhat similar to Scottish highland step dancing.

Follow the road down the coast to Roscoff. Notice the fish farms and seaweed boats in the old harbor, and you'll see why this is truly a town focused on the sea. Hop on the ferry at Roscoff harbor, and you will find yourself on a charming island so small that the roads have no names. The île de Batz is a step back in time to a place of thatched roof cottages with brightly painted shutters and doors. Rent a bike at the landing to explore this windswept Lilliput-like island covered in wild flowers. The sentier côtier is a 14 km ride along the coast over massive rocky inlets and past sandy beaches of inlet lakes and small farms. Stop and climb the lighthouse for a panoramic view of the region. Along the same route is the ancient stone 12th century Chapelle of St. Anne. Locals tell of a time centuries ago when the fences flanking the now roofless church would be adorned with hats placed by fishermen in tribute to St. Anne, patroness of the sea, for a safe return home.

Brittany's rugged coastline scenery, excellent cider and Celtic traditions make it a great escape. Whether you decide on a quiet weekend getaway or a several week excursion, it's a place likely to settle itself in your memory.

Maureen Callahan is a Chicago writer and seasoned traveler. missmaurencallahan@gmail.com.

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## Piping It In

Jack Baker

It's August and there's lots of news. Natasha McShane has gone home to Northern Ireland where she's scheduled for at least one more session of brain surgery. Our prayers go with her and her family.

August brings us the largest and best Irish Fest in the US, Milwaukee Irish Fest on the 3rd weekend, 19th thru the 22nd. Always a wonderful weekend and this year, being their 30th anniversary, the lineup is especially good. You can check out who's playing there at the website, [www.IrishFest.com](http://www.IrishFest.com).

On the weekend before Milwaukee, there's a new Irish fest in the western suburb of Villa Park (home of Rampant Lion Celtic Traders, imagine that!) Saint Alexander Catholic School is a fine wee school in Villa Park that has found that it now has to scramble to raise money to keep the doors open. Rather than surrender like so many have, they have aggressively started a fund raising program and, as part of that program, have started a yearly Irish Fest on the 2nd weekend of August. This year is their first year and they've put together a really good show featuring the irrepressible Joe Cullen, the Larkin & Moran Brothers and the unbelievably talented kids of the Academy of Irish Music under the direction of Noel Rice. Already a good lineup and they're still adding more as I type this. They'll have food and drink, of course, and carnival rides and games and an outdoor mass on Saturday. Pipe bands each day, including City of Chicago Pipe Band under the direction of Pat Lynch, will entertain. Best part, the admission fee is \$0! That's right, it's free to get in! There will be vendors. We'll be there with the latest Irish CDs. I don't know the whole vendor lineup yet, but I know there will be a good bunch. Saint Alexander Catholic School is located at 300 S. Cornell in Villa Park. Around the store that's referred to as "off Ardmore by the prairie path." It's easy to get to and worth the trip. Here's a chance to party near home and help out a good school that could use your help. Questions? Just call us at the store, 630-834-8108, and we'll



let you know the news.

The news from the Irish American Heritage Center (see the newsletter in this issue) is fantastic. A new

festival coming up in September, a new Hall of Fame, a new concert series, I can't keep up with it all. If you're not a member yet, join up. I'm proud to be a member and proud of the crew that's running the show there.

One "problem" with working so many festivals, like we do, is the food at some of them. Not every place is lucky like we are around Chicago to have quality food vendors like Winston's and Highland Glen. Some places it's pretty grim. This year I was lucky to stumble on two food vendors that really impressed me with their quality and taste. The New Zealand Meat Pie Company put out home-made pies that are the most unique I've run across. They open early at festivals

with a breakfast pie containing scrambled eggs, sausage, potatoes and cheese in the best tasting crust ever. They also have the cleanest wagon I've ever seen. Owned & operated by the lovely Niki MacQueen, they get my vote for the best new food on the festival circuit. Promoters take note, you can contact them at 612-369-5825 or email at [macqueenkiwi1468@msn.com](mailto:macqueenkiwi1468@msn.com).

The second food vendor I was impressed with this year is a regular at Gaelic Park but I haven't seen them at other shows. Top Hog BBQ puts out the best festival BBQ and keeps me smiling each year at Gaelic Park. Pulled pork and ribs and the best beans, cole slaw and friendly staff you can find. They have a website at [www.tophogbbq.com](http://www.tophogbbq.com) and email at [tophogbbq@yahoo.com](mailto:tophogbbq@yahoo.com). Feed people well at your festival and they'll come back.

Finally down to some new music. Gaelic Storm needs no introduction from me, but their bagpiper, Pete Purvis, might. I've written about Pete's two

previous solo CDs, Highland Spirit, a fine trad solo pipe recording and A New Tradition, an exciting contemporary blend of pipes plus. Now Pete has released his latest CD called Lilt, Modern Highland Dance and, in keeping with Pete's past work, it's stupendous. It features Pete on pipes, whistles and piano plus Ben Mullin on guitar. It has 34 tracks of all the types and speeds of music necessary for the serious Highland dancer. Pete Purvis never fails to impress me and he's done it again. I feel sure that this is a CD that every highland dancer and fan of highland dance will want to own. Its timing is spot on. Nice to see this type of work performed by this talented piper. It's the type of precise music the dancers need and often don't get.

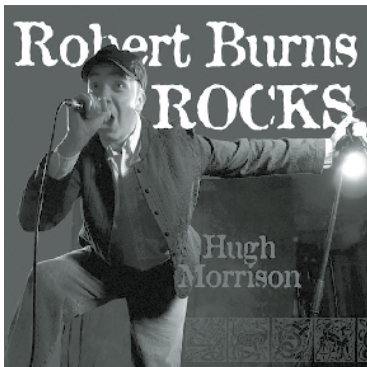
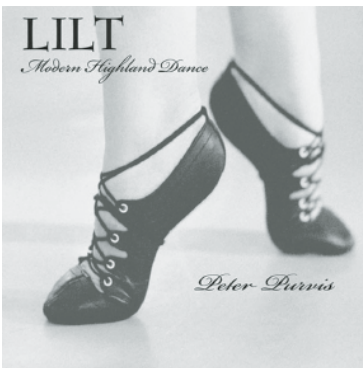
Next is another ground breaking CD by another young Scottish artist who never fails to impress me. Hugh Morrison is a most talented button box player who's first CD, Under a Texas Skye, was a whizbang party concoction full of snappy dance tunes and fun singalongs. Now he's released the most exciting treatment of Robert Burns' songs to come down the pike in awhile. Titled Robert Burns Rocks, this CD is a modern, energetic rendering of some of Burns' best songs which will, I feel, introduce the genius of Burns to a whole new generation and remind some of us old fogies just how much fun Burns is. It's easy to forget that Burns was the poet of the common man, writing in the common speech of the time and writing to the problems and concerns of the common man. Hugh Morrison reminds us of Burns' intention and has fun with it in the process. Being a big Burns fan, I've had a lot of fun listening to this CD.

Last on the agenda is a bit of Celtic rock from that long lived innovative group Brother. Latest on their list of CDs is their first ever live recording called Out From Under. Featured on this recording is dig player, Drew Reid, aka "Didgeridrew," probably the finest didgeridoo player I've ever heard. The CD is the usual blend of insightful lyrics, spirited piping and unique music. Brother has been famous for pushing the envelope of Celtic rock and they continue to plow fresh fields, taking the genre in new and delightful directions. Many try to copy Brother's innovations but no one comes close. This time, being a live recording, you get a taste of the on stage innovation that occurs every time they play. Feeding off the energy of the crowd, the band

follows their collective muse in finding new riffs and combinations and creating on the fly some of the most original celtic rock ever. This is the best I've heard from them and that's something I seem to say with every new CD they release. As usual, Brother is way out front of the crowd.

It has long been my feeling that the absolute best way to hear artists is at a house concert and no one does house concerts as well as the Brown family of Flossmoor Illinois. I received word this AM that we have two fun evenings in store at their house with Slide performing on September 12th and the Tannahill Weavers on October 10th. This is a small, very small, but wonderfully welcoming venue for Celtic music and one that it has been my distinct pleasure to attend in the past. I will do everything in my power to attend these two concerts and if you'd like to also, call me at the store for contact info.

My sincere thanks to everyone who helped with the Natasha McShane benefit, hope to see a bunch of you at the new Irish Fest at Saint Alexander's School in Villa Park. As always you can call me at the store, 630-834-8108 or email at [pipingitin@comcast.net](mailto:pipingitin@comcast.net). Slainté.



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# Mick

Mike Morley



12 years ago, a fragile peace process." Nonsense! Ireland by then was sick of a 30-year insurgency that was leading no-

## Pardon Me

Nations, like people, often demonstrate powerful egos, and will go to extraordinary lengths to avoid admitting wrong. It was thirteen years ago that Tony Blair issued a not quite official apology for England's role in Ireland's "Famine" 150 years earlier, an event that depopulated Ireland by the millions through starvation, deportation, emigration and disease. Said Blair: "That one million people should have died in what was then part of the richest and most powerful nation in the world is something that still causes pain as we reflect on it today. Those who governed in London at the time failed their people through standing by while a crop failure turned into a massive human tragedy. We must not forget such a dreadful event."

At the time, Unionists feared Blair's statement would eventually lead to an apology for Bloody Sunday. Their fears were realized following the June 15 publication of Lord Saville's report followed by a formal apology from Britain's current PM, David Cameron, for actions of the British Army's Parachute Regiment that day in 1972. It had taken 38 years—a lifetime of hard and seemingly thankless work by the families of the victims and their supporters—to turn the wheels of justice even that far. Just six months after Bloody Sunday the Queen had honored Para Regiment commander Col. Derek Wilford with the Order of the British Empire. Another soldier in Derry that day was awarded an MBE as recently as 2004.

It was Blair himself who sanctioned the Saville inquiry. Cynics will describe Blair's public remorse for his country's crimes as a clever ploy to lure Catholic Nationalists aboard the peace train. Said the BBC on 6-15: "So far as Westminster is concerned, Tony Blair's decision to appoint Lord Saville has been vindicated, in as much as the inquiry served to bind republicans into what remained,

where. And as Ed Moloney contends in his "Secret History of the IRA," the capture of the Eskund may have fatally crippled the IRA's ability to force the conflict to a favorable end. Blair deserves a lot of credit for placing himself out front on both issues as spokesman for the British government.

Although laws that barred Catholics from almost all public offices now apply officially only to the royal family and its heirs, there hasn't been a Catholic Prime Minister of Britain since 1688. (Born a Jew, Benjamin Disraeli was twice British Prime Minister, an office he surely would never have held had he not decided to renounce his faith and become an Anglican.)

Blair kept his personal religious views largely out of his political life. He was a closet Catholic for years before making it formal only in December of '07 when he left office.

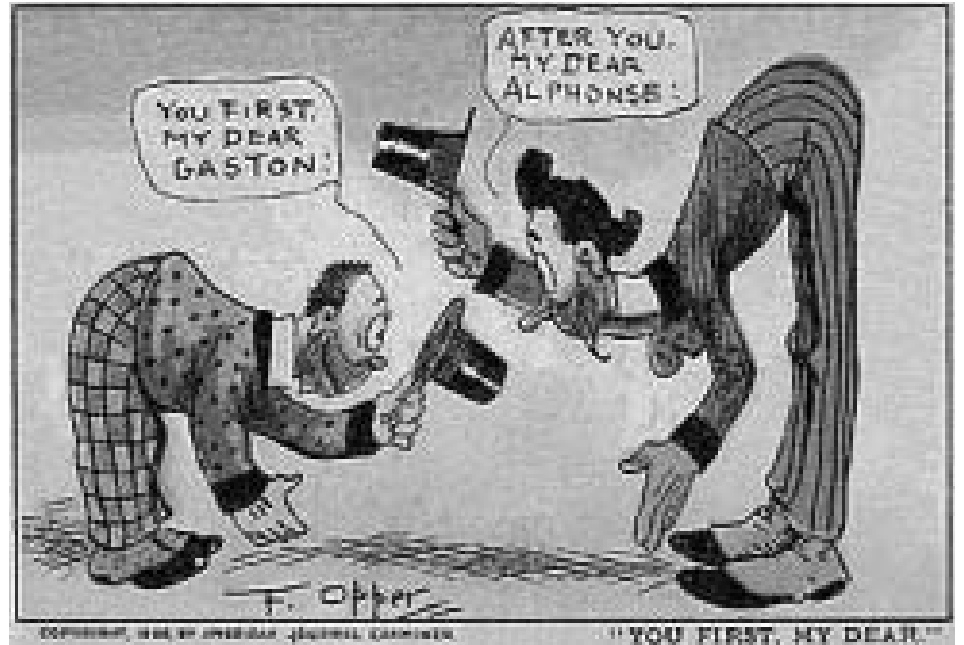
Perhaps Obama was onto the trend with his ostentatious deep bows and apologies to foreign potentates. Lately there have been enough apologies to get Alphonse and Gaston back into the funny papers. BP's CEO Tony Hayward, annoyed by all the fuss over a little spilled oil (and 11 dead employees) whined: "I'd like my life back."

Hayward apologized, calling his statement "hurtful and thoughtless." Tony had just gotten over an earlier thoughtless remark: "The Gulf of Mexico is a very big ocean. The amount of volume of oil and dispersant we are putting into it is tiny in relation to the total water volume."

Then BP Chairman Carl-Henric Svanberg went to the White House, apologized to the American people for the mess, and doled out \$20B into a fund run by Ken Feinberg, pay czar for bailed-out US banks. Next day Svanberg was again apologizing—for the previous apology. He had said "We care about the small people." Apparently he wasn't referring to leprechauns, although they, too, may be affected if the oil gets into the Gulf stream and heads back towards corporate HQ.

In the BP Congressional hearings the same day, Rep. Joe Barton then apologized to Tony Hayward—for the "\$20 billion shakedown" of British Petroleum by Obama and chief prosecutor Attorney General Holder. He then apologized for using the term "British Petroleum:" "er... BP. I'm sorry, it's not British Petroleum now." So, what does BP stand for now, "Bungling Petroleum," "Bad Press," "Big Problem?" C'mon, you knew from the start that "BP Green" was just Lord Browne's BS, didn't you?

What all the apologies reveal is that "our betters" have a deep disdain for ordinary folk—so much so that they have to really work at keeping it hidden in order to maintain the required masquerade of democracy.



## Pavlovian Dogs

That's what a memorable math professor used to label us students when we didn't grasp a concept, which was often: "You don't get it? You sticks, you stones, you worse-than-senseless things... you Pavlovian dogs!"

Russian physiologist, psychologist and Nobel prize winner Ivan Pavlov first described the process of conditioning. British psychiatrist William Walters Sargant, author of *Battle for the Mind, a Physiology of Conversion and Brainwashing* (1957) refined the process, keeping patients in deep sleep for months at a time while administering Electro-shock therapy and drugs, often without their knowledge.

And there was Edward Bernays, nephew of Sigmund Freud and "father" of modern public relations. Bernays sold the First World War to the American public as an effort that would "Make the World Safe for Democracy." His methods became the model for marketing all subsequent wars. Though Bernays was a Jew, Dr. Joseph Goebbels was inspired by his published works and his methods to achieve the "engineering of consent."

Clay Shirky of NYU: "Our legal, political, and economic systems, the mechanisms that run modern society, all assume that people are uniformly capable of consciously modulating their behaviors... [These] days are now ending, and everyone from advertisers to political consultants increasingly understands, in voluminous biological detail, how to manipulate consciousness in ways that weaken our notion of free will."

That is by way of introduction to a favorite topic we plan to examine more later: media creating what you think you think. Here's a small example:

On July 14 the New York Times ran a little story on page 9 headed: "Deep Political Rifts Reappear in Rioting in Northern Ireland." It was one of the few US media giants to write even a line on a conflict that went on for several days after the twelfth. (Search around YouTube to see those events.)

The next day the Chicago Tribune also

carried a short piece on page 16 quoting First Minister Peter Robinson: "We're particularly disappointed when we see young people involved and the baton of hatred being handed on to another generation." The paper said "Officials blame members of splinter Republican groups" for "recruiting or egging on protesters" in some of the most violent demonstrations since the 1998 Good Friday Agreement. Deputy First Minister and former PIRA commander Martin McGuinness blamed those who are against "dialogue, negotiation and accommodation." The paper said it was "a season of parades when many Protestants march through neighborhoods commemorating anniversaries or events that underscore their loyalty to the British crown." (The Tribune apparently took this long road around to avoid saying that the neighborhoods in question were Catholic, the parades there were illegal, and were backed up by a huge official armored police presence to push them through—just like in pre-GFA years.)

But the Times story, though small, was remarkable in that it reported rioting in the Ardoyne was "set off by the annual July 12 marches by the Orange Order... a bulwark of Protestant—and British—domination in Ireland for more than 200 years." It labeled the area as "a predominantly Roman Catholic neighborhood" and reported that "the Orange Order rejected a new system for mediating the routes and timing." It also reported rioting in (London) Derry and Lurgan. Predictably, police blamed the clashes on "dissident Republicans."

Niel O'Dowd's Irish Central carried a short piece leading with a statement by Irish Prime Minister Brian Cowen: "the recent clashes in Northern Ireland were the work of a 'small unrepresentative minority.'" The story did mention that "The violence began over the weekend after a decision to allow a Protestant parade to pass through a mainly Catholic neighborhood..." The story ended in a bizarre spin: "The police have been preventing Catholics and Protestants from directly confronting each other." Another thoughtless remark?

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# An Immigrant's Musings

Fr. Michael Leonard



## Summertime Politics

Just as I prepare to send this installment to the IAN, President Obama has delivered his first major speech on the need for Comprehensive Immigration Reform. To some political pundits his comments are a welcome contribution to furthering the cause of reform. They see this as an honest effort by the President to respond to the disastrous immigration law about to take effect in Arizona. And, the Arizona's are not the only one's trying a local solution to a national problem. At the last count fourteen other states have plans to introduce similar type laws to deal with the broken immigration system.

As President Barack Obama on July 1st tried to breath new life into the stalled immigration reform effort, he blamed the delay on the Republican Party. He says Republicans are giving in to the "pressures of partisanship and election-year politics."

The Republicans for their part have accused the Obama administration of failing to adequately deal with the problems faced by states, largely on our southern border.

The problem with this strategy is following years of pouring millions of dollars into building walls and fences the situation at the border is almost impossible to fix, at least in a way that would totally seal the border.

Meanwhile, Mayor of New York Michael Bloomberg says the country is "giving short shrift to immigration" and that our economic problems will only worsen until America sends out a more welcoming message.

Bloomberg says the U.S. is "pushing people that other countries want away from our shores." He said in an interview with Good Morning America that an overly restrictive immigration policy discourages people who can create work with an entrepreneurial spirit.

Speaking a day after President Barack Obama urged Congress to pass an immigration reform bill, Bloomberg said policymakers "should give a green card to anybody

around the world who wants to come here." He also said a way must be found to give citizenship to the roughly 11 million people who are in the United States illegally.

So here we see two approaches to dealing with the issue, one that cries shut the border down and another, which advocates an open welcome to all who can help America restore her economy and provide more jobs.

There are a few things quite clear to anyone who wishes to look seriously at the issue. One, the problem is not going to go away. Two, an enforcement only policy has been tried and failed to solve the problem. And thirdly, playing political games with immigration and immigrants lives is bad public policy and stale politics, which does the country no service at all.

I was recently interviewed for an Irish media outlet about the prospects of immigration reform this year and the interviewer asked: "Where is public opinion on this issue right now?" My answer was this, this is an emotive issue for many people but I am convinced of this: Americans are a very tolerant and welcoming people; they appreciate the enormous contribution immigrants have made and continue to make to this USA. They are also a people who consider it very important to obey the laws of the land and that includes the immigration laws. And, while a recent survey showed that 57% agree with the recent law enacted in Arizona and

equal number showed the bigness of heart so often found in communities across this great land. When asked what to do with the undocumented people here already, 57% also agreed to letting them adjust their status to legal residents if they fulfill conditions, such as, paying a fine, back paying taxes, learning English and clearing a security check.

Interestingly, these conditions were central to a bi-partisan bill, which had the support of 11 Republican senators in 2007, but because of pressure from the far right in the party they have since changed their support.

One of the undocumented, who is patiently waiting for a change in the law, recently sent me this poem, which was quoted by Nelson Mandela as being an inspiration to him in his dark hours in prison. I pass it on here for your reflection.

## Invictus

Out of the night that covers me,  
Black as the pit from pole to pole,  
I thank whatever gods may be  
For my unconquerable soul.  
In the fell clutch of circumstance  
I have not winced nor cried aloud.  
Under the bludgeonings of chance  
My head is bloody, but unbowed.  
Beyond this place of wrath and tears

Looms but the Horror of the shade,  
And yet the menace of the years  
Finds and shall find me unafraid.  
It matters not how strait the gate,  
How charged with punishments the scroll,

I am the master of my fate:  
I am the captain of my soul.  
William Ernest Henley (1849-1903)

Should you have any comments, suggestions or questions please fee free to contact me at 312-534-8445 or sliabhanoir@yahoo.com.

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# Chicago Gaelic Park

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



# G A E L L I C P A R K

### A Choirs

One of the most inspirational and heart-warming events to take place at Gaelic Park every year is the Our Lady of Knock Commemoration. On August 21, 1879, the Blessed Virgin appeared in Knock, County Mayo, Ireland. Every year on a Monday in late August, Gaelic Park has a special religious commemoration of Our Lady's appearance. This year, a Rosary candlelight procession and Benediction will be held at Gaelic Park on August 16. Kay Knightly, along with the Ladies Auxiliary and their committee, make this a very special night. In past years, over 600 people have participated. The religious ceremony is followed by coffee and baked goods in the Emerald Room. It is a truly inspirational and traditional religious ceremony that brings back memories of our childhood. The summer culminates with the North American County Board Gaelic Athletic Association Playoffs at Gaelic Park on Labor Day weekend. At least 20 cities, some with several teams, are expected to be represented at the finals. Seventeen championships are on the agenda with about 70 games expected to be played at this year's event. For the first time in many years, a Canadian team will compete in this year's championship. Vancouver will have a team compete in the Junior A Hurling championship. The North American Playoffs are held at Gaelic Park every few years. It is a special event that is well worth the visit. This year, on Saturday, September 4, NBC will be highlighting Notre Dame's opening game against Purdue with a special viewing event at Gaelic Park. Four big screens will be featuring the Notre Dame game. The event will be free and a great way to watch new Irish coach Brian Kelly's first game.

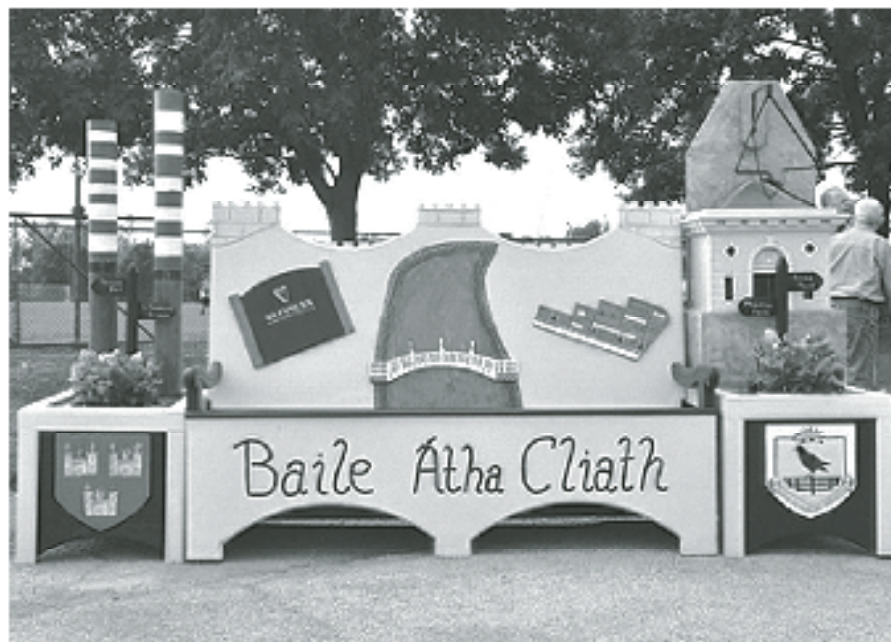
All in all, a great summer!  
Yours very truly,  
John C. Griffin

### Musical Luncheons

continue through the summer months on the first Wednesday of every month. Doors open at noon, lunch served at 1pm, music until 4pm, \$13 per person. Reservations required.

### North American Finals at COP

Labor Day Weekend September 3 through September 6 will be a thrilling and exciting weekend for the entire family. This will be the biggest North American tournament yet with 74 games played in ten divisions of Gaelic



County Dublin bench on view at Chicago Gaelic Park.

football and hurling by teams from twenty-eight U.S. cities. The weekend of action-packed excitement begins at 9am on Friday, September 3, with eleven Gaelic football quarterfinal play-off games in ladies and men's junior divisions played throughout the day. Admission for Friday's games is \$10. Weekend passes for all three days of sports games are available for \$35. The excitement continues on Saturday, September 4, with a full day of activities. There will be seventeen semifinal play-off games played by the regional winning teams from every part of the

U.S. from California to Massachusetts and Illinois to Florida. Admission for all the games on Saturday will be \$15. After the games, at approximately 7:30pm there will be an anticipatory Sunday Mass in the Celtic Room.

The finale of the weekend will be Sunday, September 5 when ten championship games will be played. The finalists of seven divisions of Gaelic football, camogie and two divisions of men's hurling will be challenged in one of the most exciting afternoons of sports action possible. A disc jockey will be entertaining in the Tara Room and there will also be live musical entertainment in the Carrig Irish Pub. Admission to the Sunday games is \$20. The weekend is not limited to sports. Delicious food including Irish sausages and chips and other delights are available for purchase all weekend with a full Irish breakfast available for purchase Saturday and Sunday until noon. Souvenirs of the weekend will also be sold.

Please call Gaelic Park at 708.687.9323 for times and games. Check out more information on Gaelic Park's website [www.chicagogaelicpark.org](http://www.chicagogaelicpark.org).

Heritage and Harvest Day at COP will take place on Sunday, September 19. This is a wonderful family celebration of authentic Irish culture and heritage. There is no admission charge for this event and food and refreshments will be available for purchase. More information on times and scheduled events in the September IA News.

### Become A Member!

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# Chicago Gaelic Park

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## BANQUETS AT GAELIC PARK

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Gaelic Park has been hosting weddings for over 20 years, and has seen many changes in the banquet business since then. What started off as one banquet room with accommodations for 100 guests has now grown into three beautiful banquet rooms that can accommodate a variety of events from a fairy tale wedding, bridal shower, memorial luncheon, fashion show, awards dinners, to high school proms, business seminars and luncheons.

The Emerald Room remodeled in the Spring of 2007, can accommodate up to 500 guests while the Tara Room, which underwent major renovations in the Spring of 2009, can accommodate up to 300 guests.



The Celtic Room, on the second floor is suitable for parties up to 120 guests.

The patio in the rear of the building has now become a favorite spot for outdoor wedding ceremonies, as well as outdoor dining. Under the guidance of Banquet Manager, Jody Hemrick, the banquet staff is knowledgeable, professional and accommodating.

They take extraordinary pride in celebrating and planning all your special occa-



sions and help guide each bride/party host through everything from menu planning, linen, seating arrangements, and centerpieces to any audio visual needs. A wide menu selection is offered, which includes weekday, weekend and Sunday menus.

Throughout the different seasons at Gaelic



Park, many different types of activities in addition to weddings take place, including, Ireland on Parade, G.A.A. Games, Irish Fest, Heritage & Harvest Day, Concerts, Christ-



mas Parties, Monthly Musical Luncheon, Sunday Celtic Suppers and Mass and Irish Breakfast.

Stop by Gaelic Park to speak with Jody or any banquet staff member to plan your next event. There is someone available every day to answer your questions and the

office is open from 9:00am to 8:00pm daily. You can also visit the Gaelic Park website at [www.chicagogaelicpark.org](http://www.chicagogaelicpark.org) Telephone number is 708.687.9323.

Gaelic Park is located at 6119 W. 147th Street in Oak Forest.

**Set Dancing** Mondays 7:30 - 9:30pm, year round. \$3 weekly fee.

**Ceili Dancing** Tuesdays, 7:30 - 9:30pm, September thru April only, \$2 weekly fee.

### Stepdancing Schools

Cross Keys - 773.298.0038, Lavin-Cassidy - 708.448.6593,

Mullane - 708.267.3638 and McCormack-Fay Academy - 708.856.2961.

**Family Music Sessions** Traditional Irish music played on Thursday evenings in the Pub, by students from the Irish Music School. For more information email [LearnIrishMusic@aol.com](mailto:LearnIrishMusic@aol.com).

### COP Sunday Radio Program

Sundays, 7:05pm-9pm, WCEV 1450 AM.

### Sunday Mass and Breakfast

Resumes October 10.

### Sunday Celtic Supper Begins November 7.

### Arlington Park Celtic Celebration

Join them at beautiful Arlington Park for their first Celtic Celebration, a Celtic-themed celebration featuring Irish dancers, cultural music, activities & food and an unofficial "Halfway to St. Patrick's Day." All this entertainment on September 12.

### COP Board of Directors

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## Healy Law

Martin J. Healy, Jr.

Senior Partner



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

The Healy Law Firm is comprised of eight trial attorneys, two of whom are from Ireland. We are located downtown at 111 West Washington

Street, Suite 1425, Chicago, Illinois 60602 (800-922-4500 or 312-977-0100). [www.HealyLawFirm.com](http://www.HealyLawFirm.com). The firm concentrates in the representation of injured victims of all types of accidents.

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

### Have a Safe Road Trip

Summer is the time of the year that families travel near and far for vacation. A little preparation and being mindful of some practical rules will ensure that you return safely from your summer vacation road trip.

#### Preparing for the Trip

Your family vehicle will likely be loaded with more people and cargo for a family trip than at any other

time. Ensure that you have visited your mechanic to have the vital systems, such as brakes, radiator, belts, fluid levels, and battery checked. Pay special attention to the vehicle's tires to check for wear and proper inflation. Check the Safety Certification Label on the inside of the driver's door for proper tire inflation. Some vehicles specify different inflation for loaded vehicles. Check the inside of the fuel filler door and the owner's manual for information. Proper inflation will both ensure that tires do not overheat and improve fuel mileage. Do not forget to check the spare tire to make sure it is inflated.

Ensure that the vehicle is not overloaded. Attaching cargo to the top or rear of the vehicle can change the way the vehicle handles and affect its stability. Do not overload the vehicle, which can place undue strain on tires and suspension, which can drastically affect handling and stopping performance. Ensure that items placed in the cargo area do not block the driver's vision and will not move unexpectedly in the vehicle while it is moving or in the event of a sudden stop or collision.

Car seats should be checked to make sure that they are the proper size and installed properly. Helpful information on purchasing and installing an appropriate booster or car seat can be found at [www.iihs.org/research/topics/children.html](http://www.iihs.org/research/topics/children.html). Most local fire departments are happy to check installation and will offer assistance installing seats. Children under 13 should always ride in the back seat to prevent injury from airbags in case of a crash. Children must always remain seated and belted during the trip. They should not ride on a lap or in a cargo area at any time.

Take a moment to make sure that you have the proper documentation in your vehicle, including current insurance and registration documents. Consult your insurance agent to determine if your auto insurance policy provides coverage for roadside assistance, rental car and emergency lodging in case of accident or mechanical breakdown. Consider joining the American Automobile Association, AAA, which provides free roadside assistance, jump starts, and towing to its members, in addition to a wide range of travel assistance, such as maps, road guides, and lodging advice.

#### Drive Safely

Plan for plenty of time to reach your destination safely, taking into account necessary breaks for food, fuel, and rest. Driver fatigue is one of the most common and deadly hazards on a road trip. Stopping to rest as needed and at least every two hours, plus frequently switching drivers prevents driving when fatigued, which can lead to lack of attention to driving or even falling asleep. Contrary to common thinking, coffee or caffeinated drinks, fresh air, or open windows have no lasting effect on driver fatigue. There is no substitute for sufficient sleep. Avoid driving during normal sleep times. Keep in mind that dozing off for only 2 seconds at 65 miles

per hour means that your vehicle, with your family on board, will have traveled about two hundred feet without an alert driver at the wheel.

Distracted driving is dangerous, too. Avoid doing anything that competes with driving for your attention. GPS devices, maps, radios, conversations with passengers, and cell phone conversations are potentially dangerous distractions. Never text or email while driving. Texting and driving is not only dangerous, but is illegal in many states and municipalities, carrying heavy mandatory fines. These rules are strictly enforced in many jurisdictions, with good reason.

Use caution when driving near large trucks. Keep in mind that most professional truck drivers are well trained and drive safely. However, also keep in mind that driving a large truck presents its own challenges. Because of the size of a Semi-Truck/Trailer, drivers have a difficult time seeing vehicles behind and to the side of their truck. A good rule to observe is that if you cannot see the truck's mirrors, mounted on the cab door, the truck driver likely cannot see you. Be alert for trucks changing lanes or slowing unexpectedly, especially near ramps, mountain grades or weigh stations, where trucks often have to slow or stop while other traffic does not.

Finally, slow down. Drive sensibly. Speed is a factor in over 31% of fatal highway fatalities, accounting for 11,674 deaths last year. Not only does excessive speed cut down on reaction time and increase stopping distance in an emergency, the crash energy of a crash increases by the square of the speeds. When impact speed increases from 40 to 60 mph (a

50 percent increase), the energy of the crash increases by 125 percent.

A small amount of preparation and planning will help make a family road trip a fun adventure instead of a bad experience.

Have a great summer!

David Huber



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### High Kings Summer Tour Stops in Chicago August 17

The High Kings –Martin Furey, Finbarr Clancy, Brian Dunphy and Darren Holden - exploded onto the folk scene in Ireland in 2008 with their self titled CD and DVD and quickly achieved platinum sales status there. Since then, they have become the most exciting Irish ballad group to emerge since The Clancy Brothers and Tommy Makem electrified the worldwide folk revival of the 1960s. The High Kings have revived a flagging Folk scene and brought well-loved songs back to the masses in three

TheView and NBC's This Morning and they opened for Celtic Woman on their US tour. In September The High Kings returned to the US to headline their own tour, performing from Boston to San Diego.

As word of their live reputation spread, the lads were invited to do numerous TV appearances in Ireland, including ringing in New Year 2009 with Tubrudy Tonight on RTE and performing their hit Fields of Glory to 80,000 sports fan at the All-Ireland

The Late Late Show, in 2009. The High Kings continued to tour throughout 2009 and they were voted, by the public, Best Newcomer and Best Folk Act at Irelands Music Awards 2009, sharing nominations with accomplished Irish acts, The Wolfe Tones and The Dubliners.

This year is set to cement The High Kings reputation as a phenomenal live band, as they have already completed a hugely successful Irish tour. The new album, Memory Lane, released by Universal Music in Ireland, debuted at No. 5 in the Irish charts and quickly achieved platinum status. The album features classics such as Fields of Athenry, Star of the County Down and Leaving of Liverpool. The Cd will be released in the US early in the New Year. To preview it the band will be performing 5 shows in the States this August, see dates below.

Sunday August 15th, Irish Fair of Minnesota, Harriet Island, St Paul, 2pm, Main Stage <http://www.irishfair.com>

Monday August 16th, Cleveland Westside Irish American Club, 7:30 pm



sell out Irish Tours.

The High Kings launched in America in March 2008. They created a buzz that led to their appearance on ABC's

final in Ireland's National stadium, Croke Park. They were the closing act on Pat Kenny's last show of the longest running talk show in the world,

### Chulrua Heartland Tour to Visit The Ark, Chief O'Neill's

The popular trad group, chulrua has a busy schedule in August around the Midwest.

August 6th they stop at The Ark in Ann Arbor, Michigan, then it's off to Chicago for a stop at Chief O'Neill's, Urbana at the Piper's Hut, back to Saginaw, Michigan for a gig at the White Crow, and on th the Great Lakes Folk Festival in East Lansing.

Their music is the old instrumental dance melodies of Ireland: jigs, reels, hornpipes, polkas, and the occasional song. They also play walking marches, slow airs, set dances, and the harp music of Turlough O'Carolan and others.

Chulrua concerts are in keeping with the old tradition—music in a relaxed, intimate atmosphere, and tunes offered as they were handed down from generation to generation in Ireland.

Chulrua (pronounced cool-ROO-ah), translates from the Irish as "red back," and was the name and distinguishing feature of the favorite wolfhound belonging to ancient Irish hero Fionn MacCumhaill.

It is also the name of an internationally acclaimed trio of some of the most respected and unique exponents of Irish traditional music.

08/06/10 Chulrua in Ann Arbor, MI The Ark

Admission: \$15. (734) 761-1800. 316 S. 316 S. Main St. Ann Arbor, MI 48104

8/08/10 Chulrua in Chicago Chief



O'Neill's 6:00pm. Admission: Adults \$25, Students \$15. 773-583-3066. 3471 N. Elston. 08/10/10 Chulrua in Urbana, IL

Piper's Hut Concerts 8:00pm. Admission: \$20 adult, \$10 student/senior. IMC, 202 South Broadway.

08/12/10 Chulrua in Saginaw, MI The White Crow 7:00pm. Admission: \$15. 989-790-2118. 3736 Mackinaw.

08/13/10 - 08/15/10 Chulrua in East Lansing, MI Great Lakes Folk Festival



John Staunton's, The Chieftain Irish Pub is now open at 6906 West 111th street in Worth., Illinois. Say hello to John and Kara Eadie!

Tuesday, August 17th, Chicago Irish Heritage Club, 7:30 pm, <http://irish-american.org/>

Wednesday, August 18th, Philadelphia, Brittinghams, [www.brittinghams.com/](http://www.brittinghams.com/)

Thursday, August 19th, New York, Connolly's, 8pm, [www.connollyspub-andrestaurant.com](http://www.connollyspub-andrestaurant.com)

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## WANNA PLAY?

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

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# The Irish Rover

By James McClure



## Having the Boggiest Idea

Along the Lake County and McHenry County border about 45 miles northwest of Chicago lies a one-of-a-kind area where you can not only see the last vestiges of a glacier, but also take a walk backward through time.

The Volo Bog State Natural Area in Ingleside, Illinois is a wonderful place to spend a morning or afternoon seeing and learning how the area transformed from a widespread coating of glacial ice, into different time periods of marshlands, meadows, lakes and forests... all still in evidence today.

It all began when the Wisconsin glacier receded from north-eastern Illinois about 12,000 years ago. Large blocks of ice broke away from the retreating ice mass and became buried in gravel, sand, clay and boulders. A warming climate melted the giant blocks which formed depressed areas called kettle-holes which became marshes and lakes.

Some of the glacial lakes began to fill in with sediment about 6,000 years ago and became surrounded with living plants and a floating mat of sphagnum moss. Over time a deep 50-acre lake became a pond with just a few hundred yards of open water and the only bog of its kind in Illinois. Volo Bog is unique in how it exhibits all the stages of bog development from marsh and forest to meadow and prairie.

Guided public tours are conducted on Saturdays and Sundays, and the Volo Bog Nature Preserve is the starting point. Its circa 1900 dairy barn has been renovated into a two story visitor center that is open from 9am to 3pm Wednesday through Sunday. It's also a great starting off point if you want to go on your own tours of the bog and its diverse vegetation and wildlife.

The center, which includes a reference library, gift shop and classroom, features displays and exhibits which greatly aid the appreciation of the bog. Visitors learn about the dozens of songbirds that call the bog area home and get a chance to hear pushbutton recordings of their bird calls.

The floating moss that fills in the ancient bog is so thick that it could in theory support a human's weight. That would be a dangerous undertaking but the center has an exhibit where you can experience what it is like to walk on the floating wriggling mass.

It also might explain why back in the dairy farm days local folklore told of cows and horses disappearing. Perhaps they wandered onto the floating soil and fell through.

With this sufficient caution in mind begins the fun experience of walking the first trail outside, the half-mile long Volo Bog Interpretive Trail. Most of the trail actually floats on the bog, and the slightly bobbing wood docks and boardwalks circle through a beautiful world of ferns and cattails, lily pads and fauna.

Depending on the season one can see orchids and dogwoods, waterfowl and colorful poison sumac. Stopping along the trail affords the chance to hear the various floating and flying creatures or catch a glimpse of bees and butterflies buzzing about the many wildflowers.

There is so much variety here that trail guide pamphlets are available for every season. In winter the Tamarack View Trail is open to cross-country skiing, with the seasonal viewing of trailside winterberry holly with its bright red berries.

For those who want to make a summertime day of it, there is a visitor center picnic area and a shelter with grills and tables. More information on the Volo Bog State Natural Area is available at (815) 344-1294. IrishRoverJim@aol.com.



## Reel Jiggy

By Deirdre Kozicki

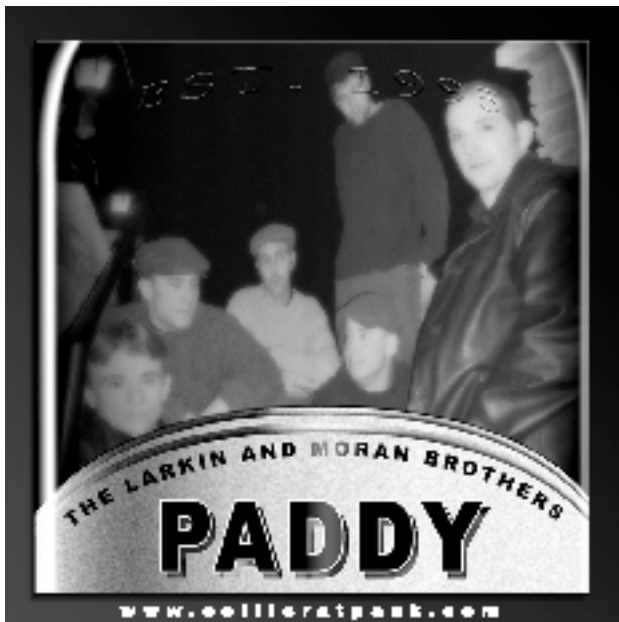


## National Champion

I went to a 4th of July party and had a great time. I had a lot of fun with friends and family. We were in a golf cart parade and we decorated our cart as a disco. I couldn't stay too long because we were leaving for Nationals the next day.

All my hard work is finally over; I went to Nationals in Walt Disney World. My team and I did the best we could, both in my ceili and choreography. It was a very fun experience! When it was time for awards my ceili was announced first. I already knew my ceili team recalled, so we would place. The other ceili team from my school didn't recall but they did a great job. My team ended up getting an 8th out of 29 other teams. I was so happy but what made me even happier is how I did in my choreography. We ended up getting 1st place! We were national champions and couldn't be happier. All the hours of practice paid off. I guess at Walt Disney World dreams really do come true. The next day we went to the Magic Kingdom. I went on most of the rides and all of the roller coasters. It was so much fun. We waited over an hour for Space Mountain. We stayed there for 7 hours. Then I went to Epcot and went on Soarin', the best ride there. I also went on a few other rides. Then I went back to the hotel and passed out. I was exhausted. The next day we went to the water park. It had the tallest water slide in America. I really liked it. That night I left Florida. I had the most fun, happiest, and awesome time there. I can't wait to go back. I hope next time I don't have to do everything in one day!

I wanted to thank my teachers, Peggy, Mary Alice, & Shannon for all the time they put in to making us champions. All your work paid off! Picture: Team at Nationals in Walt Disney World.



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# Barrington McGonigal’s Fits Right In

Every Irishman who has ever opened a pub in the winter tries like hell to get it open for St. Patrick’s Day. Many fail. Not Bryan McGonigal and his army of qualified help. The Grand Opening was March 12, 2010, and he’s never looked back. “Business is good, and the community seems to have embraced us,” said Bryan.

Bryan had always wanted to open an Irish pub, and he kept that dream alive for some time. He even went a step farther. In an adjacent but connected building, Bryan and his brother-in-law (Steve Berry) built a beautiful and hip wine bar with its own entrance and ambience. Bryan owns the pub, Steve owns the wine bar, and both share many commonalities such as the kitchen, bathrooms and customers!

McGonigal is third generation Irish from Donegal and has fallen in love with his Irish roots. Bryan and his family imported Irish furniture and bric-a-brac from

Derry, and hired Irish transplant, local legend, and pub owner in his own right, Maurice McNally of Avondale Custom Homes Inc., to do the buildout of the pub side. Maurice may be best known as the owner of McNally’s Pub in St. Charles, IL, and his pub shares a friendly business affiliation with McGonigal’s.

The building is an old historic bank dating back to 1913 which closed during the great depression. The building still retains its great features inside and out such as the bank vaults, one of which is now used as an office, and the main vault area is currently used as a private dining area for 8 to 10 guests. Two distinct outdoor dining areas work themselves in nicely, one on each side of the main door. We noticed one was in the sun, and one was in the shade. Made to order!

When you walk in you see a horseshoe shaped bar, a few large televisions if you have to watch

TV, but high enough to be out of the way for those who just want some good conversation. You also see the pub has two levels, and areas that tail off to the left that have to be explored. It’s almost like being in Ireland with snugs and nooks and crannies, but with an American flair. There is a band area on the first floor where bands and entertainers are scheduled every Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights.

There is also an elevator to the second floor where another large room sports a bar and plenty of tables and TV’s for parties, banquets, bridal showers or just the overflow crowd on a busy day. This room seats up to 100 and includes a larger band stage which fits 4 to 5 band members.

General Manager Damien Dunne hails from Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny, and has lived in America for the past ten years. Damien and Bryan were hoping to replicate an old style Irish pub (Victorian), and we think they have. The clientele seems to be anything but Victorian with a cross-section of Barrington locals in several age categories. A nice mix for a pub that looks like it is here to stay.

Oh, and the food. It’s excellent. It’s not a great Irish pub without good food, and we think McGonigal’s delivers. You’ll have to go in and try it for yourself. You’ll fit right in!

Word on the street is that McGonigal’s could be expanding in the near future. 847-277-7400

[www.mcgonigalspub.com](http://www.mcgonigalspub.com).or  
[info@mcgonigalspub.com](mailto:info@mcgonigalspub.com).  
105 S Cook St, Barrington.



Top picture:

(l to r) Ted Stay, Tom Kalomiris, Dennis, Bryan, Alexander, and Laura McGonigal, and Damien Dunne.

photo by Cathy Curry

Picture to right:

A great wall mural is one of the decorations on the outside wall of McGonigal’s on Cook St.



General Contractor, Maurice McNally, on the job!

One of several semi-private areas at McGonigal’s, called “The Vault.”



Back row (l to r): Ted Stay (Executive Chef), Damien Dunne (Pub Manager), Dennis McGonigal (Bryan’s father and owner of the buildings), Bryan McGonigal (Owner of the pub), and Tom Kalomiris (manager of the sister company, Park Avenue Wine Bar). Front row (l to r): Brendon Moratz, Taylor Drewes, Javier Rodriguez, Alexander McGonigal and Laura McGonigal (Bryan’s wife and pub treasurer), Laura Howard, Kyra Brim, Jacklyn Quinney, Evelyn McGettigan, and Neilus O’Connell. Behind Evelyn and going back along the far side of bar (r to l): Luis Avila, and kitchen staff Kate Coronado, Rosalinda Magana, Roberto Martinez, Richard Meierdirks (Sous chef), Ernesto Camarena, and Juan Muro. photo by Cathy Curry



# O'BITUARIES

## Raymond Naughton

Naughton, Raymond E. age 81 passed July 22, 2010, beloved father to Priscilla, Terry and Mark (Carol), loving grandfather of two Thomas and Allison Parus, dear cousin of Michael and James Naughton and Catherine (Michael) Russo. Proud Truck driver of the Chicago Truck Driver Union and C.F. of forty three years. Funeral Tuesday, July 27, 2010 9:45 a.m. from Kenny Brothers, 3600 West 95th St., Evergreen Park to St Germaine Church Mass 10:30 a.m. Interment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials appreciated to your favorite charity. For info 773-239-3600 or 708-425-4500.



## Anna F. Kelly

Kelly, Anna F. (nee O'Kelly), age 91, beloved wife of the late Daniel A. Kelly, loving mother of Daniel CFD ret., the late Martin (Doris), Edward (Diane), Patrick (Susan), and Kathleen (Judy), cherished grandmother of seven and great-grandmother of five, devoted aunt of Austin (Barbara) and many other nieces and nephews. Funeral Tuesday, July 27, 2010 11:15 a.m. from the Andrew J. McGann and Son Funeral Home, 10727 S. Pulaski Rd. to St. Nicholas of Tolentine Church (3721 W. 62nd St.), for Mass at 12:00 p.m. Interment St. Mary Cemetery. 773-783-7700 or 708-423-5400 andrewmcgann.com



## 26 Year Old Writes Masterpiece

By Frank West

The Seanachai Theatre Company form will present the Weir by Conor McPherson 8/26 to 10/3.

Seanachai has presented outstanding theatre in Chicago for years. Now this theatre company has a permanent home at the Irish American Heritage Center. These is a great addition because as Seanachai's mission statement says, "stories were at the very core of ancient Irish culture..." and the company's goal "is to return theatre to this origin..."

Conor McPherson wrote The Weir in 1999, when he as only 26 years old. What an extraordinary achievement! The play received the L. Olivier Award for Best New Play. Reviewers praised it's "soft spoken, delicately crafted work" and called it "a modern masterpiece." Seanachai's press release calls it a "hauntingly



Brad Armacost, and Susan Wellington

beautiful and humorous play."

Brad Armacost, and Susan Wellington star. I have seen The Weir several times and I'm always amazed at its power to captivate me. The play is disarmingly simple: four locals in a pub in rural Ireland tell ghost stories from Irish folklore. They are trying impress a young woman who has moved there from Dublin. However, her story of why she left Dublin is true and realistic. They are sleepily impressed, even established. They become sympathetic and gentle toward her. She is admitted to the community.

Seanachai's press release says The Weir shows the "human need to be heard... through storytelling."

The Weir will be presented at the Irish American Heritage Center from August 26 thru October 3, Thursday thru Sunday. 866-811-4111 or visit [www.seanachai.org](http://www.seanachai.org).



## Parallelogram at Steppenwolf

By Frank West

A Parallelogram is a hilarious play. Humor is difficult to create on stage, so the casting must be very good. And in this play, it is perfect.

There are many funny lines, but in some places



Tom Irwin, Kate Arrington in Parallelogram. we laugh so we don't cry; however, while we are laughing, the playwright gets us to consider difficult questions about life. Some of these questions are:

- Do we have free will, or are our lives predetermined?
  - Can we change our lives much or even at all?
  - Would we be different persons today, if our parents had been millionaires?
- A central character in the play is Bee, who believes she can see into the future. But that suggests more questions:
- If you could see into the future, would you?
  - Do we see what we want to see?
  - Do we interpret, or "see life differently, because of our beliefs?"

The only real choice we have is to focus on optimism and kindness. A Parallelogram is entertaining, colorful and thought provoking. It was written by Bruce Norris and is directed by Anna D. Shapiro.

Steppenwolf, 1650 N. Halsted St., Tuesday thru Sunday, thru August 29. 312-335-1650 or [www.steinwolf.org](http://www.steinwolf.org)

## Give Me The Money, And You May Live A Long and Odious Life

By Frank West

I had a walloping good time watching The Tallest Man. It is being presented by Artistic

Home. The Theater is at 3914 N. Clark Street. This is near Irving Park.

Why did I enjoy it so much? The Tallest Man is a quick, vibrant, humane story with constant action and suspense. It repeatedly displays great, good humor.

However, as we all know, and the play clearly shows, humor can say a lot but it can also obscure and cover up much. Humor lets us quickly understand a character's strong points and weak ones too.

The Tallest Man is set in Ireland of the 1890s. The press release describes it as: "a wildly hilarious celebration of perseverance, prejudice and superstition in turn of the century Ireland."

The play has special meaning for Irish Americans, as it could have been set anywhere in Europe.

Most Americans are descended from people who endured conditions similar to those shown in The Tallest Man. Nobles owned the land in Europe; the clergy were part of the establishment. The clerics promised our ancestors fair-

ness and equality in the next world, but only endurance in this one.

The title quote is said by a greedy, two faced priest to the landlord's agent. That agent is Thaddeus Newcombe. He had the power to evict families from the land.

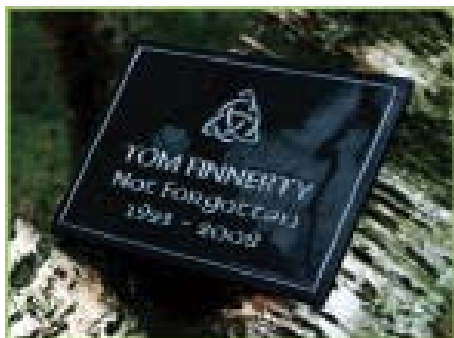
And this meant death for them.

Compliments to Eamonn McDonagh (pictured above) who played this character, he showed the great life or death power of this man. McDonagh doesn't just walk around the stage. He makes his character walk with the total understanding of the power he has. The agent has total assurance that he is completely supported by the landowner and the British courts.

Great praise, too, for Jim Lynch, the playwright. Not only is his play a joy to watch, but it is being produced by the outstanding actors of Artistic Home, producing great theatre for many years.

The play has had such great box office sales that Artistic Home has extended the show through 8-22.

866-811-4111 or [www.artistichome.org](http://www.artistichome.org)



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## Celtic Kitchen —Pure and Simple



By Julianna Leber

### Liquid Gold

When planning a summer party, many thoughts and ideas arise regarding the menu. Decisions like whether to serve hamburgers or steaks, 'beer' chicken or barbecue chicken, potato salad or pasta salad or both, and then what for dessert enters the mind of the cook. Drinks are also on that list, but usually as margaritas, mojitos or beer. And what about the uber-hot days when even a cold beer doesn't quench the thirst and bottled water sounds too plain? Welcome the classic lemonade. Though long consumed on porches, at picnics, and served to the studly laborers in movies, truly homemade lemonade—and its counterparts—has gone by the wayside. Like most foods that were once simple to make from scratch, modern food manufacturers have made the one-two-three step process for simple, old fashioned foods into one, maybe two automatic steps. For powdered lemonade and its sugary sidekick, Kool-Aid, get pitcher of water, add the pre-measured dried lemon flavoring and sugar from a cardboard can or packet and stir. One sugar rush and purple mustache later, your body is no better except for the water in the drink.

Thankfully, the tide is turning from the processed to the pure. And during this exceptionally warm summer, the body doesn't need the excess of additives in the powdered mix. Give the taste buds and the body what it needs: the real deal of fresh fruit. In this simple step, the fruits like oranges, lemons, limes, and berries are all giving the body a little extra in the drink. The little extras are things like vitamin C, Vitamin A, and other vitamins and minerals that when the body heats up and sweats the juices can help replace. Not to mention helping to keep the body cooler and the brain working properly. Have you ever seen someone pass out in front of you from dehydration? I have. And it ain't pretty.

Lemonade though has gone through image changes. Once considered the go-to drink for workers, guests, tee-totalers, and children it can again be served as special as a Paula Deen Southern original. Anything homemade demonstrates effort, and the taste of fresh lemonade will definitely impress guests of all ages. While it can be served with fruit slices at lunch, or in a cold pitcher of "Arnold Palmer" (1/2 lemonade, 1/2 ice tea), it is also a great base to be dressed up for adult evenings.

Dressing up lemonade for an evening party



takes a little imagination. Depending on the types of citrus or berries, one might choose a rum or more likely a flavored vodka for the festivities. I made a lime drink consist-

ing of limeade, vanilla vodka, and a sprinkle of coconut flakes that won rave reviews from the guests and called it a key lime pie drink. Another beverage is the citrus lemonade with a splash of



rum. For a non-alcoholic drink, substitute club soda for the water in the following recipes for a light fizzy drink.

The finale to any serious drink is the garnish. Using cut rounds from the fruit in the drink, and layer them in the pitcher and also topping the glass with one adds a touch of sophistication and shows the recipient that the drink was well thought out. To really make a splash, add a contrasting color of fruit or even a unique type of slice, such as the star fruit. So cool!

The best way to sweeten the lemonade is to make a simple syrup. This is made with equal parts sugar and water. It can also be made with stevia, a natural non-sugar sweetener or Splenda. However, I would not recommend boiling the mix with the sugar substitutes but using very hot water. By using simple syrup in the drinks, the sweetener does not have to dissolve since it is already a part of the liquid syrup and thereby avoiding the grainy sludge at the bottom of the glass and pitcher.

Summer can drain your energy levels and leave you with just enough energy to sit and swing in the hammock. When you make that decision to enjoy the sights and sounds of summertime, remember to keep a pitcher of homemade lemonade at the ready to keep the fluids flowing. Relaxing to the sound of birds while sipping a cold lemonade is essential under the summer sun.

The following recipes are for the simple syrup, homemade citrus-ade, a version of the one made daily at Ballymaloe School and Ballymaloe House, and lemonade with blueberries. I threw in a simple avocado guacamole to complete the appetizer round for your dog days of summer party. Slainte!

### Simple Syrup

2 cups white sugar, 2 cups water  
Combine ingredients on stovetop in a small

pan. Boil until all sugar dissolves, 3 minutes. Remove from heat and allow to cool completely.

### Citrus – Aide

2 oranges, 2 lemons, 2 limes  
Simple syrup, Water and ice  
Mint leaves, to garnish

Cut fruit in half, around the equator. Taking a half from each fruit, cut into thin slices for the garnish. Fill a pitcher (2-3 quart) full with cold water. Press or squeeze the remaining fruit and pour the juice into the pitcher. Add 1 cup of simple syrup, stir and taste for desired sweetness. Add more, if needed.

To serve, add ice to glasses and put a slice of fruit on the glass rim. Add the remainder of slices to drink in pitcher, drop in mint leaves, pour into the glasses and serve.

### Kevin Dennis Benefit 8-28

The Irish American Heritage Center welcomes the community to participate in the Kevin Dennis Family Benefit on August 28.

Kevin Dennis, 31, a beloved member of the Chicago Irish community, unexpectedly past away on August 8, 2009 leaving his wife of nearly six years, Laura (Tully) Dennis, to raise their two young sons alone.

Remembering Kevin's kindness and humanity, members from the Heritage Center decided to reach out and help raise money for Kevin's children's education.

Taking place at the IAHC, creators of the event expect an audience of over 1,000 people of all ages from the Chicago land area to help make this first sponsored event a smash.

### Lemonade

4 lemons, 1 cup blueberries  
Simple syrup, Mint leaves, to garnish

Follow above recipe, using lemons. Lightly crush washed blueberries and sprinkle with 2 t. sugar. Let sit for 10-15 minutes. Add berry mix to lemonade and serve with mint.

### Avocado Guacamole

2 avocados, ripe, 1/2 cup chopped cilantro  
1/2 medium red onion, chopped  
1 roma tomato, diced, 2 t. lime juice  
1/2 jalapeno, ribs removed and chopped (if desired), Salt and pepper, to taste

Cut and de-seed avocados and put into a bowl. Add rest of ingredients and mix until combined. Serve with warm tortilla chips.



Jack, Laura, and Quinn Dennis.

Although response has been outstanding for the event, more help is needed. Please contact Jay Flaherty at 773-895-3736.

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## 2010 Continental Youth Championship

By Eamonn Kelly

Several hundred boys and girls from youth clubs throughout the North American County Board will be heading to New York next weekend to compete in the annual Continental Youth Championship (CYC) Tournament. Last year in San Francisco NACB teams captured 16 of the 22 championships, while 6 titles went to New York clubs. From an NACB perspective, highlight of last years tournament was the county’s success in the Inter-county championships in which they captured the minor, under 16 boys and under 16 girls football championships.

This years CYC is being hosted by the New York County Youth Board in conjunction with the CYC Steering Committee and being staged at Eisenhower Park in Nassua County, New York July 29, 30, 31, & August 1. The tournament will get underway with the traditional parade on Thursday evening at 7:00pm in the town of Rockville Center on Long Island.

With over 140 teams are expected to compete from cities across the US and Canada as well as team from England and Ireland it is estimated that over 200 games will be on the schedule. Various hurling and Gaelic

football championships at under 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 17 age groups will be staged. Similar to last year, special attraction will be the staging of the boy’s inter-county minor football championship between York, NACB and London. There will also be inter-county competitions in boys under 16 and girls minor football.

The CYC which made its debut in New York in 2004 has evolved into the biggest Irish sports youth program in the world. Launched during the presidency of Sean Kelly, the CYC was the beginning of a major new initiative towards the development of Gaelic games overseas. With the financial backing from Croke Park through the International committee now under the chairmanship of former GAA President Joe McDonagh, coupled with corporate sponsorship from O’Neill’s, Ireland’s premier Sports Company, the tournament has grown in popularity and size.

Several GAA officials from Ireland have committed to attending the tournament including former GAA President and current International Committee chairman, Joe McDonagh as well as former International Committee chairman, Sheamus Howlen and officials from O’Neill’s.

With over 140 teams are expected to compete from cities across the US and Canada as well as team from England and Ireland it is estimated that over 200 games will be on the schedule. Various hurling and Gaelic



### The Wildest Dream: Conquest of Everest in Chicago August 6

National Geographic Entertainment brings a true story of heartbreaking love and adventure to Chicago cinema screens starting August 6. Landmark’s Century Centre Theatre, 2828 N. Clark St., Chicago, holds the distinct honor of showcasing a film 10 years in the making.

Following renowned American mountaineer Conrad Anker, the film focuses on renowned British explorer George Mallory starting at the point when, in 1999, Anker found his body buried high upon Mt. Everest’s “death zone,” some 75 years after he mysteriously disappeared.

In 1924, Mallory risked everything he knew to set out in pursuit of the

dream he possessed his every thought, reaching the top of Everest, which at the time was the last great adventure left. At 800 feet below the summit, crowds gathered for the last glimpse anyone would ever take of the explorer right as the clouds rolled in and he vanished into legend.

Anker and friend Leo Houlding tell Mallory’s story by interweaving their 2007 recreation of the Brit’s fateful trip as well as film coverage and correspondence between Mallory and his beloved wife, Ruth. As they trace the explorers fateful steps they uncover that while living the dream all he longed for was home.

The film, directed by Emmy winner

Anthony Geffen, also tells Mallory’s story through the narrative voices of famous actors, including: Liam Neeson, Ralph Finnes, Alan Rickman, Hugh Darcy and the late Natasha Richardson. The Wildest Dream is PG and runs 93 minutes long. <http://www.landmarktheatres.com/market/chicago/landmark'scenturycentrecinema.htm>.

### Golf Outing 9-16

The University of Saint Mary of the Lake and Mundelein Seminary will hold their 19th annual golf outing and dinner on September 16, 2010 at Pine Meadow Golf Club in Mundelein.

A charitable benefit, all proceeds raised will benefit Mundelein Seminary’s English as a Second Language Program and other seminary needs.

During the dinner, the seminary will present the Joseph Cardinal Bernardin “In Service of One Another” Catholic Humanitarian Award, a very coveted honor, to Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Rigali, Sr. The award will be presented to the couple during the dinner reception at the University Dining Hall.

A golf ticket also includes a dinner pass and is on sale for \$600. A single dinner ticket is available for those not wanting to participate in the golf section for \$125. Foursomes are also available for \$2,200 and dinner is included with purchase for all ticket holders. 847-970-4830.





# The Lord of the Dance is Back:

Catching up with Michael Flatley as he prepares to take the stage once again

By Katie Hamilton

Few rock bands in the world boast the broad appeal that consistently sells out shows, city after city and year after year. Michael Flatley’s Lord of the Dance is no rock band—although it may as well be. The Irish dance extravaganza has been

provided a professional platform for hundreds of young, talented Irish dancers who might have otherwise seen their careers peak with a world championship at 18 years of age. “My dream is to give those dancers who work all their lives

something to do with all that hard work,” said Flatley. “They can see the world, enjoy the art form, and make a great living.” If the present success of LOTD is any indicator, it is safe to say the dreams of today’s youngest Irish dancers remain well intact.

With intense training to begin in July, Flatley is currently enjoying a brief respite at CastleHyde, his 18th century mansion estate nestled in the lush countryside of Co. Cork in southern

Ireland. One might wonder how Flatley ever leaves the peace of CastleHyde, but the fact that he does stands as a testament to his passion and dedication to Irish dance. Flatley would neither confirm nor deny a possible North American tour, although it seems as long as he is dancing, audiences are watching. And so, as has become the custom, we wait to see what the Lord of the Dance has in store for us, as he once again takes to the stage.



IAN contributor, Katie Hamilton, with Michael at his mansion in Ireland.

selling out the world’s largest arenas since it first premiered in 1996. More than 50 million people across 60 countries on six continents have seen LOTD, making it the biggest grossing tour in the history of entertainment. This past December, LOTD performed before yet another sold-out crowd in Taiwan, a sign that Irish dance truly can go everywhere.

“We are high quality, family entertainment—and it’s Irish,” said creator Michael Flatley.

And just when we thought we knew what to expect, Flatley, 51, announced in April his return to the stage as Lord of the Dance. Nearly 15 years after his inaugural appearance as lead dancer, he will join the dance troupe on their fall tour to already sold-out venues across Ireland, England, Germany, Switzerland, and Austria. While Flatley promises audiences the classic LOTD show, he admits that he cannot help but change it up. “I can only say this—people won’t be disappointed,” he said with a grin.

Disappointment is the last word one would associate with Flatley, the man who is largely responsible for modernizing Irish dance and adapting it to the world stage. “This is a new, vibrant part of the Irish culture,” Flatley said. “The style of Irish dance I created—it’s not the normal style of Irish dance. Dancers can use their bodies and their arms. This adds to the passion. It’s important to keep doing it and keep building that momentum.”

Make no mistake—this is Flatley’s life work, and he takes his art very seriously. “Every time we go on stage,” he said, “we’re representing Ireland. We’re representing our families. We’re representing Irish dance. We’re representing ourselves.”

Flatley has not only introduced Irish dance to the world, he has introduced a new world to Irish dance. The likes of LOTD and other shows have

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## IRISH IMPORTS

Sign: 5 inches

Claire Flaherty will personalize the bottom with Merry Christmas or an important occasion.



# Spóirt



Mary Margaret O’Leary



Prior to the recent Stanley Cup victory of the Chicago Blackhawks, Mayor Daley and Mayor Nutter of Philadelphia made a bet. They agreed to make a wager on the outcome of the Stanley Cup between the Blackhawks and the Flyers. Mayor Daley offered to provide an assortment of personally selected Chicago foods, drinks and other local products to be donated to charities in the city

partners were responding to a “shots fired” call. Within minutes Mullen would be shot in his face and immediately paralyzed from the neck down. Now, nearly fourteen years later, Jim lives at his Chicago home with his wife (who is presently on the force) and their daughter, Maggie. Breathing through a ventilator and requiring 24 hour a day care, Mullen hasn’t wasted anytime focusing



Officer Jim Mullen shows off his line of apple sauce

of Philadelphia. Among the items chosen to be donated was Mullen’s Chicago’s Finest Applesauce.

On October 16th 1996, the founder of Mullen’s applesauce, Chicago Police officer Jim Mullen and his



on his latest business venture—his applesauce.

“I was at Northwestern hospital for a heart scan and I met this technician and she started telling me about her family’s BBQ sauce. We were chatting for a while and that night I came home and bought a book on the internet about the food business. I started my company that night through the state of Illinois.” And others will benefit from his company, as a portion of the proceeds go to the Chicago Police Memorial fund—an organization dedicated to offering support and assistance to families of Chicago Police officers, injured or killed in the line of duty.

Mullen grew up in a household with a serious appreciation and love for great food. Jim recalls a childhood memory of sitting on his parents couch with apples and a potato peeler and seeing who could get the longest piece of the apple skin with a single peel. His mother, who was a fabulous cook, had many different recipes and dishes. People used to tell Mrs. Mullen that she should consider selling her different sauces and foods. So as a tongue in cheek kind of joke, Jim thought bottling her applesauce

would be a nice tribute to her. Mullen, who has been eating the applesauce for forty-five years, admits that when he formed the company he lacked any grand vision. His only goal was to get the applesauce bottled and on the shelves at Happy Foods, the local market where his mom did her grocery shopping.

“When the first batch was made I was so proud of it, I was like Johnny Appleseed just giving it away to everyone. Once it ran out, family and friends starting asking me where the applesauce was and I told them there is no more! I just kind of bottled it to do it, but people were literally coming into my garage wanting to buy it. So, that’s really how it continued and how it all got started.”

What began with the local market Happy Foods, Mullen’s applesauce is now available in approximately 160 different stores, including Jewel, Sunset Foods and Whole Foods. Mullen’s Chicago’s Finest is all natural and made with only real ingredients. In a couple months a sugar-free version will be available, and down the road possibly individual cups and a freeze-pop version of the delicious recipe. Its tagline says it’s “like apple pie without the crust” and I couldn’t agree more. Jim uses a voice recognition program to expand his business through e-mails and social networks. He also sends out samples and has done food shows and demonstrations, which has helped the business to grow little by little.

Jim is confident in his product and comforted by the fact that his mother, who recently passed away was too. “She’s given this little legacy her stamp of approval, because she stopped making it at home and would just go to Happy Foods to buy it.” It can be heated up and topped on ice cream, whatever you use the apple sauce for it will taste amazing. Jim’s dad mixes it up and puts it in his oatmeal.

Although Jim says he misses being a Chicago cop every day, he is a happy man and grateful to be where he is today. A portion of the profits raised go directly to the Chicago Police Memorial Fund, an organization Jim holds dear. Mullen has many ideas for the future, one of which is making a float for the St. Patrick’s Day parade where he can throw samples of Mullen’s Chicago’s Finest Applesauce out for the crowd to enjoy. “I have little ideas I dream about down the road, but I don’t know what the future holds.”

For more on Jim and his applesauce visit [www.mullenfoods.com](http://www.mullenfoods.com).

For more information on the Chicago Police Memorial Fund visit [www.cpdmemorial.org](http://www.cpdmemorial.org).

# Horoscope



Theresa Castro

**ARIES:** You are experiencing a mixed bag of fortunes this month with respect to the planetary weather. The prevailing movements of the planets are taking you from weakness to strength where personal relationships are concerned. Lie low in the brush and wait out the month to make any major changes.

**TAURUS:** Your ruler Venus is making easy aspects to naughty Juno, the tramp of the zodiac this August. To add fuel to the fire this is happening at the New Moon as well. Don’t be tempted by some ill-advised misbehaving that could come back to haunt you. For some of you this is good news. For others, be warned!

**GEMINI:** You could fall into a dispute because of sensitive information which you were not to divulge, irresistibly passed from your lips to forbidden ears. Be also watchful of the things you post on publicly accessible media. Planet Mercury, your ruler and regent of communication in all its forms, is causing all the trouble this month.

**CANCER:** Don’t be tempted into a love rift with your significant other. Also do not take on unnecessary expenditures this month. Wait until September for money issues to calm down. You are in control of things so you can choose your own timing with your finances. Count your change!

**LEO:** Your August 2010 is relatively calm with few aspects of any sort giving you trouble. But this is only a generalized overview of the Leo born population at large. There will always be some exception though. Astrology is somewhat like a pair of shoes, where one size does NOT fit all. And the more custom the reading of the planets are for an individual person, the more specific the information can be.

**VIRGO:** Keep your head down and your nose to the grindstone. This means at the work place and in your public dealings. If you work as a public servant, this is the time to really hunker down and don’t make waves. You have the distinct advantage of quiet focus to do this well. Stay small!

**LIBRA:** You may be greatly admired by one who holds you in the highest affection and esteem. Over a long period of time a mutual appreciation may have grown between you. This is beautiful and precious to be sure. You should know that if this situation has some forbidden elements to it, it is so worth

protecting! The planets of August 2010 are a reminder to not let your truest heart be discovered by those that could bring harm—especially in the workplace. Keep it low.

**SCORPIO:** Some of the planetary geometry that is affecting your near neighbor Libra is spilling over into your territory. You are generally known as the most circumspect sign. It won’t be hard to protect your interests. And if your loved ones are having a hard time, you will not hesitate to put heart and soul into the issue. You are the champion of the zodiac when it comes to quiet courage and unflinching fostering of the truth. You’re not too shy to call the devil’s bluff! Don’t think you are not noticed and respected for your gifts! God speed!

**SAGITTARIUS:** As time changes, so does the wheel of the planets in our local space. The larger clock of the cosmos is prompting you to rest and treat yourself well when you can. You will find easy planetary this August 2010 good for furthering your best interest. But, as the line of least resistance could dictate, you may take the easy way out. Don’t beat yourself up though, you may well need the rest!

**CAPRICORN:** Do not feel that life is forcing you to change. There is a long term planetary influence that is helping you recreate yourself to be what you are destined to be. For the next two and a half years you could do just that! Now Saturn, your planetary ruler plus a bevy of other faster moving planets, are together in a challenging angle to your sign. Were you ever one to back away from these things?

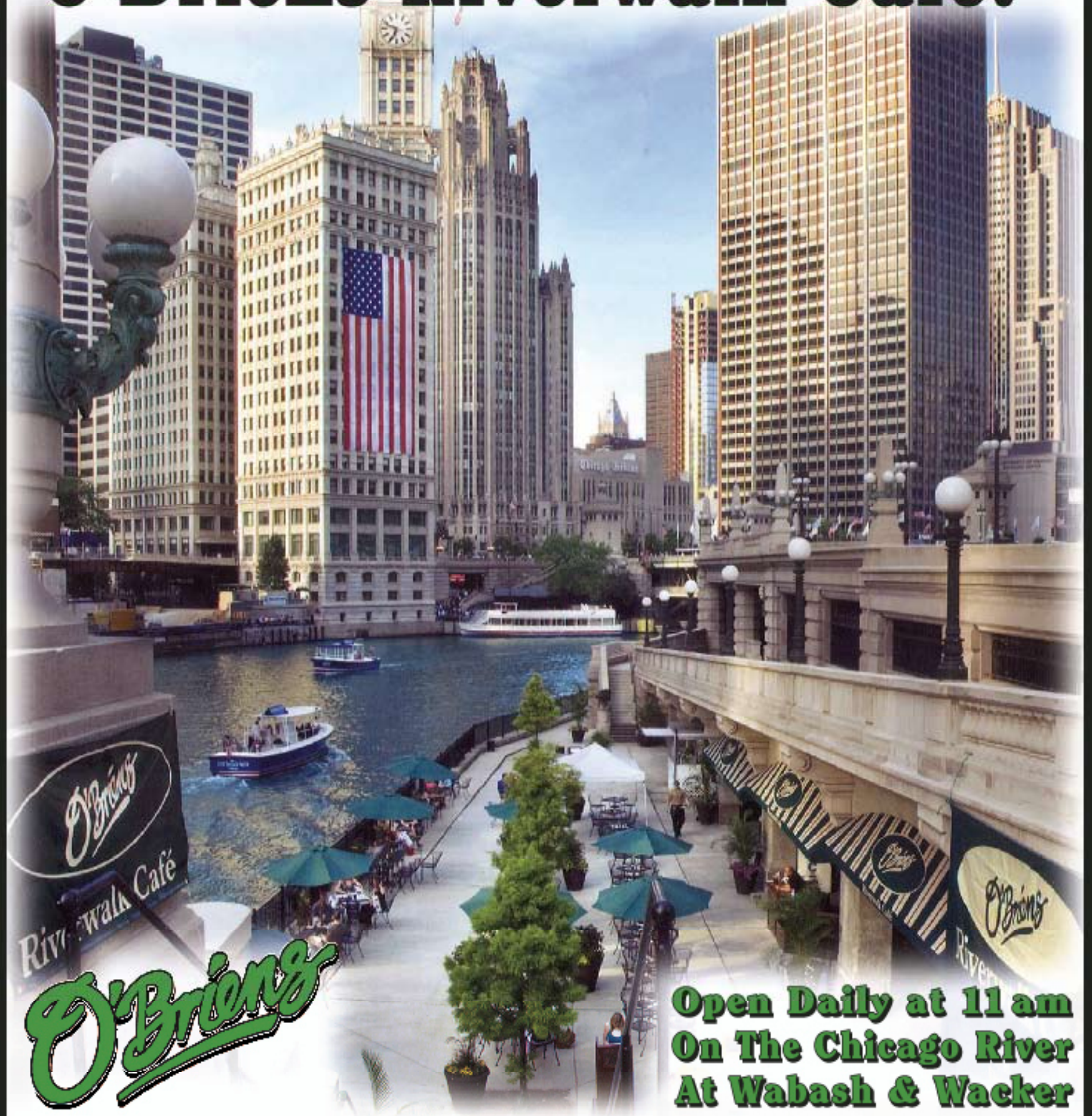
**AQUARIUS:** Stand back and watch the fireworks! We hope that this does not involve you seriously. But, by virtue of the intimate proximity of these influences in your life, you could be inexorably drawn in by the news! Planets Jupiter and Uranus are dogging you by your many friends and acquaintances to take notice. Raised eyebrows for you? Maybe not.

**PISCES:** Dear romantic Pisces! Plant Jupiter and romantic Chiron are making you a private witness or recipient to some fantastic story! A secret abounds in your midst. It could be happening right under your nose! Or, is it your secret happening under somebody else’s nose? Keep it on the way down low!

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