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**From the  
Motherland**

By Sean Farrell



**Who'd Be An Irish Farmer?**

Looking at the plodding blundering antics currently emanating from London, with all it implies for the final outcome on Brexit, it struck me that, historically, this was how many wars started – misunderstandings (at times wilful), indecision, unwillingness to compromise, and a tendency to let the shouts of hotheads prevail over the voices of reason. There is no risk of a war, of course, though in the worst case scenario relations between the UK and the EU Twenty Seven post March are likely to be bruised and damaged, which does not augur well for future negotiations on trade. The British electorate (or the 52% who voted "Leave") were sold a pup over Brexit; the sad reality is that nobody in power is now shouting "Stop!" To adapt a phrase of Churchill "never have so many been led astray by so few for so little good reason."

Public and political attention in Ireland is increasingly focussed on Brexit, which should be a reality by the end of this month unless the hapless May government secures some postponement. We in Ireland can effectively only stand and wait, caught between the proverbial rock (a No Deal Brexit) and a hard place (some deal patched up on the basis of the negotiated settlement of last November) with the dawning reality that not only is collateral damage coming our way for certain (the magnitude the only imponderable) but some form of hard border between the two parts of Ireland looks increasingly likely. It may turn out not to be a military border but controls of some form there certainly will be as Europe lines up in a different configuration, with Britain a third country and Ireland the EU's frontier. The circle could never be squared adequately were Britain to leave the both the Single Market and the Customs Union.

Even in the event of an eleventh hour deal on the Backstop, it has now dawned on the people on this island (both parts) that serious dislocation, inconvenience and economic hardship (to varying degrees) will threaten in any event. Emergency legislation is being rushed through to meet the worst case scenario but given the uncertainty much of this is being done in a partial vacuum. Even rela-

tively minor items such as cell phone roaming charges, including for smart phones, will be touched as Britain falls into the category of "third country." More serious could be shortages of medicines and some foodstuffs as supply lines are strained and even fractured. Looming also is the threat of price increases as tariffs are threatened and regulation and documentation replace what had been barrier free trade.

Hardest hit will be Ireland's agricultural sector which is likely to be most immediately – and seriously - hurt by Brexit. While we have prospered from foreign direct investment and the multinationals established during the last generation or so, Agriculture remains our largest indigenous industry, the backbone of the native economy. Some statistics: the agri-food sector accounts for 7.8% of national Income, over 8% of total employment (roughly 170,000), 22% plus of industrial output and 10% plus of merchandise exports. Last year agribusiness exports totalled €12.1 billion, down slightly in value terms but up in volume. And of that export figure €4.5 billion went to the UK. Therein lies the rub. 40% of the total consists of beef and dairy exports, with Britain taking a whopping 50% of our total beef exports and one third of dairy exports. Total agricultural trade both ways with Britain was €8.5 billion in 2016, with Ireland enjoying a surplus of €1 billion.

The effects of Brexit on this sector could be catastrophic. The hurt actually began in the immediate aftermath of the 2016 referendum, as the value of Sterling lurched downwards by 10% against the Euro. The impact on Ireland's food exports to Britain was immediate, with exporters' incomes hit and some price sensitive sectors (e.g. mushrooms) devastated. Established trade patterns and flows between Ireland and Britain, and between the two parts of Ireland, built up over decades, were damaged (at my son's wedding in late 2016 a border farmer commented wryly on the new situation – his income from cross border trade 10% down). In a highly competitive industry – beef and dairy – and at a time when margins were already under strain, such a situation is unsustainable in the long run. Since then Sterling has yo-yoed, but never regained its previous high and most commentators see a further significant decline depending on how the exit fiasco eventually pans out.

Reviewing the prospects post- Brexit

the words of Luke come to mind "If they do these things in a green tree, what shall be done in the dry?" Factor in the further likely fall in Sterling, the need for Britain to protect its own agricultural sector, with the looming possibility of protectionist tariffs, WTO tariffs should there be a hard Brexit and the overarching introduction of the bureaucracy inevitable with the reintroduction of a custom regime, and the prospects for Irish agriculture look bleak, with industry spokesmen warning of developments on a scale from tough to catastrophic.

That, unfortunately is not all. Ireland's other agribusiness exports, amounting to €7.5 billion, are divided roughly equally between exports to the rest of the EU and the rest of the world. The "land bridge" via Britain has been the major conduit for getting these goods ( and other non-agricultural exports) to market, particularly those bound for the EU. Fine when Britain was an EU member; but how and to what extent the land bridge will work out with Britain as a third country remains to be seen. And what if (perish the thought!) relations between Britain and the EU or Ireland were to deteriorate sharply over trade or political ends? What price then for a smooth transit via the land bridge?

Emergency relief and a relaxation of EU rules is being sought for the agricultural sector from Brussels but how substantial

and how effective remains to be seen, while further down the line our farmers (and others) face the prospect of substantial cuts in future EU farm supports as a direct result of the disappearance of the UK and its large net contribution to the EU budget.

As if that were not enough, there is Climate Change. The increasingly vocal and strident environmental lobby here has the agricultural sector – and specifically the beef and dairy sections - in its sights. At present Ireland is highly unlikely to meet its 2020 emission reduction targets, in part a legacy issue from the 2008 bust. One third of Ireland's greenhouse gas emissions come from agriculture and most of this is methane generated from cattle. Methane is twenty three times more harmful than Carbon Dioxide and contributes significantly to the 18% share agriculture contributes to total greenhouse gas emissions worldwide. Hence the calls from the lobby to reduce meat consumption and demands that Irish farmers switch production away from livestock. The Earth may already have passed the tipping point for permanent environmental damage, but with 1.5 billion cattle worldwide (20% in India alone), even slaughtering the total the Irish herd of 7 million is hardly going to save the planet! Yes; who'd be an Irish farmer?

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## View From Ireland

By Maurice Fitzpatrick



### The Court of Public Opinion

The moment of truth did not come, so we will never know whether Liam Neeson may have assaulted or murdered a man forty years ago, but he did think about doing so. For that, all these years later, he is being pilloried.

The circumstances were as follows. After the rape of his friend by a black man, Neeson stalked up and down black areas in an unspecified city for a week hoping, as he said, that 'some "black b\*\*\*\*d" would come out of a pub and have a go at me about something, you know? So that I could...kill him... It shocked me and it hurt me...I did seek help, I went to a priest'. Neeson admitted this in a promotional interview for his latest film, *Cold Pursuit*, and it has led to sustained controversy and the characterization of Neeson as a racist.

As a response to his frenzy forty years ago, Neeson made a confession to a priest. Approaching a priest had a certain logic, since what had happened pertained to conscience rather than the law. While the power of the confessional has been routinely abused (and that abuse has been extreme since confession bestows upon the confessor an especial capacity to dominate), still the rite has provided succour for some.

Today, more public modes of expressing a guilty conscience are in vogue. However, publicly confessing a shameful act in our time can backfire terribly. On certain themes, a confession and an attempt to reconcile on the basis of confession will almost certainly be rejected. By taking advantage of a penitent's vulnerability, the same perversion of the traditional confessor's authority is now happening in another guise. This explains why Neeson's mania was so excoriated in the court of public opinion.

Since the court of public opinion

is not accountable as a court is, being innocent of a criminal act is no barrier to a guilty verdict. Absent the possibility of a legal trial, alternative trials today are staged through the media and social media; and the weight of public opinion is the central, if not sole, criteria for 'prosecution'. In this shift, something that is legally unpunishable (like a thought) has effectively become punishable.

As Caitria O'Neill, writing for the Nieman Journalism Lab at Harvard, has argued: 'A new journalistic standard has been set. The court of public opinion may be invoked to build support for issues that cannot be decided in a court of law'. Surely, though, such



a 'journalistic standard' engenders far more problems than it solves. Furthermore, public opinion is so nebulous that its expression has become dangerously synonymous with, and supplanted by, celebrity opinion.

Besides, there is a subtle inversion of allegedly pro-equality sentiment in the vituperations of Neeson. Neeson's renunciation of the thoughts he once had is portrayed as infinitely junior in importance to the fact that he had them in the first place. Contrast this with the case of novelist James Baldwin whose violent thoughts and actual violence towards a waitress who refused to serve him on account of his being black—hating 'her white face' and admitting that in attacking her he 'had been ready to commit murder'—are not rejected to the same degree. Baldwin's account

of that incident and his fulsome repudiation of his behavior form part of a text that continues to be deservedly applauded: the feverish essays that comprise *Notes of a Native Son* (1955), largely set in the menacing atmosphere of Harlem in which Baldwin grew up, is a modern classic.

Those who have assailed Neeson should at a minimum be aware of the repercussions of what they are attempting to eliminate. Is it permissible, by the standards they espouse, for a method actor, say, to emotionally identify with Euripides' Medea in her infanticidal rampage? And what place is there for the poetry of William Blake, who wrote: 'Sooner murder an infant in its cradle than nurse unacted desires'?

At bottom, this controversy is neither about Liam Neeson nor an experience he had forty years ago. It is a battle between those who wish to delegitimize the act of speaking about something horrific, and those who defend the right to do so. As former England footballer John Barnes, who encountered a great deal of racist abuse in the 1980s, said in response to the Neeson incident: 'Policing language and even legislating against certain behaviors will only go so far to address the pervasive problem of racial bias. To get at the root cause we must have open, honest and sometimes painful conversations. This must involve allowing people who have held biased views in the past to be heard without fear of recrimination'.

To blacklist Neeson (the contemporary word is 'cancel') is to diminish the prospect of that conversation happening. Demonizing Neeson amounts to a flight from confrontation with pervasive violence in society which, though indubitably nasty, nevertheless is human. The conversation is important indeed because to air-brush someone for articulating his having had terrible urges does not remove the possibility of the urges. Rather it is an attack on the freedom of speech, which, as history attests, opens the gates to political turmoil.

To see the political consequences of confronting matters such as de-

monic rage illiberally, consider a Trump rally in El Paso on February 11th, when the obnoxiousness of Trumpism was best encapsulated by an attack on a BBC cameraman for merely recording the event. Trump had taken a swipe at the 'fake news' media and one of his supporters subsequently set upon the cameraman. Yet liberalism can only legitimately form a bulwark against such behavior by living

up to its own self-description, by taking the high road and relentlessly practicing tolerance. Baldwin would have called that the price of the ticket.

*Maurice Fitzpatrick's latest film, John Hume in America, is narrated by Liam Neeson.*

### Did You Know?

Scientists trace origins of Stonehenge rocks to Wales (article in Chgo Trib 2-24-19)

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## Swimming Upstream

By Charles Brady



### "Let's Be Careful out There..."

It was the regular watch-your-backs utterance on most 'Hill Street Blues' episodes.

There was Sergeant Phil Esterhaus, played by the great Michael Conrad, telling his men that they had better be careful out there. And he was spot on. Those cops were going out into a world where they might be shot at or stabbed.

'Let's be careful out there.'

Too damned right. Fast-forward a few decades and you also have to watch every word that you say or write, proving once again what a crazy old world we live in. Because there are anonymous cowards out there, all puffed-up with their newfound power of a keyboard and who are perpetually on the look-out for something to be offended over.

As the actor Liam Neeson found out this past month.

You know what I'm on about by now: Neeson was giving one of those boringly

tepid puff-piece interviews that anyone actually interested in cinema dreads almost as much as I'm sure the actors dread themselves.

These days, I avoid them. If I like a movie, I just like it and that's it. Case in point: I loved the fourth remake of 'A Star is Born'; and as a hardcore Kris Kristofferson fan I nearly gave it a miss, thinking that it couldn't possibly be better than the version with himself and Streisand. Hit that bell - \*Wrong!\*

It was great...but as I hear Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper gushing and whispering sweet nothings to each other in every bloody interview, I'm about at the point where if I never hear of it again it will be too soon.

Well, there was nothing boring about Neeson's interview when he was pushing his new movie 'Cold Pursuit', was there?

At first I thought I was hearing a wind-

up. I mean, hell, what were you thinking of, Liam? Those headlines....

But of course, that's it. It's only the headlines that most Social Justice Warriors read before going off on a complete raging queen of a hissy-fit. [Come to think of it, am I even allowed to write that? Ah, well, who cares?]

Neeson was talking about a sense of anger that he had forty years ago. Seriously, forty years ago. Give me strength.

Forty years ago I was twenty years old and doing some really daft and stupid things that I STILL regret and would condemn myself for. But you have to cut yourself slack at some stage. You have to get over it. You grow up and regret and LEARN from it. You are no longer that person.

Neeson grew up in Northern Ireland at a time and in a place where he would have been carrying around a lot of baggage and misguided rage.

But for heaven's sake, would you look at the interview in its entirety? He put air quotes around the use of 'black b\*\*\*\*\*' and was already telling the story AGAINST himself -- both of which points none of the mainstream media seemed to want to tell you.

They're happy, you see, if you just read the header and then go off to get your pitchforks and torches flaming, ready to chase the Monster of the Week around the village and up to the old burning mill. It's all good clickbait.

Neeson is very far from being a monster. I've met him on three occasions over the years and in as much as you can judge anyone from meeting them for a few minutes at a time he seems to me to be one of the nicer guys in his industry. Certainly, if you ask him a question he will pause and give it a bit of thought before he answers you. You don't get that with everyone of his stature. You just don't. And in this case perhaps it worked against him.

But should he have told that anecdote at all? Well, opinions differ. But I'm glad that he did. Even though it probably means that in future the PR people will be at the elbow of these actors more than ever, just to make sure that nothing goes off-script. And that's just...boring.

One thing that you can say about Neeson on this merry-go-around is that he wasn't boring.

Yet what does it say about social media, this outpouring of hate that followed?

"I want to see Neeson cancelled"; "I hope that Neeson gets his ass cancelled over this...".

What in God's name is that about? 'Cancelled' as a word used against a human being? It's like something out of Pol Pot or Happy Uncle Adolf territory. Hell, it's pure George Orwell!

And those who are using that vile term so loosely are the same ones who are 'offended' by Neeson's words. You want to see him cancelled? Jeez, get a grip. We're living in an increasingly vanilla world as it is, afraid to say a damned thing in case someone becomes outraged. Outraged, I tells ye!

Meanwhile, staying with films for this go-around.... 'The Favourite'. It was co-produced by the brilliant Irish company Element Pictures and I'm so delighted to see it getting as many award nominations as it has.

Element is run by people who actually LIKE movies... and THERE is something that you can't always say about producers. Their stuff is challenging and is NOT for everyone's taste. Check out 'The Lobster' of 'The Killing of a Sacred Deer' with Colin Farrell and you'll get what I'm on about.

'The Favourite'? It is a period piece and a comedy and a drama and NOT for everyone; but it IS pure cinema and uncompromising. So that's a nice change.

And also check out, whilst you're at it, the work on that film of the Irish cinematographer Robbie Ryan. His work stands up there with the cinematography in Stanley Kubrick's 1975 'Barry Lyndon', much of which was shot in County Wicklow. And I can't think of a higher compliment than comparing Robbie Ryan's work to that masterpiece.

Finally, and talking of Kubrick, I was reminded today of the incredibly moving death of HAL, the artificial intelligence at the heart of '2001: A Space Odyssey' when I read that the little robot rover 'Opportunity' (nicknamed 'Oppy') has gone into that good night, millions of miles away on the harsh Martian landscape.

Oppy was originally supposed to last only 90 days, but instead has been transmitting his information for 15 years.

His last transmission was: 'My battery is low and it's getting dark'.

So it is for all of us; and it probably says far too much about me that I was more touched by that than the deaths of some of the more appalling people I have known.

It's getting dark, in so many ways.

And let's be careful out there. It's a strange old world and getting stranger by the minute.

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**Matthew P. Walsh II**, a proud Irish-American.

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# From State's Attorneys to Private Practice Father and Son Duo, Walsh and Walsh, Find Success Practicing Law in Chicago

By *Ryanne Gallagher Johnson*

Being gifted with the name of your ancestors is an incredible honor. Many pass it down to their children, who gift it to their own progeny, and so on down the line until you've got many generations of people in possession of the same name. Throw in a suffix to

establish who's who, and you're set. Unless you're all living at the same time, in the same area, and there are many of you. And those of you old enough to have established a career have become famous in your field. Then it might become confusing. As is so with

the Matthew Walshes of Chicago.

The Walsh family originates from County Armagh and County Mayo in Ireland. In 1893, Matthew Myles Walsh came to Chicago looking for work at the World's Columbian Exposition. After, the name "Matthew" became a generational right-of-passage in the Walsh family.

"Everybody calls me Matt the Elder. Even my own grandkids," says Matthew Walsh, Sr. of Walsh, Fewkes, and Sterba, a renowned criminal defense firm in Chicago and Palos Heights.

There are three generations of Matthews in Matt the Elder's line alone, so the moniker is more of a convenience than a description, although it's not incorrect. Matt the Elder is the eldest of the Walshes. His son, Matthew II, another well-known Chicago attorney, goes by Matthew, and Matthew's son, Matthew Finnegan, 14, goes by Finn.

The Walsh family also consists of the construction magnates Matt and Dan Walsh and several of their children and grandchildren likewise are named Matthew. Together, there are currently six living Matthews in the Walsh family!

Are you confused yet? Are you following along so far?

If you think it's confusing in

writing, you should try attending a Walsh family picnic when someone calls the name Matt. "Six people turn around!" Matt the Elder jokes.

While one branch of Walshes went on to become masters of architecture and construction in the City of Chicago and around the country, the other Walshes went on to conquer the legal system, building up the family name by navigating the invisible and complex threads of the law with precision and well-earned skill.

Matt the Elder confesses that while he loves being an attorney, he got started in the field because his father pushed him into it. "I'd like to say that it was something else, but really it was him."

Raised on the South Side and brought up Catholic, he attended Leo High School under the strict and often stringent tutelage of The Irish Christian Brothers. The firm hand of the Brothers seems



*3 generations of Walshes; Matthew II, Matthew Finn, and Matt the Elder. (Below) Discussing St. Patrick's Day and more with former Taoiseach of Ireland, Enda Kenny, (right).*



*(l to r) Matthew II, Matt the Elder, and Chicago Mayor, Michael Bilandic in 1978.*



to have been a necessary push, though, because he finished high school early, and went on to put himself through St. Joseph's College in Indiana.

"My dad, I'll brag for a second," Matthew, Matt the Elder's son, proudly says, "Graduated high school when he was only 16, and college when he was only 20."

After St. Joseph's, Matt the Elder attended and graduated from De Paul University College of Law. "I started my legal career in 1966 working in the Cook County State's Attorney's office as a prosecutor in the Criminal Division," he remarks. "I was introduced to the then State's Attorney, Dan Ward, during the campaign while he was running for re-election as State's Attorney, and when I graduated law school and passed the bar, I got a call from Mr. Ward who asked me to come to the State's Attorney's Office and be a prosecutor. Initially, I had no interest in becoming a prosecutor or being a trial lawyer, because I was somewhat uncomfortable because of my deformity (a short right arm), but I was persuaded by people who knew me that it would be a good chance for me to use my oratory skills in the courtroom.

I started in misdemeanor courts and after three months I moved to the felony court at 26th and California. Eighteen months later, I was transferred to the trial division and was assigned to Judge Richard Fitzgerald, who eventually became Chief Judge

and my mentor. The six years I spent at the State's Attorney's Office were, without question, the most rewarding part of my legal career, and I think about it often and recall trials and situations that I overcame in the trial division."

When Matthew was young, Matt the Elder would bring him to work on the weekends. "When he was a small boy, I used to bring him down to the courthouse, where he would mock-try a case in front of Judge Richard Fitzgerald, and Judge Fitzgerald's grandson would serve as the prosecutor and Matthew would be the defense lawyer," says Matt.

Although Matthew had an interest in being a lawyer from a young age, he attended Bradley University and studied business expecting to enter the world of business, not law.

"Growing up on the South Side of Chicago, being relatively sheltered, going to all boys' Marist High School, then immediately going off to college, I realized I needed some worldly experience," Matthew explains. "So I decided to backpack across Europe for a summer which included a trip to Ireland. Of all the things I've done, that adventure matured me the most. Unlike nowadays with cellphones, no one knew where I was for months at a time except when they received the postcards I sent. I met some interesting people, lived on \$20 a day, and slept in youth hostels."

*Continued to next page*



*Father and son at the 2008 Super Bowl.*



*Six Matt Walshes at the opening of the Walsh Family Hall of Architecture at Notre Dame in 2018.*



*(l to r) Matt the Elder and Mathew II.*

*Continued from page 9*

Once he was back stateside, Matthew still wasn't sold on law school. "My dad was such a legend, and initially I didn't want to follow in his legal footsteps. It really came about because I didn't want to get a job just yet, so I took the LSAT, I did well, and I went to law school," he laughs.

Attending law school at IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law, Matthew excelled in the trial program. One of his professors, former Illinois Supreme Court Justice Tom Fitzgerald, turned out to be a hiring advocate for the Cook County State's Attorney's Office and recommended him for a job as a prosecutor. Matthew immediately accepted and, upon law school graduation in 1992, began his career as prosecutor.

Working for the State's Attorney was just as memorable and influential for Matthew as it was for his father. "No matter what else I do in my life, no matter how successful I become, it's a special time to wear the white hat, to represent innocent victims of crime. I cherished it when I was going through it, but looking back on it now, it was even more special, because I was able to impact a lot of people's lives. I had a very successful career, I won a lot of big cases, and I took a lot of bad people off the streets."

His father adds, "There's something wonderful about being on the side of the angels. You represent nice people who have gone through tough times."

Matthew and his father agree that good trial lawyers start as prosecutors. "Anybody will tell you that," Matt says. "You get so much experience in a four to five year period. You're in court every day, and every day you're trying a new case."

After eight years and hundreds of felony trials with the Cook County State's Attorney, Matthew joined the private firm of Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP, where he made partner quickly, and still practices today. "Hinshaw is a great fit for me because we have great trial lawyers, many of whom are Irish. In fact, the person who hired me was legendary Chicago trial law-



**Matt II and Matt the Elder, 1995.**

yer, E. Michael Kelly, who had a bigger than life personality and a fearless trial mentality. Twenty years later I'm still here at Hinshaw and I still love practicing law."

Matthew attributes a large part of his success as a lawyer to his Irish heritage and connections. "I would say the Irish part of who we are defines everything we do, at least for me. It's my outlook - the glass half-full type mentality - which most Irish people have. It's the sarcasm, the levity, not taking ones' self that seriously. We Irish are hard-working, passionate, fun-loving, and above all really good at inspiring people."

This also lends to Matthew's level of comfort in the courtroom. He says that he treats the courtroom like a relationship, and he treats his audience - the jury - as though he's speaking to them one-on-one. "The great orators must connect with their audience."

Matthew also takes a lot of pride in his ability to be straightforward with his clients and opposing counsel. The better the lawyer, the more straightforward he or she is. "Good lawyers should not get caught up in gossip, innuendo or rumors. Be a straight-shooter. Good lawyers always live up to their word. If you lie or you are under-handed, you lose credibility."

Matt the Elder speaks about his son's legal career with an obvious

sense of pride. "When my son was going to law school, I hoped that he would be inclined to pursue his career through the State's Attorney's Office. He not only joined the 'Office', but became an outstanding prosecutor and someone who is recognized by his peers as an excellent trial lawyer."

While Matt the Elder and his

son agree that working at separate law firms has been better for their relationship, they still join together to run the Cook County State's Attorney Alumni Committee, which for over 20 years has been holding reunions. "It's another opportunity for me to collaborate with my father on a project we are both passionate about". They are currently planning a 2019 Cook County State's Attorney reunion.

Matthew's favorite thing about being Irish, is actually being Irish. "Being Chicago Irish defines who we are, how we grew up, and how we perceive life. It's all about family and while there has been a lot of success in our family, when we are all together no one has an ego." Matthew's passion for all things Irish is clear in both his action and his words: He served as President of the Celtic Legal Society of Chicago and in 2017 he attended Ireland's State Dinner at the White House as a guest of Taoiseach Enda Kenny, Ireland's Prime Minister.

Today, Matt the Elder mostly does office work, sneaking in the occasional trial when a case calls

for it. He is also active in charitable causes and serves on the Board of Directors at Chicago Gaelic Park. Matthew is still in the thick of his career, spreading his litigation expertise among construction, healthcare, religious, and governmental clients in addition to being a long-standing member of Hinshaw's Executive Committee.

The Matts in this family appreciate the fact that Irish surnames played a role in helping them forge their future, Fitzgerald, Ward, Kelly and Ryan to name a few! For the time being, the Chicago Irish Matthew Walshes seem to have the name confusion under control. Aside perhaps, from an occasional Google mix-up. We'll see if that still holds as more Matthews are added to the line!

Matt the Elder's firm can be found at [wfstriallaw.com](http://wfstriallaw.com).

Information for the firm Matthew practices with can be found at [hinshawlaw.com](http://hinshawlaw.com).

For another article on Matthew II, see *Leading Lawyers Magazine*, January 2018 at [www.leadingleaders.com/articles/Walsh\\_Matt\\_RE2018.pdf](http://www.leadingleaders.com/articles/Walsh_Matt_RE2018.pdf)



**Former Taoiseach of Ireland, Enda Kenny (left) took time out while in Chicago to visit Matthew II, (right) at his Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP offices.**

# Home is Where the Heart Is

By Aishling Kelly



During the course of the last several months, and over the past couple of years, many people have asked me to define the types of services that can be provided in the home by any non-medical home care agency. So, I think this will be a good topic of education for this month's article. All home service agencies in Illinois to which there are currently 779 agencies (as of December 2018) that can provide the following types of services:

Continuous 24-Hour Care, Live-In Care, and Come & Go. Let's define each one.

Continuous 24-Hour Care is paid by the hour and is exactly what its title says - continuous care. There is no break in care. You may have 4 shifts of 6 hours, 3 of 8 or 2 of 12. There is no break in coverage. For simplicity's sake, this is comparable to the way doctors and nurses work in the hospital for continuous coverage. Home care can provide the same coverage with no break in service but with non-medical home care aides.

Live-In Care is where a team of home care aides are placed in the home to cover and supervise 24/7. These teams of caregivers must sleep at nighttime and be permitted to take breaks throughout the day. This rate is charged at a daily rate and is a more cost-effective solution than continuous 24 hour care. In this instance, when the caregiver is living in your home, you as a consumer would be responsible for their food and a separate area for them to sleep. That is why it is called Live-In.

Come & Go is when caregivers do a few hours per day a few days per week. For example, if your loved one needed assistance in the morning in preparing breakfast, oversight of medications, bathing assistance,

some light housekeeping and/or errands, come & go is the option for you. This is the type of care most families start with when they notice a loved one needs assistance. Families can increase hours as needed from there. Sometimes leaving the middle of the day open to where a caregiver returns to assist with meals and help them retire for the evening is a more pliable option. In general, most agencies in Illinois have a minimum requirement of hours per week. You may see ranges from a minimum of 12 hours up to 20 hours per week. The client/consumer selects the days and times of the week that services are needed, but it would not be the norm for an agency to come in for less than 4 hours each visit. This is generally the way it is set up in the home services sector, unless a shower visit only is desired. This type of care warrants a 2-hour visit, at minimum.

Home care services are generally private pay, meaning the consumer pays for the care out of pocket unless the client is a veteran or qualifies for veteran assistance, or a long-term care insurance plan was put in place. Some insurance plans may cover 100%, others a portion of the total bill.

To verify agencies, please visit [https://data.illinois.gov/dataset/406idph\\_home\\_services\\_directory](https://data.illinois.gov/dataset/406idph_home_services_directory), keeping in mind the new legislation passed 1/01/2018 that all hospitals and health care providers that receive state funding can only refer a patient to an in-home care services agency that is licensed under the Home Health, Home Services, and Home Nursing Agency Licensing Act. For further information, please reference <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name=100-0099>.

Aishling Dalton Kelly

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more information visit [www.irishmarchingsociety.com](http://www.irishmarchingsociety.com) or visit us on Facebook.

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# New Novel, Irish Above All by Mary Pat Kelly

Author of *Galway Bay* and *Of Irish Blood* to Discuss Books in Chicago

**Wednesday, March 6th**  
7:00 PM  
Andersons Bookshop, 123 W. Jefferson Ave., Naperville, IL 60540  
www.andersonsbookshop.com  
Tel: (630)355-2665

**Thursday, March 7th**  
Paddy's on the Square, 28 Robert Parker Coffin Rd., Long Grove, IL 60047  
Signing  
3:00 PM  
Book Club Talk  
7:00 PM  
www.irishboutique.com  
Tel: (847)634-0339

**Friday, March 8th**  
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM  
Union League Club, 5 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604  
Luncheon Presentation with celebrated singer Catherine O'Connell www.ulcc.com  
Tel: (312)435-4826  
irishaboveall.eventbrite.com

**Friday, March 8th**  
6:00 - 9:00 PM  
The Polo Inn, 3322 S. Morgan, Chicago IL 60608  
Signing  
www.thepoloinn.com  
Tel: (312)927-7656

**Saturday, March 9th**  
2:00 PM  
The Polo Inn, 3322 S. Morgan, Chicago IL 60608  
Kelly Family Reunion  
www.thepoloinn.com  
Tel: (312)927-7656

**Sunday, March 10th**  
2:00 PM  
The Bookstall, 811 Elm St., Winnetka, IL 60093  
Presentation with celebrated singer Catherine O'Connell  
www.thebookstall.com  
Tel: (847)446-8880

"Kelly is a wonderful, creative, intelligent writer who's endowed with a sense of humor."

—Malachy McCourt  
"Prepare to be transported through 1920s-40s Chicago and Ireland for an epic story of love, loss and the strength of one incredible Irish woman."

—Martha Hall Kelly, New York Times bestselling author of *Lilac Girls* on *Irish Above All*  
"Fascinating story. Engrossing, with an endearing central character and a wonderful, rich historical background."

—Mary Higgins Clark on *Of Irish Blood*  
With *IRISH ABOVE ALL* (A Forge Books hardcover; \$27.99; February 5, 2019), bestselling author Mary Pat Kelly returns

with the continuing story of Chicago-born Irish-American Nora Kelly, whom #1 New York Times bestselling author Mary Higgins Clark has called, "an endearing central character" and has praised Kelly for her "wonderful, rich background."

Mary Pat Kelly is a creative, intelligent writer who imbues just the right amount of humor in her novels. She's the author of bestselling *Galway Bay*, and has worked as a screenwriter for Paramount and Columbia Pictures. In 2015, she introduced Nora Kelly in *Of Irish Blood* (Forge Books), about which *Library Journal* said, "What sets it apart from other novels about the Irish War of Independence

is its feisty character development, feminist viewpoint, and excellent writing. It will have



wide appeal to readers of both Irish history and historical novels, as well as those wishing to sink their teeth into a really good story.

After ten years in Paris, where she learned photography and became part of the movement that invented modern art, Nora Kelly is at last returning home. Her skill as a photographer will help her cousin Ed Kelly in his rise to Mayor of Chicago. But when she captures the moment an assassin's bullet narrowly misses President-elect Franklin Roosevelt and strikes Anton Cermak in February 1933, she enters a world of international intrigue and danger.

Nora must balance family obligations against her encounters with larger-than-life historical characters, such as Joseph Kennedy, Big Bill Thompson, Al Capone, Mussolini, and the circle of women who surround F.D.R. She moves through the Roaring Twenties, the Great Depression, and World War II with aplomb, but it's her unexpected trip to Ireland that transforms her life.

Mary Pat Kelly combines extensive research with deep-seated knowledge of her family history to craft a tale that's at once intimate and expansive, seamlessly weaving her ancestors into run-ins with famous figures and true events. *IRISH ABOVE ALL* "combines the myths and magic of Ire-

land with the grit and energy of Irish-American Chicago in the first half of the 20th century," and should not be missed.

Mary Pat Kelly is the author of *Of Irish Blood* and the bestselling *Galway Bay*. She has worked in Hollywood as a screenwriter for Paramount and Columbia Pictures, and in New York City as an associate producer with *Good Morning America* and *Saturday Night Live*. Born and raised in Chicago, she lives in Manhattan with her husband, web designer Martin Sheerin.

As a filmmaker her credits include *Proud* starring Ossie Davis and Stephen Rea, three award-winning PBS documentaries, and work in television for *Good Morning America* and *Saturday Night Live*. She wrote the book and lyrics for the musical *Abby's Song* (now an animated film *Shirah of Bethlehem*). A graduate of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College, Kelly received her PhD in English from the CUNY Graduate Center.

Named by *Irish America Magazine* as one of the Top-100 Irish Americans, *Global Irish* and *Power Women*, she is president of Irish American Writers & Artists. Mary Pat was born and raised in Chicago and lives in New York with her husband, web developer Martin Sheerin from County Tyrone. To learn more about Mary Pat Kelly and her work, visit: [marypatkelly.com](http://marypatkelly.com).



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## Nathan Carter's Star is Rising

By *Ryanne Gallagher Johnson*

There must be something in the water in Liverpool, England!

Irish-Country-Pop crossover singer/songwriter and performing sensation Nathan Carter is taking the world of music by storm. His repertoire includes seven studio albums, one of which went four times platinum in Ireland, a PBS special in the US, chart-topping albums and singles, his own limited-episode self titled television show, and a bestselling autobiography that released late last year. At just twenty-eight years old, he's already a music veteran and household name in Ireland, and is now in the midst of his most recent world tour, his fourth

overall in the States alone.

Born to Irish parents and raised in Liverpool, England with those strong Irish roots, Carter began his love affair with music early on. "I started at a very young age. I got my first accordion when I was four years old, and my granddad taught me my first ever tune, which would have been Danny Boy, and I never looked back. Still playing the accordion today," he says. "It's a great thing to be involved with growing up. It's a great passion and my life kind of revolves around it, so I'm very lucky to have music."

When he was just twelve years old, he won All Ireland medals for both accordion and singing,

and went on to also become an accomplished guitar and piano player as well.

He comes by his love of country music honestly, having been exposed to the talents of Johnny Cash, Waylon Jennings, Don Williams, and Dolly Parton by his parents and grandmother (Nan) as a child. He later went on to discover the new generation of country in Garth Brooks, Vince Gill, Shania Twain, and Brad Paisley on his own.

Inspired by these artists, and equipped with his accordion and guitar, he began performing country music sets for the pub scene across Liverpool, London, Birmingham, and Ireland, as a teenager, chauffeured to each gig by his Nan. "I don't think there's been many weekends in the last ten

years that I haven't had a gig somewhere. It's the tour that never ends."

During a performance in Bunrana, Co. Donegal, Carter was noticed by songwriter John Farry, who soon came to manage the young star. With Farry's assistance, they put together a band of multi-talented performers that includes Niall Murphy, Gareth Lowry, Matt Curran, John Byrne, John Pettifer, and Carl Harvey. The group has since booked larger and larger shows, selling out venues all over Europe and the U.S.

"They're all great guys, all very talented musicians. A lot of them play multiple instruments. Matthew, he's one of the guitar players, he (also) plays harmonica and saxophone and banjo and steel guitar. Then Niall, our fiddle player, plays mandolin and guitar as well. They're a great bunch of lads. All very, very talented."

Carter's Nan has remained an integral part of his tours as well, driving to shows all over Ireland and the UK as his merch manager. She refers to herself as the oldest roadie going.

With Irish music in his blood

and country music in his heart, Carter worked on developing his own unique music style, mixing the genres to create what has become known as Celtic Country. His 2012 version of Bob Dylan's



*Chloe Agnew and Nathan Carter*

"Wagon Wheel", released on his Wagon Wheel album, became his breakout hit. It made the Irish charts, where it stayed for 77 weeks, and ultimately earned him a Gold Disc (100,000 sold, UK).

Outselling other internationally acclaimed artists, he was the second country act to reach number one in the Irish charts in 2013, after Garth Brooks six years before. He's touted as the face of the huge country music revival currently underway in Ireland, and has been hailed as the catalyst for the dance craze that has taken the country along with it. The BBC's The One Show even made a special documentary about Carter and the craze he inspired.

National TV station RTÉ gave him his own special in 2015, The Nathan Carter Show, which did so well, they've made it an annual event. He was also named 2016 winner of the same station's Irish Country Music Awards for "Live Act of the Year", and "All Time Favorite Country Song" for Wagon Wheel.

Along with a tour late last year that was a huge success, his auto-

biography, Born for the Road, hit shelves in September 2018, and made the bestseller list.

And 2019 is shaping up to be another great year for Carter and his band. They'll kick off with a European tour, followed by an Alaskan cruise tour, a U.S. tour, and finish the year off with the remainder of their tour in the UK. Performing along with them will be former original member of Celtic Woman, Chloë Agnew, who will bring her stunning vocals to the shows.

While he enjoys enormous chart success in Europe, his first love is performing live, and Nathan Carter shows are something really special. With a superb live sound, stage set, and light show, he is renowned for going that

extra mile to make his concert an unforgettable experience.

Carter says he's looking forward to touring in the U.S. again.

"I love coming to the States, it's always great fun. It's a lot of traveling, of course. America is so big compared to this small island of Ireland, but we love it... I love what I do and I'm very lucky to be able to get to see all these new places. I meet so many lovely people on the road."

Gaelic Park Irish festival is on the docket as part of his US tour in May. "It's very professionally run," he says of the venue. "It's very nice, and a very comfortable place (to perform)... I like to think (our tour is) a really energetic, lively show that everybody will like. We do a good bit of Irish music in it. I play a few tunes on the accordion, Chloe sings a good few ballads, and, you know, it's a great show, I really do think it is. I really think people will enjoy it if they come along."

For tour dates, album sales, links to his autobiography, and more information about Nathan Carter and his band, you can visit his website at [nathancarter-music.com](http://nathancarter-music.com)



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

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

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

## The Importance of Injury Lawyers in Remediating Environmental Hazards

Historically, tort law has provided a means to address certain environmental injuries. When someone is injured as a result of exposure to toxic chemicals or contaminants, a lawsuit can often be filed against those who are responsible for the contamination. While numerous federal and state statutes and regulations have been enacted and provide legal remedies for their violation, tort law remains an important mechanism to resolve environmental injury issues. Examples of negligence actions with an environmental effect can include: the physical injury sustained from exposure to hazardous substances released into the environment, the adequate reduction or warning of serious risks of injury, or the prompt remediation of an acknowledged harm to the environment, such as in the aftermath of an oil spill or a release of toxic chemicals.

Filing a lawsuit not only provides a means to compensate the victims of chemical exposure for their injuries and damages, but can also serve to motivate companies and municipalities to increase awareness of environmental hazards and take steps to reduce or eliminate them so that they are not exposed to liability for additional future claims. Litigation of these types of claims has given rise to new environmental legislation being passed and new policies being enacted and enforced.

One example of this is the Deepwater Horizon litigation arising out of the infamous April 2010 BP oil spill. In addition to fines and cleanup costs, BP has been subject to numerous claims for deaths, injuries, and other damages arising out of

the incident, costing BP tens of billions of dollars. That litigation not only provides compensation for victims, but sends a clear message to BP regarding its responsibility to protect the environment.

### Crestwood Water Contamination

Closer to home, litigation arose out of contaminated water in the Village of Crestwood. In 1985, the Village became aware of test results from state regulators which showed the well water used by Crestwood residents was contaminated with Perchloroethylene (PCE), Dichloroethylene (DCE), and Vinyl Chloride. PCE and Vinyl Chloride are known carcinogens which are hazardous to human health and are linked to cancer and other health problems. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has set standards for safe levels of these chemicals. For PCE and Vinyl Chloride, the EPA level considered safe for consumption is zero. The allegations against the Village included that Crestwood and an engineering firm it hired concealed the results of the testing from Village residents between 1985 and at least 2007. The engineering firm allegedly provided advice to the Village as to how it could effectively hide the test results from the public.

A large number of claims were filed on behalf of Crestwood residents, including a claim filed by Healy Scanlon on behalf of a lifelong Crestwood resident who was diagnosed with brain cancer, underwent multiple brain surgeries, and ultimately died as a result of his exposure to these toxins. The firm successfully litigated the case and secured a significant settlement for the resident's family. The successful

litigation of this and other claims serve as a message to not only Crestwood, but other municipalities that exposing residents to dangerous toxins and actively concealing the presence of harmful chemicals will not be tolerated.

### Mount Greenwood cancer concerns

Additionally, recent reports of "cancer clusters" in the Mount Greenwood community have raised concerns among residents there regarding potential water contamination. Residents have indicated that several children living within a few blocks of each other have been diagnosed with cancer. There have been several studies of the area by state and city officials, but the results have been largely inconclusive. However, a 2017 review by the Illinois Department of Public Health found elevated rates of breast, lung, and prostate cancer in the area, as compared to Cook County as a whole. The University of Chicago has launched a comprehensive study on the issue, but results have not yet been released.

Recent lawsuits filed against Sterigenics for release of harmful chemicals

In Willowbrook, the release of a dangerous carcinogen from a Sterigenics plant has generated many recent headlines. Sterigenics uses ethylene oxide pumped into massive chambers in order to sterilize medical instruments. Ethylene oxide is on the federal government's list of carcinogens, and a federal study has shown that even small concentrations of the chemical routinely leaking from their buildings can pose a significant health risk, particularly to the nearly 20,000 people who live within a mile of the facility. The Willowbrook facility is one of nine Sterigenics facilities throughout the country that utilize ethylene oxide sterilizers. Sterigenics has

been releasing ethylene oxide into the air since 1984.

Despite numerous air quality measurements which have documented emissions issues at the facility, the U.S. EPA has failed to intervene. However, the Illinois EPA recently prohibited Sterigenics from pumping ethylene oxide under a state law that allows the Illinois EPA to force the closure of a facility if it poses an "imminent and substantial endangerment" to public health. Sterigenics filed an emergency motion to lift the ban on its use of the chemical, but a federal judge recently rejected the arguments presented by Sterigenics' lawyers and denied the motion.

Multiple lawsuits have been filed against Sterigenics and its parent company for knowingly emitting the cancer-causing chemical, and for failing to warn area residents. Lawsuits have been filed on behalf of plaintiffs who have suffered from breast cancer, leukemia, and lymphoma after living near the Willowbrook facility for many years.

Thus, while the EPA and environmental statutes go a long way toward enforcing environmental protection measures and reducing chemical exposure, tort law remains a vital tool to resolve harms to the environment. If you have any questions regarding injuries that are suspected to have resulted from toxins in the air, water, or ground, kindly contact the attorneys at Healy Scanlon at (312) 977-0100 or at [www.healyscanlon.com](http://www.healyscanlon.com).

**By: Martin J. Healy, Jr. Patrick C. Anderson right**



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## Irish Books and Plays in Review

Frank West



This issue begins the 42<sup>nd</sup> year that I have written for the "Irish American News." The News is positive and optimistic and I am proud to write for that newspaper. Thank you to Cliff and Cathy Carlson for their enormous encouragement of Irish culture.

### The Confession

By: Jo Spain

Crooked Lane Books

In this powerful and haunting psychological thriller, the action begins on pages 1 and 2. "The stranger walked into the centre of our living room."

"We hadn't even heard him enter the house."

"A golf club dangled loosely from his right hand, but he didn't seem threatening. A pair of jeans, a t-shirt. It was like he'd just strolled in off the golf course that say to the rear of our property."

As "the blows from the golf club

rain down "on Harry McNamara's head and face, why did he do it? What was his motive?" The author answers these questions on the last two pages of the book!

Most of this amazing book is about the psychological aspects of motive. Why do people do what they do? Why do some people have feelings of responsibility and guilt and other don't?

Jo Spain authored three previous books. They were best sellers in Ireland and went on to become international best sellers.

Spain "is a parliamentary assistant in Leinster House and vice-chair of business body Inter Trade Ireland. Jo lives in Dublin with her husband and their four young children."

The Confession asks why two people who grow up in similar circumstances can choose such different paths in life: one becomes

a good citizen, while the other becomes a criminal. About this the criminal in the books says: "If things had been different...If, if, if"

Discussing this with the police detective, the public defender says: "I'm sensing a lot of hostility from you...towards my client." The detective replies: "Not as much hostility as your client



showed Harry McNamara when he was smashing his skill in."

The defender says, "I understand your irritation, but he's clearly not responsible for it. He's a very damaged individual...He's as much as victim as anybody else."

"He's the victim? Says the de-

fective. Her voice thick with sarcasm."

The public defender says: "We will be looking at a plea of diminished responsibility and a verdict of not guilty."

McNamara had founded a back, HMCapital that made him a very important part of the Celtic Tiger. That was the period of enormous speculation in Irish real estate during the early 2000's.

Here is how Spain describes those times: "Everybody was enthralled with the hope offered... People had jobs and were on good money. Suddenly there were BMWs and Jags on the road. Satellite dishes sprung up on..." public housing.

Harry's wife, Julie says that before, during, and after the Celtic Tiger, "Harry was playing a dangerous game, not just with his own finances, but with those of many of our friends—his investors and bank shareholders—as well as his customer" at the bank. He speculated with their money. He was a brilliant financier and for years he made a lot of money. However, he was amoral and ruthless. He didn't care who he hurt, as long as he got what he wanted. He betrayed the bank, the shareholders, investors, and his wife.

When he saw that the collapse was coming, he moved others into executive positions at the bank so that they would be blamed.

The detective believes the criminal is lying. She watches him with eagle eyes. The Garda officials want to move on and to turn the case over to the courts, but Inspector Alice Moody persists. Her police boss says, "Can you really not accept the possibility that McNamara was just an unfortunate sap that karma came hunting?... There were hundreds of bankers doing dodgy deals. Why him?"

The Detective Inspector is determined to find the truth and to answer that question.

These quotes are further examples of the beautiful and arresting language Spain uses.

About the lavish annual dinner for the bank's executives. McNamara's wife, Julie says: "The beauty salon had been booked out...but I skipped the pampering...I never could bear making small talk with those women—vacuous gossips who had carefully fostered superior snobbishness on the backs of their husband's earnings."

The criminal says about his sister: "Charlie told me once the most important thing she ever learned was that you had to leave the past behind you to move on. She thought life was too precious not to live it to the fullest."

### Cruel Winter

By: Sheila Connolly

Crooke Lane Books

Sheila Connolly has a wonderful, subtle way of slowly getting the reader the mystery and become an intrigued part of it. This happens so gradually that before you know what is happening, you're on the "inside" of the mystery story.

In most novels, the reader watches and observes. In this crime novel, I found myself being drawn into the story—as if I was one of the characters. Cruel Winter is really a "looked room" mystery. It all takes place during a snow-storm in west Cork. A pub is isolated by the snow. Two inches of snow have made the roads impassable. Because snow is so infrequent, there

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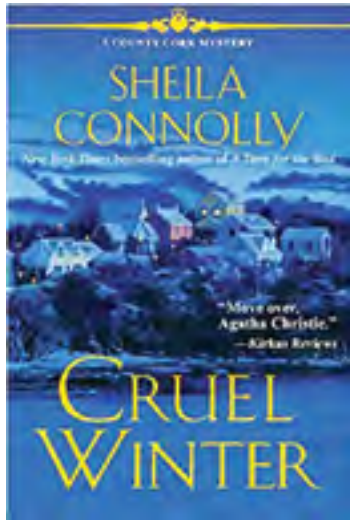
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are no snowplows or salt tracks. People who can't make it home from the village take refuge in a pub. The door is open for them. The owner of the pub is a 26 year old American from Boston who inherited the pub and a small house. She likes the people she meets and is comfortable with life in the village.

When everyone is settled, the attention of the people focuses on a stranger who has taken refuge there too. She hasn't visited the village in many years. This is because about twenty years before she was accused of murder. The police investigated, but could find no evidence to charge her. Now the American, and adults who were children then, want to take a fresh look at the case. They have no pre-conceived idea of her guilt and only want to know what really happened. I found the whole related experience to be exciting and enticing.

The biographical information for Sheila Connolly, the author, is an amazing story in itself. She is the granddaughter of Irish immigrants and also a descen-



dant of persons who came on the Mayflower. Connolly was born in 1950 in upstate New York, and now lives in Massachusetts with her husband. Their daughter is a playwright.

Cruel Winter is the fifth in the County Cork Series. Connolly has written 32 mystery novels! They are so respected that they have earned Agatha and Anthony Awards. She earned a Ph.D. in Fine Arts at Harvard University and became an art historian. Later she became a fundraiser for a non-profit and then was an advisor for po-

litical campaigns. Her MBA from the University of California helped her to be an advisor for municipal investments. About those many experiences she says: "It seems that everything that came before was research for future books."

I think you'll like these quotes. The main character is talking with a friend: "You've got issues with your own family, right?" "I do, they weren't happy with me when In said I wanted to be an artist...They're even less happy now that a baby is on the way and I'm not married."

"They aren't going to be thrilled by a new grandbaby?"

"They've already got a few, all nice and proper in the eyes of the church and the village."

"Shortly after the lights came back on in the pub, Maura, the owner realized she'd have to retire the antiquated, but still useful oil lamps to the basement. Or, maybe keep them in a handier place in case the power went out again...They snow was melting fast, as if the last twenty-four hours were being erased in front of their eyes."



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Whether you are just beginning your Irish research or have been at it for years, you won't want to miss these workshops!

Fuller contact details with

additional information can be found at [www.ancestryireland.com/lecture-tour-2019/](http://www.ancestryireland.com/lecture-tour-2019/)

Monday, 11 March, Chicago, IL (9:00am-5:00pm)

Location: 4626 N. Knox Ave., Chicago, IL 60630

Program title: Researching

Your Irish and Scots-Irish Ancestors

At the **Irish American Heritage Center** [irish-american.org/event/researching-your-irish-and-scots-irish-ancestors-with-the-ulster-historical-foundation/](http://irish-american.org/event/researching-your-irish-and-scots-irish-ancestors-with-the-ulster-historical-foundation/) 773-282-703 ext 10 [genealogy@irishahc.org](mailto:genealogy@irishahc.org)

Admission is free.

## March Events for Catherine O'Connell



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by Vicki Quade

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## On the Upbeat

By Maryann  
McTeague Keifer

I am in the car heading down Oak Park Avenue to pick up dinner for the family I am not in the least bit fond of at this moment. Sputtering, telling a few of them off to a vacant car as I am driving—you've been there, right? Fortunately, for them, I had grabbed an album from the table on my way out and into this car which I can never get rid of so that I will have a cd player....

Hmmm, a lovely upbeat jig set that has my hand tapping on the wheel. A second set, hornpipes this time, has my shoulders relaxing and focus now solely on this gem I am enjoying. Two more sets get played as I drive home, and I'm pulling into my garage to the most gorgeous piano air that has fully saved my family.

Music at the House is not a new album. It was released in 2003, and I am hoping will now receive the notice it should, as it could be a classic. Chicago's Marty Fahey on box and piano, Boston born but Chicago based Brendan Bulger on fiddle, and Ireland's Kathleen Gavin on piano with Dennis Cahill producing created a powerhouse collection of 16 varied tunes that encompasses the best of Irish traditional music.

All three grew up in musical households. We don't get to hear Marty's music nearly enough. He grew up learning with his contemporaries including Liz Carroll, Jimmy Keane, Martin Hayes, and with them, at the knees of the Nearys, Kevin Henry, and Johnny McGreevy to name a few. Brendan's father introduced him to the music, and he grew up with the Reynolds, the Kellys, the Cloonans, and the other well-known east coast trad musicians. Moving to Chicago resulted in the fortunate crossing of paths with Marty. He is often enjoyed at sessions and performances with other musicians such as Larry Nugent, Johnny Williams, Paddy Homan, Jimmy Moore, and is a member of The Noble Call. Kathleen's list of musical influences is a who's who of Mayo and Dublin including Seamus Ennis and Johnny McGreevy. A chance meeting of Marty at a fleadh in Ireland years ago resulted in a lifelong friendship that led to this recording.

The album is definitely Trad with tunes such as Jimmy Neary's, Buttermilk Mary, and The Man in the House. Included are also tunes such as Liz Carroll's The Chandelier. Both Mary and Marty have solo piano pieces that will wring you out—stunningly beautiful! Brendan's deadly fiddle is featured throughout the album. Their play is seamless, confident, and sounds as if they have played daily together. Kudos to Dennis Cahill for a beautiful sound bringing them to us.

Goo to Marty's Facebook page and message him, or catch Brendan at a session to get your copy of Music at the House! There may be a new one in the talking stages.

Liz Carroll has partnered with East Pointer's Jake Charron



and gifted us with a brand new DYNAMITE album titled half day road. The combination of Liz' fiddle that can take you on a roller coaster ride of power and drive and then float you on an ethereal plane supported by the creative foundation of Jake's accompaniment on guitar and piano has resulted in an album that assuredly will be the talk of this year and those to come.

The marriage of American and Canadian styles within the framework of Irish Trad influenced tunes composed by Liz was no small task, but as we have become used to with Liz Carroll, she never disappoints and always amazes. Several tunes are written in honor of friends including Jim DeWan, Jimmy Keane (You'll want the story behind that!), Etain McKinney, Brandon Carroll and Andrea Beaton. Others are based on places or situations she sets up for us in the liner notes giving meaning and enhancing our listening. Jake also has a stunningly beautiful solo, LAST OF THE LEAVES, which he wrote for the birth of his daughter and the love just pours from the notes as he plays it.

The album transports you through reels, jigs and airs leaving you sated, yet wanting more. The ability Liz has of putting meaning to her compositions and playing them with feeling that encompasses as you listen is almost impossible to fathom. There are talented people, and there are masters. Liz Carroll is an unassuming, humble genius who walks through our lives giving the invaluable gift of her music.

Whether enjoying your toe tapping to the propelling **Heath And Bernie's** opening set, the impossible not to dance to **Compliments To Jimmy Keane** jig, struggling to build the boat with the Vikings on **Jarl Squad**, or finding your heart aching during **The Famine**, Liz and Jake have created a musical masterpiece that will find us listening to, being in awe of, and replaying for years to come. Half day road is special; it is a treasure given in hopes that we will enjoy. We will not simply enjoy—we will cherish!

Don't forget to tune into *Ireland Tonight* every Monday evening from 8-10PM on WDCB to listen to this music!

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# St. Patrick's Day and American Revolution

By Robert Lyons

The Chicago River will sparkle brilliant shades of emerald green when Terry Hancock, Grand Marshall and President of Teamsters Joint Council No. 25 leads the St. Patrick's parade Saturday, March 16th. This 64th annual celebration, sponsored by Chicago Plumbers Local 130 UA, follows the tradition begun in New York City in 1762 when the first parade honoring the patron saint of Ireland was held by Irish soldiers serving in

the British army. In New York City, the "Fighting Irish" 69th Infantry regiment will lead off its 168th St. Patrick's Parade when its two shaggy Irish wolfhound mascots strut up Fifth Avenue in New York City March 16, 2019. This Irish brigade, organized by Irish Revolutionary and Civil War Union General, Thomas Meagher from Co Waterford was invited in 1851 to lead the St. Patrick's parade to protect the Irish from the violence

orchestrated by anti-immigrant "Know-Nothings".

Before the American Revolution there had been little attempt by either Ireland or America to actively champion the cause of the other. But after Benjamin Franklin visited Ireland in 1762 and witnessed the wretched conditions under which the Irish lived, he wrote to his fellow patriots in Massachusetts: "All Ireland is strongly in favor of the American cause. They have reason to sympathize with us."

Although "Ireland occupied an ambiguous place in Americans' thoughts about global politics", according to historian, David Sim, American independence would not have been achieved without the Irish. Alan Lomax, American folk song collector, observed: "If soldier's folk songs were the only evidence, it would seem that the armies that fought in the early American wars were composed entirely of Irishmen." When the shot heard round the world was fired, 147 Irishmen were among

the minutemen at Lexington and Concord. After the smoke cleared on April 19th, 1775, twenty-two Irishmen would have given their lives in America's initial bid for independence.

Gen. George Washington proclaimed March 17th a day of rest for his Continental Army in 1780, acknowledging the cause of Irish freedom and the Irish-American alliance against the British Empire. Americans were not going to allow themselves to be ruled as Ireland was. Forty-five percent of Washington's Continental Army was Irish.

In the Siege of Yorktown sequence of Lin-Manual Miranda's smash hit musical, Alexander Hamilton asks: "How did we know that this plan would work? We had a spy on the inside. That's right!"

The chorus shouts: "Hercules Mulligan!"

Mulligan, an Irish born tailor and soldier/spy replies:

"A tailor spyin' on the British government! I take their measurements, information and then

I smuggle it. To my brother's revolutionary covenant. I'm runnin' with the Sons of Liberty and I am lovin' it!"

The morning after the British evacuated New York City, November 26, 1783, Gen. Washington invited Mulligan to breakfast. The city was returned to the victorious Patriots and declared the capitol of the United States.

Lord Mountjoy lamented in Parliament on April 2, 1784: "America was lost by Irish emigrants.... I am assured from the best authority, the major part of the American Army was composed of Irish and that the Irish language was as commonly spoken in the American ranks as English. I am also informed it was their valor that determined the contest."

After Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown, Virginia October 19, 1781, legend has it that during surrender ceremonies, the British regimental band played the familiar march, "The World Turn'd Upside Down." It was the Irish in the Continental army who accelerated the pace of that downward turn.

The Irish, skilled at verbal arts, raised a glass to their dual identity at the centennial celebration of Boston's Charitable Irish Society, March 17, 1837: "To Ireland and America. May the former soon be as free as the latter, and may the latter never forget that Irishmen were instrumental in securing the liberty they now enjoy."

Irish participation in the American Revolution helped give birth to a new nation. The Irish-Americans returned the favor after the 1916 Easter rising when, "Ireland... supported by her exiled children in America... strikes in full confidence of victory." Ireland's war of independence ended with the Anglo-Irish Peace Treaty in 1921 and, "Ireland, long a province, A Nation once again!" Erin go Bragh! America forever!

A former South Dakotan, Robert Lyons of Kennebunkport, Maine, teaches Irish Studies in the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute the University of Southern Maine. His County Waterford ancestors found their way to Chicago and homesteaded in Dakota Territory in the 1880s.

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## GOOD GRIEF

BY JOSEPHINE COLEMAN



A few years ago, I was privileged to share a hospital room with a beautiful young lady who introduced herself as Natalie. She looked so frail and frightened, and my heart went out to her immediately as I had two kids a little younger than her. Over the next few days, we became great room buddies helping each other and staying up late chatting. She told me her parents were from Mexico and met in Chicago, where they eventually got married, bought a house, had full time employment, and were blessed with two beautiful daughters. They were living high on life and felt sure that they were living the "American dream." However, when Natalie was just three years old, her father lost his young life in a tragic car accident during a winter storm.

Natalie's mother was unfortunately left alone to raise two little girls. They struggled terribly financially with many hardships. Her mother had to work multiple jobs to put food on the table and to pay the bills. By this time, Natalie had managed to graduate high school and also earned a two year associates degree at a local college. Natalie began applying to several colleges. She was over joyed when she was accepted into Loyola University. Sadly, shortly after Natalie started her first year at Loyola, her family lost possession of their home. Her mother was eventually unable to find employment and cheap accommodation in Indiana. Natalie was devastated as she didn't want to lose her place in Loyola and move away from home. With determination, however, Natalie ended up commuting over four hours a day to continue studying in Chicago while also working part time jobs to ease the financial burdens. There were days she was too exhausted to study, and she was eventually put on probation by Loyola. This completely devastated her, but it she laughingly

said that it "put a rocket under her" to do better. She knew that she messed up and ultimately had to repeat her last year of school, which meant an additional year of stress and traveling. Eventually, her mother moved Natalie's family back to Chicago where Natalie graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in psychology. This was the start of new beginnings and she excitedly thought "Here I come world!" as she was ready to begin this new chapter of her life.

Ecstatic with her degree in her hand, Natalie began applying for every available employment position in and around Chicago. She was rather disappointed as most of the jobs she had applied for did not give her a call back. One day, her phone rang and she was offered a job in the field she wanted and studied for. She was extremely happy and couldn't wait to tell her family. Things were definitely looking up for her. However, Natalie unfortunately hit by a car on her way home that had run a red light. She came out of the crash feeling fine, and dusted herself off thinking "Lucky me! I'm still alive and kicking and excited to start a new job! Natalie did start her new job but few weeks later she experienced horrific jabbing pains in her abdomen. They were so debilitating that she was forced to go to the emergency room at Loyola Hospital, and had to receive emergency surgery. They brought her into my room after her surgery, and I wasn't too happy about having a roommate. I now had to share a bathroom and was constantly worried about my hospital gown flapping open. I didn't realize that she was so young. I called out to her and told her my name, and asked how she was feeling; she said her name is Natalie and that she loved my accent. She of course asked where I was from, and I laughed and told her all about Ireland. I talked about my family and

how many years I've lived here, the usual Irish banter.

Next day the doctors came to talk to Natalie they discussed why they had to perform emergency surgery. I was shocked when she told me that they needed to remove her right ovary and fallopian tube. It was eerily similar to what I had gone through as a teenager, coincidentally from a car crash as well. They told her she may have problems getting pregnant (if ever) and I was totally gutted for her. I couldn't wait for my kids to come see me that evening, however, I wanted to show her that adoption is a beautiful alternative. Natalie was discharged next day, and we hugged, cried, and promised to keep in touch (which we did). She would stop by our house for coffee and chat with my kids about

staying focused on their education. She also went back to work and began saving money for her future wedding. One day, she called me and said "I have wonderful news!" I thought she might have gotten a pay raise or promotion, but she squealed on the phone "I'M PREGNANT!!!" Good Grief. I almost dropped the phone! Needless to say, I was ecstatic for her and her fiancé. I had so much fun buying lots of pink baby clothes for their little miracle. I hope Natalie's story will remind you that when the odds are stacked against you keep the faith!! Many thanks my little friend for letting me tell your incredible story

*Writing has always been an outlet for me. I have a passion for people and the stories they have to tell. I have lived in and*

*around Chicago for 31 years. I grew up in Ireland with Dominican parents, whom I miss dearly every day, they are the ones who read to us, waltzed around the kitchen floor with us, sang to us from the pages of the 'Ireland Own' magazine - just wonderful memories. I'm the middle child out of 12, unfortunately, there are only 8 of us left. I would like to dedicate this column to Hugh, Angela, and David. I enjoyed writing this column as I found great parallels between myself and Natalie's journey. I am sure some of you may be able relate to this story. I hope we can share many more stories together. Many thanks for your support its greatly appreciated Chat to you later!*



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## A Conversation With the Author of 'Say Nothing,' Patrick Radden Keefe

By Sabina Clarke

Recently I met with Patrick Radden Keefe the amazingly gifted author, investigative journalist and staff writer for The New Yorker since 2012 and contributor since 2006. His latest book *Say Nothing* out now and getting rave reviews examines the horrific death of Jean McConville a mother of ten against the backdrop of the turbulent period in Irish history known as 'The Troubles.'

"Ireland is a great country for storytelling. I wanted to write a book that could function as a rigorous history of this period and draw in new readers who are not familiar with 'The Troubles' and have never been to Belfast and those who have some familiarity but would like to know more."

Radden Keefe who is of both Irish and Australian ancestry has always wanted to be a writer since childhood but "didn't quite

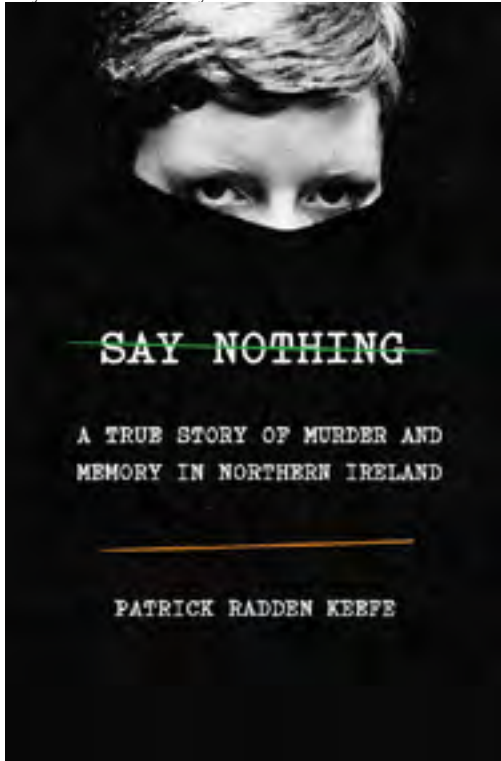
know how to do it and pay the rent." He started writing in Law School and published his first book at age 29 after he passed the New York Bar Exam.

In 2013 intrigued after reading The New York Times obituary of Irish Republican Army volunteer Dolours Price the former wife of Irish actor Stephen Rea, he made two trips to Belfast and spent two years researching Dolours Price's life. He also spent time with McConville's grown children documenting the huge toll felt by all of them by their mother's sudden absence from their lives on the night she was forcibly abducted from her home at gunpoint never again to be seen alive.

Keefe's mesmerizing account "Where the Bodies Are Buried" appeared in The New Yorker in 2015 and caused such a sensation that it prompted him to consider writing a book with McConville's murder as its starting point.

Almost simultaneously the unsolved McConville murder case was being resurrected with

the exposure of a closely guarded secret—the existence of The Boston College Belfast Project—the oral history archive of 'The Troubles' stored in the Burns Library at Boston College only to be subpoenaed and seized by the Police Service of



Northern Ireland under the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty, MLAT, between the U.S. and the U.K. on the grounds that it was needed to investigate a murder—the forty year old unsolved murder of Jean McConville whose remains had finally been found on a deserted beach.

The Boston College Belfast Project became an international story making headlines around the world. Appeals to deny the seizure of the archives by Boston College and author and journalist Ed Moloney Director of the Boston College Belfast Project and Dr. Anthony McIntyre who conducted the interviews with former IRA members in Ireland went on appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court and the High Court of Belfast. The target was Gerry Adams and the seizure of Dolours Price's interview relating to the McConville murder.

On the heels of the overwhelming response to Radden Keefe's 2015 New Yorker story "Where the Bodies Are Buried" he began

researching his book *Say Nothing*—the title taken from a Seamus Heaney poem quoting an old Irish phrase "Whatever you say, say nothing" --"O land of password, handgrip, wink and nod." He made seven trips to Northern Ireland and conducted more than 100 interviews over four years.

In *Say Nothing* Keefe paints a masterful and historically accurate portrait of 'The Troubles' ascribing equal blame to both the loyalist and nationalist communities with a nod to the main antagonist and instigator—the British State—for the bloodshed and horrific human toll extracted by the war.

But what is so gripping about this story is the style in which it is written. Keefe calls his work narrative non-fiction. It is reminiscent of the style invented by Truman Capote in his telling of the true

crime story of the murder of the Clutter family in Kansas which was very innovative for that time—a story that gripped the nation and introduced a new literary genre—the non-fiction narrative.

But Keefe goes a step further by deftly and accurately weaving McConville's murder into the larger canvas—the historical background of 'The Troubles' in a way that can be easily grasped by the novice reader with no prior knowledge of this period in history. He does this expertly without sacrificing any degree of scholarship in a telling that rivals the best crime novel.

In his riveting and perceptive portraits of IRA volunteers Brendan Hughes and Dolours Price and her sister Marian Price he brings home the huge personal toll the war took on each of their lives and their complete inability to cope when the war ended in a compromise rather than with their goal of the end of British rule in Ireland. For them, the Good Friday Agreement was a sell-out.

But Keefe suggests a more painful reality—that perhaps there was no longer a role for them to play and "they were left behind by history" rather than being tossed aside and no longer needed by Gerry Adams—on whom they turned with bitterness and a surprising degree of revenge. To his credit Adams never reciprocated.

Of the three people who were with Jean McConville when she died, Keefe dons his hat as the superb investigative journalist and identifies without a trace of doubt that the triggerman was Marian Price—the sister of Dolours Price. Through her attorney Marian Price refused to speak with Radden Keefe and denied any involvement—which he thinks is telling.

Another pivotal iconic figure in the history of 'The Troubles'—Bernadette Devlin McAliskey—also refused to be interviewed by Keefe who observed that the past in Belfast is very much in the present adding "A culture of silence suppresses any real dialogue. It stretches back decades. People involved in the republican movement were very circumspect about talking about their experiences."

And of course, Gerry Adams refused to give an interview to Keefe. But then why would he? And Keefe says as much. Nothing to be gained and much to lose. Despite this Keefe's portrait of Adams may be one of the best I've read—"He is an endlessly fascinating guy—intriguing and a bit of a riddle. I have done my best to understand him but I don't think anybody is able to totally get him." Also insightful are his deft and perceptive portraits of both Dolours Price and Brendan Hughes—all three loom large in the book.

As to whether Jean McConville was an informer, Radden Keefe says "It would be heedless for me to say for sure that McConville was an informer. I lay out the evidence. Her children say she was not. The Ombudsman says she was not. Ed Moloney and Brendan Hughes say that definitely she was. I am not as certain."



Patrick Radden Keefe  
photo by Katharine Gilbert

As for the preoccupation by some with Adams' purported membership in the Irish Republican Army, IRA, and his abandoning his comrades by his denial—I find this puzzling since admitting to even a brief stint in the IRA would mean immediate imprisonment—and this for a man who delivered the peace and dedicated his life to the promise of a free and united Ireland. "Yet, because of this, noted Keefe, his legacy will be more complicated." The Irish can be an unforgiving people.

In conclusion, Keefe makes a valid argument for a Truth and Reconciliation Process as established in South Africa with immunity granted. Then past crimes can be permanently put to rest and the present finally liberated.

About the Author:

Patrick Radden Keefe grew up in Dorchester, Massachusetts and received his undergraduate degree from Columbia where he majored in Modern European History and wrote his thesis on World War I. He earned a law degree from Yale Law School, a Masters in Philosophy in International Relations from Cambridge University and a Masters in Science from the London School of Economics. He has received many fellowships including those from the Marshall Scholarship Foundation, Guggenheim Foundation, the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, and the Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers at the New York Public Library. He was a policy adviser in the Office of the Secretary of Defense between 2010 and 2011.



**Giving**

In our modern world there are many who have more than they need while others are facing certain death because they have nothing. Many are good at giving, while others are not. It would be nice if people who have far more money than they will ever need would consider giving a small percentage of it away to help others less fortunate and lead us into a fairer and more equitable society. It is



*Chuck Feeney –  
The Billionaire who gave it all away.*

little use throwing food at people who are starving and we must teach them how to harvest it productively for themselves. To quote the old Chinese proverb: *'Give me a fish and you feed me for a day, teach me to fish and you feed me for life'*.

We may not be able to orchestrate world logistics like Bob Geldof or have the deep pockets of Chuck Feeney but we should always be on the lookout to give something back if we have a little bit extra to spare. It need not be money either, even the friendly saying of 'hello' to elderly people who do not hear the human voice often enough these days is a priceless gesture.

Philanthropy is largely described as a love of mankind, often shown by giving money for the benefit of others. This was manifested very much some years ago when Warren Buffett pledged \$31 billion to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. He chose this particular foundation as it was already well established over the years and he had come to

know Bill and Melinda on a personal level. It was also announced around this time that Bill Gates would

take a back seat with Microsoft to concentrate on charitable works.

The USA has a strong history of philanthropy with Ted Turner donating \$2 billion to the United Nations in recent years and also the work of Andrew Carnegie in the previous century. It was Carnegie who said: *'huge fortunes that flow in large part from society, should in large part be returned to society'*

Overall, generous practitioners of philanthropy will help enormously and it should also be an example to others who are sitting on static wealth to release it for the benefit of others less fortunate. We have the resources and capability to eradicate world hunger, but we choose not to do so. Sometimes we can have a distorted view in relation to money, in that we imagine the man with lots of it is happy because of his wealth, and that people without money are unhappy. Life is best enjoyed if we can keep our needs simple.

I saw an amazing example of the spirit of generosity, some years ago, which restored my faith once again in mankind. I was going into the Bank on the South Mall when I noticed an elderly lady with dark glasses feeling the wall of the Bank with her stick to help her along. When I was leaving the Bank she was standing outside the door with a can collecting for 'Alcoholism'. What a marvellous thing to do. What made this lady get up that particular morning to blindly feel her way around the streets of Cork to collect for a cause that was not even related to her blindness. She could have stayed at home, but she didn't, and God Bless her for making this enormous effort to help others. This should serve as an example to us all.

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**The winner will be announced on the ABC 7 parade broadcast Saturday, March 16th**

*Proceeds to benefit the Chicago St. Patricks Day Parade Committee*

SOME EXCLUSIONS AND BLACKOUT DATES APPLY.

## Shay Clarke Named Grand Marshall of 2019 Downtown St. Charles St. Patrick's Parade

One of the great traditions and honors of the Downtown St. Charles St. Patrick's Parade is to be its grand marshal, and this year, the Downtown St. Charles Partnership is proud to announce Shay Clarke as the parade's grand marshal. Clarke has been heavily involved with the parade and the St. Patrick's Parade committee wanted to honor his commitment during his long time volunteering and emceeding the event by naming him the 2019 St. Patrick's Day Parade Grand Marshal.

Clarke, whose emceeding skills bring delight to every parade he has been a part of, said he was completely unaware that he would be asked to be this year's grand marshal. "What a surprise, I don't know what to say!"

Clarke said after the DSCP staff told him he would be the grand marshal. "This parade is always done fabulously well and I love being a part of it, so being asked to be the grand marshal is truly an honor. I can't wait to celebrate with everyone." The St. Patrick's

Parade has seen a multitude of organizers, supporters and attendees that have turned it into the local tradition for thousands of people of all ages to come line Main Street and watch St. Patrick's Day themed entries show their St. Patrick's Day spirit, listen to award-winning local marching bands and Celtic bands, watch elaborate and colorful floats glide down the street, pay tribute to the walking units of veterans and see all the best that St.

Charles has to offer. While the DSCP and its parade committee determine the grand marshal, their decision is based on the positive impact that a particular person, group, business or organization has made in downtown St. Charles. This year is no exception. Sponsored by Gerald Auto Group, the St. Charles St. Patrick's Parade will be held on Saturday, March 9 and steps off at 2 p.m. at Main and 6th Street and continues down Main Street to conclude at 4th Avenue.

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# Chicago Gaelic Park

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



## A Cháirde

We have a full month of activities planned for March, and you are very welcome to join us. I'll mention our two busiest Sundays. March 10th starts with Mass and Irish Breakfast, and then it is off to the Tinley Park Parade. In the afternoon after the parade, Kieran Byrne will perform in the pub, followed later by Liam Durkin. At 6PM, Jig Jam, a national festival headliner, performs in the Tara Room. Tickets for Jig Jam are available on our website, or can be ordered by phone.

March 17th will find us leaving Gaelic Park by bus to go to

the South Side Irish Parade. If you want a ride, please call the office the week before. Meanwhile, our annual South Side Irish Sunday Celebration begins at 11AM. For a modest entry fee, you'll find live bands throughout the day on all our main floor stages, and children's entertainment upstairs in the Celtic Room. Our directors, staff and volunteers hope that you enjoy Patrick's Month, and that you spend part of it with us.

Slánte,

Bill O'Sullivan

## 2018 CGP Calendar of Events 2018

### MARCH

- March 3 **Sunday Classic Carvery\***
- March 6 **St. Patrick's Day Monthly Musical Luncheon\***  
Music by Joe Cullen
- March 10 **Sunday Classic Carvery\***
- March 24 **Sunday Classic Carvery\***

*\* Reservations Required*

Ladies Auxiliary - No March Meeting

Monthly Musical Luncheon\* - Doors open at noon, hot lunch served at 1pm for just \$15 per person

Monday Evening Set Dancing

7:30pm

Tuesdays - Pub Trivia

Tuesday Evening Ceili Dancing

7:30pm

Ceili Lessons

7:00pm

Sunday Evening CGP Radio Live WCEV 1450 AM

7:05-8:00pm



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CGP Office 708.687.9323 [www.chicagogaelicpark.org](http://www.chicagogaelicpark.org)

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### the CARRAIG IRISH PUB

#### Live Music in the Pub

- |     |        |                     |        |
|-----|--------|---------------------|--------|
| Fri | Mar 1  | Larkin & Moran Bros | 7:30pm |
| Sat | Mar 2  | Gleeson Trio        | 8:00pm |
| Fri | Mar 8  | Taylor Street Band  | 7:30pm |
| Sat | Mar 9  | A Week Back         | 8:30pm |
| Sun | Mar 10 | Tinley Park Parade  |        |
|     |        | Kieran Byrne        | 2:30pm |
|     |        | Liam Durkin         | 7:00pm |
| Wed | Mar 13 | Frank Rossi         | 6:00pm |
| Fri | Mar 15 | Jerry & Kara        | 7:30pm |
| Sat | Mar 16 | Joe McShane         | 8:30pm |
| Fri | Mar 22 | Bernie Glim         | 7:30pm |
| Sat | Mar 23 | Tony Christakos     | 8:00pm |
| Fri | Mar 29 | Gerruy Haughey      | 7:30pm |
| Sat | Mar 30 | Fifty One Lincoln   | 8:30pm |

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Sunday March 10, 2019

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 and  
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11:00am Joe Monaghan  
 1:30pm Taylor Street Band  
 5:00pm A Week Back  
 7:00pm Joe Cullen

**EMERALD ROOM**

1:30pm Larkin & Moran Brothers  
 6:00pm Arranmore  
 7:30pm The Denny School of Irish Dance

**THE CARRAIG PUB**

2:30pm St. James Gate  
 6:30pm Gerry Haughey

**CELTIC ROOM**

*Children's Stage*  
 1:30pm Dublin Deceptions  
 2:30pm Magic by Patrick  
 3:30pm Shamrock Shenanigans

*An Appearance by the Doonree Pipe Band at 4:00pm*

*Schedule Subject to Change*

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**FRIDAY MARCH 8TH**

6:30pm Gaelic Park Ceili Dancers  
 7:00pm McCormack Fay Irish Dancers  
 7:30pm Trinity Irish Dancers  
 8:00pm Cross Keys School of Irish Dancing

**WEDNESDAY MARCH 13TH**

7:00pm Weber School of Irish Dancing  
 7:30pm Madden Street Irish Dancers  
 8:00pm Fay School of Irish Dancing

**THURSDAY MARCH 14TH**

6:30pm Mulhern School of Irish Dancing  
 7:00pm McNamara School of Dance  
 7:30pm Mullane Godley Academy of Irish Dance  
 8:00pm Blackbird Academy of Irish Dancing

**FRIDAY MARCH 15TH**

7:00pm Elish Sullivan School of Irish Dancing  
 7:30pm Shephard School of Music  
 8:00pm Levin-Cassidy School of Irish Dancing

**SUNDAY MARCH 17TH**

7:30pm Denny School of Irish Dance  
*(in conjunction with South Side Irish Sunday)*

CHICAGO GAELIC PARK  
**IRELAND ON PARADE**

and  
**ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATIONS**  
 MARCH 1-17, 2019



**CALENDAR OF EVENTS - 52 Years of Ireland on Parade**

CHICAGO GAELIC PARK • MARCH 1ST - MARCH 17, 2019

**FRIDAY, MARCH 1ST**

**CARRAIG PUB** - Open 3:00pm  
 Pub Food 5:00pm - 10:00pm  
*Larkin & Moran Brothers On Stage 7:30pm*

**SATURDAY, MARCH 2ND**

OAK FOREST PARADE 11:00AM  
**CARRAIG PUB** - Open 12 noon  
 Pub Food 12:00pm - 10:00pm  
*The Gleason Irish Trio On Stage 8:00pm*

CELTIC ROOM 3:00PM  
**ST. BALDRICK'S HEAD SHAVING EVENT**  
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**SUNDAY, MARCH 3RD**

**CARRAIG PUB** - Open 12 noon  
 Pub Food Served 2:00pm - 8:00pm  
**EMERALD ROOM**  
 Sunday Classic Carvery 3:00pm - 8:00pm  
 Delicious all you can eat hot food buffet  
 Admission \$18.00 Cash Bar Reservations Required

**MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY MARCH 4TH, 5TH & 6TH**

**CARRAIG PUB** - Open at 3:00pm  
 Pub Food Served 5:00pm - 9:00pm  
 Monday - Free N' Fun Bingo 7:00pm  
 Tuesday - Pub Trivia 7:30pm

**THURSDAY, MARCH 7TH**

**CARRAIG PUB** - Open at 3:00pm  
 Pub Food Served 5:00pm - 9:00pm  
*Irish Music Session with Pat Finnegan & Friends On Stage 7:30pm*

**FRIDAY, MARCH 8TH**

**CARRAIG PUB** - Open 3:00pm  
 Pub Food - 5:00pm - 10:00pm  
*Taylor Street Band On Stage 8:00pm*

**SATURDAY, MARCH 9TH**

**CARRAIG PUB** - Open 12noon  
 Pub Food - 3:00pm - 10:00pm  
*A Week Back On Stage 8:00pm*

**CELTIC ROOM**

*Gaelic Park's Irish Fest Queen Contest 7:30pm*  
 Download Queen application on our website [www.chicagogaelicpark.org](http://www.chicagogaelicpark.org)

**SUNDAY, MARCH 10TH**

*Mass & Irish Breakfast 10:00am*  
 Admission \$9.00

**CARRAIG PUB** - Open 12noon

Pub Food Served 2:00pm - 8:00pm  
 2:30pm Kieran Byrne On Stage  
 7:00pm Liam Durkin On Stage  
*Tinsley Park Parade 1pm*

**EMERALD ROOM**

Sunday Classic Carvery 3:00pm - 8:00pm  
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 Admission \$18.00 Cash Bar Reservations Needed

**SUNDAY, MARCH 10TH TARA ROOM**  
 Direct from Ireland!



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**MONDAY & TUESDAY MARCH 11TH & 12TH**

**CARRAIG PUB** - Open 3:00pm  
 Pub Food Served 5:00pm - 9:00pm  
 Monday - Free N' Fun Bingo 7:00pm  
 Tuesday - Pub Trivia 7:30pm

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13TH**

**CARRAIG PUB** - Open 3:00pm  
 Pub Food - 5:00pm - 9:00pm  
*Frank Rossi on Stage 6:30pm*

**THURSDAY, MARCH 14TH**

**CARRAIG PUB** - Open at 3:00pm  
 Pub Food Served 5:00pm - 9:00pm  
*Irish Music Session with Pat Finnegan & Friends on Stage at 7:30pm*

**FRIDAY, MARCH 15TH**

**CARRAIG PUB** - Open at 3:00pm  
 Pub Food Served 5:00pm - 9:00pm  
*Jerry & Kevin Larkin on Stage at 7:30pm*

**SATURDAY, MARCH 16TH**

**THE EMERALD ROOM**

*Annual St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef & Cabbage Luncheon*  
 Doors open 12:00pm Lunch Served 1:00pm  
 Reservations Required - Adults Only  
*Entertainment Provided by Joe Cullen*  
 And a show by *The Cross Keys School of Irish Dancing*

**TARA ROOM**

9:00pm - On Stage  
**SHOUT OUT**  
*(American Cover Band)*  
 Adults over 21 only • No Cover Charge

**CARRAIG PUB** - Open at 12:00pm

Pub Food 12:00pm - 10:00pm  
*Joe McShane on Stage at 8:30pm*

*Schedule Subject to Change*

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# Chicago Gaelic Park

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



## Chicago Gaelic Park

6119 West 147th Street • Oak Forest, IL • 708-687-9323

# St. Patrick's Day Luncheon



*Traditional Corned Beef & Cabbage*

**Entertainment by Joe Cullen  
and Cross Keys Irish Dancers**

**Saturday March 16, 2019**



Doors Open 12:00pm  
Lunch Served 1:00pm

**RESERVATIONS ONLY**

**Admission \$25  
Adults Only • No Refunds  
Cash Bar**



Each year the Gaelic Park Players are invited to perform at the Acting Irish International Theatre Festival. The next event will be held in Ireland

for 2019, and travel to the Festival in Listowel, Co. Kerry, Ireland. The Spring play has been announced! In honor of the author and the fact that the Theatre Festival will be held in his home town, the GPP is proud to present *Moll*, by John B. Keane.

Performances will be held on March 29, 30, 31 and April 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 2019.

The group will be hosting a RAFFLE to help offset the costs of this trip and one lucky winner could "fly away" with the Grand Prize of 2-Round Trip Airline tickets valued at \$1500! If you would like to join the group for the trip or purchase Raffle tickets, you are more than welcome! Please reach out to [www.gaelicparkplayers.org](http://www.gaelicparkplayers.org) for more information.

## *Annual Bridal Boutique was a Great Success!*





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## Queen Contest

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**Saturday April 06, 2019**

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## Gaelic Park's Easter Sunday Carvery

Sunday April 21, 2019

**A Delicious All You Can Eat Buffet**

*Choice of soups, extensive salad bar, Roast Lamb, Chicken Vesuvio, freshly carved Ham, Mostaccioli, vegetables, Oven-Browned and Mashed Potatoes with toppings and a children's buffet station with chicken strips, corn, mac 'n cheese, and French fries.*

**And for Dessert...**

*Ice Cream Sundae bar with Toppings, a selection of cookies and Fresh Fruit*

**Served from 3:00pm to 6:00pm**



Reservations are required and must be paid in advance

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Admission includes dinner and entertainment - Cash Bar

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### The County Connection Corner

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## Careers

By James F. Fitzgerald, CPA



### Can You Be A Successful Manager?

Although I have spent the better part of my business life counseling with people about their futures, I am continuously surprised by the obvious mistakes that derail so many careers. If you adopt the seven milestones below, your career may be decidedly more satisfying and prosperous.

**#1. Be honest in all your dealings.** According to the *Leadership Challenge* by Kouzes and Posner, the most respected characteristic of admired leaders is their honesty. Think about it; if your employees can't believe you, how can they trust you? Do not sacrifice your honesty for any gain, long or short term. Once you are seen as a dishonest person, you will have that label for a long, long time.

**#2. Demonstrate your concern for your employees.** People frequently say that they have no sense that their boss has any concern for them. When I conduct interviews with subordinates, they are forever saying their bosses hardly ever show them respect.

One executive that I knew claimed to manifest his concern about his employees by employing MBWA (Management By Walking Around). He felt that if he walked the plant and said hello to everyone he was practicing MBWA. Unfortunately, in many instances he didn't even know the employee's name (even if s/he was wearing an I.D.). His view was simply that he should be out there. That's not enough. He should know the employees well enough to ask a question or two about the individual's family. How is their youngster doing in high school? Did his/her spouse recover from the illness that we discussed weeks ago?

**#3. Be sensitive to your staff.** You have to be PRESENT at those special moments. It must be clear in your manner that you are really concerned about their answer. You can't say, "How's your day going?" and then ignore their answer when

they say, "it's been rotten, terrible, dreadful." The supervisor must give a clear indication that s/he is listening. You have to be present when they tell you what's going on in their lives. Your words and body language must reflect your sensitivity to their situation.

The person you're supervising may have been doing a particular job for several months or years. He/she knows the specifics of that job far better than you may ever know it. You'd be well advised to ask them how the job might be done better.

**#4. Help your staff grow.** Help them live **their** dreams. You may feel that everyone wants to be the CEO or Chairman of the Board. But the employee might be quite satisfied to reach a supervisor or foreman level; that would be quite acceptable in light of their ambitions. I recently counseled with an executive who feels that she has probably reached the pinnacle of her career. At 45, she's a bright, competent marketing executive; but she doesn't feel the need to become any more successful. She is better educated than anyone else in her extended family. She is a well-respected manager and has a very responsible job. So your role as this person's supervisor/manager is to help the person grow to the level that **they** want, not necessarily what **you** want for them. Perhaps you could convince them that you see their true potential.

**#5. You must communicate (with everyone).** You need to keep your supervisors informed. No supervisor wants to get surprised. Nobody wants to learn on Monday morning that there was a plant meltdown over the weekend. Similarly, your colleagues would like to be kept apprised of what's going on. Perhaps, most importantly, your own subordinates want to know what's happening. In many organizations, very basic worthwhile information is not

shared freely.

Often people don't have a clue as to how they're perceived by their superior. I recently talked to a person who worked for a senior executive for eight years. Never once was he given a performance evaluation. He simply wanted some sense of how his boss rated him. Clearly he felt unappreciated. Valentine's Day has just passed. When you have been married for 25 years, do you really have to tell your spouse that you love them? YES! Clearly, you need to tell them. Likewise you need to tell your employees how appreciated they are.

**# 6. Assess yourself.** Many people simply have no idea what they bring to the "party". They spend little or no time thinking about themselves. If you ask them to tell you about their children or grandchildren or pet, they might spend hours telling you about them. But this same individual wouldn't be able to tell you three or four major achievements in their career. They simply haven't thought about it; take the time to consider how well you do your job. Genuine self-assessment will help you to be a more effective manager. There are numerous ways and instruments that are available for this purpose.

For example, one technique is known as the "360 assessment process". Supervisors, peers and subordinates are asked to evaluate a person's strengths, weaknesses, management style, cognitive abilities, and possible career options. Who knows your foibles better than your most frequent contacts? If the interviewer has been persuasive that this process is to help the individual, then the person being interviewed is likely to be honest. The individuals being questioned will be advised that their comments will not be directly attributed to them.

**#7. Improve your competence.** Take every opportunity to enhance your competence in your field. Do you have anything planned for improving your skills this year? If not formal training courses, how about designated on the job training? Are you going to be a better, more competent supervisor at the end of this year? There are all kinds of ways that you can enhance your

stature in the marketplace. Get a mentor to help you.

Internalize some of the thoughts mentioned above. These observations are often misunderstood or absent in our daily conduct. How might you apply one or more of these this year? Carpe Diem

For Your Consideration: "There are six essential qualities that are the key to success: Sincerity, per-

sonal integrity, humility, courtesy, wisdom, and charity".

Dr. William Menninger.

*James F. Fitzgerald is president of James F. Fitzgerald & Associates, Inc., a Naperville-based Senior Executive Coaching and Career Transition firm. #630-420-0362 Email: jamesffitz37@hotmail.com Website: Jamesffitzgerald.com*

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## A Tribute to Kevin Henry

Kevin Henry was honored recently at Gaelic Park for his contributions to the Irish music scene in Chicago. Kevin, 89 years young and his wife, Pauline, and their children, were on hand for the festivities. John Devitt gave a great speech in Kevin's honor, with no notes!



## "Beannachtaí Lá Fhéile Pàdraig Ort"

Hailing originally from Arranmore Island, off the Donegal coast, Caroleann has been living and practicing law in Chicago for over ten years now. Her practice has been concentrated in representing labor and union workers and their families, in all types of personal injury and work related accidents; including, construction site accidents, automobile accidents and premises liability claims. Her father and three brothers all worked as tunnel miners so she has a deep rooted affinity for the working man and their families



Caroleann Gallagher  
312-543-4642  
cgallagher@dwyercoogan.com



Growing up, Caroleann has directly experienced the devastating impact on a family when the primary breadwinner suffers an injury. She recently joined a nationally renowned law firm concentrating in all types of personal injury, medical malpractice, nursing home abuse and neglect, workers compensation law, and wrongful death litigation. Caroleann is committed to protecting and vindicating the rights of people who are injured by the negligence of others

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## NorthWest Side Irish on Parade, Sunday March 17th

On Sunday, March 17, 2019, the NorthWest Side Irish (NWSI) celebrates their 16th annual St. Patrick's Day celebration. The Parade is a celebration of faith, family and heritage on the Northwest side of Chicago.

The NWSI parade kick's off at 12:00 pm from Onahan School 6634 W. Raven, south on Neola to Northwest Highway, north on Northwest Highway to Harlem. The NWSI review stand is at the corner of Northwest Highway and Raven.

In 2004 Daniel Murray, a life long Sheet Metal worker and his daughter Elizabeth-Murray Belcaster founded the parade in memory of Daniel's late wife, Judith Arlene Cregan Murray. Judith, like most Irish matriarchs was a strong Irish mother of five, Daniel Murray, Jr., Mary Jo Raysby (Murray), Brian Murray, Elizabeth Murray-Belcaster and Thomas Murray. Judith passed on October 9th, 2002 and the Northwest Side Irish was founded in 2003. The first NWSI Parade took place in March of 2004.

It is now NWSI 16th year as a community organization with support from the City of Chicago Special Events, the Chicago Police and Fire Department, the 41st Ward office, Union Labor organizations, local businesses as well as family, friends and volunteers from abroad.

NWSI President and Founder, Daniel Murray says "We have been blessed by so many over the years. Our success is defined by the support we have had from the community we live in. The support is inclusive to the City of Chicago, CPD and the residents and businesses who have participated and attended. It's really been quite a journey. I never imagined at 83 years old I would be this active and engaged in my community. It truly is a blessing and there are too many to thank but we are so appreciative. It's not just a parade it is truly is a celebration with family and friends. St Patrick and this day allows us the opportunity to celebrate.

Northwest Side Irish (NWSI) 2019 Grand Marshal is Mr. Bryan

D. Hancock. Bryan Hancock is an inspiration to many young adults, in particular those who live in the Autism community. His success in life as a young adult with Autism is a success that NWSI is proud to highlight and one we know will inspire others. We are honored to have Bryan as our 2019 Grand Marshall

Northwest Side Irish 2019 Humanitarian of the Year is Teamsters JC 25 President Mr. Terrence J. Hancock.



**Katelyn (Katie) Anne Kelly**

cock. Terry Hancock is recognized as our NWSI 2019 Humanitarian for the many years of support he has lent to the Autism community and in particular his commitment to "In Search of a Cure".

"Together we will cure autism," Terrence J. Hancock said. "I'm so proud of my courageous and inspiring son Bryan for everything he's given to me and the vital work that we do with the union and our charity. The millions we've already raised and the millions more still to come will benefit children and adults living with autism around Chicago now and long into the future."

NWSI 2019 Queen is Katelyn (Katie) Anne Kelly. Katie is a graduate of the Chicago School of Phlebotomy and very proud of her Irish Heritage as a young child she took Irish dancing and found her love for Irish music.

The Emerald Society Pipes and Drums will kick off the parade at 12:00pm with participants that include St. Patrick's High School band and alumni, Notre Dame Band and Athletic Associations, William Howard Taft band and of course Trinity Irish Dance Acade-

my along with many other Irish Dance and Music participants. The parade review stand and announcing area is at the corner of NWHwy and Raven.

NWSI has had a great deal of community support and sponsor over the years. The Joseph Mullarkey Distributors, Teamsters JC 25, Vulcan Materials and Ozinga Ready Mix, IBEW Local 134 and this year for the first time NWSI welcomes their first Whiskey sponsor, Jameson Irish Whiskey.

The NWSI 2019 Official After Party will take place immediately after the parade at Immaculate Conception Church at 7271 W. Talcott Avenue. The cost for the event is an admission of \$10.00 per person plus and additional \$5.00 wrist band for those partaking in alcoholic beverages and The cost for adults includes corned beef and cabbage and cabbage dinner, beer, wine (wristband holders only), soda and Eli's Cheesecake for dessert. The cost for children 10 and under is \$5.00 which includes provided hot dog, chips and a beverage. The cost also includes live entertainment including the Emerald Society Pipes and Drums, DJ, raffles and many Irish Dance groups. NWSI afterparty also provides have face painting and balloon artists for the children as well.

The sole purpose of Northwest Side Irish is to promote our Irish Heritage, through organizing and managing the parade. NWSI takes great pride in raising awareness and funds for extended community efforts and charitable organizations. We have raised funds and awareness for many charitable communities over the past seven years. Misericordia, Muscular Dystrophy, Chicagoland Food Depository and Dixon Center for Veterans and Military Community Services are just a few. Veterans and Military Families have always had a special place with the parade as our founder Daniel Murray is an Army Veteran and co-Founder Elizabeth Murray Belcaster has been working with veterans and military families for the past ten years. For more information go to [www.northwestsideirish.org](http://www.northwestsideirish.org).



## Will Local Government's Power Be Swallowed Up By A Bigger Fish?

Highly regulated substances live in a world where the federal government defers to state regulators and often times state regulators defer to local regulators. In many states including Illinois, a retailer selling liquor products cannot obtain a state liquor license without first obtaining a local liquor license.

Illinois allows great discretion for locals to control what goes on within their borders. A local government controls the number of retail licenses issued and can even prohibit the sale of alcohol.

Local control in many states has a strong history in terms of controlled substances, but will it last?

Recently, a developing trend shows there is a movement to change the game and impose laws and policies that usurp local power and eliminate the traditional deference that has existed for generations.

Cannabis is similar to alcohol. As cannabis is a new field with very little history, we will treat it like its highly regulated cousin, liquor, for this analysis.

**ILLINOIS**  
Recently, a bill introduced in Illinois pre-empts local control in a specific area and governs that the local government is required to abide by state laws and can not make any laws that are contrary.

Illinois Senate Bill 54 creates a third-party facilitator license which allows the license holder to deliver alcoholic liquor on behalf of the retailer. The proposed law would require a license holder to file quarterly reports with the state and provide information related to the delivery.

More importantly for this discussion, the bill proposes to preempt "Home Rule" in Illinois. The Illinois Constitution developed "Home Rule" to enable local governments

to "exercise any power and perform any function pertaining to its government and affairs including, but not limited to, the power to regulate for the protection of the public health, safety, morals and welfare; to license; to tax; and to incur debt."

Even though the Illinois Constitution provided broad "Home Rule" powers to local governments, the state constitution allowed the General Assembly to make laws that provide for the exclusive exercise of state power in areas reserved for "Home Rule."

This legislation proposes to adopt this language for regulating third-party facilitators.

Further, this legislation proposes that the regulation and licensing of the third-party facilitator are exclusive powers and functions of the state. And that any home rule unit may not regulate or license these third-party facilitators.

**CALIFORNIA**  
In California state regulators ignored the pleas of law enforcement and local governments and decided that marijuana deliveries could occur anywhere in the state.

These groups argued that allowing statewide delivery would erode local government control over cannabis. Local governments that ban the sale of cannabis within their borders, are powerless to stop the sale of the drug to its residents.

From law enforcement and local government points of view, they decided to ban the sales of cannabis because of the dangerous risk associated with the drug. Nevertheless, state regulators chose to ignore them.

Making sense of usurping local powers  
In Illinois the rumor is a major supermarket chain is proposing the law. Big retailers sometimes face headwinds in Illinois when



Sean O'Leary

they want to allow delivery or curbside pickup.

One big retailer's representative expressed frustration with Illinois' law, and how the localities can decide at a moment's notice to ban your business operations. For example, Algonquin, Illinois banned curbside pickup, some believe this was in response to a proposed business plan of a major retailer.

By introducing the third-party facilitator law, major retailers instead of local governments are attempting to control the process and dictate what is allowed.

Traditionally, the Illinois Liquor Control Act allows the local government the ability to control what occurs within its borders. This proposed legislation aims to take these powers away.

Interesting enough, this legislation goes outside the traditional function of liquor licensing, which is to license those parties within the three-tier system. Some major retailers have become so fed up with the myriad of local rules and regulations, they are mandating a non-three-tier license to remedy their problems.

In California the issue does not pertain to the funky rules of local regulators, but whether the cannabis companies can participate in the market. With cannabis legalized in the state, only one in seven California cities allowed the sale of recreational adult use cannabis.

The usurping of local control pertains to expanding the market for a legalized good.

### CONCLUSION

Many states setup laws for highly-regulated industries, to allow the local governments to control how the product is sold, because the local government deals with the effects and safety issues surrounding potentially dangerous and highly-regulated products.

But we are now seeing a new trend that is breaking away from this principle. It's the principle that if the local government gets in the way of commerce by being too burdensome, then we will legislate their powers out of existence.

By attempting to license non-three-tier entities and by mandating that cannabis can be brought within their borders in opposition to local laws, we are seeing that the traditional deference to the locals may be dead.

Will local powers still exist for regulating alcohol or cannabis? Probably, but they may only survive until another big whale comes after them!

Questions on legal liquor issues, contact 773 490-6738 or sean.oleary@olearylpgroup.com or visit my blog irishliquorlawyer.com

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## TradFest's Live at the Hub Winner to Perform at Milwaukee Irish Fest

Milwaukee Irish Fest and TradFest first partnered together in 2018 to start an initiative aimed at supporting emerging Irish and Folk artists. Together, they have turned TradFest's annual Live at the Hub showcase into a competition, where the act with the most stand-out performance wins the opportunity to perform at Milwaukee Irish Fest in the summer and a slot at TradFest the following year.

Live at the Hub offers a platform for artists to propel themselves to the next level of their career. All acts selected to perform as part of the showcase have a unique sound and talent, and most

importantly, a passion and love for the music.

This past January, seven showcase artists performed at the historic Old Storehouse Bar in Temple Bar over the course of two nights during TradFest. Participating artists were: Elkin, Susan O'Neill, Drops of Green, The Conifers, Lisa Loughrey, Mules & Men and Hoodman Blind.

Milwaukee Irish Fest and TradFest are delighted to announce that the 2019 Live at the Hub winner is Susan O'Neill. Originally from Ennis, Susan is a singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist.

Her debut album Found Myself Lost released in 2017. HotPress describes her solo album as a "bluesy debut...showcasing her truly phenomenal husky voice, often reminiscent of Amy Winehouse, Janis Joplin or ballsier Adele." O'Neill will perform this August at Milwaukee Irish Fest and will have a slot at the 2020 TradFest.

### About TradFest

What began as a niche festival in Dublin's Temple Bar district ten years ago has grown to a five-day music event showcasing traditional, folk and nu-folk artists from around the world. The annual winter festival takes place in late January



Susan O'Neill, photo by Tim Reilly in Dublin. It is organized by the Temple Bar Company, a non-profit organization who works on behalf of businesses in the cultural quarter of Temple Bar, Dublin. visit their website at tradfest.ie.

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## Rockford St. Patrick's Day Parade March-16

Saturday March 16 from 3pm to 4pm  
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## Boyle the Kettle

We'll Have A Sup Of Tea  
Tom Boyle



Colonial violence was terrible, but it was not the first violence encountered by Native American cultures. Beyond human sacrifice,

tribal and civilizational conflicts existed long before Columbus set foot in this hemisphere. History is nuanced, and seldom does it present binary choices between pure evil and pure good. An academic institution should understand that and not cave in to an historic understanding of the past."

You can't rewrite history.

What's next for Notre Dame? Founded November 26, 1842 by a Twenty-Eight year old French priest, Reverend Edward Sorin, C.S. C. and seven other priests, all members of the Congregation of the Holy Cross. They named the school the University of Our Lady of the Lake. Their roots in the Catholic intellectual traditions need to be re-principled.

This follows on the heels of the debacle of President Obama's commencement address. There were many objections to him speaking at Notre Dame because he is pro choice.

Obama had the university cover, Touch-down Jesus. I came across an article on the Canada Free Press. "After all, I am The President, ah, er "Obama The Secular, and there is no higher office on the planet than mine. Besides, since I have officially declared that we are not a Christian nation why would I want an abbreviation of Jesus' name distracting the audience from something important - like my speech? Besides, His Majesty, and God on Earth and Keeper of the Holy Places, the king of Saudi Arabia, and others, might be offended if they saw me speaking from in front of a cross or monogram of the name of Jesus. It is time to start elevating Man a little more and eliminating the divisive influence of Jesus and God."

### State of the Union

President Trump got high marks on the survey following his speech. Senator Kamala Harris, Democrat, California was looking very smug, or perhaps she was smirking. When Trump said, "we will never be a Socialist country," Bernie Saunders was grimacing! How about your \$600,000 vacation home Bernie? Senator Corey Booker, Democrat, thought the speech was hurtful. Booker is running for President. Chuck Schumer and Nancy Pelosi were predictably tongue-in-cheek, eyes rolling, petulant.

### Catholic Priest Abuse

- Pope Francis apologizes to Nuns who were victims
- New Jersey Catholic Diocese names 189 Priests accused of sex abuse.
- New Jersey priest arrested. Father Thomas P. Ganley, 63, of Phillipsburg, was arrested on Wednesday and charged with one count of aggravated sexual assault in the first degree and two counts of sexual assault in the second degree, the office of Attorney General Gurbir S. Grewal said in a statement. The office did not reveal the sex of the victim, who it said was between the ages of 14 and 17 at the time.
- Over 100 Priests accused in New York
- Indianapolis names 19 priests
- Oakland and San Francisco name 212 priests
- Baltimore Archdiocese names 71 priests
- Pope finally defrocks McCarrick, first Cardinal ever defrocked.
- Galveston/Houston, Texas reporting 41 priests
- Holy Name Cathedral, Chicago sells property across the street for 100 million dollars, most of which will be used to pay victims of abuse.
- Southern Baptist have 700 victims of sex abuse, mostly in Texas. Many of them are being shunned by their churches. Left to themselves to rebuild their lives.

Some were urged to forgive their abuser or to get abortions.

**Immigration** Don Winslow, author of *The Cartel*, said on CBS Sunday Morning Show in describing the immigrants who are trying to get into this country, "for the most part they are hard working family people, trying to find a better life, something we used to welcome in this country."

Don, I have to tell you, they have to come here legally, not sneak in over the border.

Winslow also said, "there were bad people on the Mayflower. Really? Protestant Separatists who called themselves saints.. Maybe some of the crew members were bad.

**Amazon New York** Progressives scuttle the Amazon deal, and Mayor de Blasio defends those who wanted more from Amazon. They were also worried about what impact Amazon might have on the affordable housing market. "Liberal law makers like New York Democratic Representative Alexandria Ocasio Cortez, and Massachusetts Democrat, Senator Elizabeth Warren, celebrated the Amazon pullout, framing the move as a triumph of progressive values over corporations. How many factories have progressive values built?

### March

It's now Irish history month. They'll rerun the Quiet Man on TV, there won't be any TV spots about Irish immigration and the coffin ships. The greeting card companies will trash us as drunks, and we'll put up with it. Why? We're thick skinned. What the Irish need is an anti-defamation league.

**Blackface** Minstrel shows were commonplace at one time. It was show business with lots of corny jokes. You can look over your shoulder and try to revise the past, but, once again, that doesn't work. Just remember Larry Parks in the Jolson story, or Eddie Cantor in blackface. Check it out. Hollywood will have to burn more movies. George M. Cohan often performed in blackface.

**Kathy Kelly Karp** Kathy is the daughter of Jim and Karen Sullivan in Scottsdale, Arizona. She is fighting cancer and your prayers for her would be greatly appreciated.

Happy St. Patrick's Day. As usual, I remind you to celebrate with dignity.

**Peg Reid Passes** Peg, served on the cultural committee, and headed the library at the Irish American Heritage Center, was at one time head of the Southwest Branch of the Chicago Public Library. She was preceded in death by her husband, Joe Reid.

**Holy Family Church** I recently learned that it was not a set of blueprints, but rather a model of a community center that was going to be built on the site of Holy Family Church. The Jesuits had given the okay to the Chicago archdiocese to tear the building down. Sheila Murphy's daughter, Bridget was a student at St. Ignatius at the time. She found the model of the building in the school library. When Sheila became aware of the situation she was already involved in saving Sacred Heart Parish.

Sheila's mother was to be awarded a medal by Pope John Paul. She was being honored for her work with the poor. She needed to travel to Cincinnati to receive the award. Sheila and her mother decided that they would go to Cincinnati, and meet with Bishop Bernardin. They did so because Father Andrew Greeley told Sheila that Bernardin would become the next Archbishop of Chicago. They presented their case and Bernardin agreed to save the Church.

There were two Jesuits who were also fighting to save Holy Family Church. One was Fr. William Cunningham SJ, and was also an attorney. The other Jesuit in the fight was Reverend George Lane who was the editor of the newspaper at Loyola University.

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## Lured: The Curse Of Swans

Over the past year I have been working on a new play. My interest has always been with the re-telling of myths. Initially, I began with the 14<sup>th</sup> Century Mystery plays. These plays were not medieval whodunnits in which you guess who the killer is but rather religious plays that were used to teach the illiterate masses. If you can imagine life before the printing press when most people could not read or write, then you have some idea of why these plays were performed. The church (Catholic Church) needed some way to educate their congregations on the mysteries of their faith.

Playwrights were enlisted to write dramas based on biblical stories. These early dramas later gave way to the morality plays. Dramas of these sort, the most famous being *Everyman*, were used to show people how to live a good, moral life. So, while these works are heavily didactic, they can also be very entertaining.

Their popularity continues and you can still find them performed somewhere in England.

My own attraction to this genre lies in their love of metaphysical to explain human problems and not with their emphasis on religious instruction. Plays of this sort should make us think about the human condition. Reflection on our mortality, the possible existence of an afterlife, and the meaning of life can produce an existential crisis, especially for those of us are not sure of anything. For the modern person, the idea of a secure belief system appears erroneous and relies on too much wishful thinking that couches itself in the concept of faith. A person who feels their 'faith' is under attacks resorts to 'I believe it, therefore its true' as if that is defense enough against their attacker. I am more comfortable with 'I am not sure. I would like it to be true, but I can never be completely confident it really is'.



## Terry From Derry

by Terry Boyle



My own take on creating contemporary versions of these classics was to reinterpret them in a modern context. My death and resurrection of Christ happens in Derry in 1998 during the Good Friday Agreement, the Herod play takes place in a bar in New York, while Cain and Abel story is re-told as part of a drag act. As you can tell, I like to add my own quirky spin to the stories. I have enjoyed my foray into the distant past as a way of exploring the present but, as of yet, I have not touched Irish myths.

Those familiar with W.B Yeats will know how much of his work was influenced by his love of Irish myths and legends. He and Lady Gregory took to advocating Irish writers explore and renew these stories in a modern context in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century. While I might be a bit late to the game, I was particularly interested in the story of Lir and his swan children. There are a few versions of the same story around, so my summary may not fit the one you are acquainted with.

In this tale, the fusion of druidism and Christianity is beautifully interwoven and syncretized. Beginning in ancient times, the idyllic lives of a king, a queen, and their four children are devastated when the queen unexpectedly dies. Distraught and forlorn, the king marries, Aoife, his wife's sister.

Aoife soon becomes jealous of the king's affection for his children and conjures up a spell that changes the king's offspring into swans. For the next 900 years, the children of Lir are condemned live out their lives as swans. Since retain their human, they are able to

relay their plight to the king who quickly sentences Aoife to exile. Unable to break the spell, the king continues to devote the rest of his days to listening to his children sing. It is during this first stage of their enchantment that their father dies

After three hundred years of making the best of a bad lot, the children of Lir must spend the next three hundred years in turmoil. Far from their home, bereft of their father's protection, the storms raged against them, as they experience times of isolation from each other. The hardship of their spellbound existence bears its toll. The pathos of the story climaxes during the third stage of the spell when they must move to another part of the island of Ireland. On hearing the ringing of a bell, a Christian bell, they journey towards the unusual sound. A Christian man offers them sanctuary and cares for them until a greedy king, desirous of their ability to sing and speak, tries to take them by force. His plan, to abduct the children of Lir fails, when a mist from the lake transforms the swans back to human form. Aging rapidly, the children, once duly christened, die in the faith, and their tale becomes legend.

My play is loosely set on the Lir myth but set in present-day

Chicago. Three women, a mother and two daughters, are about to embark on visit to Ireland. The proposed visit coincides with the tenth anniversary of the father/husband's suicide. All three women have had a decade to interrogate the circumstances of their tragic loss. Each of them has grown apart, allowing misperceptions of the tragedy to isolate them from each other.

On stage, they occupy three individual spaces. As much as they try to keep a distance, to avoid the painful reality of the suicide, they cannot remain apart. The impending trip, poses itself as a time for unveiling the truth and breaking the spell of silence. While the family struggles to be close, there is also a desire to remain separated. The human condition is contradictory.

The play attempts to present the urban experience of loneliness and isolation. Psychological ties to perpetuating the lies they tell themselves binds each character to a psychological vortex that threatens to drag them under. The illusion of self-sufficiency, independence etc. is dispelled throughout the duration of the play when the presence of the bizarre, in this case a mentally unstable man dressed up as Jesus, is introduced. The enchantment breaks when characters experience the presence of something greater; a mystery couched in grotesque form.

The title of the play, *Lured: the curse of swans*, is a play on the way Lir is pronounced, especially if, like me, you are Northern Irish. The hard 'r' sound makes Lir sound like lure, which I like since the play itself explores the idea of appearances and how we seem to be one thing but really something else.

The play is in rehearsal and will be performed at Loyola University, Chicago in March and later at the Athenaeum, Chicago.

## The Right Brain Project Proudly Presents



Written By Terry Boyle • Directed By Becca Holloway  
Starring: Annabella De Meo, Liz Goodson, & Sylvie Sadarnac

It is the tenth anniversary since Paddy (husband to Grainne and father to Maeve and Deirdre) tragically passed away. His passing, and the circumstances of his death, created a rift in the family. In order to bridge this uncomfortable awkwardness, Grainne has organized a family trip to Ireland. On the eve of the journey, they prepare to reunite after a period of painful separation. While living in the same city, they have managed to drift apart, fearing the intimacy that threatens breaks open old wounds. As the evening passes and their impending journey gets closer, shadows of the past begin to haunt them. Caught between the people they once were and the people they have become, each one must decide what is true and what is false. While each of them struggles to be authentic, we begin to see the fallacies they have created in order to protect themselves from the truth.

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### McNamee Memorial Dundee Parade March 9

This great parade started with less than a few hundred and has grown to approximately 15,000 spectators and over 80 entries in the parade.

**Parade steps off this year at 11:15 on March 9th.** In addition to the usual entertainment, they finish the parade with a cannon shooting footballs, courtesy of *Flood Brothers*. The grandstand downtown hosts circus acts, corned beef competition, music and a pet parade! They have an amazing National Anthem complete with confetti cannons and vet-

eran dignitaries!

They offer a Kilted 5K with the best swag! Each participant receives a kilt and a commemorative Guinness Glass, just to name a few items. It has been named in the top 50 themed races in the country by Runner's Goal. Race starts at 8:00 with bagpipes at Lifeline Plumbing.

Cap it off on Saturday, March 16th with Fireworks sponsored by *Bandito Barney's* over the Fox River! If you haven't seen our Fireworks, then you really haven't seen fireworks!

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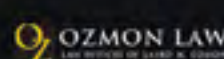
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## Irish Singing Sensation, Michael Londra, Plans Big 2019

Emmy® nominated Irish singer-songwriter and producer Michael Londra will return to center stage as a singer in 2019 with a plan to tape a new special for public television and to do extensive touring, beginning in Pennsylvania with shows scheduled in Hershey on March 15 and Philadelphia on March 16. "This is the year I go back to performing again," he said.

As producer and founder of VenuWorks Theatricals, he has spent two years producing the highly acclaimed Eoin Colfer musical NÖEL and seeing it through its debut national tour in 2018. "I love producing – taking a project, working with a team, and then seeing that project come to life on the stage – but it's time now for me to get back to doing what I do best."

Londra, one of the most recognized and recognizable voices in Irish music, was the Voice of Riverdance on Broadway. He

produced and starred in his own PBS concert special, "Beyond Celtic," which received two Emmy nominations. His recording of "Danny Boy" was described by The Irish Emigrant in New York as "one of the best recordings of Danny Boy in history."

In 2013, the Wexford native was asked by the Irish government to perform with singing legend Judy Collins to celebrate the JFK50 events in his home county, Wexford, and to honor the President at his graveside in Arlington, Virginia with the Kennedy family.

His love of producing, however, has taken him off the stage and put him behind the scenes on some labor



intensive projects. "We've been very successful with our production work. We brought together the very best team possible to create NÖEL, and it was amazing to see the public response to it when it toured nationally in 25 cities, last year. We have optioned several new theatrical pieces and it is hugely fulfilling to take a piece from paper to the stage. I love every minute of that whole creative process, but it wasn't possible to focus on my own singing while all of that was going on," he said.

With plans already in the works for another international tour of NÖEL this year, Londra will launch more tour dates of his own in Pennsylvania, and dates in New Mexico, Florida, Iowa, **Minnesota**, Kansas, **Illinois**, and **Michigan** will be announced soon.

The highlight of 2019 will be the filming of Londra's second PBS concert special

at the National Opera House of Ireland. This will be his first concert in Wexford in several years, and he'll be working with Liam Bates, who wrote the music for NÖEL. The songs, he said, both original and covers of other artists, "will raise the spirit and raise the roof."

"I can't even begin to describe how excited I am for this show. I'm in such a good place in my life right now that I can relax a bit more and really enjoy this whole experience, and being able to record the show at home in Wexford with my family and friends there is really special to me. I have some major guest artists and it promises to be a special night. I'll even have the group from my "Ireland with Michael" bus tour with me," he said. "2019 is going to be a very exciting year. I can't wait to get back out there."

Tickets at [www.michaellondra.com](http://www.michaellondra.com). Hershey Theater, Hershey, Pa 3-15

Annenberg Center For The Arts, Philadelphia, Pa 3-16

## Hibernian Transmedia Brings New Irish Show to Chicago Public TV

By Izzy Cusack  
Chicago Public Television, WTTW Channel 11, will broadcast OUR IRISH PUB on Sunday March 31, 2019 at 11PM in Chicagoland.

OUR IRISH PUB is a television program created, produced, and developed by Hibernian Transmedia starring international Irish fiddler Katie Grennan, as she invites the audience to join her for a visit to three of her favorite Irish pubs in Chicago; Lizzie McNeill's Irish Pub at 400 North McClurg Ct., Chief O'Neill's Irish Pub at 3471 North Elston, and The Galway Arms, 2442 North Clark Street.

Katie Grennan has performed all over the world as a fiddler, step dancer, and most recently as a member of the electrifying Irish band Gaelic Storm. She tells the history of each pub along the way and

joins all the musicians in a series of very lively Irish tunes.

The show features some of Chicago's most prominent Irish musicians and performers, including Jimmy Moore, Siobhan and Brendan McKinney, Lexia Kennedy, Jimmy Keane, John Williams, Patrick Quinn, Laurence Nugent, Ian King, Francis "Francie" Campbell, with some bravura vocal performances by singers Paddy Homan, Catherine O'Connell, and Pat Broaders. Our Irish Pub is a musical feast for the ears and eyes as these local masters play some of their favorite, rousing, heart-pounding Irish tunes. Tune in on Sunday March 31st and you will find your toes tapping to the delightful music in OUR IRISH PUB.

The show was created, produced, and directed by Hibernian Transmedia's Chairman Mike Houlihan. Houlihan

said, "Big thanks to Dan Soles at WTTW who helped shepherd this project along the way for the last three years! We're very excited to bring this show to all our friends in Chicagoland and want to especially thank our pub owners John Wrenn and David Bruno of Lizzie McNeill's, Siobhain and Brendan McKinney of Chief O'Neill's, and Terry Geoghegan of The Galway Arms. Also big thanks to Richard H. Driehaus Charitable Lead Trust, The Fortuna Family Foundation, and all our friends in the Irish community of Chicago and Ireland who helped make this possible. We look forward to more episodes of OUR IRISH PUB in the future in Chicago and down the line in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and Ireland! Support your local Irish pubs all over the world!"



*Katie Grennan*

Hibernian Transmedia is not for profit public charity dedicated to preserving and promoting Irish and Irish American culture locally and globally. Hibernian currently produces a pair of Irish radio programs in Chicagoland, (The Hibernian Radio Hour and The Houli's Hooley on WSBC 1240AM), the Annual Irish American Movie Hooley

film festival each September at the Gene Siskel Film Center, the annual "Houli Craic Tour of Ireland" each October, and a variety of other cultural projects dedicated to the Irish Diaspora. For more information please visit <https://hiberniantransmedia.org>

All donations are tax-deductible, welcomed, and encouraged!

## Liam Durkin to Join Houli on Ireland Trip



Join us on Wednesday March 6th, Mike Houlihan will welcome Southside Irish Balladeer Liam Durkin (pictured) to The Hibernian Radio Hour, recording at Lizzie McNeill's Irish Pub, 400 North McClurg Ct. Chicago, starting at 6pm until 8pm. Anyone interested in the trip to Ireland with Houli in October can meet Houli and Liam that night and hear his very special musical talents.

Also on the show will be Dublin's Abbey Theatre stage stars Liam Carney and Philip Judge from the Abbey touring production of Roddy Doyle's hilarious play TWO PINTS running March 6-31st at Chicago Shakespeare.

## South Side Irish Parade March 17

The 2019 South Side Irish St. Patrick's Day Parade will step off at noon on Sunday, March 17 from 103rd and Western in Chicago's Beverly/Morgan Park neighborhood. The parade will proceed south down Western Avenue to 115th Street. The South Side Irish Parade is a celebration of family, community and Irish heritage.

Honor Flight Chicago will serve as this year's Grand Marshal and Choose Kind will be featured as the 2019 Parade Honoree. Maggie Clifford will be featured as the 2019 South Side Irish Parade Queen. The parade will feature over 100 entries including 16 pipe bands and marching bands, Irish Dancers, festive floats representing community organizations and more.

**Maggie Clifford** (pictured right) has been named the **2019 South Side Irish Parade Queen**.

Maggie works as a registered nurse at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. She also spends her free time teaching Irish dance and is working towards being a certified

instructor.

The parade is operated by the South Side Irish St. Patrick's Day Parade and Heritage Foundation, a 501(c)3



non-profit organization, where more than 100 volunteers work year-round to ensure this family-friendly celebration continues for future generations. Visit [southsideirishparade.org](http://southsideirishparade.org) and the parade's Facebook page for more information on the South Side Irish Parade.

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Join author Mary Pat Kelly and singer Catherine O'Connell for an afternoon of stories and song celebrating Kelly's new book, *Irish Above All*. **Sunday, March 3, 1pm • free**



### **Wearing of the Green Dinner Dance**

Celebrate St. Patrick's MONTH with the 12th annual dance featuring music, raffle prizes, a cash bar and dinner catered by Harrington's Deli and Catering. **Sunday, March 3, 5-10pm • \$45**



### **An Evening with Author Patrick Radden Keefe**

Award-winning author Patrick Radden Keefe reads from his stunning narrative about a notorious killing in Northern Ireland and its devastating repercussions. **Thursday, March 7, 7pm • free**



### **Friday Night Fish Fry**

Bring the whole family out for the annual Friday Night Fish Fry this Lent. The menu features fried cod, fries, a vegetable and coleslaw. Live music begins at 9pm.

**\$14 for adults and \$9 for children. IAHC Members receive \$1 off of their dinner. March 8-April 19 • 6:30pm-9pm**



### **Dervish in Concert**

For more than 25 years, Dervish have been bringing Irish traditional music to the world. Described by the BBC as "an icon of Irish music," the band is renowned for its live performances, featuring dazzling sets of tunes and stunning interpretations of traditional songs. **Friday, March 8, 7:30pm • \$30 for IAHC members and \$33 for general admission**



### **Researching Your Irish and Scots-Irish Ancestors with the Ulster Historical Foundation**

Join experts from the Ulster Historical Foundation as they describe the ins-and-outs of researching your family history. Workshops cover Irish education and estate records, and using printed sources. **Registration is required.**

**Monday, March 11, 9am-5pm • free**



### **St. Patrick's Festival and St. Patrick's Day Celebration**

Celebrate all things Irish at the annual St. Patrick's Day party with music, dance, food and drink, cultural offerings and family fun on all 4 floors. **Saturday, March 16, 1pm-Midnight • \$15 (\$12 through March 14) and children 12 and under free**

**Sunday, March 17, 12-11pm • \$10 for adults and children 12 and under free**

The fun continues with music and dance in our Fifth Province Pub. Mass 10:30am



### **Socks in the Frying Pan in Concert**

Hailing from County Clare, Socks in the Frying Pan are an award-winning trio known for dynamic vocal harmonies, virtuosic musical ability and onstage wit that has captured and captivated audiences throughout the world.

**Sunday, March 17, 6pm • \$25 for IAHC members and \$28 for general admission**



### **The Fitzgeralds in Concert**

The Fitzgeralds is a trio of siblings who are 3-time Canadian Grandmaster Fiddle Champions and Ontario Open Step Dance Champions. Their unique act features high-energy fiddling and mind-blowing step dancing.

**Friday, March 22, 8pm • \$20 for IAHC members and \$22 for general admission**



### **Irish School Winter Semester**

Kids ages 8-14 experience Irish culture through art, music, dance, drama, language and more.

**Mondays and Wednesdays from 6pm-7:30pm on 3/25-4/24 or Saturdays from 10am-1pm on 3/30-4/27**



### **Dylan Foley in Concert**

Dylan Foley brings his incredible and high spirited Irish fiddle to the IAHC. A four-time All-Ireland Fiddle Champion, the 23 year old teaches and performs across the globe and is a member of The Yanks.

**Friday, April 5, 8pm • \$20 for IAHC members and \$22 for general admission**



### **Irish American Hall of Fame**

Celebrate the class of 2019 inductees in the fields of Arts & Humanities, Business & Industry, Public Service, Sports, Religion, Education and Science. **Saturday, April 27, 6:30pm • \$150-\$200**



**Dervish • Friday, March 8 • 7:30pm**

**\$30 IAHC Members • \$33 General Admission**



**Socks  
in the  
Frying Pan**

**Sunday, March 17  
6pm**

**\$25 IAHC Members • \$28 General Admission**



**The Fitzgeralds**

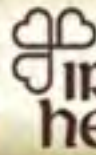
**Friday, March 22 • 8pm**

**\$20 IAHC Members • \$22 General Admission**



**Dylan Foley • Friday, April 5 • 8pm**

**\$20 IAHC Members • \$22 General Admission**



# the heritage line

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER Chicago, Illinois



WWW.IRISH-AMERICAN.ORG

## President's Message

The St. Patrick's season is upon us and with it there are several opportunities to celebrate our Irish heritage with family and friends throughout March. And rest assured, there is no shortage of events and programming at the Center in honor of Ireland's patron saint.

Whether it's attending St. Patrick's Day Mass, tracing your family back to the old country once roamed by Patrick himself, hanging out with family and friends or enjoying the best in Irish music, the IAHC is the epicenter of the holiday season this March. The celebrations begin with the Wearing of the Green Dinner Dance on Sunday, March 3 and this year's dance includes dinner, cash bar, raffle prizes and music from Gerry Haughey, Kara Eadie, Theresa Shine and Joe Cullen.

The Fifth Province is the place to be on Friday nights in March as the popular Friday Night Fish Fry kicks off on March 8 and continues throughout the Lenten season.

The annual St. Patrick's Festival is Saturday, March 16 and the fun continues with the St. Patrick's Day Celebration on Sunday, March 17. Entertainers throughout the weekend include Mulligan Stew, Whiskey Mick, St. Stephen's Green, The Chancey



Brothers, In Spite of Ourselves, The Great Whiskey Project, Tim O'Shea with Patrick Quinn and many more.

The celebration culminates with a rousing performance from one of traditional Irish music's hottest bands, Socks in the Frying Pan, all the way from County Clare, on St. Patrick's Day evening as part of the IAHC's Winter Concert Series. Get your tickets now for the 2-day festival and for the concert.

The concert series continues with shows from powerhouse traditional Irish band, Dervish, celebrating 30 years together on Friday, March 8 and fiddling and step dancing Canadian family band, The Fitzgeralds on Friday, March 22.

Stay tuned for announcements about our upcoming 34th annual Irish Fest on July 12-14.

If you have not yet renewed your membership or would like to become a new member of the Center, March is the perfect month to do it. With discounts on concert tickets, Center programs and other exciting new membership benefits, now's the time to MEMBER UP! for 2019. To join or renew, visit [www.irish-american.org](http://www.irish-american.org) or visit us during one of our many events this month.

Happy St. Patrick's Day!  
Mike Shevlin, President

## March 2019

3/1	Francis O'Neill Ceili Mor	Fifth Province	8pm
3/2	The Fluid History of Irish Whiskey	Room 109	4pm
	Shamrock American Club Social	Shamrock American Room	8pm
3/3	Chicago Irish Save the World: Songs and Stories from <i>Irish Above All</i>	Room 309	1pm
	Wearing of the Green Dance	Erin Room	5pm
3/7	An Evening with Author Patrick Radden Keefe	Library	7pm
	Genealogy Research Night	Library	7pm
3/8	Friday Night Fish Fry	Fifth Province	6:30pm
	Dervish in Concert	Auditorium	7:30pm
3/9	IAHC Cultural Committee Meeting	Library	9:30am
	The Fluid History of Irish Whiskey	Room 109	4pm
	St. Patrick Fathers Social	Room 109	8pm
3/10	Great Books Club: <i>Straying</i>	Library	1pm
3/11	Researching Your Irish Roots and Scots-Irish Ancestors with the Ulster Historical Foundation	Erin Room	9am
3/15	Friday Night Fish Fry	Fifth Province	6:30pm
	Shamrock American Club Meeting	Shamrock American Room	1pm
3/16	St. Patrick's Festival	Whole Building	11am
3/17	St. Patrick's Day Celebration Mass	Auditorium	10:30am
	St. Patrick's Day Celebration	Fifth Province	Noon
	Socks in the Frying Pan Concert	Auditorium	6pm
3/22	Friday Night Fish Fry	Fifth Province	6:30pm
	The Fitzgeralds in Concert	Auditorium	8pm
3/29	Friday Night Fish Fry	Fifth Province	6:30pm
3/31	Genealogy Workshop	Library	1pm

## Regularly Scheduled Events

Mon-Fri	Gift Shop	First Floor Lobby	4pm-8pm
	IAHC Irish School (beginning 3/25)	Room 304	6pm
Tues	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	9am-Noon
	Memoir and Creative Writing Class (through 3/19)	Library	1pm
	Memoir and Creative Writing Class (through 3/19)	Library	3pm
Wed	Weekly Genealogy Consultations	Library	10am
	IAHC Irish School	Room 304	6pm
	Traditional Irish Music Session	Room 111	7pm
	Na Gaeil Irish Language Class	Library and Room 304	7pm

No Cover

Free Parking



## the fifth province

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

### MARCH ENTERTAINMENT

Music Starts at 8pm unless otherwise noted

- 3/1 Francis O'Neill Ceili Mor
- 3/2 Larry Nugent and Friends
- 3/8 The Boils, 9pm
- 3/9 Kathleen Keane and Peter Brady
- 3/15 The Sullivan Brothers, 9pm
- 3/16 St. Patrick's Festival, 1pm-Midnight
- 3/17 St. Patrick's Day Celebration, Noon-11pm
- 3/22 Joe McShane, 9pm
- 3/23 Jim Conway and Friends
- 3/29 Finbarr Fagan
- 3/30 Dave Dunne and Joe Sheehan



Thursday Night Irish Music Sessions: March 7, 14, 21 and 28

## Annual Appeal

Below is the list of donors who have given to the 2018 Annual Appeal from December 29, 2018 through January 28, 2019. The campaign runs through April and donations will be published through May in *The Heritage Line*. Each year, Patrick and Peggy Burke generously pledge \$25,000 in matching funds for the Appeal. We thank them, and you, for your generous support. To donate, visit [www.irish-american.org](http://www.irish-american.org) or call 773-282-7035, ext. 10.

### Center Champion (\$1,000-2,499)

Richard Doyle  
Robert E. and Mary Ann Sheehan  
Thomas J. Durkin  
Sally Ferguson in memory of Jim Sloan  
Dorothy P. Flynn, in memory of Patricia Flynn  
Caroline Hennessy  
Tom McNamara  
Mary Jo Rice

### Advocate (\$100-249)

Tom and Ann Cahill, in honor of our families  
John M. and Katie Clarke  
James E. Deignan  
Maureen Donlan, in honor of Mary Lynch,

Mary Donlan, Pat Nolan

Mary Duffy  
Jim and Janet Fennerty  
Margaret M. Fric, in memory of Jerry Fric, Jr.  
Stephen Goldspiel, in honor of Andrea M. Goldspiel

Mary Lynne Hickey  
Charles Hogan  
Thomas and Mary Ann Keifer  
Edward Malone

Andrew A. and Theresa McGill  
Roger and Catherine McGill, in honor of the Deignan and McGill Families

Maureen and Mary McKemey, in honor of Billy McKemey  
William J. McNulty, in honor of Mary Therese McNulty

Mary Monahan, in honor of Jack, Peg, Lil Kennedy

Margaret T. Nicosia, in honor of Annie and Patrick Tully

Veronica C. Norton, in memory of my dad from Ireland, and my mom from Scotland  
Thomas F. and Joan Ellen O'Brien  
Noreen and David Schulz  
Frank P. and Jane Mary Tighe, Jr.

### Friend (up to \$99)

Nan Gilligan Brouillette  
Marianne Breen  
Mary I. Burke, in honor of John Burke, Tony and Bridgie Edward Conlon  
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Herbert K. Miller  
Mike Murphy  
Helen M. North, in honor of Brady Love  
Moran North  
Mary O'Grady  
Christopher T. and Elizabeth Quinn, in honor of James and Ann Garvey  
Elizabeth A. Rordan  
Mary M. Sullivan  
Ellen and Ken Tieman  
Paul Torricelli

## Regularly Scheduled Events (cont'd)

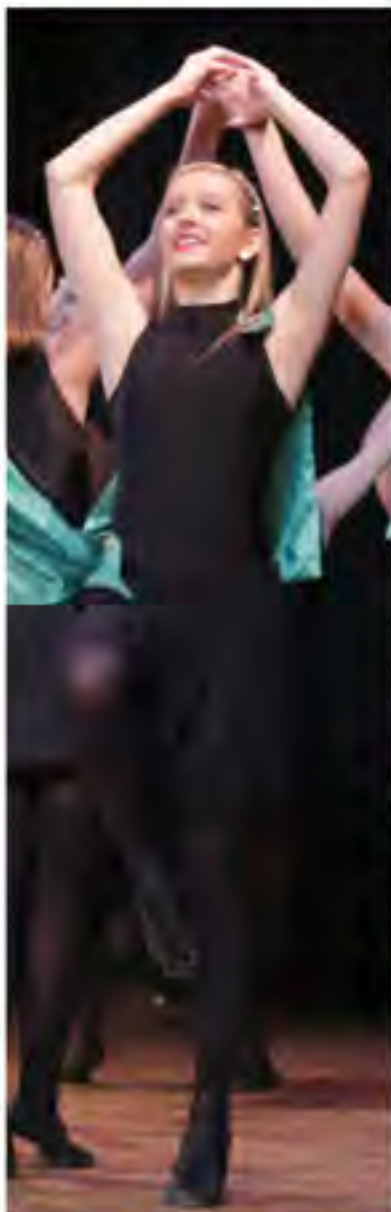
	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	7-10pm
Thurs	Memoir and Creative Writing Class (through 3/21)	Library and Room 304	4pm
	Memoir and Creative Writing Class (through 3/21)	Library and Room 304	7pm
	Irish Heritage Singers Rehearsal	Room 306	7pm
	The Thursday Shindig Music Session	Fifth Province	7pm
	Francis O'Neill Club Ceili	Room 111	8pm
Fri	Gift Shop	First Floor Lobby	10am-8pm
Sat	IAHC Irish School (beginning 3/30)	Room 304	10am
	Na Gaeil Irish Language Class	Library	11am

Library Hours: Tuesday 10am to 2pm | Wednesday 4pm to 8pm | Saturday 10am to 2pm

## The Heritage Line Staff

Kathleen O'Neill, Editor

Contributors: Meg Buchanan, Laura Coyle, Catherine Kelly, Nancy Moore, Sheila Murphy, Mike Shevlin, Becky Tatz



**Chicago Irish Save the World: Songs and Stories from Irish Above All**

Author Mary Pat Kelly and singer Catherine O'Connell team up for an afternoon of readings and music to celebrate the launch of Kelly's novel, *Irish Above All*.  
**Sunday, March 3, 1pm • Free**

**Wearing of the Green Dinner Dance**

Kick off the St. Patrick's season with the 12th annual dinner dance with music, dancing, raffle prizes and dinner by Harrington's Catering and Deli.  
**Sunday, March 3, 5pm-10pm • \$45**

**An Evening with Author Patrick Radden Keefe**

Award-winning author Patrick Radden Keefe reads from his stunning narrative about a notorious killing in Northern Ireland and its devastating repercussions.  
**Thursday, March 7, 7pm • free**

**Friday Night Fish Fry**

Bring the whole gang out for the Lenten Fish Fry and enjoy dinner, live dance and music performances and kids' activities. **March 8-April 19, 6:30-9pm • \$9-14**

**Dervish in Concert**

Long-established as one of the biggest names in Irish music, Dervish have been bringing Irish traditional music to the world for more than 25 years. The band is renowned for performances which match dazzling sets of tunes with stunning interpretations of traditional songs. **Friday, March 8, 7:30pm • \$30-33**

**Researching Your Irish and Scots-Irish Ancestors with the Ulster Historical Society**

Trace your roots with experts from the Ulster Historical Society in a full day of workshops.  
**Monday, March 11, 9am-5pm • Free**

**St. Patrick's Festival**

Celebrate all thing Irish at one of Chicago's largest parties packed with music, dance, food and drink and family fun.  
**Saturday, March 16, 1pm-Midnight • \$12-15, children 12 and under free**

**St. Patrick's Day Celebration**

The celebration continues with music and dance in the Fifth Province. Mass 10:30am  
**Saturday, March 17, Noon-11pm • \$10, children 12 and under free**

**Socks in the Frying Pan in Concert**

Socks in the Frying Pan are one of the most sought-after groups in Irish music today. Their dynamic vocal harmonies, virtuosic musical ability and onstage wit has captured and captivated audiences throughout the world. **Sunday, March 17, 6pm • \$25-28**

**The Fitzgeralds in Concert**

The Fitzgeralds is a trio of siblings whose unique act features high-energy fiddling and mind-blowing step dancing. **Friday, March 22, 8pm • \$20-22**



**St. Patrick's Day Celebrations**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 16**

**Fifth Province**

- 1pm The Grand Lads
- 3pm Tim O'Shea with Patrick Quinn
- 3:30pm Shannon Rovers Irish Pipe Band
- 5:30pm One of the Girls
- 7:30pm In Spite of Ourselves
- 10pm The Chancey Brothers

**Erin Room**

- 2-4pm Wiggleworms
- 6pm Mulligan Stew
- 9:30pm The Great Whiskey Project

**Auditorium**

- 1:30pm Irish Heritage Singers
- 2:30pm Rebecca McCarthy School of Dance
- 3:30pm Mulhern School of Irish Dance
- 4:30pm O'Hare School of Irish Dance
- 5:30pm Trinity Irish Dancers
- 6:30pm Mullane Godley Irish Dance Academy

**Room 309**

- 1:30pm Murphy Roche Irish Music Club
- 3:30pm Academy of Irish Music
- 4:30pm Shepherd School of Irish Music
- 5:30pm Patrick Cannady and Friends

**Room 311**

- 1-4pm Trinity Irish Dance lessons

**SUNDAY, MARCH 17**

**Auditorium**

- 10:30am Mass
- 6pm Socks in the Frying Pan  
 Tickets \$25-\$28

**Fifth Province Pub**

- 12pm St. Stephen's Green
- 2pm Tim O'Shea with Patrick Quinn
- 3:30pm Shannon Rovers Irish Pipe Band
- 4pm Trinity Irish Dancers
- 4:30pm The Dooley Brothers
- 6pm O'Hare School of Irish Dance
- 6:30pm Whiskey Mick
- 8:30pm Shepherd School of Irish Music



# Mick

## Mike Morley



## Ask Not

What your country can do for you. Ask what you can do for your country." That most famous call by John F. Kennedy now sounds quaint, doesn't it? Today's political thrust is just the opposite: income distribution, welfare benefits and entitlements for citizens and illegals, with no commitment from those receiving. In 1963 the US was engaged in an escalating conflict in France's former Indo-China colony, Vietnam. President Kennedy, already frustrated by hawkish advisers who had urged him into a disastrous invasion of Cuba, had, according to the NY Times, told a prominent official of his Administration that he "wanted to splinter the C.I.A. in a thousand pieces and scatter it to the winds." On May 1, 1995 at the LBJ Library, Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara restated his account of Kennedy's NSAM-263, a national security directive he signed on October 11, 1963. McNamara confirmed that the President's action sought complete withdrawal of American troops "by December 31, 1965," with the first 1,000 out by the end of 1963, and a public announcement, to set these decisions "in concrete," which was made. Five weeks later Kennedy was shot dead in Dallas.

Chief Justice Earl Warren was considered an "unimpeachable official" to oversee the investigation. The Warren Commission Report concluded Kennedy's assassination was the act of a "lone gunman". Portions of the Commission's files are still sealed, but many have been released over the years. A CIA report issued

in 2014 claimed CIA Director John McCone was "complicit" in what was termed a "benign cover-up". CIA officers had been instructed to give only "passive, reactive, and selective" assistance to the Warren commission, keeping it focused on the conclusion that Lee Harvey Oswald "had acted alone in killing John Kennedy". Also revealed: the Agency may have been in contact with Oswald prior to the assassination.

Edward Bernays, "the Father of Public Relations" and nephew of Sigmund Freud, argued in his work, 'Propaganda': "The conscious and intelligent manipulation of the organized habits and opinions of the masses is an important element in democratic society. Those who manipulate this unseen mechanism of society constitute an invisible government which is the true ruling power of our country. We are governed, our minds are molded, our tastes formed, and our ideas suggested, largely by men we have never heard of.... It is they who pull the wires that control the public mind."

President Woodrow Wilson urged Americans to remain neutral in the bloody First World War. Public opinion behind him,

he was re-elected in 1916 on the slogan "He Kept Us Out Of War." But five months later he changed his mind. The Committee on Public Information was formed and Bernays invited to help. He understood that public opinion was irrational, and dealt in symbols aimed at the gut, not the brain. Compelling recruiting images like Uncle Sam were created. Political scientist Harold Lasswell later said: "A newer and subtler instrument must weld thousands and even millions of human beings into one amalgamated mass of hate and will and hope. The name of this new hammer and anvil of social solidarity is propaganda... There must be no ambiguity about who the public is to hate."

A dossier gathered by a former British MI6 spook Christopher Steele has kept America in a continuous state of conflict for two years running over alleged "Russian collusion". Similarly, the Bryce Report or Committee on Alleged German Outrages, chaired by Viscount James Bryce, a leading Liberal, noted historian and professor of law at Oxford, was published in May 1915 was used by Britain as a major propaganda tool to marshal world opinion against Germany, which had invaded Belgium the year before. The report was translated into every major European language and had a profound impact on United States opinion. "Eyewitness testimony" detailed gory mutilations, rapes and "general terrorism". Many of the accounts had appeared in overseas newspapers or Belgian government releases.

Every New York newspaper reprinted the Bryce Report and The Committee on Public Information urged US newspapers not to publish stories that could challenge the findings. Skeptical, renowned attorney Clarence Darrow sailed to France in 1915 and, despite offering rewards for information, could not find a single eyewitness to confirm

any one of the claims. After the war, Lord Bryce's "documentation" for the stories mysteriously disappeared. But his accounts were believed because they were confirmed by other "unimpeachable" men such as Vernon Lyman Kellogg, director of Herbert Hoover's American Commission for Relief in Belgium. Post-war investigations uncovered Britain's huge propaganda campaign to draw America into war.

Aside from the UN, several non-government, below-the-radar groups of extremely powerful people meet regularly to plan global initiatives. They include The World Trade Organization, The Club of Rome, The Trilateral Commission, The Bilderberg Group, and the European Roundtable of Industrialists. Yet another Irishman, Peter Sutherland, GCIH KCMG SC, held the title of Chairman, President, or other high position in ALL of these groups.

Known as "The Father of Globalism", Sutherland also created the Global Forum on Migration and Development, was a European commissioner, UN Special Representative for International Migration, Chairman of Goldman Sachs International, Chairman of Allied Irish Banks, Consulter to the Vatican, Chairman of The Ireland Fund of Great Britain, Attorney General of Ireland, and held numerous other lofty posts. UCD named its new Law School for him. Sutherland strongly advocated for unrestricted immigration into the European Union and helped establish The Global Forum on Migration and Development. His opinion to the UK's House of Lords Home Affairs Committee: "at the most basic level individuals should have freedom of choice" about working and studying in other countries; and EU states should stop favoring "highly skilled" migrants over the low-skilled. Sutherland was also pro-abortion, and opposed Ireland's 1983 pro-life Proposition 8. Sound familiar?

One of the first economists to warn against globalization was Harvard's Dani Rodrik. In 1997 he argued that globalization would empower offshore businesses at the expense of their workers and

threaten the welfare state. Back then, those claims were highly controversial. Bill Clinton was ushering in globalization and "change" with NAFTA and the WTO, preaching that Mexico would grow prosperous, NAFTA would stem unauthorized immigration, and China would become a free-market democracy within the WTO. Instead we got the Great Recession and rising inequality as corporations forced foreign countries to offer ever lower wages and taxes, destroying their social networks.

Prior to election, Donald Trump declared: "Globalization has made the financial elite who donate to politicians very wealthy. But it has left millions of our workers with nothing but poverty and heartache." And after his election, politicians of both parties and their globalist sponsors were truly shocked and scrambled for some way to counter the reality of America's vote. They retaliated with "Resistance" and the Russia Probe to slow the dismantling of their carefully laid global plans. To accomplish this they borrowed a tactic once used with some success by yet another Irishman (and nemesis) Senator Joseph McCarthy: the Red Scare.

We now know well how that tactic has divided Americans and their families like no other issue since the Vietnam War. After two years and 200 interviews, the Senate Intelligence Committee found no direct evidence of an alleged Trump conspiracy with Russia. Democrats, however, see their "resistance" as a success, and plan now to continue blocking the operation of the US government with a deep and unprecedented investigation into every aspect of the President's life and business. As Andy Surabian, Republican strategist and former special assistant to Mr. Trump said: "The reality is that the next two years are going to be nonstop political war."

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# An Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar, to Attend the Irish Fellowship Dinner on March 15, 2019

Irish Fellowship Club President, Kevin Flood, and dinner chairman, James Sweeney, announced that the head of the government of Ireland, An Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar and the Ambassador for Ireland to the United States, Daniel Mulhall, will attend the Club's gala St. Patrick's Day dinner at the Chicago Hilton on Friday March 15, 2019.



An Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar

Mr. Varadkar's attendance continues the Club's long history of hosting visiting dignitaries and local office holders' attendance at the dinner. Also present will be Michael Ring, TD, Minister for Rural and Community Development, Mayo.

Leo Varadkar, TD, became Taoiseach on June 24, 2014, following his election as leader of

Fine Gael. He is the youngest Taoiseach in the history of the Irish state, having taken office at the age of 38. Mr. Varadkar is the son of an Indian father and Irish mother, and was educated at King's Hospital and Trinity College Dublin, where he studied to be a medical doctor. He has worked as a junior doctor and qualified as a general practitioner. Kevin Flood said, "It is a great honor that An Taoiseach

has chosen to be here for this special celebration. This is another wonderful opportunity for the Irish Fellowship Club to extend our hospitality to the leadership of Ireland."

Ambassador Mulhall's attendance is evidence of his impressive open approach and communication with the Irish diaspora and Americans, in general.

This year's dinner chairman, James Sweeney, President-Business Manager of International Union Of Operating Engineers Local 150, has planned a great event, including Irish music by David Dunne and dance music by the Rich Daniels City Lights Orchestra.

The Grand Marshal of the 2019 St. Patrick's Day Parade, Terry Hancock, President of Teamsters Local Union No. 731, will be honored as will the guest of honor of this year's parade, St. Ignatius College Prep, which is celebrating 150 years of educating Chicagoland Catholic youth and who will be represented by Father Caruso. The 2019 St. Patrick's Day Parade Queen, Madeline Mitchell, will reign over the festivities. For further information or to purchase tickets, visit the IFC website [Irishfellowshipclub.com](http://Irishfellowshipclub.com).

The St. Patrick's Day activities continue on Saturday March 16, 2019, when The Irish Fellowship Club will be represented by a float and marching group in Chicago's St. Patrick's Day Parade. All members are invited to join the IFC parade group.

Membership in the Irish Fellowship Club and participation in its events are a great way to network professionally, celebrate Irish Heritage and support Catholic education in Chicago.

The St. Patrick's Day season is a great time to join or give a membership as a gift.



(l to r): Terry Hancock; St. Patrick's Day Parade Grand Marshal, 2019, Parade Committee Chair; James Coyne, 2019 Queen; Madeline Mitchell, and Fr. Caruso 2019 Parade Guest of Honor.



## Cherish the Ladies: 35 Will Be A Very Good Year!

By *Ryanne Gallagher Johnson*

Joanie Madden and her Cherish the Ladies band are on metaphorical fire. Coming up on thirty five years of performances, the all-female traditional Irish music group is stronger than ever, releasing a new album just last year and having shows booked out for the next three years already. What started as a way to play music for fun has become an extremely successful way of life for the New York-born flute player and her ridiculously talented musician friends.

Raised by Irish parents in the Bronx, Ms. Madden was brought up in a household full of traditional Irish music. Her mother hails from County Clare, and her father, Joe Madden, an All-Ireland Champion accordion player, was from County Galway. From an early age, she was exposed to the tunes of her father and his friends, and she began taking lessons from legendary flutist and National Heritage Award winner Jack Coen.

She initially went to school for accounting, but found that it didn't feed her soul the way she needed, much to the chagrin of her father. "I was miserable," she admits. "I went to college for one year, and I came home, and I said 'listen, I wanna switch my major to music'.... And my father said 'Joanie, over my dead body are you being a musician'. So, a lot of good that did."

Although the chances of her becoming a success in music were remote, she nevertheless persisted. As a teenager and young adult, she gained experience playing with her father's band, as well as with classmate and now-famous fiddle player Eileen Ivers (Ivers was also born to Irish parents in the Bronx). She and Ms. Ivers went on to compete in the All-Ireland at the same time, and both placed well in the competition. It was also a turning point for Madden, as the door to perform as part of a group was opened to her during that time.

"Myself and Eileen and a bunch of others had gotten lucky... in 1983, I went over to Ireland... and we got second in the céilí band, and Eileen won the fiddle competition. And the Céilí band, it was a ten piece

Céilí band, and nine of us were women. And Mick (Moloney, also a traditional Irish musician) called me up to say, 'you know, you realize you're all women'... this is unbelievable because for hundreds of years, it was passed down from father to son, and now it's being passed down from father to daughter... most of us are daughters of very well-known musicians. He said 'you know, this is unprecedented, and I think we should do a concert series to celebrate this'."

Madden didn't think anybody would come, but agreed to give it a try. She helped organize the group, and put the people together from all over the country. The group did a three concert series to sold

could get a few gigs lined up. So I did... I started getting gigs. I used to sit home on the phone and mail out packages and call everybody and their mother and sit there for hours and hours on end, on the phone, and I'd say 'this is Joanie Madden from Cherish the Ladies', and they'd say 'what church are you with, I'm sorry?'," she laughs. "People thought we were a marketing ploy... When we went out and we played our shows, people were like 'Oh, my God, you guys can play! You're not just a marketing ploy, you really can do it!'"

She was eventually able to get them enough work to keep them going, and it allowed her to quit her job to play music



out audiences. "That was the beginning of Cherish the Ladies. We sold out every show."

The concerts were so successful, they recorded an album, which was chosen by the Library of Congress as the best folk album of the year, and through that, they received a grant to go on the road in America for two weeks. They received a second grant from the New York State Council of the Arts, with which they were able to play across New York. But after that, they were on their own.

"Nothing happened for a few months after that. Then I called the girls up and I asked them if they wanted me to see if I

full time.

The first inclination that they had staying power as a musical group came when they did a tour in Ireland. "The first time we went to Ireland and we saw the band so respected and so well-received. That was a scary part for all of us because we're all Irish-American, and to come back to Ireland and see the crowd... standing ovations, so thrilled to see (us). I think that was kind of the turning point."

Those first couple of gigs turned into hundreds, and now they're booked out years in advance. "We're starting to book for 2023 right now."

In three decades, they've released sev-

enteen albums for Cherish the Ladies, and have performed as guests on the albums of many other artists.

Their most recent album, *Heart of the Home*, was released in 2018. "Musically, it's just us and the band. We do have Donnchadh Gough on bodhrán, and we also have Trevor Hutchinson on bass. That's it as far as the guests, we mostly stick to ourselves musically."

Vocally speaking, the group hasn't had a regular since Heidi Talbot left several years ago.

"We haven't had a solid singer since then. We like mixing it up. So, what we did on this album is we brought in the singers that toured with us, and that's Kate Purcell, she's singing on one of the songs, Don Stiffe, he just did our Christmas tour with us, and our Ireland tour. He's an incredible singer, I just love him. He's from Galway. And then we have Molly O'Riordan, she's this young girl from New York. She's the first American to win the All-Ireland singing championship, and she's just incredible, and it's the first time she's ever been in the studio. And then we have The Ennis Sisters from Newfoundland. They came up and did our March tour last year, and then we went up to Newfoundland in May and we toured with them. And we were in the studio over here in Ireland, and they called us up to ask us to play a song on their album, and I said yeah,

We'll do one for you if you'll do one for us.

"And then finally, who's singing the title track, he's a fantastic singer. He's the top entertainer in Ireland at the moment. His name is Nathan

Carter, and we got to meet him in Killarney, doing a folk festival, and we hit it off, and he's come to a bunch of our shows and I've played on his album and now he's joined us on ours. I'm very proud of this, it's our seventeenth album, and it's collaborative, but it's still the band and it's all our music. I wrote six tunes on the album, and then our piano player wrote a tune, and our fiddle player wrote a tune, and the guitar player wrote a tune, and we still love to dig back into the old tunes... we love to find jams from the 1800's, we have a lot of music from the 1800s on there, and 1700s, and tunes that we learned from our fathers as well, because we're very



proud of where our music came from... hopefully anything we've played over the years, we've always added to the music and never taken away."

Although the permanent lineup for the group has changed over the years, they've managed to find solid, talented people to work with when one of them leaves. The current group consists of Madden on the flute; Mary Coogan, also New York born, and the only other founding member still with the group, on the guitar; Mirella Murray from County Galway on piano accordion; Glasgow native Kathleen Boyle on piano and accordion; and Nollaig Casey on fiddle.

When the time does come for one of the regular members to leave, Madden says that picking a replacement has less to do with raw talent and more to do with personality.

"In all sincerity, when someone leaves the band, I don't go for the best player," she explains. "I go for the most rounded player. You have to be on the road with somebody, and when you're on

the road and you've got to travel with somebody, and you've got to eat, sleep, and be on the road for a month with people, you really have to choose wisely, because you are getting into kind of a marriage. We get along... they're like my sisters. We don't fight, and that's the truth, with this current lineup... When you're picking people for a band, it's more important that you like them than that they're the best fiddle player."

As for the doubts that her father harbored in the beginning, seeing the success that his daughter created for herself and the band set aside his fears. "He got to see my success (before he passed away). I was playing with the Boston Pops, they asked me to come

up as a soloist, and I brought my parents to the show. Keith Lockhart, the conductor, he gave me an incredible buildup, and I



looked out and I saw my father when I was playing with the hundred-piece orchestra behind me, and I looked down and tears were rolling down his face, and I had never seen my father cry before... All my life, I was Joe Mad-

den's daughter, and he said 'Now I'm (known as) Joanie Madden's father!'. That was huge."

Joanie and Cherish the Ladies have thirty shows this March alone, and their Heart of the Home tour will continue through the year. But, if you're looking for more time with Irish folk music and Joanie's brand of entertainment and fun, you can check out her cruise, Joanie Madden's Folk 'N Irish Cruise, which sails from May 12th-19th this year.

The 7-day trip aboard The Norwegian Escape will travel from New York to Bermuda and back again, with 'Walzing, Jiving, Céilí and Set Dancing, Sing-A-Longs, Concerts, Workshops, Sessions, & More.'

"We've got 900 people booked

for the folk cruise this year. It's our tenth year... It's been so successful, beyond my wildest dreams."

Although she spends much of her time in New York, Madden has also purchased a house in County Clare, where her mother grew up. She brings her mother with her when she visits, and her six siblings often travel over to stay there, too. "They all think they bought a house."

The next Cherish the Ladies show in Chicago will be at Old Town School of Folk music on March 24th, and tickets are still available at oldtownschool.org. Madden and the group are excited to tour in the Midwest. "It's always been good to us. It's always been one of our strongest places to play, and really, I think the Midwest made us. This was our major market."

For more information on Joanie Madden, Cherish the Ladies, or the Irish folk cruise, you can visit the following pages:

- Joaniemadden.com
- Cherishtheladies.com
- Joaniemaddencruise.com



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## Carey Cranston Ushers American Writers Museum into Third Year

By Ryan Arnold

Many consider the idea of a career which marries one's personal passions and professional aspirations idyllic. Beverly resident Carey Cranston is reminded of his good fortune each day he walks into American Writers Museum in downtown Chicago where he serves as president. "I'm able to live and breathe literature every day," says Cranston. "It's the perfect job for a guy like me." He is a lifelong Chicago-area resident with Irish roots tracing back to County Kerry. He and his family live in Beverly and enjoy their connection to Chicago's Irish community.

It's safe to say Cranston is more than a "casual" reader. A peek at his bookshelf reveals his deep love of the written word. Books by authors James Baldwin, Mark Twain, William Faulkner, and Flannery O'Connor all show signs of having been read and re-read over the years. "I planned on being a writer, but I didn't realize I'd have such fierce competition," he jokes. Literature isn't simply reading and writing to Cranston, it's an overall sensory experience and a formidable component of his life.

Cranston studied at DePaul University where he earned a BA in English. He served as editor of DePaul Student Literary Journal along with reporting for the university's student publication The DePaulia. He holds two post-graduate degrees - an MA in English from University of Illinois at Chicago and an MS in Library & Information Sciences at University of Illinois Urbana Champaign. Prior to American Writers Museum, Cranston served as president of Fox College, a private career-focused institution, Director of Education at International Academy of Merchandising & Design, and adjunct faculty at UIC and DePaul University. In addition to an esteemed career in academia, he served in leadership of global public relations agency Hill & Knowlton.

Like its president, American Writers Museum has roots in Ireland. Founder Malcolm O'Hagan, a County Sligo native who turns 78 over St. Patrick's Day weekend, was so moved by the Dublin Writers Museum's spotlight of Irish writers' impact on literature, he sought to do



Carey Cranston (left) and Alan Light with Bob Dylan's electric guitar on display at American Writers Museum through April 30..

the same for American writers. American Writers Museum was conceived in 2009 and, after an extensive nationwide search, its board of directors appointed Cranston president in 2016. He presided over the Museum's opening the following year. Upon announcing the appointment, O'Hagan praised his breadth of leadership capability. "Carey Cranston's experience and track record, along with his love and appreciation for writing and books, give him the ideal credentials to be a strong leader for this museum," said O'Hagan.

Cranston's views on the importance of education is evident in the types of programming offered at the Museum. Free field trips for grade school students, a series devoted to singers and songwriters explaining their writing processes, and panel discussions with authors from every conceivable genre are meant to inspire future generations of writers and readers. Cranston's eyes light up when he talks about their achievements over the past 18 months. "It's not every day you have a Supreme Court judge read to a room full of grade schoolers," he quipped. He's referring to hosting Supreme Court

Justice Sonia Sotomayor last fall at an event so popular it had to be held at Harold Washington Library. "I watched the faces of the children as Justice Sotomayor read her book *Turning Pages*," recalls Cranston. "They were so captivated!" Walking through the 11,000 square foot Museum overlooking Michigan Avenue, he points out American abolitionist Frederick Douglass' eye

glasses and smiles. They belong to one of two exhibits Cranston spearheaded. "I toured Frederick Douglass' home and learned how his writing reached far beyond America's shores all the way to Ireland. We've extended this exhibit through the summer." Historian Tom Chaffin wrote a book on Frederick Douglass' trip to Ireland which he'll read from and discuss later this month in the Museum's Readers Hall. The other exhibit is called Bob Dylan: Electric and features handwritten song lyrics and an electric guitar that was lost for decades and only recently found. "The world knows Bob Dylan as a prolific songwriter, he says. "Bob Dylan: Electric gives the public a chance to see how his writing shaped more than just American music but American literature as a whole." Past installations include a highlight of Laura Ingalls Wilder's Little House series and displaying Jack Kerouac's original scroll manuscript of "On The Road." He watches visitors type away on a collection of vintage typewriters and says quietly, "Today one of these people will discover they're a writer." To Carey Cranston, he's done his job.

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**Liz Carrol and Jake Charron at  
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Liz Carroll and Jake Charron bring their infectious traditional Irish music for a pre-St. Patrick's Day celebration on March 9, 8pm, Beverly Arts Center 2407 W. 111th St., Chicago. Joining them will be renowned Irish singer and guitarist Daithi Sproule and Cross Keys School of Irish Dance. Tickets \$25 | \$23 for BAC Members. 773-445-3838 or [www.beverlyartcenter.org](http://www.beverlyartcenter.org)

The BACinema series brings *Rendezvous* in Chicago to the South Side on March 13, 7pm, Beverly Arts Center, 2407 W. 111th St., Chicago. This indie film showcases three short stories that correspond to the different stages of a relationship. Following the movie there will be a Q&A discussion with writer/director Michael Glover Smith. Tickets \$6 | \$5 for BAC Members.

BACinema presents the Local Shorts Program March 27, 7:30pm, Beverly Arts Center, 2407 W. 111th St., Chicago. Showcasing films by local filmmakers, the program will feature submissions from all genres and forms. Tickets \$6 | \$5 for BAC Members.

**SPECIAL EVENTS** The BAC presents *The Mad Hatter Affair*, the Annual Charity Gala taking place March 30, 7pm, Beverly Arts Center, 2407 W. 111th St., Chicago. The event, chaired by Willie & Kerry Winters, will raise money to support the arts and honors Judie Anderson and The Stanton Family. The night will feature live music, dancing, auctions, food, and an open bar. Tickets \$75 | VIP Sponsor \$500

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## Chronicling American Abolitionist Frederick Douglass' Time in Ireland\*

History teaches us the profound impact that Frederick Douglass made on early America and the early strides to end slavery in our country. A former slave himself, Douglass is looked upon as a leader in the abolitionist movement and chronicled his experiences in several memoirs, Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave, being most notable. The account became a bestselling book in the United States and earned him praise in Europe. Shortly after its publication in 1845, he

took to the sea to promote abolition through lectures and conversations in Ireland and England. While later writing "I have spent some of the happiest moments of my life since landing in this country, I seem to have undergone a transformation, I live a new life", the tour brought the former slave face-to-face with the Great Famine. Over four months Douglass witnessed the horrors faced by the Irish people across the country. He met Irish reformers working toward social change, nationalist Daniel O'Connell and one of Cork's staunchest advocates for temperance Father Theobald Matthew, which began to shift his view that slavery in America belonged to a greater fight for human rights which knew no bounds.

While many books about Frederick Douglass' life in America have been written, author and historian Tom Chaffin's latest book explores the two-years Douglass spent in Ireland and England. Giant's Causeway: Fred-



Frederick Douglass

erick Douglass's Irish Odyssey brings new perspective to a profound series of events in Douglass' life.

Mr. Chaffin will read passages

from his book and lead a conversation later this month at American Writers Museum in downtown Chicago. "Before his time in Ireland, Frederick Douglass had already established himself, on New England's abolitionist speaking-circuit, as a formidable and increasingly famous orator," says Chaffin. "On his lecture-tour of Ireland, however, he confronted public issues rooted in class, religion and history that he had never be-

fore addressed." The program, titled Frederick Douglass in Ireland, will be a lively evening of engaging conversation and a highlight to lovers of both Irish and American history. Mr. Chaffin concludes "Douglass was a flesh and blood man with his share of human foibles. And those complexities, I believe, render him all the more fascinating—and worthy of our admiration."

Frederick Douglass In Ireland takes place Wednesday March 13 at 6:30pm at American Writers Museum (180 N. Michigan Ave – 2nd Floor, Chicago, IL 60601) and is free with paid museum admission. More details can be found at AmericanWritersMuseum.org.



Historian Tom Chaffin

# Féile

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5:30-7:00 FAR TOO CLOSE  
7:45-8:45 DIRTY WELLES  
9:00-11:00 SHANE FARRELL, EIMHAIR ANNS, KEVIN BUCKLEY  
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**\*BAR STAGE**  
11:15-1:00 LARKIN & MORAAN BROTHERS  
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4:00 BANJO WORKSHOP  
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**\*SUNDAY \*MAIN STAGE**  
4:00-5:30 CHICAGO REEL  
5:30-6:00 CROSS KEYS IRISH DANCERS  
6:00-7:00 LARRY NUGENT  
7:15-8:45 SHYZKER SPACE TELESCOPE  
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# Clutter Buster

By Rita Emmett

*If you don't know where you are going, every road will get you nowhere. ~ Henry Kissinger*

## Those Life Changing Plans And Goals

Do you ever wonder why by now, most people haven't kept their New Year's Resolutions? I believe the main reason for most is they simply forget about them when they return to the everyday routines after the holidays. If you PREPARE to keep any Life-Changing Goals, if you PREPARE ways to remember those Life-Changes, you stack the deck in your favor to really change the direction of your life.

Here are seven steps to help you remember and therefore keep with those new Life Changing plans, even when the busy times hit. You don't have to do all of them at once, sometimes simply incorporating one or two of these ideas, as you PREPARE to start your Life-Changes, will catapult you in the direction you want your life to move.

- P - PREPARE, plan ahead
- R - Remind yourself; write it down everywhere
- E - Enter an agreement with a partner (like a "Clutter Buddy")
- P - Pace yourself
- A - Acknowledge your successes
- R - Reward yourself
- E - Empower yourself; eliminate any possible stress or obstacles

**P - PREPARE, plan ahead**  
Think of what you will need a month from now to keep up with your goal. Will you need someone or something to help you remember, or certain tools, utensils, or software to keep you going? An accountant told me that he'd quit smoking 6 times before he finally quit. The difference was he found what he needed -- a Stop Smoking Class.

### R - Remind yourself; write it down everywhere

Mark Victor Hansen, author of the best selling "Chicken Soup for the Soul" series says, "Don't think it. Ink it". Always put your planned Life-Changes in writing. Then put up brightly colored signs or posters where you can see them. Put your Life-Changes on post-its that you can smack on your bathroom mirror, the fridge or your dashboard.

### E - Enter an agreement with a partner

Maybe you know someone who can join you in exercising or whatever change you are making. If not, then ask a friend to be your "Accountability Partner", where you call or email them every day or once a week to report your progress. Or maybe ask someone to call you in a month to inquire about your progress.

### P - Pace yourself

Start with baby steps. If you set goals that are too far beyond your reach, you'll get discouraged early and easily, and perhaps give up too soon. If you are omitting clutter, don't tackle the whole house at once. Start with one small area of one room. If you're losing weight, set reasonable, healthy steps.

**A - Acknowledge your successes**  
Don't beat yourself up. Everyone has slip-ups and back-

sliding. But let yourself wallow in any little accomplishment, no matter how small or insignificant it might seem to you. You're trying to establish some new solid Life-hanging-Habits. This is a time to be good to yourself.

### R - Reward yourself

More "Be Good to Yourself" ideas. Treat yourself to time off or favorite enjoyable pastimes whenever you make progress. It will help you enjoy the process of changing your life.

### E - Empower yourself; eliminate any possible stress or obstacles.

A marketing executive said that when she quit smoking, she craved caffeine even though it had been four years since she gave it up. She decided that, for her, smoking was a more serious health concern than caffeine, plus it was harder to give up, so she went back to drinking her beloved coffee. Now, eleven year later, she is still a non-smoker and she again gave up caffeine last year. BUT she allowed herself to have it when she craved it, and was successful in her goal to quit smoking. Get it? Many years ago, these steps helped me convert from Procrastinator to Anti-crastinator. Here's hoping something here can be of great help to you.

### Happy Anti-Crastinating

*Rita Emmett is a "Recovering Procrastinator", Professional Speaker, and author of The Procrastinator's Handbook and The Clutter-busting Handbook. All her books are available on Amazon.com*

*To subscribe to her free monthly "Anticrastination Tip Sheet", go to her website [www.RitaEmmett.com](http://www.RitaEmmett.com) To contact her: 847-699-9950 or [REmmett412@aol.com](mailto:REmmett412@aol.com).*



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## Piping It In

Jack Baker



## Piping It Out

I suppose I realized when I closed my store last year that an era was coming to an end. Recorded music, cds, lps, cassettes, that I had made my living on for so many years had reached the status of buggy whips and rotary phones. Nobody wanted them. When, this year I reached my third month with no new cds to review, I realized that there was nothing left to "Pipe In".

To quote an old Kenny Rogers song, "you gotta know when to fold 'em" and as a result this is my last column for *Irish American News*.

There are still cds being produced, thank God, and my good friend Maryann Keifer will continue to review them in her column and on her radio show on WDCB, Monday nights from 8 pm till 10 pm, 90.9 FM. I however ain't going to be doing that no more. I'll still sell cds, in some very diminished numbers at festivals around the US but you'll all be saved from my pontificating and abysmal grammar. I have enjoyed immensely sharing the music with you over the years and I am forever indebted to Cliff Carlson, my editor-in-chief, for the opportunity

to share my views with you. There have been a number of you good souls who have thanked me for my recommendations, complimented my writing and argued over the merits of bands. I have enjoyed your input. I have made friends through this column that I will continue to enjoy. I hope that I have done some good and sincerely hope that I have done no evil. If I did it was unintentional.

I must also thank all the bands, musicians, managers, agents and other music industry types that I have dealt with. I enjoyed the music, well, most of it and I certainly enjoyed the insights you shared with me. Still can't stand most "Celtic rock". Know that I am sincere when I tell you that you will all be sorely missed but at least you won't have me pestering you anymore for review copies of your recordings.

Finally, Cliff will be able to retire that old picture of me that I have left up all this time to remind me of what I used to look like. I trust that you will all continue to support independent music and the artists who labor to bring it to us. Without them it would be a very quiet and boring world.

Thank you friends, and for the last time, Slainté

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## Eating Disorders

Eating disorders are serious illnesses characterized by very negative thoughts and behaviors around food, body weight, and image. Eating disorders can cause major, potentially fatal medical conditions.

There are 3 common types of Eating Disorder.

**Anorexia Nervosa** involves the severe restriction of food intake and a refusal to maintain a healthy weight. Symptoms may include;

- Extreme thinness (emaciation)
- Engaging in excessive physical exercise
- Extreme restriction of eating
- Intense fear of gaining weight
- Thinking obsessively about food, weight loss, and body image
- Distorted body image
- Self-esteem that depends directly on body shape
- Physical symptoms may include: thinning of bones, anemia and muscle loss, damage to the heart, growth of fine hair all over the body

**Bulimia Nervosa** involves recurrent episodes of compulsively binge-eating large quantities of food followed by behaviors meant to compensate for this intake of food, such as forced vomiting, taking laxatives, fasting, or excessive exercise. Symptoms of bulimia may include;

- Chronically inflamed/sore throat
- Worn tooth enamel
- Dehydration
- Intestinal issues

People with bulimia may maintain a normal weight or be overweight.

**Binge Eating Disorder** involves uncontrollably eating large quantities of food in a short amount of time. Unlike bulimia, these episodes of binge eating are not followed by vomiting, exercise, or fasting. As a result, those with binge eating disorder can be overweight or obese. Symptoms of binge eating disorder include;

- Eating large amounts of food in a short period of time
- Eating even when not hungry

- Eating until or past a point of being uncomfortably full
- Eating in secret to avoid embarrassment.
- Feeling distress or ashamed about Eating

No single cause has been identified for eating disorders. Many experts believe that eating disorders are a coping mechanism for dealing with painful feelings and emotions. It is thought that genetics, environment, emotional difficulties and peer pressure can also contribute to the development of an eating disorder.

### Causes and Treatments

Treatments will vary depending on the kind of eating disorder in question, but common interventions include

- Psychotherapy e.g. talk therapy, behavioral therapy.
- Medicine e.g. antidepressants, anti-anxiety
- Nutritional counseling and weight monitoring

If you would like support with any of the issues raised in this article, please reach out to the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), Chicago on 312-563-0445 or [www.namichicago.org](http://www.namichicago.org).

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HeadTalk—Irish Community Services' year-long campaign around mental health—draws to a close in April. The campaign is ending by challenging the community to increase their awareness of mental health issues by attending two community trainings Irish Community Services is hosting in April in partnership with the National Alliance on Mental Illness, Chicago.

**HeadTalk** was created in early 2018 in response to a university study of the Irish community of Chicago that indicated mental health was an issue requiring increased attention. The research findings noted that no local Irish organizations had addressed mental health on a community level. Irish Community Services saw this as a call to action—a challenge from our community to serve them better around their needs.

Since April 2018, **HeadTalk** has been highlighting common mental health issues in the IAN, on the Good Morning Ireland radio show, at Irish festivals, and on the ICS webpage and social media.

We listened to our community when it said there were unaddressed needs and worked hard to respond to that challenge. We are now setting a challenge of our own—we're asking you to stand up for your community by becoming more aware of mental health issues and by learning how to talk to your friends, family, and neighbours about mental health concerns.

Stand up for our community by showing up for these important trainings. Call today for more information or to register for one of the trainings.

### Chicago Gaelic Park

6119 147th Street  
Oak Forest, IL 60452

**Wed 17th April 2019**

6.30 pm –8.30pm

### Irish American Heritage Center

4626 N Knox Ave  
Chicago IL 60630

**Tue 16th April 2019**

6.30 pm –8.30pm



# IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

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## Youth & Family Engagement Project



Since its launch in early November, ICS' Community Playgroup has been thriving and is serving a growing group of young learners and their caregivers. Community is at the core of our mission at ICS, and providing a supportive context for young families is top priority. While we often focus on the development of the child during the first few years of life, it is just as important to keep parent and caregiver well-being in mind. We aim to support the whole family by offering playgroup not only as a space for learning and growth, but as a foundation for a social support network of families as they take on the most important stage in their children's development - together. Community Playgroup meets every Wednesday from 10a-12p on the third floor of the IAHC. Be sure to follow @ICSMidwest on Facebook and Twitter for program news and updates! For more information, contact Aisling at [aculhane@irishchicago.org](mailto:aculhane@irishchicago.org).

## March Event Schedule

- **Tara Club:** Wednesday, March 6th (10a-12p) in the IAHC. Topic: St. Patrick's Day Mass
- **Community Play Group:** Wednesday, March 6th (10a-12p) in the IAHC
- **Youth In Action:** Thursday, March 7th (6pm-8pm) in the IAHC
- **Immigration Legal Clinic:** Tuesday, March 12th (4-7pm) in the IAHC. (by appointment only)
- **Emerald Club:** Wednesday, March 13th (10a-12p) in Gaelic Park. Topic: St. Patrick's Day Mass
- **Community Play Group:** Wednesday, March 13th (10a-12p) in the IAHC
- **Youth In Action:** Thursday, March 14th (6pm-8pm) in the IAHC
- **Tara Club & Monthly Musical Gathering:** Wednesday, March 20th (10a-12p) in the IAHC. Music by Joe McShane
- **Community Play Group:** Wednesday, March 20th (10a-12p) in the IAHC
- **Youth In Action:** Thursday, March 21st (6pm-8pm) in the IAHC
- **Emerald Club:** Wednesday, March 27th (10a-12p) in Gaelic Park. Topic: Who put the intern in charge!
- **Community Play Group:** Wednesday, March 27th (10a-12p) in the IAHC
- **Youth In Action:** Thursday, March 28th (6pm-8pm) in the IAHC
- **Irish Cultural Hour:** Friday, March 29th at 10am in the Mount Greenwood Library. A Study of Irish Modernist Designer, Eileen Gray

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

## YOUTH IN ACTION

Fostering social and emotional growth through Irish culture and heritage

ICS Youth in Action allows teens to explore social justice and global development through an Irish lens. At weekly meetings, members build community and develop crucial social and emotional skills through creative learning opportunities, cultural exchange, and youth-led projects. By engaging with Ireland's cultural and sociopolitical past and present, YiA will explore identity, challenge inequity, and create an environment that celebrates diversity.

Registration required. For more information, contact Aisling at [aculhane@irishchicago.org](mailto:aculhane@irishchicago.org)

## Getting to Know the Irish

By Tina Butler



### Transportation on the Old Sod

I have been asked the question a lot, "did I ever take a bus tour of Ireland?" I have not been on a guided tour around Ireland ever, but I'd love to change that this summer. There are so many

options and natives obviously have a good story for every turn. I thought what and where would we be without transportation? I will address airports, rail system, bus, ferries & road transport. "Transportation is the center of the world. It is the glue of our daily lives. When it goes well, we don't

see it. When it goes wrong, it negatively colors our day, makes us feel angry and impotent, curtails our possibilities." Robin chase. Public transportation in Ireland is in the hands of corporations: Bus Atha Cliath (Dublin bus), Bus Eireann (Irish Bus) Larnrod Eireann (Irish rail) The countries with the best transportation in the world include: Japan, (bullet train) Seoul, S. Korea, Shanghai (China). Nations on the opposite spectrum include: India, Bangladesh & Kenya. A few countries that don't have railways include: Yemen, Iceland & Kuwait. The award for prettiest airports in the world goes to New Zealand International & Barajas airport in Madrid, Spain. The busiest airport in the world goes to O'Hare airport.

Irish airports: Aer Lingus was founded in 1936, first flight was Dublin to Bristol, England. Ryanair was established in 1984, it is the bigger of the two air-lines but Aer Lingus wins as the favorite airline in Ireland. Customers feel the staff is friendlier and a higher standard of professionalism. Airports in Ireland include five international: Belfast City, Dublin, Shannon, Knock, and Cork. Regional airports include: Waterford, Kerry, Galway, Derry, Donegal & Derry. Dublin

airport has a church near terminal 1 called Our Lady Queen of Heaven.

Onto Railways, the trains are in a state ownership with Larnrod Eireann operating services in the Republic and N1 Railways operating in N. Ireland. The two companies co-operate in providing joint enterprise between Dublin and Belfast. Inter-city services are provided between Dublin and major towns in Ireland. Ireland has one of the largest dedicated freight railways in Europe operated by Bord na Mona (870 miles).

Bus services: State owned Bus Eireann currently provided bus services in the Republic. Dublin Bus, a sister company, provide bus services in and around Dublin city. Some private rural operators exist such as Halpenny's in Louth, Bus Feda O'Donnell coaches. There are cross border services (Dublin-Belfast) run by Ulster bus and bus Eireann. As for Bus tours in Ireland the first thing I mentioned the guided tours, a few include: Castles & Whiskey tour, Day tours, Butler's Bus tour, 1916 Rise of the Rebels tour & Vintage Tea tours. There are some very talented bus tour guides in Ireland, two men in particular, Jimmy McGing in Mayo and Brendan Mulvey in Sligo.

Ferry transport: There are four

ferry routes operating between Ireland and France, two between Ireland and England, two between Northern Ireland and Scotland, three between Wales and Ireland, and lastly two between Ireland and Isle of Man.

Lastly road transport around Ireland. All roads link Dublin with all major cities. Several road projects were in progress, but the economic crisis of 2008 prevented completion. The sign posts are marked in Kilometers. Some signs are in English & Irish. Driving is on the left side of the road as it is in some other countries such as Jamaica, Thailand & India. Roundabout's are very common in Ireland the purpose for them is to reduce delays and reduce the risk of collisions. Whatever mode of transport you choose to use while traveling in Ireland it's sure to be a pretty & unforgettable sight.

Virginia's book club this month will be on March 10 at the Heritage center. The book is titled, Straying, by Molly McLoskey.

#### Gaelic for the month:

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Bus-bus  
Car-gluaistean  
Train-traein  
Road-bothar

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## Yorkville Hosts St. Patricks Celebration and Parade 3-16

By Tim Gleason

The western suburb of Yorkville will be hosting their 3rd annual St. Patrick's Celebration complete with an Irish Parade, 5K, kids activities, and live entertainment from 15 musical acts including The Whiskey Brothers, Miles

Neilson & the Rusted Hearts and The Steepwater Band. Live music starts at 8am with the Gleason Irish Trio performing at Southbank BBQ, followed by the 5K at 9am and parade at 11am on E. Hydraulic Street.

The Whiskey Brothers perform immediately following the parade at the outdoor Southbank BBQ stage.

Participating Yorkville bars and restaurants will offer food & drink specials along with live music throughout the day and

into the evening. The event is sponsored by Westphal Chevrolet and all proceeds benefit CASA of Kendall County. For more information about the event, visit [www.facebook.com/stpatricksyorkville](http://www.facebook.com/stpatricksyorkville) or <https://yorkville.il.us/632/St-Patricks-Day-Celebration>

• Participating businesses are Southbank BBQ, The Law Office, Casa Santiago, Rowdys, Suzys, Roadhouse Bar & Grill, and Capitano Deli & Sweets

• For info about this event and to find out how you can help sponsor, contact Tim Gleason at [stpatricksyorkville@gmail.com](mailto:stpatricksyorkville@gmail.com)





## Gene Siskel Film Center Presents 22nd Annual Chicago European Union Film Festival, North America's Largest Showcase of EU Cinema, 3 8 thru 4 4

This year's festival features 60 features from 28 nations, with one-third directed by women

Entries from Ireland are *Float Like a Butterfly*, (with filmmakers in person), and *The Image You Missed*

A highlight of the annual programming calendar is its 22nd Annual Chicago European Union Film Festival, the largest showcase of European Union cinema in North America, featuring all Chicago premieres of 60 films from all 28 current EU nations. One third of the films are directed or co-directed by women.

From Ireland will be *The Image You Missed* (March 15, 18) and *Float Like a Butterfly* (March 29, 30). For the latter film, director Carmel Winters and production designer Toma McCullim are scheduled to appear at both screenings.

Carmel Winters and Toma McCullim in person!

### **Float Like a Butterfly**

2018, Carmel Winters, Ireland, 101 min. With Hazel Doupe, Dara Devaney

Friday, March 29, 8:00 pm & Saturday, March 30, 5:00 pm

"Gloriously unruly...[a] crowd-pleasing combination of girl power and heart-swellingly lovely Irish traditional songs."--Wendy Ide, Screen Daily

From the producers of *Once* and *Sing Street* comes this triumphant, rowdy, music-filled tale of a fifteen-year-old Irish traveler girl with a hero-worshiper's love for Muhammad Ali and a fierce yen to step into the ring herself. The ostracized gypsy caravan of young

Frances's (Doupe) clan has been stalked by tragedy and trouble from her earliest childhood, and her dad has drunk away even the family's paltry savings. Rural Ireland is touched by the social upheaval of the Sixties, old ways are chaotically giving away to new, and Frances defies tradition that would have her soon married off to any man who can ante up a bride price to her dad. Making liberal use of

Irish traditional tunes, director Winters (Snap) takes her spunky heroine on a rousing and empowering journey that doesn't spare a look at the dark side as Frances fights for the right to a self-determining future. Winner of the FIPRESCI (International Critics) award at the 2018 Toronto Film Festival. DCP digital widescreen. Courtesy of West-end Films Ltd.

Director Carmel Winters and production designer Toma McCullim are scheduled to appear at both screenings.

### **The Image You Missed**

2018, Donal Foreman, Ireland/France, 74 min.

Friday, March 15, 8:15 pm & Monday, March 18, 6:15 pm

"Engagingly and quietly rewarding."--Neil Young, Hollywood Reporter

An Irish son reaches across time and space for a connection with the long-gone father he hardly knew, in this poignant personal documentary steeped in iconic imagery of Northern Ireland's Troubles. A decade after the death of his father, American-born documentary director Arthur MacCaig (*The Patriot Game*), Foreman sorts through an apartment packed with the man's papers, books, photos, and cans of film footage,

finding in this legacy of a lauded career not one image of the young son that MacCaig had abandoned so many years before. Searing imagery from MacCaig's film work, which closely recorded the actions of IRA operatives, is the public face of *The Image You Missed*, but its flip side is the selected autobiography that Foreman creates from his own home movies and photos, in which the empty space where a father should be looms large. DCP digital. Courtesy of Adam Sekuler.

All screenings and events are at the Gene Siskel Film Center of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, located at 164 N. State St.

Tickets to each screening--un-



*Images You Missed*

less stated otherwise—are \$11, \$7/students, \$6/Film Center members, and \$5/Art Institute of Chicago (AIC) staff and School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC) faculty, staff, and students.

All tickets may be purchased at the Film Center Box Office. Both general admission and Film Center member tickets are available through the Gene Siskel Film Center's website [www.siskel-](http://www.siskel-)

[filmcenter.org/content/tickets](http://filmcenter.org/content/tickets) or through the individual films' web-links on [www.siskelfilmcenter.org](http://www.siskelfilmcenter.org). There is a surcharge of \$1.50 per ticket. The Film Center and its box office are open 5:00 to 8:30 pm, Monday through Thursday; 1:00 to 8:30 pm, Friday; 2:00 to 8:30 pm, Saturday; and 2:00 to 5:30 pm, Sunday.

A Gene Siskel Film Center membership is a year-round ticket to great movies for only \$6 per screening! Memberships are \$50 (Individual) and \$80 (Dual). For more information, call 312-846-2600 or visit [www.siskelfilmcenter.org/content/membership](http://www.siskelfilmcenter.org/content/membership).

Discounted parking for \$19 for 24 hours at the InterPark SELF-PARK at 20 E. Randolph St. A rebate ticket can be obtained from the Film Center Box Office.



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March 29 & 30  
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**THE IMAGE YOU MISSED**  
March 15 & 18



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**Lee County Republican Dinner Honoring Ronald Reagan**

By Patrick Gorman

The annual Lee Co. Republican Dinner was held Friday night Feb. 8th at the Elks Club in Dixon, Illinois. The dinner is held every February on the Friday night closest to the birthday of Ronald Reagan, (Feb. 11th) and is normally a fundraiser for the Lee Co. Republican Party. Proceeds from this year's dinner were dedicated to the Ronald Reagan Boyhood Home to help pay down the debt that was accrued over the past 2.5 years. The debt came from doing much needed

repairs to the home and accompanying visitor's center.

Early on when I made the local party chair Matt Klahn aware of the Reagan Home needs he and his staff decided to dedicate all the proceeds to our cause. In the past only the desert auctions funds were given to the home, but this year was different!

For a special dinner a special speaker was present. Peggy Grande, President Reagan's Executive Assistant from 1989-1999, and author of "The President Will See You Now". Peggy and Stewart D. McLuarin,

President of the White House Historical Society, visited the Home in 2017.

The night's efforts were greatly appreciated and many thanks go out to Matt Klahn and the entire group of volunteers that made the night such a success for the Reagan Home.

Plans are underway to do it again next year with the night's theme being "1920-2020 Celebrating 100 years of Reagan in Dixon" with a speaker to be named later.

For those that may want to help with a donation see [www.reaganhome.org](http://www.reaganhome.org)



Mr & Mrs Joseph Rudolphi. Joe was honored as the oldest veteran in the room!



Patrick & Carol Gorman, and guest speaker, Peggy Grande

**Notre Dame University to Host Producer of 'Fighting Irish' 1916 Movie**

A few days after St. Patrick's Day, Notre Dame University will host a special event to showcase the award-winning work of an Irish filmmaker who is making the first movie on the 1916 Easter Rebellion in Ireland. Kevin McCann has visited the Chicago area many times as he has been seeking support across the country from the Irish-American community to back his \$10 million movie called 'The Rising'.

On March 20th, the audience at Notre Dame University will hear about his endeavours over several years to develop 'The Rising', and get a chance to see two of his previous films. 'The Boys of St. Columb's' is a BBC / RTE documentary film telling how education changed the lives of Irish people such as Seamus Heaney, John Hume, Bishop Edward Daly and Phil Coulter. 'Volkswagen Joe' is a multi-award-winning half-hour drama, also produced by McCann, which was the first

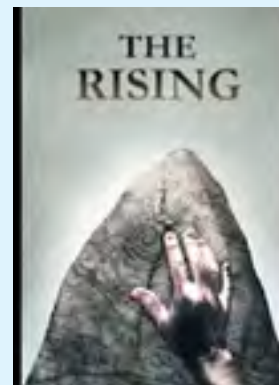
film ever funded by the European Peace Fund and tells the story of a divided border community during the hunger strikes.

"It is a heartfelt honour to be invited by Patrick Griffin, Director of the Keough-Naughton Institute for Irish Studies to present my work which focuses on the Irish border where I'm from as well as issues relating to the troubles, faith and history", said McCann, who'll be appearing at Notre Dame the

evening after John Kerry and Condoleeza Rice are scheduled to speak. "Notre Dame University has been unequalled in its dedication to tell the 1916 Rebellion story to a wide audience. Professor of Irish Studies, Briona NicDhiarmada produced

the comprehensive documentary series narrated by Liam Neeson, which was funded by Notre Dame. Sparing no expense, it was a magnificent achievement remembering the men and women of 1916. We aim to repeat this success in the dramatic movie form with 'The Rising'."

While in Chicago, McCann will hold meetings with 2 Chicago-based investors backing his movie project, which was developed with support from the state film boards in Belfast and Dublin. He will then present his work at the Great Hunger Museum in Quinnipiac Uni-



versity and St. Francis Xavier University in Nova Scotia on a mini-tour of universities and to speak with the Irish-American community about becoming executive producers of the movie 'The Rising'. Further details on the website [www.therising.ie](http://www.therising.ie)



## Gallagher's Advice

By Caroleann Gallagher



### How to Report Elder Abuse in Illinois

When you place an elderly loved one in the care of another individual or entity, you trust that individual or entity to treat your loved one with the dignity, respect, and care they deserve. Unfortunately, when it comes to the care of elderly individuals, expectations are vastly different from reality. There are an estimated 5,000,000 new cases of nursing home financial, physical, and sexual abuse that occur each year. This month I think it is very important for me to set out for IAN readers an overview on how to report elder abuse in Illinois because I want readers to be aware that there are avenues of assistance out there. Please note this article is a guideline only and I would urge anyone that fears their elderly relative or friend is the victim of abuse to contact me or my colleagues here at [Dwyer & Coogan, P.C.](http://Dwyer & Coogan, P.C.) so we can talk you through how to proceed with this delicate matter.

#### Who Can Report Elder Abuse in Illinois?

Anyone can report suspected elder abuse. Per the **Adult Protective Services Act**, anyone who reports suspected abuse, financial exploitation, or fraud in the state of Illinois, or anyone who cooperates with an investigation of a nursing home abuse complaint, is immune from civil or criminal liability or disciplinary action. Thanks to protections provided by the Act, the reporter's identity shall not be disclosed unless the reporter gives written permission to do so or by court order.

Below are some of the types of abuse you should be aware of that can happen to an elderly, disabled person or any of the more vulnerable members of our society:

**Physical abuse** where a person is actually physically harmed by being hit, shoved, scratched, pushed, pulled or inappropriately restrained. This type of abuse is often easily spotted as you will likely see a physical injury or manifestation of the abuse, such as scratches, bruises, burns, broken bones, dislocated joints and evidence of restraints like strap marks on a person's wrists or feet.

**Emotional Abuse** includes causing emotional distress to a person, ridiculing them, humiliating them, terrorizing and ignoring them. This type of abuse is much harder to spot than physical abuse. Generally our elderly are vulnerable before being abused and afterwards after being subjected to

such cruel behavior, they are even more vulnerable, scared and intimidated. All of that means that they generally will be less likely to speak up and tell a loved one what is going on. Some signs of emotional abuse include, a lowering of a resident's self-esteem and confidence, avoiding eye contact, withdrawing from family and friends, seeming scared and anxious, expressing reluctance to complain about a nursing home or caregivers, sudden mood changes, and sudden changes in a resident's eating or sleeping patterns.

**Sexual Abuse:** The unthinkable is happening at facilities throughout our country and vulnerable and frail residents are being raped and sexually assaulted by the very people they trust to care for them. I am sure many of our readers heard about the young women in Arizona who was in a vegetative state and residing in a nursing home, who gave birth to a baby earlier this year. It is hard to believe that someone entrusted to care for her could have violated her in such a heinous way, but unfortunately that is but only one of horrific stories of the sexual abuse of our more vulnerable members of society we see all the time. Some of the signs of sexual abuse, are similar to what you would look out for concerning emotional abuse, such as withdrawing from and disengaging with family members and friends, agitation, panic attacks, fear, inappropriate or unusual behavior, changes in sleep and eating habits, particular dislike or disdain for certain caregivers, as well as physical signs of pelvic injuries, sexually transmitted diseases and bruises and cuts in a person's private areas.

**Financial Abuse:** Elderly people are at increased risk of being financially manipulated and taken advantage of as they are more vulnerable and perhaps less likely to be aware of what money they have and do not have. In many cases they may not even be aware that they are being financially abused. Financial abuse can be committed by anyone who has any element of control over a person. In many cases it does happen by those that are in close family relationships with the senior person, for example after being given a power of attorney over a person's financial concerns. If you suspect that an elderly person is being financially

manipulated the following are some signs to be aware of; - unexplained transfers of money to another person, sudden changes in a person's will, frequent and regular checks being written to the same person, missing personal belongings, additional names appearing on a person's bank account, the residents living conditions or personal appearance, appearing less than what they should be based on their resources.

#### Who is Compelled to Report Elder Abuse in Illinois?

There are certain professionals who are required, by law, to report any suspicions, founded or not. Professionals who must report suspected abuse of elderly or disabled individuals work within the following fields; Adult care, Social services, Education, Law enforcement, Medicine, State services to seniors, Social workers.

#### How To Report Elder Abuse in Illinois

The state makes it relatively easy for individuals to report suspected elder abuse in Illinois:

**If you believe that a disabled loved one between the ages of 18 and 59 is the victim of abuse**, pick up the phone and call the **Adult Protective Services Hotline** at 1-866-800-1409, 1-888-206-1327 (TTY).

**If your loved one lives in a nursing home facility**, and if you suspect that they may

be unsafe in the staff's care, call the **Illinois Department of Public Health's** Nursing Home Complaint Hotline at 1-800-252-4343.

**If your loved one is a resident of a Supportive Living Facility (SLF)**, call the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services' SLF Complaint Hotline at 1-800-226-0768.

When making your report, be prepared to provide details regarding the following:

The alleged abuser's name, age, relationship to victim, and sex;

The alleged victim's name, age, general health, address, telephone number, and sex;

The name, profession, and contact information of the reporter (unless you want to remain anonymous);

The reason for your suspicions;

Whether or not you believe the alleged victim is in immediate danger;

Whether or not you believe the alleged victim can make the report him or herself and, if not, why

The names of others who might be privy to the situation;

Whether or not the reporter is willing to be contacted in the future;

Any other information you feel is relevant to the situation;

If you suspect that the people you charged

*Continued to next page*



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## A Word With Monsignor Boland

The Voice of Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Chicago

### Rev. Monsignor Michael M. Boland

Administrator, President and CEO



Each year in March, we celebrate "March for Meals" to honor the Meals on Wheels program and the seniors it serves. "March for Meals" gives us a great opportunity to explain just how vital this program is in the community, often being the critical difference between enabling seniors to age in place at home, or having to move to a nursing facility for temporary or long-term care.

Eating healthy is important at every age, but many people don't realize how important proper nutrition is for older adults. As we age, our nutritional needs change and our bodies aren't as efficient at absorbing all the nutrients we need. Poor nutrition can weaken bones and muscles, lead to undesired weight loss or weight gain, and jeopardize the immune system, making seniors more susceptible to infections like the common cold or influenza, broken bones, and to developing chronic conditions such as diabetes and heart disease.

For seniors with health complications, nutrition is even more important. Living with chronic health conditions or recovering from an illness or surgery requires every bit of strength and energy that well-balanced meals can provide.

By providing a nutritious meal and daily well-being check, the Meals on Wheels program helps homebound seniors maintain or regain health, remain in their own

### Continued from last page

with the care and safety of your elderly loved one is actually causing your loved one harm, or if you yourself are the victim of elder abuse, place your report via one of the agencies mentioned above but also please call me or one of my colleagues here at Dwyer & Coogan to discuss possible legal remedies that are available for all of the above situations.

*\*Caroleann Gallagher is an Irish born Attorney now licensed in Illinois and practicing all types of personal injury law – including nursing home litigation, medical malpractice law, wrongful death claims, transportation injuries, premises liability claims, defective product claims, construction site injuries and Workers Compensation. She can be contacted at [cgallagher@dwyercoogan.com](mailto:cgallagher@dwyercoogan.com) or at 312-782-7482.*

homes, and avoid premature placement into more costly health care alternatives.

Catholic Charities is honored to bring nearly 250,000 meals per year to thousands of seniors throughout Cook, Lake and McHenry Counties. All of the meals are nutritionally balanced and incorporate the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Chefs and dieticians work together to ensure the meals are not only nutritious, but delicious as well. A great deal of care goes into planning the menu and ensuring that that every bit of the meal will be enjoyed so that all of its nutritional benefits can be realized.

Not only are meals prepared with love, but they are delivered with love. One of the key features of Meals on Wheels is the personal contact between the volunteer or staff deliverer and the participant. The daily meal delivery serves as an important "well-being check" to ensure the senior does not have urgent needs or safety concerns, and provides friendship for seniors who cannot socialize the way they once did. For some seniors, the Meals on Wheels volunteer is the only person they will see during the day. Consequently, that personal contact becomes an important way to reduce feelings of social isolation and assures seniors that someone is there for them. Many of Catholic Charities' volunteers have been with the program for years and form special bonds with the seniors on their delivery routes.

Even for seniors who have family nearby, a caregiver's own work and family obligations often prevent them from preparing and delivering daily meals. Having someone check in with their loved one each day and provide a nutritious meal is often all that is needed for the senior to remain in his or her own home. For many grateful caregivers, the Meals on Wheels program is an incredible blessing that makes it possible for them to care for their loved ones themselves.

During this month's "March for Meals" let us commit ourselves to supporting the Meals on Wheels program. Please consider becoming a volunteer or making a donation to this vital and cost-effective program that preserves the health and dignity of our seniors, while enabling them to remain in their own homes and communities where they most want to be.

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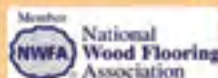
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This month I will cover **Co. Monaghan**. Monaghan is in the province of Ulster with a population of about 60,000. Following the 20<sup>th</sup> century war of independence and the signing of the Anglo-Irish treaty, Monaghan was one of the three Ulster counties to join the Irish free state rather than Northern Ireland. In the 16 century The English Lord Deputy of Ireland Sir John Perrot visited the area and me the Irish Chieftains. They requested that Ulster be divided into counties and land in Kingdom, Airgialla would be appointed to each of the McMahan chiefs. A commission was established to accomplish this, and Co. Monaghan came into being. County Monaghan is traversed by the derelict Ulster canal; however, waterways Ireland has embarked on a scheme to re-open the canal Lough Erne clones. Politically the county is considered a stronghold for Sinn fein which is the largest part of the county followed by Fine Gael. County Monaghan is the birth place of poet Patrick Kavanagh who based much of his work on his home. The poems "stony grey soil" and "Shancoduff" refer to the county. Another famous writer Sir Shane Leslie, a Catholic convert, Irish nationalist and first cousin to Winston Churchill. (prime minister of England) Leslie was an important literary figure and close friend of many politicians and writers of the day including Scott Fitzgerald (American writer). Monaghan county museum is recognized as one of the leading museums in Ireland, winning a council of Europe award in 1980. Some significant attractions/charms in Monaghan include: Kavanagh's Literary center, The St. Louis convent heritage center, and several golf courses. Monaghan is famous for its lace making known as Carrickmacross lace. The lace making skill soon spread beyond Dublin to the poorest parts of the country and proved a popular means for young women to help support their families. Lace-making required little equipment beyond bobbins and fine cotton, and patience. On the 13<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary it's customary to give lace.

The lace, worn by the wealthiest women across Europe was made by some of the poorest women in Ireland. Lace used

to decorate elaborate wedding dresses, christening outfits, and church vestments. It also played a vital part in saving many families from starvation.

A few famous people from Monaghan include: Charles Gavin Duffy (nationalist), John McKenna (gen. in Chilean war of independence) John O'Neill (fenian).

A few songs about Monaghan include: Patriot game & Back to Castleblaney.

I will leave you with this Story about how a struggle makes us stronger:

"Once upon a time, a man found a butterfly that was starting to hatch from its cocoon. He sat down and watched the butterfly for hours as it struggled to force itself through a tiny hole. Then, it suddenly stopped making progress and looked like it was stuck.

Therefore, the man decided to help the butterfly out. He took a pair of scissors and cut off the remaining bit of the cocoon. The butterfly then emerged easily, although it had a swollen body and small, shriveled wings.

The man thought nothing of it, and he sat there waiting for the wings to enlarge to support the butterfly. However, that never happened. The butterfly spent the rest of its life unable to fly, crawling around with small wings and a swollen body.

Despite the man's kind heart, he didn't understand that the restricting cocoon and the struggle needed by the butterfly to get itself through the small hole were God's way of forcing fluid from the body of the butterfly into its wings to prepare itself for flying once it was free."

I wish all my friends from Monaghan the very best. For questions/comments, ring me at (708) 425-7021

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## Plumbers Local 130 UA Announces Details For Chicago's 2019 Saint Patrick's Day Parade

The culmination of Chicagoland's Saint Patrick's Day season will take place on Saturday, March 16, when the Chicago River turns a magical shade of green and the 64th annual Chicago Saint Patrick's Day parade steps off in downtown Chicago, courtesy of Chicago Plumbers Local 130 UA and the Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee.

Hundreds of thousands of spectators will be in attendance for the festivities as the annual parade gets underway at noon at Balbo and Columbus, with more than

ident of St. Ignatius College Prep. The 2019 Saint Patrick's Day Parade Queen is Madeline Mitchell and members of the Queens' Court include Maura Carr, Theresa McDermott, Madeline Sherrier and Meghan Tomaszewski.

Plumbers Local 130 also conducts the dyeing of the Chicago River, which will begin at 9 a.m. Saturday. For those who want to watch the event, the best views are along the East side of Michigan Avenue, the West side of Columbus Drive, or upper and lower Wacker Drive between



120 parade entries including Irish dancers, pipe and drum bands, school marching bands and business and community groups. The theme for the 2019 parade is "The Music of Ireland."

"The Saint Patrick's Day Parade is a very special day in Chicago, not just for the Irish, but for our entire city and for so many visitors who come from near and far to enjoy the special magic that this day brings," said James F. Coyne, Business Manager for Plumbers Local 130, the sponsors and parade organizer since 1956.

The 2019 Parade Grand Marshal is Terry Hancock, President of Teamsters Joint Council No. 25, and the parade Guest of Honor is Rev. Michael Caruso, SJ, Pres-

Michigan Avenue and Columbus Drive.

Those making the trip downtown to attend the parade are encouraged to take public transportation to avoid congestion. Parking is available at locations such as the underground garage at Grant Park or Navy Pier. More information on transportation, parking and other helpful hints is available at [www.chicagostpatricksdaysparade.org](http://www.chicagostpatricksdaysparade.org).

Based in Chicago's West Loop, Chicago Journeymen Plumbers' Local Union 130 has more than 6,000 members and is the largest straight-line plumbing local in the United Association (UA) which represents more than 350,000 tradesmen across the United States and Canada.

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## Skerryvore, to Perform March 22 at Metropolis Performing Arts Centre

Skerryvore is an 8 piece band whose eclectic fusion of rock, pop and traditional music with an emphatic thundering of drums and bagpipes is as rich as a single malt scotch. With their outstanding musicianship and the mesmerizing voice of award-winning singer-songwriter, Alec Dalglish, Skerryvore has become an international sensation.

Hailing from the island of Tiree, Skerryvore formed in 2005 and in addition to Dalglish on lead vocals and guitar, the band includes brothers Daniel Gillespie (accordion) and Martin Gillespie (whistles & accordion),

Fraser West (drums & vocals), Craig Espie (fiddles), Alan Scobie (keyboards), Jodie Bremaneson (bass) and Scott Wood (bagpipes). The band took their unique name after the lighthouse that sits on a remote reef of the same name off of Tiree; it is the tallest in Scotland.

Friday, March 22 -- Metropolis Performing Arts Ctr - Arl Hts, IL [www.metropolisarts.com](http://www.metropolisarts.com)

Saturday, March 23 -- Thrasher Opera House - Green Lake, WI

Sunday, March 24 -- McAuliffe's Pub-- Racine, WI

Monday, March 25 -- The Ark - Ann Arbor, MI





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## Stepping Back in Time: Connecting With 19th Century Ireland On the Wild Atlantic Way

By Trudy Prescott PhD

Braving nearly 140 years of the worst and best the Wild Atlantic Way Ox Mountains can hurl, the old Irish farmhouse Carrowcullen, near Skreen County Sligo, sits on fourteen acres of unspoilt mountain pastures, with Ladies Brae (a steep hill) rising up dramatically behind.

In 2016, Carrowcullen was in a sad state, due to water seeping through the failing chimney flashings, through the soil immediately beneath its wooden floor boards, and through the back wall from soil that had slid down from the upper pasture to rest against the building (evidently caused by the planting of forestry which disturbed the natural spring in the west pasture).

Inside Carrowcullen, layers of wall paper were peeling -- suspended in the air--, rotten ground floor boards, laid directly over earth, were giving way, mould and mildew gave off the overpowering smell of decay, and skirting boards' paint was discovered holding the 'wood' behind, which had turned to powder from woodworm and moisture.

Carrowcullen's exterior hardly fared better, with water ingressing to detach the lime rendering from the stonework, iron gutters sprouting veritable gardens, and original sash windows at the back doubly assaulted by word worm and damp. Carrowcullen was encircled on two sides by giant Cedar of Lebanon trees which were nearing the end of their 100 year plus lives and which, once the forestry was taken down (planned in 2017) and no longer buffering them from the ferocious Ox Mountain winds and rain, would have come down, bringing the house with them. Indeed, the storm of October 2017, after the forestry was harvested, brought down almost every tree at the south side of the west pasture and still more trees along the east pasture lane.

But Carrowcullen was not to be left to decay. Its appeal to me, a heritage specialist, was that it had remained much as it was when built in the 1880s and it had

remained in the same family's possession continuously.

The original fireplace surrounds were still in situ and were wardrobes, tables, ladies' and parlour chairs; in the sheds were pony cart, chaise longue, the 'good' china, butter churner, kitchen utensils and generations of unwanted objects. No internal plumbing had been installed, although an outdoor toilet and septic tank were installed in the late 1980s/early 1990s (which I discovered under a forest of brambles). At that time, Maureen Phillips, the venerated owner (who passed early in 2018 aged 99), still went daily to fetch a bucket of water in the east pasture's natural spring.

Bringing Carrowcullen back to life as a 'step back in time' unique experience, would challenge the multiple skills of the wonderful builder from Cork, DJ O'Connor,



and made me dig deep from my heritage training. I rejected the favoured approach of 'new' inside and 'old' outside.

We went carefully through every room and made every decision based on saving whatever was salvageable of the original, reusing, replacing like-for-like and leaving original decorative paintwork untouched. My inspiration came from my own experience visiting historic houses and locations since childhood (my father was a museum director) in the US and since 1982 in the UK, and my visiting my Swedish grandmother in 1973, who was staying in a 19th c cottage



in Stockholm and had taught me to crochet lace in the 1960s.

The 'nods' to the 21st century were: introducing indoor plumbing for the first time (but with Victorian/Edwardian period sanitary ware, most sourced leaving their own buildings for the first time) and installing insulation, thereby satisfying both goals of sustainability and convenience.

The building works unveiled

skilled stone masonry which also was left exposed (rather than being rendered), a decision which was approved by Maureen Phillips whose grandfather had built the house in the 1880s, but in a late 18th c/early 19thc style.

As it is now, Carrowcullen draws gasps from visitors -- 'it's just like my grandmother's house' as they step over the threshold. Furniture in the house was dried out, cleaned, treated for woodworm, and restored to the rooms (where possible) from which they came; (more furniture awaits for my 'rainy day' jobs). Additional furniture and furnishings were sourced to suit the Carrowcullen's dating and the stature that it once had, as well as to reflect my own family's journeys and heritage interests. Fabrics used for the soft furnishings were sourced on principles of sustainability: roll-ends vintage fabrics, and fabrics from charity shops, which I had collected from the 1980s. 'My' addition to the 'look' of Carrowcullen's interior was the decision not to reinstate the suspended ceilings in the main bedrooms, but to leave the full

height of the rooms' space visible.

If you are seeking an Irish experience that is memorable, unique and a talking point, then experience Carrowcullen. At this old Irish farmhouse, you can engage with fascinating objects in a breath-taking location, set within fourteen acres unspoilt pastures, with the Sligo walking trail starting on the doorstep.

Here's what Carrowcullen offers the adventurous as a unique Irish experience:

- Discover the ever-changing local micro climate and views of the Ox Mountains, Ladies Brae
- Take a steep hike up Ladies Brae and engage with peat bogs and forestry, Ox Mountains and incredible views to the Atlantic Ocean, and of iconic Sligo landmarks including Knocknarea and Benbulbin
- Cook in cast iron and copper pots on a refurbished Stanley 8 stove
- Serve your cider from copper and brass measuring ladles
- Pour your claret/red wine from silver and pewter jugs
- Watch the daily counting of sheep: Plunkett and Brian McDonnell and Glynn

Carrowcullen's beautiful interior and exterior stonework. Inside, in the kitchen, the heart of the house into which you first step, the original hearth emerged from beneath a wall, and the Stanley 8 stove, alas beyond repair, replaced, with an identical restored model, which runs the hot water heating, and keeps the kettle on boil and provides easy cast iron cooking. The stove now sits back into the hearth as it would have done originally. I made the decision to keep the stonework of the fire-place walls on the ground floor exposed. On the exterior when the render was removed, revealed incredibly





- Feed the ducks
- Discover the two natural springs in the east and west pastures
- Climb into a 19th c pony cart which took local children and the neighbouring nun to school each day
- Experience flushing with a

- pull-chain cast iron or wood toilet cisterns
- Relax in a Victorian cast iron bath
- Sleep in the late 19th/early 20th c beds.
- Engage your clothes with 19th century wardrobes and chest of drawers



## Colleen's Award Winning Irish Soda Bread at Peggy Kinnane's

For the 5th year running you can swing by Peggy Kinnane's Irish Pub and Restaurant 8 N. Vail in Arlington Hts. to pick up a loaf of Colleen Gallagher's delicious Irish Soda Bread. Chicago

Each loaf is beautifully wrapped with shamrocks and a green satin ribbon. Perfect for gift giving or a delicious addition for your St. Patrick's Day Dinner/Celebration. This Irish soda bread is so deli-



*Derek Hanley, Owner, Peggy Kinnane's, and Colleen Gallagher*

native Colleen Callaghan Gallagher will be baking and selling every weekend in March. What once was a fund raiser for Irish Dance has turned into a yearly ritual for Colleen and her entire family. Baking her grandmother Bridget Therese O'Malley's (Co. Mayo) recipe which has been in the family for 60 years, is no small feat. She bakes 100-200 loaves per night in a commercial kitchen to keep up with customer demand.

cious that people from all over the northwest suburbs stop by to get their yearly treat! Come into Peggy's for a free sample. Colleen's moto is "If they try it, they will buy it".

You can stop by the parade in Palatine on March 15th at the Farmers Market to pick up a loaf, or call Colleen directly (847)340-0894 to place an order for pick up. Don't miss out on this once a year delight!

- Write letters to family and friends on dressing tables original to the house
  - Iron with a cast iron flat iron
  - Spin your own yarn
  - Grind your coffee beans in brass and wood grinder
  - Eat your breakfast at an oak round table original to the house, with the tuck-under chairs
  - Wash dishes in a salt glaze butler's sink
- Drop in on the ongoing restoration of the 'nook' shed with original turf hearth where the farm labourer/ additional family members lived alongside their livestock
- Examine the cobbler's boot and frame, supplementing labourer's wages in the 'nook'
  - See how (and if yet!) the restoration of the Carrowcullen butter churner is proceeding
  - Chop turnips with the Scottish

- turnip chopper to supplement the livestock's grazing
  - Wash your clothes in a tub using a washing dolly
  - Assist in creating a vegetable garden in the location where it supplemented the labourer's diet or chopping wood for the log burners in the fireplaces
  - Engage with each other! (no TV, but lots of books and puzzles!)
- And from Carrowcullen's base:
- Explore a traditional cottage, late 18thc farmhouse, a village street, agricultural artefacts at the Sligo Folk Park Riverstown, Co Sligo (18.5m, 27 min drive)
  - Explore your Irish ancestors life 1850 to 1950 through agriculture, fishing and hunting at the award winning national Museum of Country Life in Turlough Park, Castlebar Co Mayo (41m, 57 min drive)

- Visit the Knock Folk Museum, Drum, Knock Co Mayo where late 19th c Irish rural life is explored and which is also the site of the 1879 apparition to 15 people, and which retains records of pilgrims visiting the shrine subsequently (43m, 1 hour drive)
  - Experience the American and Irish immigration links and origins of the Carnegie family: Visit the Ulster American museum (87m, two hour drive)
  - And when you return to Carrowcullen, you will re-engage with objects seen in these museums
- Easy accessibility to Sligo/ Ballina/ Castlebar/ Lough Key/ Easkey/ Talt and Slish Wood, inspiration to WB Yeats; Fishing, surfing, golf, hiking, biking all nearby.
- [heritageimpact77@gmail.com](mailto:heritageimpact77@gmail.com)

## Mercy Home Make This Month A 'March For Kids'

Volunteers will be out in force on Chicago-area street corners, St. Patrick's Day parades, and other events throughout March, collecting donations to help Mercy Home for Boys & Girls give at-risk children a safe place to live, therapy to heal from the trauma of abuse and neglect, and tools like education and job skills to help them build independence.

Mercy Home for Boys & Girls' March for Kids campaign is the public's chance to help.

The campaign features teams of volunteers collecting donations to Mercy Home and handing out Mercy Home Shamrocks as a way of saying 'thank you.' Donations generated by its March for Kids effort supply Mercy Home with 100% of the funds it needs to care for children 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Clad in their signature green aprons, volunteers will collect donations at Chicago-area St. Patrick's Day parades and celebrations including: Chicago's Loop, Friday, March 15

Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade, Saturday, March 16

South Side Irish Parade, Sunday, March 17

Mercy Home will have a float and a large marching contingent in both parades and will be joined

by on-air personalities from radio sponsor US99.

Volunteers are organizing donation drives at area businesses, churches, and schools.

Mercy Home's web site ([www.mercyhome.org](http://www.mercyhome.org)) will accept contributions to the campaign that will be matched dollar-for-dollar by a generous donor. The effort will be highlighted on March 15



during a special "Giving Day" at [mercyhome.org](http://mercyhome.org).

Celebrity spokesman and Orland Park native Bill Rancic is also helping get the word out through media appearances while raising funds through his RPM Steak and RPM Italian restaurants in Chicago. A portion of proceeds from special menu items during the month will

benefit Mercy Home's March for Kids. Similarly, a number of Chicago restaurants will raise donations, including Monteverde, Theater on the Lake, Lula Café, Piccolo Sogno, and Nonnina.

Mercy Home is calling on all interested volunteers to help make this effort a success. Any individual, business, or group can help provide a safe and

supportive home for children in need just by signing up to be a Mercy Home March for Kids volunteer. It's a fun and unique way to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, complete a Lenten, school, or family service project, or organize an office team-building initiative and energy to help kids at Mercy Home.. Go to [www.mercyhome.org/marchforkids](http://www.mercyhome.org/marchforkids) to sign up.

## Irish American Hall of Fame Announces 2019 Class of Inductees

The Irish American Hall of Fame is proud to announce its 2019 Class of Inductees -- eight outstanding Irish Americans who have made significant contributions in their fields. The inductees and one "Hometown Hero" will be honored at the 9th Annual Irish American Hall of Fame Awards Gala on April 27, 2019 at The Irish American Heritage Center on Chicago's Northwest side.

Now in its ninth year, The Irish American Hall of Fame is national in scope and operated under the auspices of the Irish American Heritage Center in Chicago. The Hall of Fame seeks to preserve the "story" of the Irish in America by recognizing and honoring the outstanding contributions of Irish Americans to society. Over 400 nominations were considered from throughout the U.S. and a rigorous screening process applied to produce a final slate of 47 candidates. A voting body of 100+ prominent Irish Americans from across the country elected this year's inductees.

Be a part of the celebration of these incredible Irish Americans! To purchase tickets to the gala, please visit [www.iahof.org](http://www.iahof.org) or call (773) 282-7035.

### 2019 Inductees

#### Arts & Humanities

**Pat Roche** (1905 - 2004) is a Chicago dancing legend whose influence was crucial in the



development of Irish dancing worldwide. After immigrating to Chicago from County Clare, Roche started his public life as emcee at the Irish Village at the 1934 Chicago World's Fair. In the early 1940s he began traveling with his dancers to national

folk festivals in Philadelphia and Washington, D.C., and to feiseanna in New York and to at least one out-of-town feis every year through the 1960s. It was not until he inaugurated the Chicago Feis in 1945 that a consistently sponsored national competition occurred. He is a founding member and past president of the Irish Dancing Teachers Commission of America, the forerunner of the Irish Dancing Teachers Association of North America. In recognition of his contributions to the development of Irish dance, Pat was awarded a T.C.R.G., teacher certification, by An Coimisiun le Rinci Gaelacha (The Irish Dancing Commission) in Dublin in 1984. Most dancers from Chicago, including Michael Flatley and Mark Howard, founder of Trinity Irish Dancers, can trace their dance lineage to Pat Roche.

#### Business And Industry

**James J. O'Connor** is retired chairman and CEO of Unicom Corporation and its subsidiary, Commonwealth Edison Company, where he was employed for



35 years. In 1986, at the request of Chicago's Cardinal Bernardin, O'Connor and other businessmen founded the Big Shoulders Fund, a charity to support inner-city Catholic schools, and has served as co-chairman since then. The fund assists 93 schools and more than 24,000 students -- the majority of whom live at or below the poverty level. Recognized for his business acumen and civic leadership, O'Connor has been appointed to serve on several corporate and philanthropic boards. He was president of the Irish Fellowship Club of Chicago in the early 1970s and has been on the board for 50+

years. He is president of The 100 Club of Chicago and past chairman and honorary director of the Chicago Division of the American Cancer Society, honorary trustee of the Committee for Economic Development and honorary director and former chairman of the Chicago Convention and Tourism Bureau.

#### Public Service

**Dorothy Day** (1897 - 1980) was an American journalist and activist who worked social justice causes through the prism of the Catholic Church. After her conversion to Catholicism in 1927, she



co-founded The Catholic Worker in 1933, a newspaper promoting Catholic teachings, serving as its editor. She and fellow activist Peter Maurin establish the Catholic Worker Movement, a pacifist movement that combines direct aid for the poor and homeless with nonviolent direct action on their behalf, which continues to this day. She also helped establish special homes to help those in need. In her writings, she described her conversion to Catholicism as well her experiences as an activist. Pope Francis included her in a short list of exemplary Americans, together with Abraham Lincoln, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Thomas Merton, in his address before the United States Congress. Concerning canonization, however, she is quoted as saying "Don't call me a saint...I don't want to be dismissed that easily." Nonetheless, the Church has opened the cause for Day's possible canonization, which was accepted by the Holy See for investigation. **Senator John Sidney McCain III** (1936 - 2018) was an American statesman and military officer. He graduated from the United States

Naval Academy in 1958 and was commissioned into the United States Navy. He became a naval aviator and flew ground-attack



aircraft from aircraft carriers. While on a mission in October 1967, he was shot down, seriously injured, and captured by the North Vietnamese and was a prisoner of war until 1973. He retired from the Navy as a captain in 1981 and moved to Arizona, where he entered politics. He served two terms in the U.S. House of Representatives and in 1987 he entered the U.S. Senate where he served until his death. He was the Republican nominee for President of the United States in the 2008 election. While generally adhering to conservative principles, McCain also had a reputation as a "maverick" for his willingness to disagree with his party. He made campaign finance reform one of his signature concerns, which eventually resulted in passage of the McCain-Feingold Act in 2002.

#### Sports

**Jack O'Callahan** graduated from Boston Latin School in 1975 and then attended Boston University from 1975-1979 where he was a team captain during the 1977-78 and 1978-79 seasons and was named All-East twice, All-New England and All-America, team MVP twice, Beanpot MVP, NCAA



tournament MVP, and Cochrane award winner twice. He also

played for Team USA at the 1979 Ice Hockey World Championship tournament in Moscow. The year after he graduated, O'Callahan was selected to represent the USA in the 1980 Winter Olympics. Three days before the Olympics, in an exhibition match against the Soviet Union, O'Callahan injured his left knee. This forced him out of the opening game against Sweden at the Olympics. He returned for the famous "Miracle on Ice" game against the Soviet Union in the first game of the medal round. He currently does work on behalf of the Blackhawk Alumni Association and is a member of the American Ireland Fund Chicago Regional Advisory Board. He is Senior Managing Director at Ziegler Capital Management in Chicago.

#### Religion

Rev. L. Scott Donahue is president and CEO of Mercy Home for Boys & Girls. Known affectionately as "Father Scott" by his parish faithful at St. Robert Bellarmine on Chicago's Northwest Side, and to the donors, coworkers and children of Mercy Home, he exemplifies the proud tradition of the Irish Americans who have left a lasting imprint on this great



country through their loyal service to their fellow citizens. In addition to his parish ministry of three decades, Father Scott oversees the mission of Mercy Home, which permanently impacts the lives and futures of young people who live there and hundreds more through its life-saving referral, mentoring and aftercare services. The children whose lives have been changed by the enterprise that Father Scott directs continue to go on to great personal success and to positively impact the lives of so many others. His humble and compassionate ministry to society's most vul-

nerable members-abused, neglected and troubled children-has had a ripple effect felt far and wide.

**Education**

Mother Mary Gerald Barry, O.P (1881 - 1961) was the Prioress General of the



Adrian Dominican Sisters, Adrian Michigan from 1933 until 1961. Under her leadership, that congregation of women religious grew from 800 members to over 2,000. The congregation staffed schools throughout the United States and administrated hospitals in California. In her 28 years as prioress general, the order opened three hospitals and 69 parochial schools throughout the country as well as the Colegio Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic. She was responsible for the education of approximately 100,000 students in 189 elementary and secondary Catholic schools in the United States and the Caribbean and supervised 197 houses of teaching sisters across the country. Born in County Clare, she was known for her "sparkling Irish wit" and unshakeable determination. Her own congregation established a House of Studies in Washington, D.C. for advanced education of its members. She established high schools for girls in Detroit, Michigan; Wilmette, Illinois and a college for women in Miami, Florida

**Science.**

Kathleen "Kay" McNulty Mauchly (1921 - 2006) was an Irish-American computer



programmer and one of the six original programmers of the first general-purpose electronic digital computer. A 1942 graduate of

Chestnut Hill College for Women, McNulty was one of only a few mathematics majors in a class of 92 women. Upon graduating, she responded to a U.S. Civil Service ad looking for women with degrees in mathematics at Ballistic Research Laboratory and was hired as a "human computer" to calculate ballistics trajectories used for artillery firing tables. When the Electronic Numerical Integrator And Computer (ENIAC) was developed for the purpose of performing these same ballistics calculations, McNulty was selected as one of its first programmers. She later worked on the software design for computers including the BINAC and UNIVAC I. She was inducted into the Women in Technology International Hall of Fame in 1997. In July 2017, Dublin City University honored her by naming its

**2019 Hometown Hero**

Fiona McEntee is the Founding & Managing Attorney of McEntee Law Group, a firm dedicated exclusively to handling



U.S. immigration matters. As a proud Irish immigrant and U.S. citizen, McEntee has dedicated her practice to the advancement of immigrants' rights for individuals, families and businesses. Her advocacy efforts for immigrants ranges from regularly giving interviews to suing the Administration in federal court in relation to the controversial Travel Ban. A mother of two young children, McEntee zealously represents immigrant children and parents who face innumerate obstacles in emigrating to the United States. She is nationally recognized for her expertise in immigration law. She has been selected for the ISBA's 2018 Elmer Gertz Award; the 2017 Illinois Super Lawyer List, Rising Star; the Irish Legal Top 100; and the Irish Echo's 40 Under 40. She regularly provides commentary live on MSNBC, CBS, and RTE TV and Radio. She has represented many prominent Irish musicians, including The Boomtown Rats, Clannad and The Coronas. In addition to her legal practice, McEntee created Blowtique in 2012, the city's first hair salon dedicated solely to blow-dries.

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## Katie Callahan, 2018 Chicago Rose of Tralee to Pass Her Crown on 4-6

Last April, Katie Callahan of Oak Brook, IL, was selected as the 2018 Chicago Rose of Tralee. She is a graduate of Marquette University, with majors in Theatre Arts and Broadcast and Electronic Communications as well as a Masters Degree in Leadership Studies. Along with her exceptional educational background, Katie graduated from the Second City Musical Improv Conservatory Program. Since her selection as the Chicago Rose, Katie has made the most of her year as a Rose finalist and has toured around the world promoting her Irish heritage as well as the City of Chicago. Katie traveled to Tralee, Co Kerry in August of 2018, proudly wearing her "Chicago Rose" sash at all of the many events she attended. She was interviewed on RTE television, which broadcasts the Rose Selection, live from the International Rose of Tralee Festival. Katie sang a beautiful rendition of the classic Irish song, The Parting Glass. Her performance received international recognition. This was not Katie's first time attending the festival. The previous year, Katie worked as a volunteer for the Rose of Tralee, traveling from Dublin to Tralee on the weekends assisting other volunteers, preparing for this historic event that has been taking place at the end of every summer

for the last 60 years. Katie's experience as a volunteer offered her a unique, firsthand view of this world renowned Irish festival and the hard work and dedication that its volunteers commit to every year. She has visited nearly every county in Ireland and continues to travel the world.

As the Chicago Rose, Katie attended other Rose selections across the United States, Canada and in Ireland. Katie was recently in Phoenix, Arizona to crown the Arizona Rose, the first of many international Rose Selections to take place. In December she, along with other 2018 Rose finalists, were on hand to open the famous Christmas Markets in Frankfurt, Germany. In February, Katie traveled to Belarus to volunteer at Vesnova, an Irish funded institution for children with special needs in the country's Chernobyl fallout region. A volunteer connection between the Chernobyl Children International Organization and the Rose of Tralee Festival has seen groups of "Rose" volunteers travel to Belarus up to three times a year every year since 2011 to spend a week working in the Vesnova Children's Orphanage.

Katie has found a home away from home in Ireland and has spent much time there this past year. She is currently working on a

travel program that focuses on exploring Ireland and the stories hidden in the counties. She is the woman behind the production and hopes she can shine a light on the country that of her ancestral heritage and the place she has learned to love and appreciate.

Katie will soon pass the crown on to the next Chicago Rose, on April 6, 2019 at the Irish American Heritage Center in Chicago. Katie is an inspiration and has made Chicago proud with her grace, talent and dedication to help others. The mission of the Chicago Rose of Tralee is to provide enrichment opportunities that will encourage young women of Irish descent to be exemplary role models for tomorrow's youth and to make a positive difference in the world.

The winner of the 2019 Chicago Rose of Tralee will receive an all-expense paid trip to Ireland for an experience of a lifetime and represent Chicago in Tralee, and beyond. Apply online at [www.roseoftralee.ie/apply](http://www.roseoftralee.ie/apply). For more information on the Chicago Rose Selection, Rosebud Application or Sponsorship information for the Chicago Rose of Tralee Centre, l: [chicagoroseoftralee@gmail.com](mailto:chicagoroseoftralee@gmail.com).



Debbie O'Donnell with husband Dan Helfenbein, and Mary Marth with husband Mark Leipold at the Irish American Heritage Center "Volunteer Appreciation Dinner" on February 9. All four were also at the IAHC on January 26 for the annual Johnny Cash-inspired charity event "Cash For Kids" and producer Stephen Davern says it raised over \$19,000 this year for the Illinois Chapter of the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation. Stephen, along with Meg Buchanan of IAHC, want to thank everyone for their money and their time. Meg also says that she's sorry to have missed Cash For Kids this year, but that's because she was in Ireland!



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Liam is visiting Ireland for his first time! Share the Emerald Isle experience with this young troubadour who's been called the reincarnation of Gordon Lightfoot and Paddy Reilly. The craic will be mighty!



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## It Starts With A Song

By Joe McShane



**Hello everyone,**

I'm sitting here looking out at white horses on the Irish Sea. A little different from my last boat trip on Andy Cooney's Cruise around the Caribbean. HaHa! As the song 'On The Boat To Liverpool' goes - "The boat was rockin' too and fro, headin' for the docks of Liverpool. The waters surrounding Ireland have dealt many a cruel blow to sailors and fishermen. And of course, Britain has been none too kind either towards an otherwise neutral country.

Speaking of cruises, I would like to thank Andy Cooney, for having Declan and I perform on his 'Cruise Of Irish Stars'. We will never forget his kindness towards us and what a great experience for Declan. Who is really shocking me these days, in a good way. His musicianship just keeps getting better and his voice is maturing so well. He is in the process of recording two albums. One of some favorite songs of his, including some he has written and one Christmas album.

I was lucky enough to meet and hang out with some very talented songwriters on the cruise. Andy Cooney being one of them. I love the song he and his drummer Jimmy Kelly (also a multi-instrumentalist) wrote called 'On The Eighth Day'. Jimmy is a man of many talents, writing musicals etc, and always looking to expand his horizons. One of the New York Tenors, Daniel Rodriguez sang a song on the cruise written by Jimmy, and it's a song about the first responders of 911. The New York Tenors are really as good as it gets and really funny on stage with each other. They are Andy Cooney, Christopher Macchio, and Daniel Rodriguez.

Another man I met onboard was Tom Comerford who sang a song he'd written called 'Little House, Little Street' and I just got lost in the music and lyrics of this song. So much so that I am trying to get some singers in Ireland to listen and maybe record it. I can hear Foster and Allen or someone like that making a huge hit out of it. Tom has the crowd in the palm of his hand and they love him. He comes from County Waterford. I also got to hang out with Martin Doyle and Andy O'Driscoll. They put on a great show and bounce off each other with jokes and good craic!

I am so glad I met the Fitzgerald's, Julie, Kerry, and Tom (two sisters and a brother) last November, on Nathan Carter's shows in Branson and St. Catharines, Ontario. Well, we got to meet up again on the cruise where I also got to meet their parents Pam and Paddy. They are coming to the Irish American Heritage Center on March 22nd. You are in for a great treat with this talented family. They are really outstanding. The energy and musicianship they give the audience is first class.

Declan made such a lot of friends on board including the Fitzgerald's, Siobhan and her Brother Kieran

McGirl (the videographer's). Thank you, Kieran and Siobhan, for interviewing Declan by the way and of course for your friendship. Kieran met up with Declan in New York recently, Declan was there with his school orchestra performing. And he was so delighted that Kieran came to the concert and hung out with him. Declan also became friends with a young man called David James who has a great future ahead of him. So they hung out a lot together. David has a great personality, voice, dance and best way to sum him up is he is the whole package. He's around twenty years old and comes from Donegal. As the saying goes "watch this space".

One night he invited Declan up on stage to back him up on piano. And of course, you don't need to ask Declan twice, he went up like a shot. David also asked him to sing a song. So he sang 'Summer In Dublin'. It's rare to see another musician actually offer part of his show to help another musician and that speaks very highly of you David. Martin Doyle and Andy O'Driscoll also had Declan play on their show. Just a great bunch! Declan was given a nickname by his pals, he's now known affectionately as Dec the Wreck! Ronan Tynan's piano accompanist Bill (William) Lewis, who is one of the most talented musicians I've ever met gave some great attention to Dec the Wreck. He was so complimentary and gave him some voice and piano coaching. It is a blessing to meet someone like Bill in this life. Another name to watch out for is Ritchie Hayes and his brother David. Ritchie is from Waterford and now lives in Florida. We need to get him on a show in Chicago. He is an outstanding comedian with an unbelievable singing voice. He has it all. I wish I had space to write about all the musicians that were on the cruise. The whole program was a mass of great talent and I felt humble and thankful to have been a part of it. I have been hoping for a long

## Switchback – Traveling Down an Irish Road March 5th at Freedom Hall

Switchback is the award-winning duo of Brian Fitzgerald and Martin McCormack.

Switchback draws on traditional Celtic music and original Americana songs that reflect their Irish heritage and Midwestern roots. Playing an exciting mix of mandolin, guitar, and bass, their harmonies have won them comparisons to famous duos, such as the Louvin Brothers, Everly Brothers, & Simon and Garfunkel.

So relax and let their music take you Travelin' Down an Irish Road. Tickets are available at the box office, by phone at 708/747-0580, or online at [www.freedomhall.org](http://www.freedomhall.org).

Freedom Hall, 410 Lakewood Blvd., Park Forest, IL Show at 11 a.m., tickets \$20.

time to someday be booked to perform on a cruise. So once again Andy, a sincere thanks for taking us on our very first one, from your friends Joe, Margaret and Dec The Wreck.

This months song is one of 3 I've written or co-written about Alzheimer's. It's a similar story in song as the movie 'Note Book'. And it's called 'You Don't Know Me (But I Know You)' Written by Jordan Moge and I. Until next time, be good to one another. And a very Happy St. Patrick's Day and Mother's Day in Ireland. Also, I can't forget my own namesake Saint this month St. Joseph!

Joe

### 'You Don't Know Me (But I Know You)'

© Copyright Joe McShane

© Copyright Jordan Moge

#### Verse 1

You ain't coming back and I ain't leaving  
I'll be right here tomorrow just the same  
You don't feel what I'm feeling  
Cause lately you can't even say my name

#### Verse 2

I'm a stranger when I'm with you  
There's a faraway look in your eyes  
I know it's not your fault but I just wish you knew  
We've been together almost all our lives

#### Chorus

You don't know me but I know you  
Something's come between us and there's nothing we can do  
It really doesn't matter I'll still love you  
You don't know me... but I know you

#### Bridge

Things won't be the way they were before  
We can't share our memories anymore  
But someday a knowing smile comes to your face  
And I thank God for these little signs of grace

#### Chorus

You don't know me but I know you  
Something's come between us and there's nothing we can do  
It really doesn't matter I'll still love you  
You don't know me... but I know you



Marty and Brian Fitzgerald

## Recap of IN Conversation: Update from Leinster House With Senator Billy Lawless and Mike Flannery of Fox 32

By Seamus Byrne

On Friday February 22, Ireland Network Chicago was delighted to host Senator Billy Lawless, appointed to Seanad Éireann in 2016 by then-Taoiseach Enda Kenny, to discuss critical policy matters currently under debate in the Oireachtas in Dublin along with other related issues. The event was moderated by Mike Flannery, Political Editor at WFLD-32 and a long-time friend to the Chicago Irish community, talking a well-deserved break from covering Chicago mayoral campaigns before the final push to election day.

Senator Lawless, the first member of the Seanad to be based outside of Ireland, and first Senator appointed to represent the Global Irish Diaspora, discussed how the Seanad is convened, how it functions, and his decision to spend meaningful time in Ireland between Seanad sessions in order to be an effective voice for the Diaspora on the relevant issues. Voting rights featured heavily

in the discussion, including the upcoming constitutional referendum on extending voting rights to Irish citizens living abroad in Presidential elections, expected to be presented to the Irish electorate later this year. The Senator noted that graduates of both the National University of Ireland

and Trinity College Dublin are currently entitled to vote as university constituency electors in Seanad elections, regardless of where they reside, provided they register online by February 26. Registration information can be found at <https://www.housing.gov.ie/local-govern->



(l to r): Mike Flannery, Political Editor at WFLD-32 and Senator Billy Lawless, discuss critical policy matters under debate in Ireland at the Gage Restaurant in downtown Chicago.

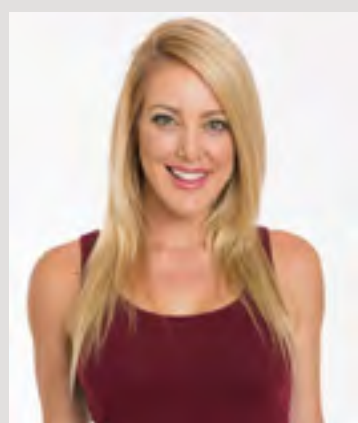
## Den Theatre Presents Comedian Kate Quigley

With Jesse Egan  
March 14 – 16, 2019  
on The Upstairs Mainstage

Comedian Kate Quigley brings her stand-up act to The Den Theatre for 4 performances only March 14-16, 2019 on The Upstairs Mainstage, 1331 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago. Jesse Egan opens. Tickets (\$25 general admission) at [www.thedentheatre.com](http://www.thedentheatre.com), in person at the The Den box office or by calling (773) 697-3830. Ages 21+.

Kate Quigley is a standup comedian, host and actress. She recently hosted the AVN Awards (airing on Showtime) and can be seen on MTV2's ADD TV (All Def Digital). Widely known as the "up for anything" star of Undercover on Playboy TV, Kate's other TV credits include The Office (NBC), The Josh Wolf Show (CMT), The Danny Comden Project (Pilot for Warner

Bros), The Megan Mullally Show (NBC) and Talkshow with Spike Feresten (FOX). She also hosts a podcast, #DateFails (with approx



50k downloads per week). Kate's wild antics such as shocking folks by bikini crashing formal events and her hit live stream show, The Hollywood Pool Party, have helped her gain an extremely interactive online following.

Kate has been featured as Sports Illustrated's "Lovely Lady

of the Day" and The Chive's "Girl You Should Know." She tours as a headlining comedian and is a regular at the Improv, Laugh Factory, Icehouse, Comedy Store and Haha Comedy Club in Hollywood.

Jesse Egan is the winner of "San Diego's Funniest Person" contest and host of the late-night TV talk show Tonight in San Diego. You can see Jesse's nationally televised spots on KPBS TV. He has also appeared on Union Tribune TV, Fox Rox TV and in the documentary film Stage Time. Jesse performs stand-up all over the country, he's opened for Dane Cook, Doug Stanhope, Chris D'Elia, and many more. Jesse co-hosts two podcasts: Comics Talk Comedy and Sordid Tales the Podcast.

Thursday, March 14 at 7:30 pm  
Friday, March 15 at 7:30 pm

Saturday, March 16 at 7:30 pm  
and 9:30 pm

ment/voting/seanad-elections/seanad-elections.

On the issue of immigrants' rights and immigration reform generally, Senator Lawless, a long-time passionate advocate on this issue both locally and nationally, expressed regret that then-Speaker Paul Ryan's bill extending unused E-3 visas to prospective Irish immigrants, and including reciprocity for US citizens in Ireland, did not succeed in the US Senate having passed the US House in December 2018. But he was optimistic on the likelihood of meaningful reform in the longer term, given the growing understanding that immigrants are central to the health of the US economy across all sectors – a case that he encouraged the audience to make whenever feasible.

As expected, Brexit hovered over many facets of the discussion. Senator Lawless expressed hope that an agreement will be reached, given the potentially disruptive and unpredictable implications on people's lives and livelihoods across the island of Ireland.

The Senator would not be

## 23rd Annual Siamsa na nGael Celebrates Ireland's Mother Jones 3-12

The 23rd Siamsa na nGael celebration, Old St. Patrick's Church's annual celebration of Irish heritage and annual gift to the people of Chicago, will bring world-class Celtic entertainment to the Chicago Symphony Center on Tuesday, March 12, 2019, at 7:30 p.m.

Having survived the famine in County Cork, Ireland; yellow fever in Tennessee; and the great Chicago fire, at age 60 she started over yet again. Through song, dance and story, this year's Siamsa showcases the life of a fierce Irish woman who devoted herself to organizing on behalf of workers from coast to coast. Mother Jones dedicated her tireless efforts to improving the plight of children and the working class claiming her address to be "wherever there is a fight against oppression." This remarkable woman helped shape child labor

drawn on predicting the outcome of the Chicago mayoral election, but strongly encouraged any new administration to continue to focus heavily on immigrants' rights and on reform of the City's finances, among other issues.

This latest installment of IN Chicago's IN Conversation pro-



gram drew a sell-out attendance at The Gage, including Irish Vice Consul General Justin Dolan, Irish Fellowship Club of Chicago President Kevin Flood, several IN Chicago Advisory Board and Committee members, and members of the Lawless family. The event can be viewed in its entirety on video at IN Chicago's facebook page, and details on upcoming events can be seen at [www.theirelandnetwork.com](http://www.theirelandnetwork.com). IN Chicago is grateful for the Irish Consulate's continued support for the IN Conversation program.

laws that still stand today.

The tales will be narrated by award-winning NBC Chicago political reporter Carol Marin and Franklin Delano Roosevelt granddaughter Anne Roosevelt. It will be celebrated through performances by soloist Gavin Coyle; Chicago's own Irish diva Catherine O'Connell; renowned gospel and opera singers tenor soloist Rodrick Dixon; soprano Beverly O'Regan and music by the Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra, the 100-voice Old St. Patrick's Concert Choir, the step dancing of the Trinity Irish Dancers, bag pipers, the Irish Trad Band, the After School Matters singers and many others.

### Tickets:

Tickets range in price from \$30-60 and may be purchased through the Symphony Center Box Office, (312) 294-3000 or [www.cso.org](http://www.cso.org) and are available.

# 2019

Join Us at the Gala, April 27, 2019  
Honoring This Year's Awardees  
Contact Tim Taylor  
ttaylor@irishahc.com

## IRISH AMERICAN HALL OF FAME AWARDS GALA

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**APRIL 27, 2019**

*Arts & Humanities:*

**PAT ROCHE**

*Business & Industry:*

**JAMES J. O'CONNOR**

*Education:*

**MOTHER MARY GERALD BARRY, OP**

*Public Service:*

**DOROTHY DAY**  
**SENATOR JOHN McCAIN**

*Religion:*

**REV. L. SCOTT DONAHUE**

*Science:*

**KATHLEEN "KAY" McNULTY MAUCHLY**

*Sports:*

**JACK O'CALLAHAN**

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# IRISH AMERICAN HALL OF FAME

## Commemorative Program Rate Sheet

The Commemorative Program is a full color glossy print book of the highest quality. All ads must be camera ready and in full color. Attendees will receive a program at the Irish American Hall of Fame Awards Gala on Saturday, April 27th, 2019. The deadline for ad submissions is April 1st.

### 2019 AD RATES

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| A – Double Page/Center Fold: \$2,000<br><i>(plus 4 tickets to Awards Gala)</i> | C – Half Page: \$500<br><i>(Vertical and Horizontal)</i> |
| B – Full Page: \$1,000<br><i>(plus 2 tickets to Awards Gala)</i>               | D – Quarter Page: \$250                                  |
|  | E – Patron Listing: \$100                                |



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#### C Half Page vertical

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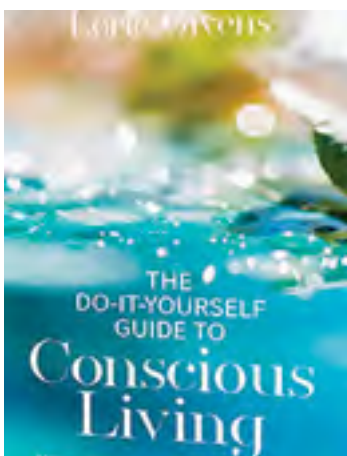
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Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_ CVC Code: \_\_\_\_\_

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Send your camera ready ad to Tim Taylor: [ttaylor@irishahc.org](mailto:ttaylor@irishahc.org)

# On the SHELF



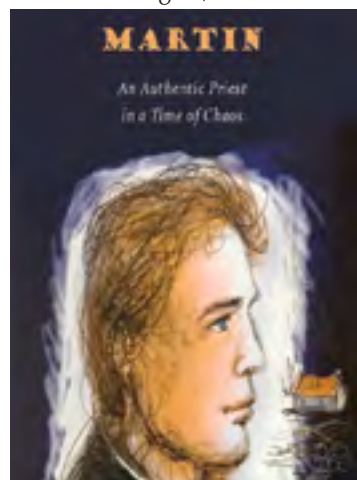
**The Do-It-Yourself Guide to Conscious Living** by MarieAnn Mc Loughlin Dwyer is a book about mindsets that will move you from trying to make sense of all kinds of things in your life that have already taken place to instead, making sense of the states of mind which keep you thinking about them. It is self-help in its purest sense and will slow you down long enough to focus on what's really happening inside your thoughts that you're probably unaware of. It is one of this year's most down-to-earth yet thought-provoking reads, and what it will provoke you to think about is you: how you think; how you deal with fear, anger, praise, criticism, judgment, worry, control, blame, trust, rules, listening, and even that one mindset we all share but are seldom conscious of – our need to be right. It is respectful, non-critical, at times, unapologetic but, because it steps away from conventional thinking and societal norms, it will stay with you long after you've read it.

**Martin: An Authentic Priest in Times of Chaos** by Kathleen W. FitzGerald takes the reader on a deeply personal story of one man's journey to the priesthood and his confrontation of the horrible sexual crimes committed by priests and protected by bishops.

Martin Sweeney is conceived in the wilds of West Clare by his young mother Kate and Jeremiah Devitt,

an arrogant young man studying for the priesthood. On the day he is born, Kate makes a vow that wild horses will never pull from her the identity of his father. Martin goes through his boyhood in a fog, never knowing who he really is.

On the day of his First Holy Communion, Martin promises the Blessed Mother he will be a priest and Kate is struck in horror, fearing that her beloved son will become like his father. As Kate leaves his many questions unanswered, Martin becomes vaguer, his boundaries



blurring, his identity unformed.

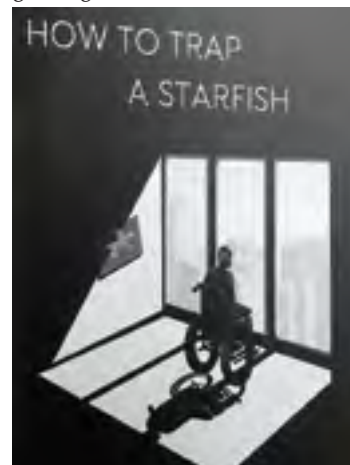
When Martin is 10 years old, he leaves the West of Ireland with his frail mother and finds himself negotiating his life in a new country without a sense of himself. The world of Chicago is far from the little farm and family and friends he left behind. Who is the real Martin Sweeney?

Following his dreams of priesthood, he begins another new life at the junior seminary. On the very first day, he meets and begins an entanglement with Harry Hogan, a spoiled young man also on his way to the priesthood. Martin and Harry are mistaken as twins, as their towering height, dark, curly hair and deep, violet-blue deep-set eyes are a bedevilment to everyone.

Martin is chosen to study in Rome, but is called home to be ordained early, as Kate is dying.

Still battered with the power of not knowing his father, he discovers Jeremiah Devitt, hidden among the hierarchy. Martin could kill him.

As their lives unfurl, Martin confronts his father for the church protecting the abusers and disregarding the wounded children and



their families. Martin is never disloyal to the church, but unwittingly, he is falsely accused of abusing a young boy and begins a long process in the criminal justice system.

**How to Trap a Starfish** by MarieAnn Mc Loughlin Dwyer. Jack, a Dublin native, handsome, charming and over confident, is the much-adored only son of Jack Sr (a canny but philandering Dublin chauffeur) and May Mills (a quiet spoken gentle country girl who was sent to work in Dublin after the premature death of both her parents). Jack set's out on his journey to New York City with Alva, his new bride. She hails from a prestigious home, she is artistic by nature, highly perceptive, and a cunning Sandymount debutant...Alva punches well above her weight in many respects, however, this being said, Alva leaves home with one ultimate life skill inherited from her experienced Mother's middle class, victorian & staunch household.

Alva Blake is well versed in the ways and methods of "How to catch a Starfish".

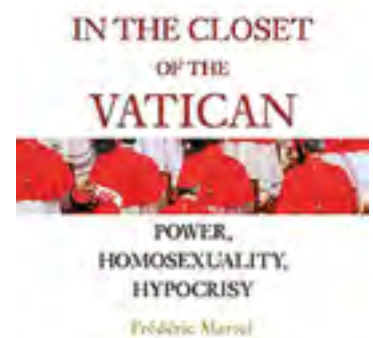
This book deals with one man's journey through life recalling and expanding on his challenges, journeys, victories, love triangles, and his ultimate defeat. It will, I hope, be of interest to all those who reflect on these human and philosophical subjects. It will have particular relevance to Irish

people, and the Irish diaspora, with it's back drop of places and characters in Ireland and of course with Ireland's omnipresent relationship with emigration.

The book deals with a life spanning full circle until the last few days of an Irish Immigrants life while he nears death in a New York State Nursing home. It tells of one man's downward spiral into estrangement and dispossession.

**In the Closet of the Vatican** is a fascinating description and evaluation of financial, sexual and political misconduct throughout the Catholic Church at a time when new revelations are being uncovered each and every week. This audiobook explores the underlying causes and includes interviews with numerous Cardinals and other individuals, some of whom cannot be named.

Martel reveals financial scandals in the Vatican bank; political collusion with unsavory regimes, including Castro's Cuba and Pinochet's Chile; sexual abuse and hypocrisy over homosexu-



**POWER, HOMOSEXUALITY, HYPOCRISY**  
By Anthony McCarten

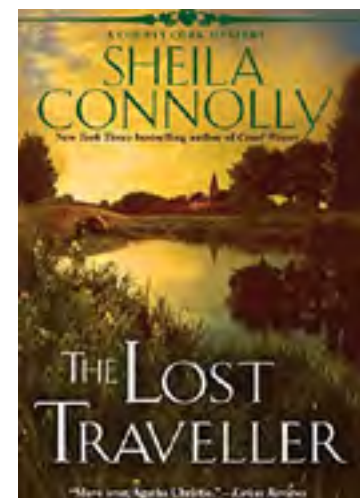
ality. In this explosive account,

Martel goes to the heart of corruption in the Catholic Church and inside the Vatican itself. Martel is a researcher and writer. He has a PhD in social sciences and four master's degrees in law, political science, philosophy, and social science (University La Sorbonne). He has been visiting scholar at Harvard University and taught at Sciences-Po Paris and at the HEC's Business School MBA in Paris.

He is the author of nine books, including *On Culture in America* (Gallimard, 2006) and the best seller *Mainstream: On the Global War on Culture and Medias* (Flammarion, 2010, translated in 20 countries). Available at Amazon.

**The Lost Traveller**

Danger comes to Cork in the



seventh County Cork mystery from New York Times bestselling author Sheila Connolly. Pub owner Maura Donovan is settling into a charmed life in Ireland—until a mutilated body on her property ends her lucky streak.

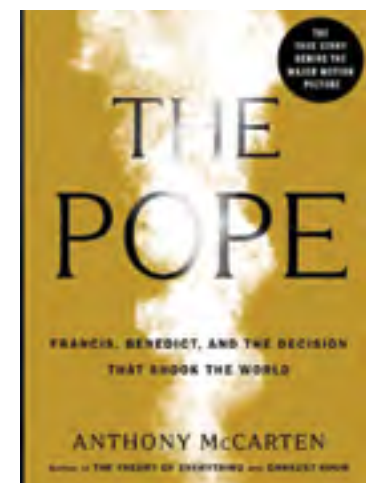
Boston expat Maura Donovan came to Ireland to honor her grandmother's last wish, but she never expected to stay in provincial County Cork—much less to inherit a house and a pub, Sullivan's, in the small village of Leap. After a year-long struggle to stay in the black, Sullivan's is finally thriving, and Maura has even brought back traditional Irish music to the pub. With a crop of new friends and a budding relationship with handsome Mick Nolan, Maura's life seems rosier than ever—but even in Ireland, you can't always trust your luck.

Available at [goodreads.com](http://goodreads.com)

**The Pope**

By Anthony McCarten

From the Academy Award nominated screenwriter of *The Theory of Everything* and *Darkest Hour* comes the fascinating and re-



vealing tale of an unprecedented transfer of power, and of two very different men - who both happen to live in the Vatican.

In February 2013, the arch-conservative Pope Benedict XVI made a startling announcement: he would resign, making him the first pope to willingly vacate his office in over 700 years. Reeling from the news, the College of Cardinals rushed to Rome to congregate in the Sistine Chapel to pick his successor. Their unlikely choice? Francis, the first non-European pope in 1,200 years, a one time tango club bouncer, a passionate soccer fan, a man with the common touch.

Why did Benedict walk away at the height of power, knowing his successor might be someone whose views might undo his legacy? How did Francis - who used to ride the bus to work back in his native Buenos Aires - adjust to life as leader to a billion followers? If, as the Church teaches, the pope is infallible, how can two living popes who disagree on almost everything both be right? Having immersed himself in these men's lives to write the screenplay for the upcoming motion picture *The Pope*, Anthony McCarten masterfully weaves their stories into one gripping narrative.

Available at Barnes and Noble.

### Simply Delicious By Darina Allen

The best 100 recipes from Darina Allen's iconic *Simply Delicious* books fully revised and updated with new photography. From soups and starters to her favourite desserts, Darina covers meat, poultry, fish and vegetable dishes that have stood the test of time over the nearly 30 years since the books were originally published.



Nearly 30 years after the original *Simply Delicious* book and TV series, Darina Allen brings together 100 of her timeless, tried and trusted recipes.

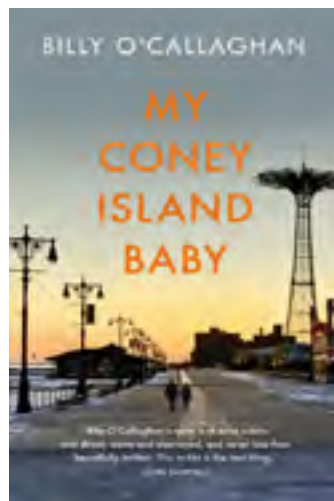
With chapters on Soups & Starters, Meat, Poultry, Fish, Vegetarian, Salads and puddings, recipes include such Darina Allen classics as: Winter Leek & Potato Soup, Ballymaloe Irish Stew and Ballymaloe Fish Pie, Farmhouse Chicken, Warm Winter Salad with Duck Livers & Hazelnut Oil Dressing, and Country Rhubarb Cake.

This classic collection of traditional recipes is accompanied by beautiful new photography.

Available at Amazon.

### My Coney Island Baby

On a bitterly cold winter's afternoon, Michael and Caitlin escape their unhappy marriages to keep an



illicit rendez-vous. Once a month, for the past quarter of a century, Coney Island has been their haven.

These precious, hidden hours are their only nourishment. But now, amid the howling of an angry snowstorm, the shut-down, out-of-season resort feels like the edge of the world. And their lives, suddenly, are on the brink - with news of serious illness on one side, and a move to the Midwest on the other. And so, after half a lifetime spent in secret, certain long-avoided facts need to be faced, consequences examined, decisions made, and - perhaps - chances finally taken.

A quiet, intense drama of late-flowering intimacy, *My Coney Island Baby* condenses, within the course of a single day, the histories, landscapes, tragedies and moments of wonder that constitute the lives of two peo-

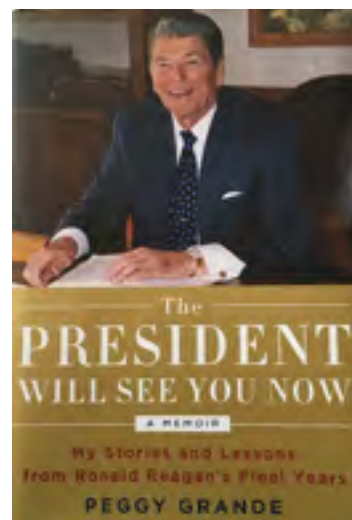
ple who, although born worlds apart, have been drawn together.

O'Callaghan, a masterful prose stylist, has created a devastatingly powerful novel about two unforgettable characters and the choices they have made. This is a book full of sorrow, but also radiant with beauty, longing and breathless desire.

Available at Goodreads.

### The President Will See You Now

"Peggy Grande's memoir is the book to read on Ronald Reagan's post-presidential years.... Among the most unique and touching [books] ever done on the man... Wonder-



ful."--The American Spectator

In *The President Will See You Now*, devoted Reagan insider Peggy Grande shares behind-the-scenes stories, intimate moments, and insights into one of America's most beloved presidents. Grande, who started in the Office of Ronald Reagan as a college student and earned her way into a coveted role as the president's Executive Assistant, offers an unparalleled perspective on the post-presidency of a political icon.

Grande's stories and never-before-seen photos show a unique, private side to a public figure and leader who reshaped conservatism, ushered in an era of prosperity, and helped spur the end of the Cold War. Grande reveals what day-to-day life was like in Reagan's California office, including the former president's relationship with the First Lady and his interactions with friends, world leaders, and everyday Americans. Grande recalls how Reagan kept a vigorous

schedule for years after he left the White House, his robust engagement with others, and ongoing political advocacy. Despite his eventual Alzheimer's diagnosis, Grande shows how Ronald Reagan remained true to core beliefs, his gentlemanly kindness, and his undying hope for his country.

Today the Reagan legacy looms over American politics more than ever. Grande reminds readers why: When Ronald Reagan was president, we not only loved ourselves but also loved America, and the American values he represented: faith, optimism, and patriotism.

Available at Amazon.

### My Mother Wore a Yellow Dress

"I learned about conflict from my parents." So begins Christina McKenna's haunting memoir of her lonely early life. Recounting scenes from her childhood in Ulster, she paints a memorable and poignant picture of violence and oppression with her uncaring father and protective mother, whose retaliation to her husband's penny-pinching came in the form of a secret yellow dress. Buy the book!

At age eleven, she experiences a frightening paranormal occurrence, a prolonged haunting that confirms for her the reality of the spirit world. Though it affects her deeply, she later learns to channel her confusion into twin artistic passions: poetry and painting. The dis-



cordant nature of Christina McKenna's young life, and the feelings of inferiority it bred, lead her to examine all the limiting belief systems she grew up with, and question the validity of the hidebound Catholicism of her childhood.

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## Holy Family Parishioners Refuse to Give Up

**By: Maureen Callahan**

Strength. Vitality. Heroism. When asked to capture Chicago's get-up-and-go-on attitude in 1891, a local write used these words to describe the city. Yet this "I will" spirit had already been in place for 24 years at Holy Family Catholic Church. And those of us touched by the west side parish wonder whether the spirit of Chicago originated there. One peek through the city's oldest stained glass windows will reveal an overwhelmingly unique place.

I stumbled across this true Chicago icon by chance. Years ago, I was fortunate enough to land a brief stint as a writing assistant to Rev. James Close of Mercy Home for Boys and Girls. Holy Family hosted an anniversary mass for Fr Close. Walking in, I was stunned.

So stunned in fact, that I never left. It became my parish. I walked the 110-foot aisle to my husband as we began our marriage. My youngest daughter Kathleen recently joined her two older siblings—along with 56,000 other Chicagoans—to be counted among those baptized next to the elaborately carved black walnut communion rail. Although our family has moved from the city, we frequently pack up the children and make the 20 mile drive to Sunday mass at Holy Family. We're far from alone.

"That's the thing about Holy Family," said current pastor, Rev. Mike Gabriel. "We're a neighborhood parish that serves members from Barrington to Burr Ridge." The congregation used to claim 25,000 members in a seven mile radius. These days, parishioners drive in from the Wisconsin and Indiana borders. But there are also

those who still walk. As diverse as the zip codes included in the parish demographics are the ethnicities and economic backgrounds. It's not uncommon to see a neurosurgeon sitting in the same pew as a struggling immigrant family. The loving welcome of this historic church palpably overrides those details. If you don't notice it the minute you pass through the heavy oak doors on Roosevelt Road, just wait for the legendary sign of peace. By the final blessing, you'll know everyone at mass.

The cathedral-sized dwelling rose up from the nickels and dimes of poor Irish immigrants. As a matter of fact, one-third of Chicago's Irish trace their roots to Holy Family. Founded in 1857 by Jesuit Rev. Arnold Damen (eponym of Damen Avenue), Holy Family recently celebrated its 161st anniversary. Despite more than a century and a half of hard knocks—the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, several economic depressions and profound population shifts—the 236 foot bell tower has stood as a beacon of hope for generations of Chicagoans. Today, it's the anchor of the University Village neighborhood. Notice the banners near the 52 foot alter: Holy Family, Our Doors are Wide Open.

The trouble is that nobody knows for how long. This for-

mer-second-largest English speaking parish in the U.S is currently facing its greatest challenge to date—the struggle to maintain Sunday morning mass. The Chicago Archdiocese's "Renew My Church" movement is the parish's latest—and possibly greatest—threat. The point of the initiative is to conserve archdiocesan resources by consolidating parishes in close geographic proximity and combining small congregations to



create larger and more vibrant end products. According to the archdiocese website for the endeavor, [renewmychurch.org](http://renewmychurch.org), the initiative claims three main components—"to make disciples, build communities and inspire witness."

A meeting was held in January to announce a merger of the congregations of Holy Family and Notre Dame de Chicago to form a new parish in July of this year. At that point, Holy Family's vibrant 9.45 a.m. mass will cease to be celebrated. The 5 p.m. Sunday mass will remain unchanged until 2020, according to archdiocesan representatives present at the meeting, although that promise seemed lukewarm at best, the longer the

meeting progressed. This information greatly differed from what Holy Family's Renew My Church parish delegates were initially told 6 months ago. Holy Family and Notre Dame de Chicago were set to merge but both churches were to remain open as active worship sites with Holy Family hosting Sunday mass at 9.45 a.m. and Notre Dame de Chicago also hosting a morning mass.

It appears to come down to an issue of real estate. Holy Family is owned by the Society of Jesus (Jesuits), not the archdiocese. The Cardinal does not want to use archdiocesan resources on a church they don't own.

What then, of "making disciples and building communities?" Cancelling mass will not help "build the community." With the current struggles the Church faces, should we have to fight to be allowed to celebrate Sunday morning mass? Have we really come to this? As Fr Gabriel puts it, "Sunday

morning mass is the center of any Catholic community. Dropping the lifeblood of a community will not encourage growth or maintenance of the community. More importantly, Notre Dame de Chicago does not have weekend public transportation. We're going to lose



disciples from the 60 zip codes we serve and many of our walking parishioners will be unable to get to mass."

"We celebrated almost a hundred weddings in 2018, with as many booked for this year. We had 50 new families from the neighborhood register last year and hosted north of 80 baptisms," said Fr Gabriel. "We have almost a million dollars in reserves and no debt with the archdiocese. It would be different if the building was falling apart and there were no one in the pews. Mass attendance has risen over the past decade and continues to rise."

In addition to presenting signed petitions to Cardinal Cupich to reconsider his decision, parishioners have taken to offering rosaries at the shrine of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, as they did almost a century and a half ago while the Great Chicago Fire raged outside the doors. Generations later, their decedents returned to that same alter imploring help to avoid the wrecking ball in the late 1980s. Come what may, Holy Family finds a way to do what it has always done: succeed.

There has never been a more relevant time for this "I will" spirit.

So whether Holy Family was your grandparents' parish, or you're a graduate of one of the five Catholic schools (including St. Ignatius and Loyola University) the church anchored, or like me, an unabashed devotee who stumbled upon this sacred place by chance, this is our moment.

(At time of publication, parishioners were still awaiting Cardinal Cupich's final decision on the matter of Sunday morning mass.)

*Maureen Callahan is a Chicago writer and parishioner of Holy Family.*

*misscallahan@hotmail.com*

### Coming in April

*Watch for a special section on the Irish American Hall of Fame, and a feature story on Fiona McEntee, this year's Irish American Hall of Fame Hometown Hero.*

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The Ides of March arrived with fridity, the ice field covering Lake Michigan transformed into ice floe, washing up and grabbing the lake front. The sun stingy, barren of heat and yet can April showers be that far away? There is much to jaw about.

Remember when the United States of America was a melting pot? Immigrants flocked from somewhere and everywhere. Grandparents, parents, the young, all aiming to meld and cleave to the American dream, the promise of abundant opportunity and the mythological notion of gold nuggets available for harvesting. Work available in the textile mills of New England, Ireland's young women contributing to the birth of the United States Industrial Revolution in the cities of Lowell and Lawrence. Irish immigrants worked as busboys, charwomen, farmers, railway builders, housekeepers, carpenters and cooks. The Irish fleeing the famine of the mid-eighteen hundreds sought a better life, as migrants do today. They worked, thrived, advanced and sought political power. Meanwhile, the poetry of Yeats and Kavanaugh, storytellers and songs steeped in history bred those early Irish migrants into over-achievers and to coin a phrase: "Made America Great."

My father, Owen Joseph McCaffrey a baker of bread delivered in our town of Dundalk, and throughout County Louth, was a staunch unionist, leader of the Bakers Union and a musician. Musically gifted, he played many instruments including the banjo. In the late thirties and into the forties, he played regularly in minstrel shows with a group of men, their faces blackened, a touch of costume for concerts playing homage to the music of the southern regions of America. There was no hostility to black Americans, rather a hat's off to the culture and music of the black race. Ironically, decades later I was listed on the board of the Museum of Black Music housed at the Michigan Avenue address of Columbia College. Could it be that black music was etched in my young soul through my father's performances?

Are we still a melting pot? A white man, newly elected Governor of Virginia, swims upstream through a media hemorrhage prompting political demands that he resign. Ralph Northam's crime, mimicking in a concert years ago the moon walk made famous by Michael Jackson. And yes, to play the part, his face was blackened. When it rains it pours, Governor Ralph Northam's university year book page displayed a photo of two medical graduates, one



## Roaming in the Gloaming

By Estelle Shanley

blackfaced the other in white sheet attire, the symbol of the Klu Klux Klan. The dam of offense burst and threatens his future, although as of press time, identities of the two photos have not been authenticated. Nonetheless, the voluminous screams of racism in our politically correct society rushed to judgement.

Was my father racist? Was he and his band of performers mocking and ridiculing black people, demeaning their musical culture, or were they entertaining by demonstrating their skill and love of a form of musical culture? When we played Indians as children were we mocking the tribes we only knew from American films? When I play-acted as a priest, the green satin feathered bedspread swiped from our parents bed, draped across my shoulders, a fitting vestment for serving make believe communion to my brother and sister. Was that making a mockery of the church? Truth be told, as the eldest sibling I may have exhibited a power play mimicking the pomp and splendor of the revered Irish clergy. In adulthood, I demonstrated with scores of like-minded women in Boston, fighting for ordination of women. Lot of good that rendered!

Speaking of clergy, did we ever think priests would sexually abuse young boys and girls? Did our parents ever think we were in danger when Father called? When Pope Francis recently confirmed the sexual abuse of nuns by priests, had we ever wondered about that possibility? My head reels thinking of young female Irish immigrants obtaining domestic employment in rectories in Chicago, Boston, New York, and San Francisco.

In 1985 the American drama Agnes of God was controversial and set the scene highlighting clerical abuse of a young convent novice. Many of you saw the play, and the movie that followed, starring Anne Bancroft, Jane Fonda, and Meg Tilly. Yes, Agnes raised eyebrows featuring a young nun who gave birth, insisting the dead baby was the result of a virgin conception. The film was nominated for Academy Awards, and Meg Tilly who played the nun, won a Golden Globe Award for Best Supporting Actress.

challenging ideas and some sensationalistic events, but ultimately it failed to earn its right to toy with subjects." In light of current reports coming from the Vatican, Siskel could be posthumously labeled "the tortoise with its head in the sand." He was not alone.

Incidentally, the New York Times has reported that leading actors of our time have appeared black face on stage and screen including Bing Crosby, Rita Crawford, Spencer Tracy, Shirley Temple, and John Wayne. Were these icons of Hollywood disrespectful, demeaning and prejudiced? Black face minstrelsy was a popular form of entertainment in 19th-century America, actors playing a role, and today men and women of color have emerged on stage and screen playing themselves. This we can celebrate instead of forcing what occurred in the past into presentism.

Do we need to lighten-up?

## Springtime Ahead



Hard to believe, in Ireland snowdrops and crocus have pushed through the winter ground and the first day of February officially hailed as the onset of spring. Clumps of daffodils punch color in meadows, under trees and in ditches, lilac and rhododendron blooms quickly follow, and hibernation for man and beast draws to an end. It's also the feast day of Saint Brigid, hailed as a role model in Irish history.

Born in the town of Dundalk in 450AD twenty years following the arrival of Saint Patrick, she was the founder of the first monastery in County Kildare. Her father, a pagan chieftain of Leinster, St Patrick inspired her to deepen her father and spread the world of God. Her mother was Christian, her daughter recognized at the Patron Saint of Ireland. She ranks high with patron saints Patrick and Colmcille.

According to the usual reliable sources, It was St. Patrick who inspired her to become a Catholic. Matchmaking, woven into Irish culture of yesteryear was shunned by Brigid who expressed interest in convent life while her matchmaking father, insisted she marry a wealthy

man. She prayed that God eliminate her physical beauty, and according to legend she plucked out her eye. Marriage off, her father relented, she joined a convent and her beauty returned rendering her even more beautiful.

Whether that meant her eye was restored is open to conjecture. God works in strange ways. Brigid prayed for land to build a convent or an abbey, and persuaded her father to provide a parcel of his land located in Kildare. He begrudgingly agreed to give as much land as his daughter's cloak could cover. Ironically, when she laid her cloak on the ground it grew and grew miraculously covering several acres.

The cross of St Brigid is famous, woven from reeds that grow in wetlands across Ireland. It's a rare Irish country home where a cross is not hanging to ward off evil, fire and hunger.

Irish shops also sell replicas artistically manufactured from bronze, silver, wood and pewter. They represent Brigid's story of Christ on the cross, a symbol of beauty and faith. Brigid died at age 75 and is buried alongside Saints Patrick and Columcille. Her feast day coinciding with the first day of spring provides hope that spring will eventually arrive throughout the Mid-West and across the United States.

## Irish Tenor Emmet Cahill Performs 3-24



Award-winning Irish tenor Emmet Cahill returns to First Presbyterian Church, 302 N. Dunton Ave. Arlington Heights for a concert on Sunday, 3-24 at 4 pm.

Cahill will perform songs from both albums, as well as Broadway standards, nostalgic favorites and even a bit of opera to showcase his classical vocal training. And the concert is complete with a "song request medley" segment!

Tickets for the concert are \$30 at [www.emmetcahill.com/tour-dates/](http://www.emmetcahill.com/tour-dates/) or at the door. A limited number of Meet & Greet tickets, which include a pre-concert meeting with Cahill are available for \$45. "

It'll be a special afternoon of songs and stories with the Emerald Isle's most exciting young tenor!

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8:00 am  
Union League Club of Chicago 65 W. Jackson Blvd.
- **3/15 – Irish Fellowship Club St. Patrick's Dinner**  
6:00 pm  
The Chicago Hilton Hotel 720 S Michigan Ave.

### April

- **4/4 – IN Social**  
6:00 pm  
Fadó 100 W. Grand.

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(<http://theirelandnetwork.com>) for more information on the above events.

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