



**Ohio Riverdancer
Brandon Asazawa
Takes on China**

Editor's Corner



John O'Brien, Jr.

Reporting the facts is not hard, despite what President Trump may say. Facts really

aren't the way someone has decided to interpret them. If they are interpretable, they are not facts; they are opinion. Numbers can be manipulated to tell the story someone wants to hear, interpreted to shine a positive light, which today seems to be aimed at distracting noise designed to drown out the darkness less flattering to the speakers effectiveness.

We as a newsmagazine strive to leave out the alternate facts. Of course we also have Op/Ed; we have humor; we have

fantasy, which was no way intended to be a category that included alternate facts, it was just fantasy.

Despite this, we don't lose any of the emotion great writing can evoke, which is really the goal of most writers, to educate, to evoke emotion in those reading. For all of that and more, I Love this issue.

I get excited when I read great columns as I'm editing. I don't recall every having this many columns that I not only like, but love, in one issue. I find them to be great when I learn, I laugh, I smh (shake my head) at some of the sadness

they so eloquently express in word.

Most of all, I love the creativity and soulfulness of our columnists. As you get to know them and perhaps some of their struggles and successes, you are touched more often. I love being at events with them, volunteering with them, and completely proud they are part of our team.

Life is fast and gaining speed, friends have passed, have moved on to other pursuits, and their presence is missed. Good columnists are hard to come by. Good friends are hard to come by, but I have hit the

motherload. I am so delighted to share them with you.

Go dtí an mhí seo chugainn, slán a fhúgáil
(Until next month, goodbye)
John

"Follow me where I go, what I do and who I know; O'Bent
Enterprises includes:
www.twitter.com/jobjr
www.facebook.com/OhioIrishAmericanNews
www.linkedin.com/in/jobjr/
http://songsandstories.net/myblog/feed/



Gaelic Imports New Owners Celebrate 1st Anniversary

It's hard to believe it's been a year since Barbara Kelly Benkowski and daughter Lauren took over as the owners of Gaelic Imports in Parma, Ohio. To celebrate and to thank all of their customers, they are having an Open House on Saturday April 1st. from 10am to 5pm.

Stop by for a complimentary meat pie and shortbread between 12 and 3, while supplies last. You can also enter the drawing for a \$50 Gift Certificate.

Congratulations and best of luck to Barbara and Lauren from all of us at *Ohio Irish American News!*

Gaelic Imports
 5633 Pearl Rd.
 Parma, OH 44129
 440-845-0100
 fax 440-845-0102
 800-450-2725

A Taste of Home
 Irish Sausage, Irish Bacon, Soda Bread, Black Pudding, Sausage Rolls, Pork Bangers, Potato Scones, Imported Groceries, Flags, Buttons, Jewelry, Music and much more!

www.gaelicimports.com

Sheer Sound
 Celebrating our 25th year as "Official Sound Company of Cleveland Irish Cultural Festival."
 Call Sheer Sound for all of your Concert, Festival and Special Event sound needs.
 216.533.227

Law Offices of Terrence J. Kenneally & Associates Co.

River Terrace Building
 19111 Detroit Rd, Ste 200
 Rocky River, OH 44115
 440-333-8960
 terry@tjkenneally.com

Terrence J. Kenneally*
Sean M. Kenneally

*Board Certified by the National Board of Trial Advocacy

SUBSCRIBE Today! **OHIO ian**
 PO Box 7 Zion, Illinois 60099 or call 847.872.0700

Check One **Makes a great Gift!**

FIRST CLASS DELIVERY

1 year \$30 or 2 year \$55

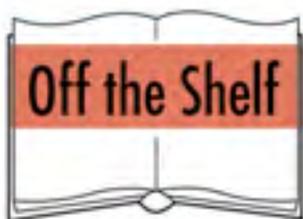
I want to subscribe for myself starting the month of _____

Name _____
 Address _____
 Phone () _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Card # _____ Expires _____ CVC # _____

Published 12 Times Yearly the First of Each Month for OHIO

Give a Gift to: Name _____
 Address _____
 Phone () _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Start the gift subscription the month of _____



by Terry Kenneally
A TOP Shelf Selection



Last Days Of Summer

By Vanessa Ronan
Penguin Ireland 15 BW: 978-1-844-88566-0 2016 371 pp.

Over the last several years, Ireland has produced a plethora of remarkable new first novels



and Irish short stories by Irish or Ireland-based authors. Included in this group are several authors whose books were reviewed in this column.

Some of these books were *The Glorious Heresies*, by Lisa McNulty, *Academy Street*, by Mary Costello, *Dinosaurs on Other Planets*, by Danielle McLaughlin, and *All We Shall Know*, by Donal Ryan.

Add to this list the name of Vanessa Ronan and her first novel, *The Last Days of Summer*. *The Last Days of Summer* follows a family dealing with upheaval when an uncle who has been in prison for ten years is released and comes back into the family home. It is the story of their struggle and plight in forgiveness of their uncle, of not only the family, but of the entire town, who seemingly can't forget the crime he committed. He says he

is all finished with trouble, but in the Texas prairie town that knows no forgiveness, it does not take long for trouble to arrive at their home.

The *Last Days of Summer* is a tremendously readable book. It takes only a few pages for the reader to be mesmerized by the fear and uncertainty arising from the prose. The book progresses as he tries to live out a normal life. However, something is always lurking in the shadows, be it his past or his dark nature or inappropriate thoughts and feelings.

The reader cannot argue against the climactic nature of the ending, which may make some angry and emotional.

This writer rates Rowan's first book a dynamite read and a TOP SHELF selection.

**Terrence J Kenneally is an attorney and owner of Terrence J. Kenneally & Associates in Rocky River, Ohio. He defends insureds and insurance companies in insurance defense litigation throughout the state of Ohio. Terrence received his Master's Degree in Irish Studies from John Carroll University and teaches Irish history and literature at Holy Name High School. Mr. Kenneally is also the President of Holy Name High School for 2016-17.*

He can be reached at terry@tjkenneally.com.

About Our Cover

Cleveland Leneghan
Academy of Irish
Dance's Riverdancer
Brandon Asazawa
Takes on China!

MILESTONES

In the May 2016 issue of the OhioIANews, we reported the great news that The Harp Restaurant, a Cleveland Irish and live local musician fixture, had won a variance on having live music at The Harp, located at 4408 Detroit Road in Cleveland, after a four year battle, with 1 resident.

Unfortunately, she is back. The Harp is now fighting an appeal. We have spoken before the board before, and we will continue to be there in support at each and every hearing.

Congratulations to former Discovering My Irish Roots

Congratulations to Dick and Mary Ann Goonin, celebrating their 60th Wedding Anniversary!



Columnist Katherine Boyd, (below) who has been hired by SiriusXM to host weekends on its Classic Vinyl channel. You'll now be able to tune-in nationwide to hear Katherine spinning your favorite Classic Rock songs on SiriusXM Channel 26. She'll be broadcasting LIVE from the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. For Katherine, "It's a dream come true. To quote 1994 Rock Hall inductees The Grateful Dead, 'What a long strange trip it's been.' "



Irish Radio

Tuesday

6pm - 8pm: *All Things Irish* WOBC 91.5 FM w/Anita Lock

Saturday

10am - 11am: *Johnson Brothers Irish Hour* WKTL FM 90.7

Sunday

7am - 9am: *Sweeney Astray* WCBS FM 89.3 & on wcsb.org

10am - 12pm: *Gerry Quinn's Irish Hours* WHK AM 1420

w/ Colleen Corrigan Day & Eddie Fitzpatrick

11:30am - 1:30pm: *Echoes of Erin* WCWA AM 1230 w/ John Connolly

6pm - 7pm: *Songs of Britain & Ireland* WCPN FM 90.3

w/ Joe Nichols & Kevin McGinty

4pm - 6pm: *Beyond the Pale* WRUW FM 91.1 w/ Roger Weist

9pm - 10pm: *Hooley Hour* WHK AM 1420

w/ Tara Quinn & Josh Vaughan



Madigan Muses

by Marilyn Madigan

Celebrating Our History

A special event took place last month, in preparation for the upcoming book about Cleveland St. Patrick's Day. On

Irish Radio Program. What a day to share our memories and preserve our proud history. Margaret Lynch, author of the soon to be published book, The

a Sunday morning, there was a gathering of Grand Marshals, Irish Mothers, Directors and Deputy Directors. Many of the Honorees were interviewed on the Gerry Quinn

Day We Celebrate: 175 Years of the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Cleveland, presented some of the history of the Parade and Organizations that will be featured.

Anyone with an interest in Cleveland and the Irish Community will want to have this book in their library. More information on the release date is to be announced at the end of April.

been in Cleveland during the 19th, 20th, and now the 21st Centuries. No other Organization has such a long and proud history. This year is very special to the Hibernians.

One of the oldest consecutive celebrations in Ohio, the 150th Annual St. Patrick's Day Banquet, will be held St. Patrick's Day night. The Hibernians are honored that this year, the Irish Govern-



Supporting the Irish Community in Ohio for more than 30 years.

A firm dedicated to
providing competent,
prompt, economical and
efficient legal services.

Thomas J. Scanlon

Tim L. Collins

Harvey Labovitz

Craig P. Kvale

Anthony J. LaCerva

Oney Synder

Elizabeth Collins

Joseph H. Gutkoski

Jeff Hastings, Of Counsel

COLLINS
&
SCANLON
LLP



The current, and former Parade Executive Directors

As I write this article, the Feast of St. Patrick will be celebrated in a week. The highlights of the day for me include attending Mass at either my home Parish of St. Patrick's or joining the West Side Irish American Club at St. Colman's. Both of these Parishes are very special to me. My immigrant grandparents John and Margaret Madigan raised their family of seven sons in St. Colman's Parish.

I was blessed to have my faith nurtured by my parents, Jack and Catherine, and my St. Pat's W.P. Parish family. To me the most important reason for March 17 is to remember that it is first and foremost, the Feast Day of the Patron Saint of Ireland, St. Patrick. On this day, we celebrate all of our ancestors that kept the faith alive down through the centuries in difficult times.

Following Mass, I am proud and honored to march in the Parade with the Hibernians. The Ancient Order of Hibernians were founded to protect our Church. The Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians are the oldest Irish Catholic Organization in the United States. The Hibernians have

ment will be represented at the banquet by Sean Kyne, Irish Minister of State for Gaeltacht Affairs and Natural Resources, along with Brian O' Brien, Irish Consul General Chicago, who serves our area of the country.

What an honor to have these dignitaries with us in this historic year for both the Parade and Banquet. The Banquet is the time to honor those individuals who are dedicated to promoting our Irish Heritage. I am honored this year to be presenting the Hibernian of the Year Award to my friend and Hibernian Sister, Maire Kilbane Leffel.

Congratulations to all of our Honorees: Roger Weist, Grand Marshal; Angela Murphy Mother of the Year; John Lackey and Margaret Lynch, Co Chairs; and Maire Kilbane Leffel, Hibernian of the Year. I would like to also congratulate the entire membership of the United Irish Societies of Cleveland for their dedication and hard work with organizing the largest single day event in Cleveland.

In celebrating our history, please remember the men and women who participated in the Easter Rising, 101 years ago, on April 24, 1916.

National Assn. of Women Business Owners Names Maureen Patterson First Honorary Member

Maureen E. Patterson (Lead Designer/Owner) has been chosen as the first honorary member of NAWBO Cleveland. Founded in 1975, the National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO) is the unified voice of over 10.1 million women-owned businesses in the United States representing the fastest growing segment of the economy.

"I am so grateful to have been considered and selected to be a part of the NAWBO Cleveland chapter," said Patterson. She is excited to grow both personally and professionally from the insightful programming and inspiring individuals that are at the heart of NAWBO Cleveland.

NAWBO Cleveland provides resources for women business owners in entrepreneurship, finance, human resources, lead-



ership & self-improvement, marketing & sales, operations & management, organization & strategy, as well as technology. These resources are available online and resonate through NAWBO's programming throughout the year.

The local meetings provide opportunities to network, build business skills, educate, and promote growth. The theme for 2017/2018 is The Power of You. To learn more about and attend an upcoming NAWBO Cleveland event, see www.nawbo-cleveland.org/event_registration

Solus Lighting LTD is the only international award winning company located in Cleveland, Ohio dedicated exclusively to lighting and production management. Specializing in lighting design and technical services for high end

social, corporate, and non-profit events, the professionals at Solus Lighting LTD create spectacular atmospheres both clients and guests will not soon forget. Solus Lighting LTD is a certified WBE and WOSB business that also provides expert

consultation and project management for lighting equipment specification, lighting systems, and installations. To learn more about Solus Lighting LTD, please visit www.SolusLightingLTD.com

My Irish Roots

My Irish Roots

Stories from Our Readers

Do you have a story, memory, picture or poem to share with our readers? We would love to hear lessons, history, joys and sorrows of one's journey. Submit them to us at jobrien@ianohio.com and we'll share as many as we can in print, and on our Facebook and Twitter pages, so make sure you are following us, so we can share you. Facebook: Ohio Irish American News, Twitter: @IANewsOhio

MY IRISH ROOTS

In the Editor's Corner of the Ohio Irish American News, it asked that people share their stories—the lessons, history, joys and sorrows of one's journey. What if one still doesn't know the "journey" from Ireland to here?

Every year on St. Patrick's Day I celebrate by eating at my town's Irish pub. Somehow doing that makes me feel close to the ones whose Irish blood flows through my veins. I dress in green, eat the Irish food, and listen to the music of the wandering bagpipes player.

I've dressed in green since I was a small child, not really understanding my Irish heritage, but doing it because I was told if you didn't wear green on St. Patrick's Day you'd be pinched. Years later I've realized green is more than a deterrent for being pinched.

My Irish bloodline knowledge is somewhat slim, but these unknown ancestors that I have yet to learn about are very dear to me. I know my English bloodline back to the 1600s, know almost none of my Slovenian and Czechoslovakian bloodline, but have heard tales of my Irish bloodline. My great-great-grandfather's last name was Allen.

There was a story passed down that my father remembered hearing as a boy. It tells of our ancestor Allen during the potato famine. He was still very young but was told by his family that he'd have to leave home as he was the oldest and would have to fend for himself. They couldn't feed all of their children. Somehow he ended up in the United States.

Each time I eat at my town's pub I grab a copy of the Ohio Irish American News. As I read the stories and tales of Ireland, I feel a longing to find my attachment to this wonderful country and it's people. I feel I belong. Let the search for my roots begin. I'm coming home.

Vicki Mason, Garrettsville, Ohio



6757 Center Road (Route 303) Valley City, OH 44280

The HOME of Fine European and American Comfort Food
Book your HOLIDAY PARTY or Catered Event with us!
Join us for NEWYEARS EVE! Music and Specials!

<p>HOURS: TUES-WED, 11:00 AM-10PM THURS 11:00AM-11PM FRI-SAT 11:00AM-MIDNIGHT SUNDAY 9 AM - 9 PM</p>	 <p><i>Edward West, Executive Chef</i></p>	<p>TUESDAY: TACOS & MARGARITAS WEDNESDAY: WING NIGHT THURSDAY: BURGER NIGHT SATURDAY: STEAK NIGHT SUNDAY: BRUNCH 9AM TIL 2PM</p> <p>LIVE MUSIC!!!!!!!!!!!!!!</p> <p>DAILY HAPPY HOUR UNTIL 7PM! \$9 DOMESTICS, \$4 GLASS OF WINE!</p>
---	---	---

WWW.GANDALFSPUB.COM
WWW.FACEBOOK/GANDALF'S PUB
330 483-1190



Trip Advisor's 2015 Certificate of Excellence Winner

'Tis Our Luck To Know Ya'

Sully's IRISH PUB

Closed Sundays

1st - Donal O'Shaughnessy
7th - The Other Brothers
8th - Our 9th Anniversary Party w The New Barleycorn
14th - Good Friday
15th - Nathan Henry
21st - The Island Doctor
22nd - Dan McCoy
28th - Crawley & Hopper
29th - Westside Steve

117 WEST LIBERTY ST • MEDINA, OHIO
330-764-3333
www.sullysmolina.com



Open 11:30am
Monday - Saturday

Lunch & Dinner Specials
Irish & American Cuisine

Dine-In or Take-Out Available

25519 Eaton Way
Bay Village, Ohio 44140

440-250-9086

Seans & Connie McConnell, Proprietors

Cleveland Irish Film Fest 41 Thru April 9th

The Ohio Irish American News is so proud to once again be a sponsor of the Cleveland International Film Festival, and to sponsor the Irish film, *The Young Offenders*, at the 41st CIFF. Tickets are now on sale; \$14 per film for CIFF members and \$16 for non-members, but our readers can get a Discount for each and every ticket: when ordering your tickets, use the discount code: IRISH and receive \$2 off per ticket!

Tickets are available online, by telephone (1.877.304.FILM), in-person at the Film Festival Box Office in the lobby of Tower City Cinemas, or by mail using the Program Guide order form. Program Guides are available at all Dollar Bank branches and throughout the area.

CIFF41 will take place through April 9, 2017 at Tower City Cinemas and select neighborhood screening locations. The Festival will showcase 202 feature films and 216 short films representing 71 countries. Be sure to check for program updates between now and April 9th.

Bride Ann Sweeney

On St. Pat's morning, at 9am, Bride Ann Sweeney went home to God.

Our hearts go out to the Sweeney Family: Kathleen, Patty, Mike, Maureen, Marty, Mary and Bride, plus the Honorable Francis, and their loved ones, You are in our thoughts and prayers.



APRIL 2017 Vol. 11 Issue 4

Publishers

John O'Brien Jr. / Cliff Carlson

Editor John O'Brien Jr.

Website and layout

Cathy Curry Carlson

Columnists

Behind the Hedge- John O'Brien, Jr.
Blowin' In- Susan Mangan
Cleveland Irish- Francis McGarry
Cleveland Cohnra- Bob Carney
Crossword Puzzle- Linda Fulton Burke
Don't Forget Us- Lisa O'Rourke
Growing up Irish- Maureen Ginley
Heart of the Issue- Bob Carney
Illuminations- J. Michael Finn
Ire. Past & Present- Niamh O'Sullivan
Madigan Muses- Marilyn Madigan
Off Shelf/On This Day- Terry Kenneally
Our Sports Man- David McDonnell:
Out of the Mailbag- John O'Brien, Jr.
Terry From Derry- Terry Boyle
Toledo Irish - Maury Collins

IAN Ohio Inc. is published monthly (12 issues a year) on the first day of each month. Subscription is by first class mail. 1 year \$30, 2 years at \$55 3 years \$80. To subscribe go online at www.ianohio.com, or Email us at subs@ianohio.com, or call us at 708-445-0700 or mail to address below.

IAN Ohio is available for free at over 240 locations throughout Ohio. For information on the locations go to www.ianohio.com and click on the Ohio Distribution button.

Contact: IAN Ohio Inc.

PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW PHONE

NUMBER: **216.647.1144**

e-mail: mailto:jobrien@ianohio.com

or mail to: IAN OHIO INC

PO Box 7, Zion IL 60099

847-872-0700

e-mail: editor@ianohio.com

Subscriptions: subs@ianohio.com

On the Internet www.ianohio.com

[www.facebook.com/OhioIrishAmerican](http://www.facebook.com/OhioIrishAmericanNews)

News www.twitter.com/jobjr

PUBLISHERS STATEMENT

The opinions and statements expressed in this newspaper are entirely those of the authors, and do not reflect in any way the opinions of IAN Ohio.

Circulation: 7,500-For a list of distribution points, go to www.ianohio.com and click on the word "Distribution."



The Ohio Irish American News & Pj McIntyre's Irish Pub are proud to present:

Speak Irish Cleveland

Starting date is April 11 *6:15 to 8-ish*

All skill levels are welcome: learn, share; Have Fun!



6:15 - 7:00 ~ **Introduction to Speak Irish text book**

7:00 - 8:00 ~ Interactive conversational skills

Cost is \$85 for returning students, \$100 for new students

Pre-registration is required via email: email.jobrien@ianohio.com

Checks to: Ohio Irish American News 14615 Triskett Road Cleveland, Ohio 44111-3123

Historic Judgement in Belfast High-Court Allows Irish-language Strategy Finally to be Implemented

Justice Maguire today (3 March 2017) announced his historic decision in the High-Court in Belfast ruling in favour of Conradh na Gaeilge as they took a judicial review challenging the failure of the Executive to adopt an Irish-language Strategy (2015-35) as was promised in St Andrew's Agreement (2006) and the Executive's programme for Government 2011-2015.

heard in full in the High-Court on 8 February 2017.

The Judge also ruled that the Executive failed to comply with its duty pursuant to section 28d of the NI Act 1998.

Dr Niall Comer, President of Conradh na Gaeilge says: "Conradh na Gaeilge welcomes this historic decision in the High-Court today, a ruling that proves that Irish-language based cases

to the pretence. "

Julian de Spáinn, General-Secretary of Conradh na Gaeilge, says: "In a way this is a very simple case. There is a statutory duty on the Executive to implement an Irish-language Strategy to develop and protect the language; this wasn't fulfilled and they cannot claim otherwise any longer. Looking at the Judge's decision today, there is a

pressing need for a strategy without any further delay. The strategy will reinforce the community based development in the north through the state-provision of the necessary resources and infrastructure for the Irish-language community. We are talking about simple measures relating to children, Irish at home, visibility of the language; things that will make a demonstrable difference to the increasing numbers of people living their lives through Irish.

"There is a duty on the Executive to bring about a strategy and an act in the north. These promises were the cornerstone of the peace-process regarding the language and as we enter a very uncertain period for the Executive, there is added pressure on the state to ensure rights and protection of the Irish-language community. Conradh na Gaeilge maintains that the only way to guarantee these developments is through protective legislation for the language in the form of an Act."

can be won in the north. Conradh na Gaeilge always maintained there was no need for this case, that the Executives' obligations were clear from the beginning, obligations that stem from the St Andrews Agreement. Instead of implementing their commitments over the last ten years, certain parties have opposed a development strategy for the Irish-language. The law has confirmed today, however, that there must be an end to the delay and



Former Minister for Culture, Arts and Leisure, Carál Ní Chuilín, launched the Strategy to Enhance and Protect the Development of the Irish Language 2015-2035 on 30 January 2015, but the Executive failed to adapt the Irish-Language Strategy, as was agreed in their own Programme for Government 2011-15, as per its legislative obligations. 'Application for Leave' for the case was granted to Conradh na Gaeilge in May 2016 and the case was

On This Day in Irish History

By Terrence Kenneally

3 April 1900 - Queen Victoria arrives at Kingston (now Dun Laoghaire) for a three-day visit to Ireland.

4 April 1818 - Birth of Scots-Irish American novelist, Thomas Mayne Reid, who wrote over thirty adventure stories, including, *The Headless Horseman*.

7 April 1941 - A Luftwaffe bomb kills 13 people in Belfast in the first German bombing of Northern Ireland. Ultimately, the city is devastated by air raids; 700 people are killed and 400 seriously injured.

12 April 1854 - George Bernard Shaw's play, *Pygmalion*, opens in London.

13 April 1939 - Poet Seamus Heaney is born in Mossbaun, near Belfast.

15 April 1848 - Thomas Francis Meagher presents the tricolor national flag of Ireland to the public for the first time.

18 April 1949 - The Republic of Ireland withdraws from the British Commonwealth.

21 April 1916 - Sir Roger Casement is arrested by the Crown after an attempt to obtain German help to win Irish independence.

29 April 1957 - Daniel Day-Lewis, Best Actor, Oscar winner for *"My Left Foot"* and *"There Will be Blood"*, is born.

West Side Irish American Club

Ceili Dance Lessons every Thursday except meeting night, 7-9pm

Live Music & Food in The Pub every Friday

**Easter Bunny Breakfast
Sunday, 9th**

**Ceili,
Friday, 21st**

**Steak Shoot
Saturday, 22nd**

**'25' Card Tournament
Sunday, 23rd**

**General Meeting 3rd Thursday
of every month**

Since 1931

**8559 Jennings Road
Olmsted, Twp, Ohio 44138**

440.235.5868

www.wsia-club.org

Thank You for advertising in
The Ohio Irish American News.
I am patronizing your
business because of it!



*Please Cut Out and present it the next time
you patronize one of our advertisers*



Cleveland's Riverdancer Brandon Asazawa Takes On China

Brandon Awazawa is a long time dancer with the Leneghan Academy of Irish Dance and recently completed the China Tour with Riverdance. He was also voted best role model of all Irish dance men by Irish Dancing Magazine in 2016. We caught up with him after a training session preparing for the World Competitions being held this month in Dublin, Ireland.

OhIAN: How did you become involved in Irish dance?

Brandon: My mom is Irish, she has Irish heritage and we went to a bunch of Irish festivals with the family. I saw the Irish dancers and I knew that was something I wanted to do. I was around four when that happened. My parents called around to different schools and I ended up at Leneghan's. Most schools won't take someone

that young but Catherine (Leneghan) agreed to try me. As it turned out, I had to take a bit of a break anyway after the first couple of classes because I was too young, I really didn't know my left from my right. So after taking that first summer off I came back and I've been dancing ever since.

OhIAN: All with the same school?

Brandon: All with the same school.

OhIAN: Are you teaching at the school now?

Brandon: I'm not an "official" teacher, but I do help out and I'll do private lessons with kids from our school. I've been doing that for about eight years now, and I help out with classes here and there. I'm still dancing competitively, when that's done I hope to teach more at the school.

OhIAN: Do you see that time coming?

Brandon: Competitively, I see the end in sight. I'm doing one more world competition, which is in April. I'm training for that now. Once worlds are over, I'll be done, I'm pretty satisfied with what I've done, it's been a long journey competing.

As far as Riverdance, I'll continue with that, that's my career. I'm looking forward to that move ahead in my dance life. Competition is a different world. It's much



more grueling on the body. I'm excited to be part of the shows and to be able to tour as well.

OhIAN: Being in Riverdance is easier?

Brandon: It's easier in that it matches my goals right now. Competitive dance matched my goals when I was younger, it helped me prepare for what I'm doing now. My dream was always to be in Riverdance. It's easier to put efforts into that dream. I'm moving on with new goals and aspirations, it's the same field, but different.

OhIAN: You've already done a lot of touring.

Brandon: My first tour was when I was eighteen. I was in a different show that toured China; I was just out of high school. That was for two months and it gave me a feel for what it's like to be in a traveling show. That was a very good learning experience.

My first tour with Riverdance was last year, starting in March and ending in July. That was a great time, it was a U.S. tour, so my parents were able to come out and see me a couple of times. Even my girlfriend was able to come see me and communication was easy.

The China tours are a little more difficult, you're on a thirteen hour time difference and it's harder to stay in touch with everyone back home. This past November I went back to China, this time with Riverdance and came home in February.

OhIAN: What's it like to tour there?

Brandon: It's a little different. The audiences are just more polite, I guess is the best way to put it. They don't make as much noise during a performance until the very end. When you finish a number they're reserved in their applause.

OhIAN: Does that affect you as a performer?

Brandon: It's hard sometimes, as a performer you give energy out to the audience and the audience gives more



*Offering traditional full service
and cremation services
and irrevocable pre need
funeral arrangements.*

**Chambers funeral homes are proud
to be family owned and operated and
serving families in greater Cleveland
and north east Ohio since 1933**

216-251-6566

www.chambersfuneral.com

Three convenient locations to serve you

4420 Rocky River Dr.
Cleveland 44135

86 Adalbert St.
Berea 44017

29150 Lorain Rd.
North Olmsted 44070

energy back to you. But as a professional you adjust and give it your best. It doesn't mean they're not enjoying it, it's just a bit of a cultural education when you realize that's their way of showing respect and it's the proper way for them to conduct themselves.

OhIAN: I saw a picture of you on the Great Wall, is there time to sight see?

Brandon: Yeah, yeah! I was able to see quite a bit. On the other tour I was talking about earlier, there wasn't as much down time. We were in a different place almost every day. With Riverdance, we had more time during the day to go out. You don't start working until 6pm; we don't rehearse once the tour is under way, everything is pretty much set.

So we were able to go to the Great Wall. Some went to Tiananmen Square in Beijing. I saw the warriors, the Terracota Army, that was pretty cool. It was really great to be able to visit all of these different places and experience China while working there.

We did find out the Great Wall is very taxing on your legs, because the steps aren't uniform, one might be like a foot up and the next three feet up, it's like a stairmaster! We went to the top and then had a show that evening, our legs were very tired. It was well worth it though!

OhIAN: Your girlfriend, Alyssa Reichert, is a dancer as well.



Brandon with Teacher Catherine Leneghan Fox, ADCRG

dancing and maintaining school work and relationships.

Brandon: Yes and no, I started when I was four, so it's all I've ever known. You make adjustments and learn to plan well. I live in Eastlake, so it's a forty-five minute drive to Leneghan's and another forty-five minutes home, along with a two and a half hour class. It's a big part of the day when you factor in school, homework and you still have to eat!

OHIAN: You must have had a lot of



Brandon: Yes, she's also a dancer out of Leneghan's. She just recently stopped competing. She's doing The Women of Ireland tour starting in March and is just beginning to step into that realm of Irish dance.

Dancing on tour is what we've been working towards since we started, it's very rewarding for both of us. Alyssa and I have done a few shows together. She still helps out at Leneghan's and helps teach. She's amazing, extremely talented!

OhIAN: It must have been challenging

support from Mom and Dad!

Brandon: Definitely, they helped me all the way through and taught me to make time for what was important to me. They taught me balance.

OhIAN: Where would you like to go next?

Brandon: I believe Riverdance is doing a tour in Europe later this year, I'd like to do that. I'd like to see as much of the world as possible and experience different cultures. That would be cool!



Unapologetic Joy

I once heard a woman compliment another woman. Afterwards I said, "That was so nice of you." And she said to me, "Well what use is it if I think she looks nice, and keep that to myself?" For me, it was a game changing perspective.

What use is it if we don't share what we think is beautiful with others? Or share loving, or what is magical, or joyful, with others?

Today I went to Foster Pool; it's my happy place. I have wonderful memories of growing up, my mom packing us into the conversion van and being at the pool at 1:00 every day with that shiny pool pass barely sewn on to our suits. I picked up swimming again last year. Nothing fancy, just a handful of laps.

The sound that the water and the breathing make together is one of the most meditative sounds. When my mind feels like it's racing, that sound makes everything slow down and I can't hear my head talking. Nothing was racing today. Sometimes I just shamelessly love getting a tan while exercising.

I had about six laps left when I noticed someone. On the other side of the rope she was pacing herself with me. In her cute little pink bikini and goggles, she was racing me. And I couldn't stop smiling under the water.

I had no idea who she was but I could feel that warm feeling of joy take over. When we reached the end, she popped up with big brown eyes and when I smiled, she returned the most genuine grin, some teeth still coming in.

From years of guessing kids' ages at the cashier register at Heinen's, I would say she was seven. She was seven and ready for another lap.

"Wanna go again?"

"YES," I laughed.

"Ok let's do this." And I reached over for a high five. For the rest of my laps we

stayed together.

I watched her with nothing but love and admiration. We resisted and we flowed, resisted and flowed.

I'm either resisting or I'm flowing. And I'm learning I kinda need both. Because I learn when I resist and I heal when I flow. My body resisted against the water in those last few laps, but I couldn't feel it.

All I felt was flowing with Lily; Lakewood Lily who is brave and carefree; who made swimming laps a moment of love. Lily, who is curious and adventurous enough to start swimming laps next to a 29 year-old woman in a matching bright pink bikini. Lily, who shared her unapologetic joy, with me.

Unapologetic joy is my new favorite phrase. We don't have to apologize for our joy, or for wanting to share that joy. We don't have to apologize for bringing joy to others, in this moment. I think that's the point. We are either a part of the healing, or not. And when I share the joy, the unapologetic joy, I'm a part of the healing.

Whoever started the false belief that we should feel guilty about our joy or should keep the joy to ourselves because it may make others feel bad deserves a huge eye roll. The more joy I share, the more joy there is manifested in myself and in others capable of receiving that joy.

Something in me kept pushing to share laps with Lakewood Lily, because it's joyful; because it is healing to others; because I was in a healing, open place to receive her joy; because she and I shared unapologetic joy in such a simple, spontaneous moment.

"And what use is joy if I keep that to myself?"



TREEHOUSE BAR

820 College Ave.

Cleveland, OH 44113

216.696.2505

Open 365 Days a Year

Now Serving Lunch
Saturday and Sunday

Doors open at Noon

Live Entertainment

on Sunday Evenings

www.treehousecleveland.com

Terry From Derry
by Terry Boyle



tastic when my father took to redeeming other alcoholics.

He scoured the streets looking for the worst of the worst in the hope of proving the power of prayer and healing. Drunken homeless men, completely out of their minds, would wake up to find themselves in a rehabilitation center with little or no recollection as to how they got there. Most would await the right moment to flee the inevitable pangs of recovery,, but some of them stayed the course. My father soon became known as the 'body snatcher'.

He was in his early 60s when his mission to save others grew in intensity. Not being able to drive, he took his driving test and after his sixth time, passed. Now armed with a car, and a small band of helpers, he set forth to repair the bodies of men and women blighted with the disease of alcoholism. It was not enough to free them of addiction; he also needed to bring them into the faith.

The fire of hatred and disappointment between us had given way to a new found liking for one another as the barbed com-

ments gave way to a new, unexpected, tolerance and forgiveness. I admired, and respected his unconditional love for the men and women he worked with. He would drive hundreds of miles, devote hours of his time, all to rescue one person.

He prayed, with absolute faith that God could work miracles. What I had always suspected about my father turned out to be true. He was a very sensitive, caring man that had been forced to become the stereotypical hard man. One of his counsellors once told me that my father's childhood was 'Victorian'. Suffering with rickets as a child, he was unable to walk, and having no education, he was illiterate. His Donegal upbringing was the stuff of Dickens.

Given only some of the details of his background, I was full of anger and pity for him. Piecing the small pieces together, I could only barely imagine what it was to grow up with such obvious lack of opportunities.

The anger he felt, the injustice he bore, had to find some outlet and alcohol became his drug of choice. Unburdened now by the pain of being the misunderstood son, I could now see his suffering, and it humbled me. The qualities I valued; sensitivity, empathy, and goodness were not dead to him but alive in abundance.

For over a decade after becoming sober he became a completely different person. The latter part of my father's life belonged

to those who needed him more than his family. By reaching out to them, he was restoring and healing past wounds. When he was diagnosed with cancer, he refused to give up his work until he couldn't physically do it anymore.

I was at his bedside when he died, and we shared moments that I will remember for the remainder of my own life. I watched him as he gave his final breath knowing he was finally at peace with himself.

After his passing, I wanted to celebrate his life in a way that he would most enjoy, so I set up a writing competition at my old high school in memory of my father. The school where I had battled my conflicted feelings for him seemed an apt environment to place a marker to a man that should be remembered for the good things in his life.

I did not want his memory to simply fade away. My father would be absolutely chuffed by this completion. He would enjoy seeing the faces of those children who are using language in a way that was denied to him. But most of all, he would be humbled by the idea that his legacy will continue to inspire others.

If you visit this website, you can see the work of last year's winners.

<http://www.stjosephsderry.org.uk/index.php/latest/latest-news/406-2016-james-boyle-creative-writing-competition.html>

Restoring the Years the Locusts Have Eaten

It's been about 12 years now since I left Ireland to set up home in Chicago. When I left the homeland, my father was terminally ill with cancer. My father and I, like most sons and fathers, had a very dysfunctional relationship. His rabid Republicanism was equally matched to my zealous Catholicism. The drunken brawls inevitably bared our political/religious teeth.

I wish him dead while he wished I'd become like the other Boyle men; a fine patriot. We were both disappointed when our prayers were unanswered. Ironically, instead of dying, my father became a recovered alcoholic, and fervent do-gooder, while I became less self-righteous and less religiously fanatical. The classical sinner turned saint tale became even more fan-

FIRST GENERATION
A book of original poetry
By John O'Brien, Jr.

FESTIVAL LEGENDS: SONGS & STORIES
A long-awaited look at the people who made the music that defines a people
By John O'Brien, Jr.

GREATER CLEVELAND IRISH DIRECTORY
A directory of Publishers, Businesses, Pubs, Restaurants and Services of Irish and Irish-American descent in the Irish and second Cleveland

FIVE IRISH PUBS OF GREATER CLEVELAND
A guide to great pubs whose history was made and memories are created

ALL PUBLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE AT: www.songsandstories.net
An O'Brien / O'Brien Enterprises / author and Author John O'Brien, Jr.
www.facebook.com/OhioIrishAmericanNews - www.twitter.com/cbzr

Good Luck to all the dancers competing in the World Irish Dance Championships in Dublin, Ireland during Easter Week!



Kilroy ceili band
thirty years of traditional irish music Cleveland Ohio

440 356 2039 440 281 1536
www.kilroyceiliband.com

Coming in MAY!

Bringing you the movers, shakers and music makers in our community each month.



Every Sunday:
Irish Music @
Pj McIntyre's
12-3pm



6th - Gaeltacht Saturday: an afternoon of Irish language & culture at the AOH Mark Heffernan Division, 2000 Brown Street, Akron Ohio 44301. The focus will be on Irish language, plus music, singing, storytelling and dancing. Pot luck dinner, all interested parties are welcome. Pre-register required: oli sa07@icloud.com or (330) 524-4991

4th & 11th - Ceili Dancing 7:00-9:00pm @West Side Irish American Club

13th - The 8th annual Hooley on Kamm's Corners™ is a one-day outdoor FREE admission festival featuring live music and entertainment, great food, Irish dancers, and hand made arts, crafts, and gifts. Plan to join us on Saturday, May 13, noon to 8 p.m.

26th - Stephen Mulloy, Sr. 9th Annual Reverse Raffle @ West Side Irish American Club Tommy Mulloy 216.533.2203

Live Irish Music!



Hours:
Mon-Wed
11am-Midnight
Thur-Sat
11am-2am
Sun 10am-10pm

414 South Main St.
Findlay, OH 45850

419-420-3602

www.LogansIrishPubFindlay.com

Facebook.com/LogansIrishPubFindlay



Learn to Speak Irish
Classes start April 11th
at Pj McIntyres
Info: jobrien@ianohio.com



BUY ONE ENTREE, GET ONE 50% OFF!



pjmcintyres.com



Live Music | Live Sports
Authentic Irish Fare

We Support our Local Teams and
Fundraising/Cause Efforts.

Ask for Details!

17119 Lorain Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44111

216-941-9311

like us on

Have an Event or Fundraiser?
Host it in our beautiful
Bridgie Ned's Party Room!

Offer valid with this coupon only. Cannot be combined with other offers. Expires 5/31/17. © 2017 P.J. McINTYRE'S IRISH PUB. All rights reserved.



#FlansTurns20
Year-Long Party. 'Nuff Said.



FLANNERY'S.COM East 4th and Prospect

Steak • Seafood • Prime Rib
Irish Specialties and Spirits



The Unicorn
Restaurant
& Pub

Open from 11:30 a.m. Tuesday - Friday
& 4:00 p.m. Saturdays

423 Main Street (Route 57)
Grafton, Ohio 44044

440-926-2621

Minutes South of 480 and Route 10 West (Elyria-Medina Exit)

Michael P. O'Malley
Attorney at Law

Grant & O'Malley Co., L.P.A.
1350 Standard Building
1370 Ontario Street
Cleveland, OH 44113

Office (216) 241-6868
Fax (216) 241-5464
Cell Phone (216) 469-9634

Toledo Irish

by Maury Collins



On August 14, 1978, while in Ireland, my father recorded these thoughts: "I am in the old home-
stead now. It has been locked up since the new
house was built. My thoughts go back to May 13,
1928 when I said good-bye, with a broken heart to
my Mother and all the family. I leave today, per-
haps for the last time, again with a broken heart.
I hope and pray that I will be able to return again.
I ask God to bless all my friends and family in
Ireland. God bless them all."

Seven months later, Dad died. I am humbled and
in awe, when I think of my Father leaving home,
knowing that he would probably never speak to
or hear the voices of his family and friends, who
were still in Ireland. No phones and certainly no
Internet. Communication was by letter only, and
a telegram meant that someone had died.

Maurice survived the Depression. He became
a Cement Finisher. When his doctor told him the
cement dust was harmful to his lungs, he found
new work. He developed pernicious anemia,
which caused him to lose his sight.

His trust in God made him promise to receive
communion every Sunday and to make a monthly
novena at the Visitation Convent on Parkside Blvd,
if he could see once again. His sight returned, a
miracle according to one of his doctors, and he
kept that promise his whole life. The cement dust,
which the doctors warned him about, eventually
caused the Cancer, which caused his death.

An example of his spirit was when he decided to
take up golf shortly after coming here. He bought
a set of used golf clubs and met some of his new
friends. The only problem was that the clubs he
bought were for a left-handed person. He simply
started playing left handed. The putter was two
faced, so he putted right-handed.

Dad took up basketball, but his Irish temper
caused him to foul out more often than not, so he
became a coach, and formed a federation basketball
team called the Irish Five. Dad admitted that since
the team was out of St. Vincent DePaul parish in
North Toledo, most of the players on the "Irish

Five" were Polish.
Maurice was nicknamed the bish-
op. He would say at least two rosa-
ries at every wake. He would take
less time to say two, than a priest
would take, to say one. He quoted
some mysterious "book of rules"
for most situations and pot licking
(pronounced pollican) was a favorite
descriptive term. He would add some off the wall



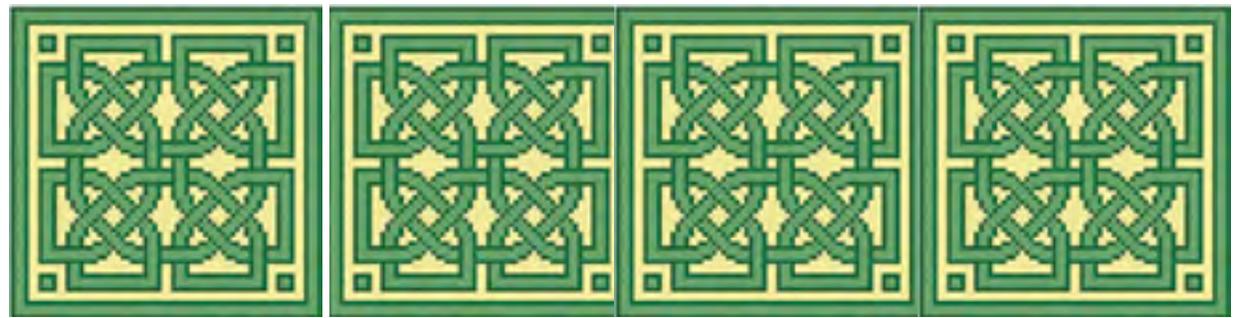
*Dad with Moe my father with his first grandchild,
Maurice J. Collins III, my son*

theory to a story or news report and say that he
was "reading between the lines."

Dad loved writing letters; a letter from home was
answered immediately. Letters were written every
week. I used to wonder what he could possibly be
writing about all the time.

He was a big, strong, and hardworking man all
his life, but he became a gentle giant when he was
around children. His grandchildren feel asleep
in his arms many times listening to him sing the
"Irish Lullaby". A visit by his Grandchildren was
never complete without a trip to the "Candy Store".

The priest at his funeral summed my Dad up
nicely, "A good man, who loved his family, loved
his God and really loved to argue!!! Rest in Peace
Dad. I love you and will always honor you.



AS SEEN ON  PBS

Celtic Woman

VOICES OF ANGELS

LIVE IN CONCERT

APRIL 20 · ARONOFF CENTER
CINCINNATI, OH

APRIL 21 · SCHUSTER CENTER
DAYTON, OH

APRIL 22 · PALACE THEATRE
COLUMBUS, OH

APRIL 23 · STATE THEATER
CLEVELAND, OH

APRIL 25 · STRANAHAN THEATRE
TOLEDO, OH

SAVE WITH CODE: **IRISH**

CELTICWOMAN.COM



ALBUM IN STORES NOW



Ireland Past and Present

By Niamh O'Sullivan

Callan – Spiritual, Real Home

I grew up hearing stories about Callan, a small town in County Kilkenny. These were not told daily, or even weekly, but whenever the subject arose, I would only love to listen. My mother, born and reared in Callan, was devoted to her hometown until the day she died.

She may not have realised how notable her stories were, but attempting to tell one myself once, I mistakenly called Callan a village. My mother stuck her head around the kitchen door to correct me: "It is not a village, Miss, It is a town", before disappearing back into the kitchen.

That favourite memory still makes me smile; my sister and I

were only called Miss on serious occasions. My mother was always fiercely protective of anything to do with Callan.

We would hear about ecclesiastical treasure buried deep in the old Abbey Well. Priests from the area allegedly hid the gold and silver there in great panic, believing Cromwell and his men were arriving.

My mother and her sisters would later lean into that same well by the ancient friary, hoping to glimpse natural, pure bubbles of water shimmering to the surface – seeing them meant you were granted a wish. This was the very well from which earlier Callan women had drawn their water years before.



It was rumoured that on exceptionally windy nights, an old bell could be heard ringing out from the depths below. More treasure was said to be concealed deep under the moat in town, though I don't recall the origins of that story.

My mom and her sisters would plead with my grandfather for a

few pennies to go to "the pictures" on a Saturday afternoon. My poor mother developed a lifelong aversion to *Gone with the Wind*. The small cinema was fully occupied when it was showing and she had to stand for the entire film. She did secretly love the scene where Scarlett turned her velvet curtains into a splendid dress.

The girls would scheme amongst themselves, just like girls all over the world, trying to catch the eye of different Callan lads. In the days approaching my mother's final school exams, she would go out walking on the main Kilkenny / Clonmel road with her books, reading and learning as she wandered. She assured us that she did not need to worry about traffic – the few cars that would drive past could be heard long before their arrival.

I would need an entire series of articles to write about their school days in the local convent, and the devilment they would get up to with both the innocent young nuns, and their far more knowledgeable senior colleagues. My mother would tell us about the girls who lived farther out the country actually cycling through the snow to school, just when the irritated town children were eagerly anticipating a day off.

There were tales of leather medals, Clydesdale horses and all sorts of antics during cooking lessons. When I worked in Kilmainham Prison, that same school, St Brigid's, would frequently visit the jail,

and I was always proud to hear the guides speaking so well of contemporary Brigid's students years after my mother and her sisters had attended.

My grandparents' home stands near the centre of Callan. An elderly man had occupied it previously. The remnants of an old cow-shed are still visible in the back garden. The old man used to walk his few cows through the hallway and out the front door, to get them outside. When my mother was growing up, the ground floor of that house was divided between my grandmother's grocery shop and my grandfather's harness-making workshop. Today, their great grandchildren play on iPads and laptops in those very rooms.

Gathered in the immediate vicinity of the combined grocery / harness property, a sweetshop, a drapers', a bakery, a watch-repair shop and two tailors' workshops could be spotted. One tailor placed his worktable right up against the front window, and he would sit on the top sewing cross-legged in the best available light.

Today, too many of these empty little shops with their dusty windows and faded signs, located on the main streets of too many Irish towns, silently reproach the modern world for causing them to close and be forgotten in the unseemly rush towards enormous supermarkets and glamorous shopping centres.

Much of the land around my

Continued on page 28

**Some people HATE being buried with work!
Flanagan? He kinda likes it...**

Coming back to life for our 8th smash(ed) year
at Kennedy's Theatre in Playhouse Square.
Every Friday and Saturday night at 8pm
through April.

Come see the show that critics describe as...

- "Laugh out loud funny!"
- "Inventively witty!"
- "As fun as it gets..."
- "Amazing to watch!"
- "Still running?"

Tickets on sale: **NOW**

starring The Frankie Kong Players
Flanagan's Wake

THE HILARIOUS INTERACTIVE IRISH WAKE

Call for tickets 216-241-6090 or toll-free at 1-866-546-1353
or visit us on the web at
<http://www.playhousesquare.org>

Why Do So Many People Want to Be Irish on St. Patrick's Day?

By Henry Meese

The Ancient Order of Hibernians Sean MacBride Division in Trumbull County held their 17th Annual Scholarship Breakfast Saturday March 11th, in Warren, Ohio. This scholarship competition was open to all high school seniors in Trumbull County. Students submitted an essay titled "Why do so many people want to be Irish on St. Patrick's Day?" This year's winning essay was from Henry Meese of Champion High School, who was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship.

In my 17 years of life, I have been raised to understand the importance of tradition and to respect my elders. With a father of mostly German descent, and a mother of mostly Irish descent, I have learned that countries to close together geographically, can be very different traditionally. While I love all of my family, I want to focus on the Irish side to better answer your question. This prompt gave me the initiative to look further into the Irish history in our country, and how many people, throughout the history of the United States of America, have come from Irish descent. I want to focus my thoughts on the musical contributions of Irish Americans, as well as my favorite Irishman and how my family's journey brought me to where I am today.

The musical contribution of the Irish in our country has been enormous. From the folk music and lyric melodies of Ireland, to the development of bluegrass, country and pop music in America, the impact of this genre has been phenomenal. From George Cohan and Bing Crosby to Bruce Springsteen and Pink, these American singers have one thing in common – Irish descent. One of my mother's first memories of me as a baby, was how if I began to cry, she would play Irish music or sing an Irish song to me, and I would stop. I have grown up with the tradition of each St. Patrick's Day, watching and performing music with my family throughout the day. As a member of the Dolan family, we perform traditional Irish music each year on St. Patrick's Day. When I was very young, I can recall singing the chorus



Our scholarship winner Henry Meese with AOH Sean MacBride President Steven Clancy.

of "Tell Me Ma" with my cousins on stage, or leading the "Unicorn Song" dance, and then singing with my Uncles and my Papa Dolan on the song "Harrigan". We would begin to practice early in February with our other cousins, the Quinlan's, and be ready to perform by St. Patrick's Day. I absolutely loved being a part of a big Irish family, as well as seeing the joy we brought to others while performing on that day. I am sure that other, more famous, performers have also shared this feeling of spreading joy and sharing their God given talents. This is the first reason that I would say that "so many people want to be Irish on St. Patrick's Day".

During these St. Patrick Day performances, the Irishman I most admire is my grandfather, William "Thomas" Dolan. My Papa

Dolan is 100% Irish, and is extremely proud of that fact. He is quick to share stories of his Irish family, his trip to Ireland, and has passed on his love of Irish music through three more generations. His great-grandson, Liam, started performing on St. Patrick's Day last at the age of three! What I love most about performing with my Papa, is the amount of respect that is shown to him when he singing. He has been singing Irish music his entire life, and was quite an excellent Irish tenor in his earlier years, but the hush that comes over the crowd when he gets up to the microphone to sing "Danny Boy" is wonderful. He is a real Irish treasure, and his pride in his ethnic heritage is unmistakable. Papa Dolan is such a dedicated Irishman,

that he was even able to cheer for Notre Dame football this year! My mother tells stories of when she was growing up, how Papa would hang his Notre Dame flag up on game days. If they won, it would be a happy day for the family, but if they lost, Papa would hang a black sock over the flag, and they were in "mourning". He is truly the most dedicated Notre Dame fan that I know. Observing him, and his love of being Irish is the second reason that I am glad "to be Irish on St. Patrick's Day".

My family's Irish heritage goes back to the mid 1800's when both of my Papa's great-grandparents came here from Ireland. The O'Neils, Daileys, Flynns and Dolan's all settled in Columbiana County just south of here and worked as store owners, laborers,

mill workers and home makers. They shared a love for good humor, hard work, family and music. I am proud of my Irish heritage, and understand why "so many people want to be Irish on St. Patrick's Day".



Rath REALTORS®

20102 Center Ridge Road
Rocky River, OH 44116



John R. Coleman, Jr.
REALTOR

Multi-Million Dollar Producer

(440) 331-7772 ext. 209
Cell: (216) 256-3264

E-mail: john.coleman@era.com
Website: www.erarath.com





Ahern Catering



**Banquets,
Weddings,
Clambakes or
Your Special Event**

Tony Ahern

440-933-7500

Fax: 440-933-7507

aherncatering@aol.com

www.AhernCatering.com

726 Avon Belden Rd., Avon Lake, OH 44012



Live Music Every Friday Night (schedule in Out & About Ohio)

1114 Center Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44113
www.flatironcafe.com

COAKLEY

Real Estate Company LLC

- Prestigious Landmark Properties
- Downtown Condo Living & Upscale Residential
- Commercial Leasing & Sales
- Historic, Unique Office & Retail Space



Francis M. (Sandy) Coakley
1382 West Ninth Street, Suite 225
Cleveland, Ohio 44113
216-772-4700
www.coakleyrealestate.com

Buying or Selling your home?
Get a FREE Home Warranty



Tell your agent you want to close with
Bridge Title!

Call Brian or Tina O'Malley 216-781-6666
email: orders@BridgeTitleAgency.com

Over 50 Years of Combined Experience!



A Sporting Examination

I have no idea what 'unaffected' people see when they look at a calendar. In this case, by unaffected, I mean those very fine people who meander their way through life unbitten by some measure of sporting affliction.

I was given the condition young, growing up in a house with a sports coach and teacher for a father and a slightly older brother with whom I could compete with at everything. Computers were in their developing stage where loading a game would give you sufficient time to go eat your dinner and be back without losing time and it seemed all the boys in our corner of the world spent their evenings hitting or kicking whatever ball came our way.

To be up with the sports you needed to devour the newspaper and the happenings of the day gave us as a family, much to my mother's encumbrance then as much as now, something to fill our breakfast and dinner conversations with. That 12-month map to this day helps me quarterback my weeks and lets me know where my sporting compass should be pointing.

The desolate January weeks are brightened by the weekend promise of NFL play-offs, February brings with it the Six Nations, the Champions League play-offs, the return of hurling and Gaelic football from its winter hibernation. March signifies the Cheltenham racing festival and April the Masters and so on and so on.

My diagnosis is irreversible. I doubt there is a head doctor with hope of a remedy and to the unaffected, I'm sure mine is a sad and sorry tale to warn your kids away from. I can un-

derstand such reasoning but as former Clare hurling manager Ger Loughnane summed up when talking of his sporting pursuit; "Some people say hurling isn't very important in the scheme of things, but to hurling people, hurling is the scheme of things."

In sport, just like in the movies, there are dramas and comedies, thrillers and cult classics filled with characters, twists and beguiling subplots moving in tandem with the narratives. There are the celebrated and the underdogs and for a time the actors and the audience drift from satisfied to tortured.

The great component of sports is that it is a theatre of unscripted drama with living and breathing people. Sport has that power to take your breath away or drop you into a melancholic riddle of anger and resentment. Following a team can be a timely distract-

tion where a pat on the back is figuratively, as it is literally, only a yard away from a kick in the hole. And as in life, often it comes when you least expect it.

The Two Sides: In the sporting world, 2016 will live long in the memory. It was a year when the implausible became plausible across many sporting terrains. The young and the old and everyone in between were treated to a time that will never be forgotten. It was full of shocks and astonishments.

Leicester City won the Premier League, overcoming odds of 5,000-1. Connacht won the Pro 12 in rugby and Ireland beat the All-Blacks for the first time in our history.

Across the pond the Chicago Cubs and Cleveland Cavaliers brought national success to their long-suffering supporters. It was a year where joy and wonder could be grasped from the air. But in sport, as in life, cannot always be fairy-tales and happy endings.

On the flip side of the coin, the biggest shock of the year came in late October, when the death of former Irish rugby player Anthony Foley was an-

nounced about an hour before Munster's opening European Champions Cup fixture against Racing 92 in Paris. He died in his sleep in the team hotel and his loss became known when he didn't turn up for a pre-game meeting. The fixture was immediately postponed but many supporters still went to the ground to grieve together.

For a generation, 'Axel' as he was fondly known, came to represent the Munster rugby team. His father had played on the Munster side that famously beat the All-Blacks in 1978.

Anthony had played for Munster when the sport was strictly amateur. Significantly, when the game went professional in the autumn of 1995, he played in every Munster European game from their first foray in 1996 until he captained the province to Heineken Cup glory in 2006.

After his playing days, he became forwards coach at the club and worked his way up to being installed as head coach in 2014. His two years at the helm of Munster did not go well on the pitch, as the team failed to get out of their pool in succes-

sive years.

The arrival of Rassie Erasmus last summer saw Foley demoted back to forwards coach. That the incoming South African decided to keep his predecessor inside the camp spoke volumes of Foley's presence in the corridors and training fields of the province. His death was shocking in that it was so unexpected.

Looking back his funeral was a significant moment in the Munster rugby story, as the community banded together to remind each other just what a special connection with the supporters the team enjoys. As the hearse passed the famous Thomand Park stadium, people lined the streets in a guard of honour as the Shannon song, 'There is an Isle' rang out in commemoration.

Since his passing, Munster's form on the field has been tremendous. They topped their Champions Cup Pool ahead of Racing 92, Glasgow and Leicester and have lost only one game in the Pro 12. Irish winger Keith Earls, who played alongside Anthony Foley at both Shannon and Munster before being coached

P.C.S. AUTO REPAIR & BODY SHOP I & II

Specializing in

Preventative Maintenance, Tires, Batteries, Exhausts, Struts, CV Shafts, Brakes, Shocks, and Tune-Ups

Free Estimates & Inspections

Paul Zimmer

P.C.S. AUTO REPAIR & BODY SHOP

**13920 Triskett Road
Cleveland OH 44111**

Phone (216) 251-3130



Cellular (216) 952-3625

P.C.S. AUTO BODY & COLLISION REPAIR

**13801 Triskett Road
Cleveland OH 44111**

Phone (216) 251-4242



Pager (216) 648-1174



The OhIAN welcomes new advertising partners
Speak Irish Cleveland
Cleveland International Film Festival
Emmett Cahill
Celtic Woman
together we bring you the OhIAN.

Traditional Irish Social Dancing with the Cleveland Ceili Club

CCC promotes the musical traditions of Ireland by providing opportunities for adults to enjoy traditional Irish music and dance.
 26th - Dance Workshop @PJ McIntyre's 1-3 pm
 Set dancing lessons: Tuesdays 8-10 pm,
 St. Clarence Church, North Olmsted
 Wednesdays 7-9 pm, Irish American Club - East Side
 2, 9, 30 - Ceili dancing lessons, Thursdays
 7-9 pm, @West Side Irish American Club
 CeiliClubCleveland@gmail.com
 or find us on Facebook.



Ongoing Traditional Irish Sessiúns - Bring your instruments and play along!

- Unitarian Universalist Church of Fairlawn, 3300 Morewood Dr. 7:30 p,m Wednesdays. All skill levels welcome.
- Bardic Circle @The Shamrock Club of Columbus Beginner - friendly, intermediate level Irish session meeting every other Thursdays 8:00 pm - 11:00 pm
- Briquette's - 1st Saturday of the month, 2-4 pm. Ashtabula on the Harbor
- The Harp - 1st Friday of every month, 9pm. 4408 Detroit, Cleveland
- Logan's Irish Pub - 3rd Wednesday of the month, 414 S. Main St., Findlay, 7:30 pm
- Oberlin's Traditional Irish Session - 2nd Monday of the month 7 - 9 Slow Train Café, 55 East College St., Oberlin. Informal all experience welcome: www.oberlin.net/~irishsession
- Plank Road - Every Thursday 7 - 10. All ages and experience welcome. 16719 Detroit Road, Lakewood, 44107
- Tara Hall -Traditional Irish music w General Guinness Band & Friends 2nd Friday 8:00 - 11:00pm. 274 E. Inn- is Ave. Columbus, 43207 614.444.5949.

When Irish Eyes Are Smiling!

Brought to you by Maury Collins

The Priest was writing the baptismal certificate and trying to remember the date: "Let me see, this is the thirtieth?"

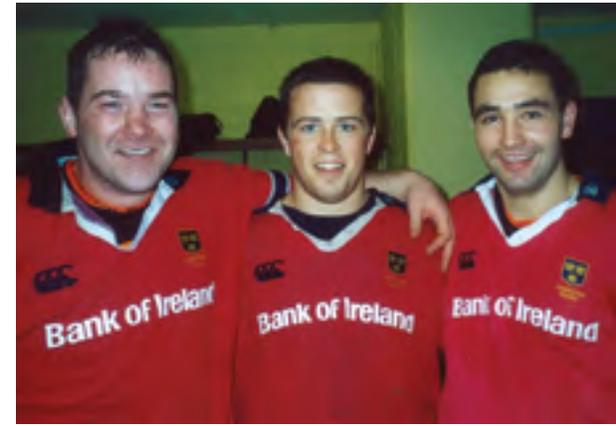
"Indeed not" said the indignant mother, "it's only the eleventh."

Then there was the tourist, who complained about everything. The tour bus pulled up to Blarney Castle only to find that the castle was closed that day. The tour guide made the comment that to kiss someone who has kissed the Blarney Stone would give the same blessing of eloquence. The complaining tourist said, "And I suppose you are going to tell us that you have kissed the Blarney Stone." "No," said the tour guide, "but I have sat on it!!"



The children were lined up in the cafeteria of a Catholic elementary school for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples. The nun made a note, and posted on the apple tray: "Take only ONE, God is watching." Moving further along the lunch line, at the other end of the table was a large pile of chocolate chip cookies. A child had written a note, "Take all you want, God is watching the apples."

A man was on a walking holiday in Ireland. He became thirsty so decided to ask at a home for something to drink. The lady of the house invited him in and served him a bowl of soup by the fire. There was a wee pig running around the kitchen, running up to the visitor and giving him a great deal of attention. The visitor commented that he had never seen a pig this friendly. The housewife replied, "Ah, he's not that friendly. That's his bowl you're using."



Anthony Foley (left) pictured celebrating with teammates Marcus Horan and Jeremy Stanton during his playing days at Munster

by the same man, spoke unequivocally at the end of the year that, "It's a pity it's after taking our head coach to die for us to play the way he wanted us to play."

On the first weekend in April, Munster will play Toulouse in Thomand Park in the quarter-finals of the European Champions Cup. The French side arrive with a gigantic pack flooded with internationals, including Census Johnston (Samoa), Richie Gray (Scotland), Yoann Maestri, Joe Tekori and Thierry Dusautoir, while their backs can call on the talents of French internationals Yoann Huget, Arthur Bonneval, Yannick David and Gael Fickou. It is a mouth-watering contest but there is the belief down south that Munster will win the day.

CJ Stander has been incredible form in the back-row, helped by the return of Peter O'Mahony, and Irish internationals Conor Murray, Simon Zebo and Earls are all enjoying fine seasons in the backs. Munster are playing like a team possessed in this competition, with a spirit and a toughness that typified their old friend and coach and sees them with a chance of glory that nobody would have predicted at the start of the season.

Whatever way their fortunes play out, this will have been an emotional season with some of the highest highs married with the lowest of lows. A pure encapsulation of the sporting condition.

FIDDLER'S HEARTH 

A FAMILY-FRIENDLY PUBLIC HOUSE
IN THE HEART OF DOWNTOWN
SOUTH BEND, INDIANA

127 N. Main Street (between Colfax & Washington)

Shepherd Pie + Fish & Chips + Bangers & Mash
 Seafood + Steaks + Smoked Salmon + Pub Burgers
 Traditional Breakfast + Sunday Brunch with Live Music
 Imported Whiskys + Perfect Pints Certified by Guinness
 Live Music Daily + Tailgate Packages Available
 Take the Notre Dame Stadium Shuttle to/from our door!

(574) 232-2853 + www.fiddlershearth.com
 Open Daily for Lunch & Dinner



BLOWIN' IN

By Susan Mangan



Birds and Beasts

*"Upon the brimming water
among the stones
Are nine-and-fifty-swans . . .
All changed since I, hearing at
twilight . . .
The bell-beat of their wings above
my head."*

"The Wild Swans at Coole"
By William Butler Yeats

One day in early spring, I stood in the small, fenced-in yard of my childhood home in Chicago. I was young, not yet elementary school age, looking for distraction among the emerging leaves budding mint green on our lilac tree.

My grandmother Mim had told

me tales of Natty Bumppo and the Last Mohican. I would pretend to be a Native American Indian traveling through dense forests soundlessly on deer feet. With silent stealth, I peered into the lilac leaves that grew against our garage and saw a bird with a strong beak, which appeared half-pelican and half-toucan.

Standing a foot tall, the bird rested hidden in the tangled branches of our bush. Tawny grey feathers camouflaged the bird from view. Only a precocious child pretending to be an Indian could have spotted such a fantastical creature.

Holding my breath, I backed away on small feet, breaking into a run when I hit the flight of old wooden stairs leading up through our back porch. Calling for my mother, I tried to tell her about this exotic, Wonderland bird that must have lost its way.

At first she didn't believe me, but then she spied the creature out of the window of my grandmother's apartment. The poor animal seemed so misplaced, rerouted on its migratory path and landing in our urban jungle. By the time my mother reached the conservation rangers at the Lincoln Park Zoo, the bird had flown off. To this day, I still wonder if this strange creature actually existed, or whether it manifested out of the overworkings of my bored and imaginative mind.

Out of all the seasons, spring is the most magical. After the carols of Christmas have fled, we spend the remaining months of winter in quiet solitude, padded by darkness. It is no wonder that the birds of spring are more than ready to begin their days with a rush of music throughout the trees and skies during the fleeting hours of sunrise.

The raspy trill of the blue jay and the pure whistle of the red-breasted robin herald a season filled with new life and hope. Daylight hours stretch out mercifully, until their

peak on the eve of the summer solstice. Each bloom of dogwood is a resting perch for the yellow finch. The air is awash in the fragrance of warming earth and heady apple blossoms. Rejoicing in every pink bud, the birds and beasts of spring know how to march in perfect cadence with the glory of the season.

Even though we can no longer spend the odd hour pretending to be Indians in the forest, if we pause for a minute during the hectic routine of our workaday lives, we might just be rewarded with a little springtime magic. Anyone who has ever fed the birds is familiar with the parade of finch and morning doves, blackbirds and sparrows, robins and cowbirds that flutter around the feeder.

Only once, has a pure blue Indigo Bunting come to perch outside my windowpane. Much like the mystical griffin creature that roosted in my lilac, I am certain this little beauty got swept up in the opposing wind current and landed in Cleveland instead of the marshes of Florida.

Part of the fun in spending time outdoors in spring, whether traveling to new locales or appreciating the familiar beauty that lies around you, is in observing the changing flora and fauna. During our travels to Florida last spring, I so enjoyed watching the bold pelicans that hovered around the docks like a troop of old curmudgeons sidling up to their favorite stools at the pub.

Each seemed to have a personality of its own, waddling on land and then diving into the sea in search of fish. Escaping the paths of pelicans, diminutive lizards sprinted from tropical bougainvillea plants that edged every walkway.

One night, I walked through a neighborhood filled with Spanish style bungalows, towering ivy, and palm trees. I heard a distinct rustle above my head in the darkened branches of the thick vegetation and my thoughts turned to voodoo snakes and exotic nocturnal birds. Having lost my childhood talent to creep on soundless feet, I nearly woke the dead with the sound of my flip-flops scurrying across the uneven pavement and

back to the village's main drag.

In these twilight hours, our imaginations tend to play tricks on us. Bullfrogs in rural lakes sound like mournful omens, and hawks in search of mice howl like banshees in the night. It is not surprising that children from the days before iPads and Netflix, would quickly tuck under the downy comfort of quilts after being told a bedtime fairytale.

However, it is that same magic, that wonder in the night and her mysteries, a curiosity in our natural world, that steeps the imagination and enriches our lives. Sadly, this wonderment is disappearing in our 21st century world. How can a mere spring peeper frog keep up with a Disney film in glorious 3-D imaging?

I spent years educating my children in the beauty of the natural world. We have gone in search of owls on nighttime walks at our nature center. We have felt the sap that pours from maple trees in early spring. We have held toads, and looked for crabs in Irish tide pools. Once, beneath a flood of moonlight in mid-June, we watched a hedgehog amble across a narrow road in the West of Ireland.

If you ask my children about these sightings, will they remember? Probably not. They are lost in a virtual stream of technology. Much like life changed for Yeats since the halcyon days when he first spied the swans of Coole, progress and the act of living intrudes upon our simple pleasures.

Perhaps as my children age, they will experience a reckoning and the world will again become new. Perhaps they will step outside their "selfie" photographs and marvel at the natural beauty which has always surrounded them. Only then, will they see the spry lizard beneath their feet, and feel the wind rising from the birds above their heads, ready to carry them on a journey filled with wonder.

**Susan holds a Master's Degree in English from John Carroll University and a Master's Degree in Education from Baldwin-Wallace University. She may be reached at suemangan@yahoo.com.*

Happy 60th Birthday to Maureen Hennessey. 6th grade picture is courtesy of Patrick Coleman!

DWORKEN BERNSTEIN & Co.
A Full Service Law Firm

Aggressive. Creative. Successful.

Patrick T. Murphy Esq.

www.DworkenLaw.com

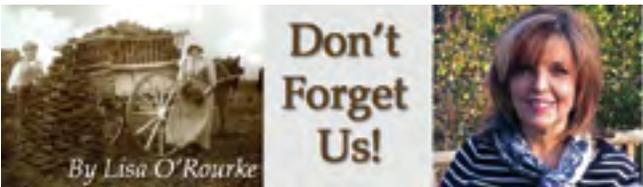
Cleveland Office
1468 W. 9th Street • Suite 135 • Cleveland, Ohio 44113
216.861.4211

Painesville Office
60 South Park Place • Painesville, Ohio 44077
440.352.3391

Professional Quality Penny Whistles

BURKE WHISTLES

www.burkewhistles.com



Streets of Gold

One of the most overused words this year has to be immigration. It has been used with mind-numbing consistency and linked to negative images of "bad hombres". I would guess that most of the readers of this are US citizens and have already got theirs, so to speak.

We think of the Irish as "good immigrants", ones that no one would interfere with. That is not true now, nor was it ever. And yet, how could anyone blame a person for dreaming of a better life? Who hasn't?

Many people that I have met have told me that they would love to move to Ireland to live a simpler life. Change is a lovely idea, but where the rubber meets the road is in who has the actual courage to do it, to leave everything that you both know and hold dear on the promise of a dream? It seems that such drastic action would have to be prompted by equivalent desperation of some kind.

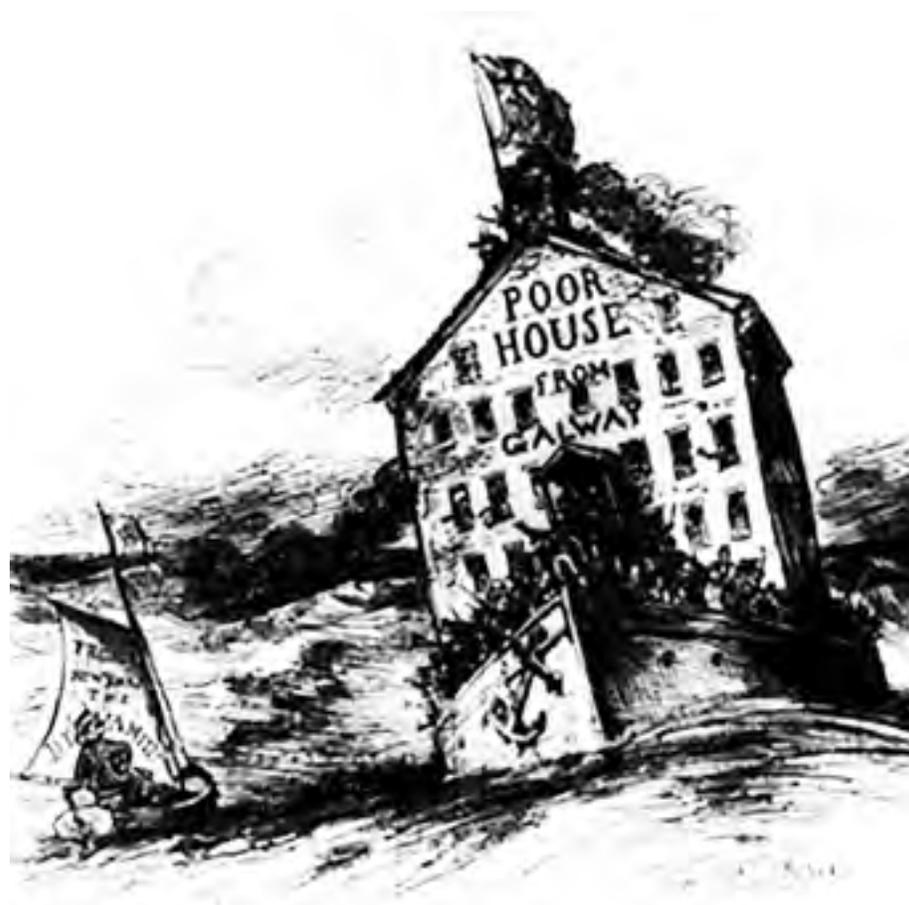
In Irish history, we think of the waves of Irish immigration that coincided with the Famine, the horrific "coffin" ships that brought scraps of people here with only the hope of staying alive. Irish immigration had begun before that, the evictions and hard times really began in earnest much before that, but the way out was not so clear or obtainable.

The late 18th century and the Fenian uprising sent the US its first big group of Irish immigrants. They were essential to our statehood, since it was their willingness to break their backs digging the Ohio & Erie Canal that transformed this state into the transportation frontier that was needed for westward expansion. Many of them died here, victims of malaria and hard living.

Evidence of their short hard lives is difficult to find, since they were mainly buried in unmarked, unhallowed graves like their African-American counterparts. But the Irish just kept coming, since the alternatives were worse. Large numbers came in the famine years and did, just like groups do now, settle next to expat neighbors and in other semi-fabled places like New York, Chicago, San Francisco and Boston. It is said that every schoolchild in Achill, Co. Mayo has a relative in Cleveland.



Those early immigrants were assigned many of the same negative characteristics that contemporary immigrants are; they would work for nothing, live in a less civilized manner, have strange habits and customs and were tied to a strange religion. Anyone who saw Martin Scorsese's film, "The Gangs of New York", about early 20th century New York City, knows that the image of the Irish didn't improve too quickly.



The New York Natives were strongly opposed to the perceived foreign invasion from places like Ireland. Signs formally posted in business windows stating that "No Irish Need Apply" are fossils of that time.

The last big wave of immigrants from Ireland came in the late 1980s. The desperation may not have been as dire as the starvation of the famine days, but there was a famine of hope. A US politician, Bruce Morrison, got legislation passed that increased Visas and immigration opportunities that were favorable to Ireland. There were large numbers of undocumented Irish living in major cities at that time. There was a famine of opportunity in Ireland for young people.

It was not the case that people came

here to drain resources and live on welfare. They could do that at home. What they wanted was a chance to prove themselves in the workforce. Young people arrived by the thousands and overstayed Visas. They lived in big cities and established their own little ghettos where they only interacted with their own.

A few years ago, the times got tough again. Young people were qualified to work but lacked the opportunities to do so. This time, they did not come here. There were no significant Visa programs like the Morrison Visa, and immigration

through their self-segregation, but it all started in the same approximate area and certainly with a more adventurous lot of people. Most researchers state that the bulk of Ireland is populated by the descendants of a people who wandered west from Iberia- the area that is now Spain and Portugal.

There is a gene, R1b, that is traced back to Neolithic farmers in Eurasia to Iberia and through to Ireland. This fact explains the "myth" of the dark or black Irish.

Many people think of the Irish as red-heads with blue eyes, but Colin Farrell is more the norm than Conan O'Brien; about 80% of the country have brown hair and eyes. Mix in Viking invasions, some random Romans, along with other people like Christopher Columbus, calling into the country on their way to distant shores, which all definitely added variety. Distinctions blur and melt.

There is so much noise in the world that it is hard for all of us to really see what is happening in the world until a tragic image wakes us from our indifference. Over a hundred and fifty years ago, it was the walking remains of people that stepped off the coffin ships, now it is Tibetans setting themselves on fire, or a drowned refugee child washed up on a foreign shore.

Those tragic images enable us to see the people and the humanity of their situations. Maybe the truest barriers are in our hearts and minds, too busy with the noise to consider these people. These are our walls. It is up to each of us to acknowledge and see with our eyes the individuals that populate this fleeting life.

*Lisa O'Rourke is an educator from Akron. She has a BA in English and a Master's in Reading/Elementary Education. Lisa is a student of everything Irish, primarily Gaeilge. She runs a Gaeilge study group at the AOH/Mark Heffernan Division. She is married to Dónal and has two sons, Danny and Liam. Lisa enjoys art, reading, music, and travel. Lisa can be contacted at olisa07@icloud.com.

policies had already constricted. This time, the Irish went to Canada and Australia.

Another interesting aspect of the immigration issue is, just exactly who we all are and who are the Irish? Many Irish people believe that being Irish is just one thing, which it is not. It is true that there are strands of Irish DNA that are old and unchanged for many generations. The West coast of Ireland has areas that have been studied for having some of the oldest DNA in Europe, along with part of the Basque country. The Irish Travelers have developed a DNA that is distinct from the rest of the Irish population through generations of societal isolation from the mainstream population.

The DNA of Europe has become distinct

There are over 1.4 million people of Irish descent in Ohio; 475,000 in Greater Cleveland; 175,00 in Cuyahoga County: Want to reach them? Advertise in the Ohio Irish American News: jobrien@ianohio.com.

SPEAK IRISH

Labhair Gaeilge

By Bob Carney



Cleachtadh a Dhéanam Maistreacht
(clach-tuh ah yeh-nenn my-stracht)
Practice Makes Mastery

Speaking and hearing Irish is the best way to learn the language, but reading, writing and translating Irish to English brings insights that otherwise might be missed. Paul Curran of Speak Irish Cleveland classes said translating Irish is part skill and part art. The more you attempt it however, the more your skills develop.

The tools needed are simple: a pen, paper, something written in Irish and an open mind. Start with simple phrases. *Dia duit* (jee-uh gwitch) is used as a greeting, literally is: God to you. *Go raibh maith agat* (guh ruh mah ah-gut) thank you, may there be good at you. Slán (slawn) goodbye, health.

As you progress, song lyrics and *seanfocail* (shan-fo kull) old sayings are more challenging. Sentence structure is different in Irish, the verb is first, the subject second, followed by the object. *Is maith an scéalaí an aimsir* (iss muh un schkay-lee un am-sheer) Is – the linking verb or copula, maith – good, an scéalaí – the storyteller, an aimsir – the time. Time is a good storyteller, or time will tell.

A dictionary is essential in translating. Aimsir, is also the word for weather, so it's important to look up the words even when you're familiar with some of them. Teanglann.ie is a good on-line dictionary that is available free. It also has a good pronunciation aspect so you can listen to the way the words are pronounced in all three dialects.

Is fearr glas ná amhras (iss far gloss nuh ah-rus)

Is fearr – a form of maith, meaning good or better, glas – lock or safe, ná – than, amhras – doubt. It's better to be safe than sorry.

Poetry can bring even more challenges. I enjoy reading; my home office is a desk surrounded by bookshelves stacked to the breaking point, as well as just stacks of books. I'm no longer allowed in bookstores without adult supervision and my wife really dislikes Amazon.

Reading poetry in English can be difficult at times because of the use of imagery and context, couple that with Irish and you can get a real mental workout. Almost as much fun as one of

Linda Burke's crossword puzzles!

There are many books, newspapers and other periodicals readily available, so you can choose what you would like to translate. The internet can be a wonderful thing, but be wary of quick translation apps, I've found they're not very accurate when it comes to Irish. Start small but most of all have fun with it.

Ní Troimide an Ceann an t-Eolas
Learning is no Load

Here is a poem by modern Irish poet Brian Ó Baoill

Inniu
Téannan saol thar bráid
Agus daoine.
Inniu an lá do ghrá
Ní don chaoineadh,
Tabhair dom póg inniu
Faoi bhláth na hairne,
Inniu an lá do ghrá
Is ní amárach.



Many of these words we have become familiar with in past columns. Inniu is the word for today. Amárach, tomorrow. Inniu an lá do ghrá, today is the day for love. You need to use your dictionary for the rest ;)

Finally, here is the English translation for the poem from the February issue, Labhair an Teanga Ghaeilge.

Speak the Irish Language

Oh speak the Irish language with me,
Treasure of my heart,
The language my mother spoke to me,
In green Ireland long ago.

She is the language of our ancestors,
The sweetest sounding speech:
Oh, speak the Irish language with me,
And remove sorrow from my heart.

Oh speak the Irish language with me,
The true language of the Gael:
The oldest language there is
To be found in all the world.

Treasure of my heart a blessing on you,
Young flawless girl,
Where in the world is there any
language like
Our own to be had?

You can reach me at carneyspeakirish@gmail.com for assistance in translating Brian's poem or with questions or suggestions.

Slán go Foill!

The Old Angle Honors

Johnny Kilbane

Featherweight Champion of the World 1912 - 1923

99 years ago, on February 22, 1912, Johnny Kilbane, a son of Cleveland's "Angle" neighborhood, in a 20 round bout, became The Featherweight Champion of the World. A title held longer than any other featherweight in the history of boxing.

The Old Angle Tavern
Ohio City 1848 West 25th
Market District, Cleveland, Ohio
216-861-5643

OUT & ABOUT OHIO

Flanagan's Wake is Back!

The Hilarious Interactive Irish Wake is Every Friday & Saturday at 8pm and Kennedy's Theatre at Playhouse Square, Downtown Cleveland. 216-241-6000 or 866-546-1353

www.playhousesquare.org

Brooklyn

Hooley House!

14 - Where's Jimmy, 28 - New Barleycorn. 10310 Cascade Crossing, Brooklyn 216-362-7700. 1FunPub.com

Cincinnati

Cincinnati - Irish Heritage Center 2nd - 4:00 PM Larry Tye presents "Bobby Kennedy - The Making of a Liberal Icon" \$10, 8th 7:30 pm The Drowsy Lads Concert Hall, 21st, 22nd, 28th, 30th - 7:30 pm / 23rd & 29th - 2:00 pm - "Outside Mullingar" Theater. 29th - 8:00 pm Ciaran Sheehan (Phantom on Broadway) w the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick The Irish Program. Concert Hall. Free Pub Music Nights @ 7PM: 6th - Blue Rock Boys and Easter Rising, 13th - The McMahon Clan, 20th - Mick McEvilly & Friends, 27th - 7:00 PM Celtic Women International - Tea Room. Irish Teas/Library /Genealogy Detective/ all three by appointment. Irish Heritage Center 3905 Eastern Avenue 513.533.0100.

irishcenterofcincinnati.com.

Cleveland

The Harp

1st- The Portersharks, 5th - Lonesome Stars, 7th - Irish Session, 8th - Kelly Wright, 12th - Chris & Tom, 14th - Rachel Brown, 15th - The Auld Pitch, 17th - Phil Yan 5pm Dyngus Day! 19th - Lonesome Stars, 21st - Bill Fox, 22nd - Chris Allen, 26th - Chris & Tom, 28th - Kristine Jackson, 29th - Custy, Taylor & Hurley. 4408 Detroit Road, 44113 www.the-harp.com

Stone Mad

Traditional Irish Session 1st Sunday of ea/month, Happy

Cleveland

Hour Monday-Friday 4 to 7. 1306 West 65th Street Cleveland 44102 216-281-6500

Flat Iron Café

7th - Cats On Holiday 6-10pm, 14th - Becky Boyd & Kristine Jackson 7-10pm, 21st- Bluegrass Platter 6-10pm, 28th- Dante Maselli. 1114 Center St. Cleveland 44113-2406 216. 696.6968. www.flatironcafe.com

Treehouse

2nd - Chris Allen; 9th - Diana Chittester; 23rd - Tom Evan-chuck; 30th - Mike Brogan. 820 College Ave, Cleveland, 44113 www.treehousecleveland.com

PJ McIntyre's

1st - Faction, 5th - PUB QUIZ w/ MIKE D. @7pm, 7th - Michael Crawley & Brent Hopper, Also - Direct from Ireland: FAST EDDIE, 8th - Ace Molar, 15th - Marys Lane, 19th - Old Time Music, 21st - Happy Hour w/ Sinatra, 22nd- Abby Normal & Detroit Lean, 28th - Craic Brothers.

Don't forget T-Shirt Tues: wear any PJs T-Shirt get 15% off bill! Whiskey Wed: ½ off every whiskey in the house. Thurs - Craft Beer \$2.50. PJ McIntyre's is a Local 10 Union establishment. Home of the Celtic Supporter's Club and the GAA. Book Parties & Events in our Bridgie Ned's Irish Parlor Party Room. 17119 Lorain Road, 44111. www.pjmcintyres.com 216-941-9311.

Music Box Supper Club

1148 Main Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44113.musicboxcle.com

Flannery's Pub

323 East Prospect, Cleveland 44115 216.781.7782

www.flannerys.com

Avon Lake

Ahern Banquet Center

Ahern Banquet Center is book-

ing weddings and special events. Call Tony Ahern / Lucy Balsler @ 440-933-9500. 726 Avon Belden Rd, Avon Lake 44012. www.aherncatering.com

Euclid

Irish American Club East Side 7th - Pop the Cork @Fish Fry, 14th - FF Flashbaxx, 28th - Ballinloch. PUB: 7:30 - 10:30. IACES 22770 Lake Shore Blvd. Euclid, 44123. 216.731.4003 www.eastsideirish.org

Findlay

Logan's Irish Pub Trad Sessiún 3rd Wednesday. 414 South Main Street, Findlay 45840 419.420.3602 www.logan-sirishpubfindlay.com

Lakewood

Plank Road Tavern

Open Sessiún Every Thursday 7 - 10. \$3 Guinness and Jamieson. 16719 Detroit Avenue, 44107

Medina

Medina / Montrose Sully's

1st - Donal O'Shaughnessy, 7th - The Other Brothers, 8th - Our 9th Anniversary Party w The New Barleycorn, 14th - Good Friday, 15th - Nathan Henry, 21st - The Island Doctor, 22nd - Dan McCoy, 28th - Crawley & Hopper, 29th - Westside Steve. 117 West Liberty Medina, 44256 www.sullysmedina.com.

Mentor

Hooley House

7 - Faction, 14 - Collage, 21 - Disco Inferno, 28 - School Girl Crush. 7861 Reynolds Rd Mentor www.1funpub.com (440) 942-6611

Olmsted Township

West Side Irish American Club 9th - Easter Bunny Breakfast 10am to noon - advanced tickets only, 21st - Ceili w The Portersharks, 23rd - Spring "25 Card Tournament" 2pm. Great live music and food in The Pub every Friday. WSIA Club 8559 Jennings Rd. 44138 www.wsia-club.org. 440-235-5868.

Valley City

Gandalf's - Join us for Brunch EVERY SUNDAY. Great food, atmosphere, staff and fun. 6757 Center Road Valley City, 44280 www.gandalfspub.com.

Westlake

Hooley House

7 - Schoolgirl Crush, 21 - Faction, 28 - Other Brothers. 24940 Sperry Dr Westlake 44145. 1FunPub.com (440) 835-2890

Columbus

Columbus

Shamrock Club Events

Happy Hour every Friday from 5-7pm! 60 W. Castle Rd. Columbus 43207 614-491-4449 www.shamrockclubofcolumbus.com

Tara Hall

Traditional Irish music w General Guinness Band & Friends 2nd Friday 8:00 - 11:00pm. No Cover. Tara Hall 274 E. Innis Ave. Columbus, 43207 614.444.5949.



Join Us For Great Live Music Every Wednesday, Friday & Saturday

Call for Information 216.939.0200
www.the-harp.com

Located at 4408 Detroit Avenue



PLANK ROAD

TAVERN

Every Thursday is Irish Night 7 - 10pm

Open Seisiún -

Traditional musicians of all ages welcome!

\$3 GUINNESS & JAMESON ON THURSDAY NIGHTS

Come enjoy our patio,
expanded wine selection and new dinner menu!

16719 Detroit Ave. Lakewood, OH 44107

"It Was a Happy St. Patrick's Day!"



"It Was a Happy St. Patrick's Day!"



"It Was a Happy St. Patrick's Day!"



"It Was a Happy St. Patrick's Day!"



Irish American Hall of Fame Announces Their 2017 Class of Inductees

The Irish American Hall of Fame is proud to announce its 2017 Class of Inductees. Nine outstanding Irish Americans in seven categories were selected as this year's honorees and will be honored at the 7th Annual Irish American Hall of Fame Awards Gala on June 10, 2017 starting at 6L30pm in the Erin Room of The Irish American Heritage Center located at 4626 N. Knox Avenue, Chicago, IL.

Arts & Humanities

Ramón Antonio Gerardo Estévez (born August 3, 1940), better known by his stage name **Martin Sheen**, is an American actor who achieved fame with roles in the films

Badlands (1973), *Apocalypse Now* (1979), *The Departed* (2006), and *The Amazing Spider-Man* (2012). He also starred on television as President Josiah Bartlet in *The West Wing* (1999–2006.) Sheen was born in Dayton, Ohio, the son of Mary-Ann (née Phelan; 1903–1951) and Francisco Estévez Martínez (1898–1974). Both of Sheen's parents were immigrants, his father from Parderrubias, Galicia, Spain; and his mother from Borrisokane, County Tipperary, Ireland. It is alleged that he adopted his stage name, Martin Sheen, from a combination of the CBS casting director, Robert Dale Martin, who gave him his first big break, and the televangelist archbishop, Fulton J. Sheen. A lifelong advocate of social justice, Sheen was awarded the Laetare Medal, the highest honor bestowed on American Catholics, from the University of Notre Dame; he received an honorary degree of Doctor of Letters, honoris causa for his work on social and Catholic issues from Marquette University and in 2011 he was awarded an honorary life membership in the Law Society of University College Dublin.

William James "Bill" Murray (born September 21, 1950) was born and raised in Wilmette, Illinois. He is the fifth of nine children born to Lucille (née Collins) and Edward Joseph Murray

II. Murray got his start at The Second City in Chicago and in 1974 he moved to New York City and was recruited by John Belushi as a featured player on *The National Lampoon Radio Hour* along with Dan Ayroyd, and Gilda Radner. He was a member of the cast of *Saturday Night Live* from 1977-1980. He earned an Emmy Award and later went on

to star in comedy films, including *Meatballs* (1979), *Caddyshack* (1980), *Stripes* (1981), *Ghostbusters* (1984), *What About Bob?* (1991), and *Groundhog Day* (1993). Murray garnered additional critical acclaim later in his career, starring in many other films, including *Lost in Translation* (2003), which earned him an Academy Award nomination for Best Actor. Beginning with his roots at Second City, then later on *Saturday Night Live*, he was part of a group of pioneers who ushered in a new, frenetic type of sketch comedy fueled by improvisation.

Business and Industry

John Fitzpatrick is the president of the Fitzpatrick Hotel Group, North America, which owns and operates boutique hotels in Manhattan. He attended the prestigious hotel management course at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and then, after honing his skills with two major hotel organizations in Chicago, John returned to Ireland to work at family hotels in Dublin and Bunratty. He opened his first New York hotel in 1991. He is on the boards of both the American Ireland Fund and the Ireland-US Council. He is the recipient of the prestigious Ellis Island Medal of Honor and was recognized for his contributions to the peace process in Northern Ireland by being invested with an honorary OBE by Her Majesty the Queen. In 2011, Fitzpatrick was the recipient of an honorary Doctorate of Science and Economics from Queen's University in Belfast. He was born in Dublin, was educated in the United States and moved to the U.S. permanently in 1991. He became a U.S. citizen in approximately 2006.

Public Service

Audie Leon Murphy (June 20, 1925 – May 28, 1971) was born to sharecroppers near the community of Kingston in Hunt County, Texas. His parents, Emmett Barry Murphy and Jose Bell née Killian, were of Irish descent. After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Murphy rushed to a military recruiting station. After initially being turned down for service due to his size (5' 5", 110 lbs), Murphy became the most decorated American soldier of World War II. He received the Medal of Honor, the U.S. military's highest award for valor, along with 32 additional U.S. and

foreign medals and citations, including five from France and one from Belgium. LIFE magazine honored Murphy by putting him on the cover of its July 16, 1945 issue. That photograph inspired actor James Cagney to call Murphy and invite him to Hollywood to begin an acting career. Murphy's successful movie career included *To Hell and Back* (1955), based on his autobiography of the same title (1949). He starred in 39 Hollywood films. He died in a plane crash in 1971 and was interred, with full military honors, in Arlington National Cemetery. He married former airline stewardess Pamela Archer in 1951 and had two children, Terrance Michael "Terry" Murphy (born 1952) and James Shannon "Skipper" Murphy (born 1954).

Sports



Maureen Catharine Connolly (September 17, 1934 – June 21, 1969), known as "Little Mo", was an American tennis player. Her tennis career began at the age of 10 and at age 14, she

won 56 consecutive matches and the following year became the youngest ever to win the U.S. national championship for girls 18 and under. In 1951, she won the U.S. Championships, and at just 16 years old she was the youngest ever to win America's most prestigious tennis tournament. Connolly successfully defended her U.S. title and won Wimbledon in 1952. For the 1953 season, she entered all four Grand Slam tournaments: the Australian Open, the French Open, Wimbledon, and the U.S. Open. Winning all four titles, she became the first woman, and only the second person, to win the world's four major tournaments in the same year, commonly known as the "Grand Slam." On July 20, 1954, she was involved in a horseback riding accident which crushed her right leg, ending her tennis career at age 19. In June 1955, Connolly married Norman Brinker; they had two daughters, Cindy and Brenda. She and her husband established the "Maureen Connolly Brinker Tennis Foundation" to promote junior tennis. In 1966 Connolly Brinker was diagnosed with ovarian cancer, and died at age 34 in Dallas, Texas on June 21, 1969.

Religion

Fr. Mychal Judge (May 11, 1933 – September 11, 2001) was a chaplain for the NYC Fire Department

who gave his life during the 9/11 attacks. Robert Emmet (Mychal) Judge was the son of Irish Catholic immigrants from County Leitrim and grew up in Brooklyn, N.Y. during the Great Depression. In 1948, at the age of 15, Judge began the formation process to enter the Franciscan community. He completed his training and was ordained a Franciscan priest in 1961. Upon entering the Order of Friars Minor, he took the religious name of Michael, later changing the spelling to Mychal. In 1986, he was assigned to the monastery of St Francis of Assisi Church on West 31st Street, New York, where he lived and worked until his death in 2001. In 1992, Father Judge was appointed chaplain of the Fire Department of New York. Upon hearing the news that the World Trade Center had been hit, Father Judge rushed to the site. Judge administered the Last Rites to some lying on the streets, then entered the lobby of the World Trade Center North Tower. When the South Tower collapsed at 9:59 am, debris went flying through the North Tower lobby, killing many inside, including Fr. Judge. He is listed as the first recorded casualty of the 9/11 attacks. Judge was well known in the city for ministering to the homeless, the hungry, recovering alcoholics, people with AIDS, the sick, injured, and grieving, immigrants, gay and lesbian individuals and those alienated by the Church and society.



Education

Lawrence J. McCaffrey is Professor Emeritus of History from Loyola University Chicago. His work includes an extraordinary production of

writings, books, articles, short essays, and reviews about Irish and Irish American history. In 1976, he co-founded the American Conference on Irish Studies, a professional organization of academics with members from different countries. He received his B.A. from St. Ambrose College, Davenport, Iowa, his M.A. from Indiana University, and his PhD from the University of Iowa. He received an Honorary Doctor of Literature from the National University of Ireland, Dublin in 1987. Professor McCaffrey's publications enlightened not only the Irish in America but also the Irish in Ireland as to the contribution of Irish America to American history. Born in Chicago to a father from Co. Cavan, Larry McCaffrey has given his life's work to the study of the Irish experience in America. He is a pioneering social historian of the journey of Irish American



Catholics from their beginnings as an unskilled impoverished minority to the current status as an affluent, powerful and highly regarded group in American society. He is the author of numerous books and articles including "The Irish in Chicago," "Textures of Irish America" and "Ireland: From Colony to Nation State". And since its publication in 1976, "The Irish Catholic Diaspora in America" became the standard college and university text on the Irish-American story.

Science:



Mark and Scott Kelly were born in Orange, New Jersey on February 21, 1964 and are the sons Richard and Patricia Kelly, two retired police officers. They were raised in West Orange, New Jersey and graduated from Mountain High School in 1982. The Kelly brothers are the only twins and only siblings to have both traveled in

space. They most recently participated in NASA's Twins Study to determine how a year in space affects the human body. The Twins Study is comparing data from before, during and after astronaut Scott Kelly's one year mission in space with those of his identical twin brother, retired astronaut Mark, back on Earth. Mark Edward Kelly is a retired American astronaut, a U.S. Navy captain and a naval aviator who flew combat missions during the Gulf War. He was selected to become a NASA space shuttle pilot in 1996 and flew his first mission in 2001 as pilot of STS-108. He received a B.S. degree in marine engineering and nautical science from the United States Merchant Marine Academy graduating with highest honors in 1986. In 1994, he received an M.S. degree in aeronautical engineering from the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School. Mark Kelly retired in October 2011. Kelly is married to former U.S. Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords. Scott Joseph Kelly is a retired American astronaut, engineer and a U.S. Navy Captain. A veteran of three previous missions, Kelly was selected in November 2012 for a special year-long mission to the International Space Station, which began in March 2015. He returned to Earth on March 1, 2016. Kelly received his commission via the Navy Reserve Of-

ficer Training Corps (NROTC) following graduation from the State University of New York Maritime College in May 1987 where he received a B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering. He also holds a M.S. degree in Aviation Systems from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. He was designated a Naval Aviator in July 1989. Kelly retired in April 2016.

Now in its seventh year, The Irish American Hall of Fame is national in scope and operated under the auspices of the Irish American Heritage Center in Chicago. Nominations were solicited throughout the U.S. from September through December 2016. Over 400 nominations were received and a rigorous screening process was applied to produce a final slate of more than 30 candidates. A voting body of more than 100 prominent Irish Americans from across the country elected the winning 9 inductees.

The purpose of the Irish American Hall of Fame is to preserve the "story" of the Irish in America, by recognizing and honoring the outstanding contributions of Irish Americans to society in the areas of Arts & Humanities, Business & Industry, Public Service, Sports, Religion, Education and Science. Telling their story preserves our story. The Irish American Hall of Fame is

a place where the shared story of the Irish in America will be available to all with an interest in the bond between Ireland and America

Previous inductees

President John F. Kennedy (2011), Playwright Eugene O'Neill (2011), President Ronald Reagan (2014), Author F. Scott Fitzgerald (2013), Actor James Cagney (2013), Sister Rosemary Connelly RSM (2011), Golfer Ben Hogan (2015), Keller teacher Anne Sullivan (2016), Dancer Michael Flatley (2014), Director John Ford (2011), Ford Motor Company Founder Henry Ford (2011), Actress Maureen O'Hara (2011), Pittsburgh Steelers owner Daniel Rooney (2013), Actor Brian Dennehy (2016), Governor Edward F. Dunne (2016), Astronaut Colonel Eileen Collins (2013), The Fighting Sullivans (2012), Labor leader Mary "Mother" Jones (2014), Hall of Fame Baseball Manager Connie Mack (2014), Father Edward Flanagan (2012), Doctor Francis Collins (2015), author Frank McCourt (2016) and Mother Mary Frances Clarke BVM (2014)

For more information on the Irish American Hall of Fame and all 70 inductees, please visit www.iahof.org. For tickets to the Irish American Hall of Fame Gala, visit the website or call 773-282-7035.

Win a Cabin for Two
on the
CELTIC THUNDER
10TH ANNIVERSARY CRUISE

November 6th - 11th, 2017
Miami • Cozumel • Roatan, Honduras

Go to www.celticthundercruise.com
for your chance to win a Free Cruise for Two

President Trump Invites Irish Man of the Year, Brook Park Mayor Tom Coyne, to White House

Mayor Thomas J. Coyne of Brook Park, Ohio was invited to meet with President Donald Trump, on the eve of St. Patrick's Day, March 16, 2017. Mayor Coyne said that he would be using this opportunity to discuss jobs and the non-functioning Ford Motor Plant located in Brook Park, Ohio when he visits the White House.

"I am honored to be a guest of the President of the United States and I am hopeful that I can have his ear long enough to lay out the concerns I have regarding the non-productive Ford Motors site. I am hopeful to discuss how President Trump can help in restoring jobs to Northeast Ohio over the next four years."

"As the Mayor of Brook Park, it is imperative to sustain healthy relations between the federal and local government in Washington, DC. Particularly, a President who understands the importance of returning and maintaining manufacturing jobs to the United States."

And as Irish luck would have it, upon his return, on the morning of St. Patrick's Day, Mayor Coyne was honored as the, "Irish Good Person Of The Year", by the Irish Goodfellowship Club of Cleveland. This is the 107th Annual Irish Goodfellowship Luncheon.

Mayor Thomas J. Coyne Jr. has lived the Irish-American tradition of public service for

approximately 30 years. His grandparents, Coyne and Corrigan, emigrated to the U.S. at the turn of the 19th century from Achill Island and the Village of Westport, County Mayo with high hopes of prospering in America. They filled and enriched Tom's life with many wonderful traditions.

One of these, instilled by his father, Officer Thomas J. Coyne, Cleveland Police Dept., Mounted Unit, was religious attendance and participation in the highest of holidays on March 17. Officer Coyne proudly led the parade with his majestic Mounted Police Unit for over 25 years.

Young Tom's servant leadership started when he began working in the Brook Park Public Service Department while attending St. Edward High School. After graduation, his desire to serve led him to run for City Council, which he won handily in 1977. In 1981, he was elected the youngest mayor in the history of the City of Brook Park where he served for the next 20 years.

As Mayor, Tom's vision and accomplishments advanced Brook Park and the region. He initiated and successfully resolved litigation with the City of Cleveland that facilitated the expansion of Cleveland Hopkins International Airport and the regional economy, and which resulted in the placement of

NASA Glenn within Brook Park.

Throughout his career, Tom has worked tirelessly to advance the interests of NASA Glenn and the Aerospace Industry throughout northeast Ohio. Tom was also instrumental in the redevelopment of the "Tank Plant" into the "IX Center" which hosts hundreds of international, national and local trade shows and events every year. In November 2001, after twenty years in public office, Tom decided to take a break from political life.

Twelve years later, Brook Park residents recruited Tom to again seek the office of Mayor. He accepted the challenge, was sworn into office on January 1, 2014 He has poured his energy and passion into re-building Brook Park to provide a brighter tomorrow for the next generation. Tom remains active in many civic and charitable organizations. He serves as Vice Chairman for the Southwest Council of Governments and formerly served on the Board of Directors of the RTA and the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections.

He has been a candid and eloquent media contributor regarding trending political news and has made guest appearances on local, national and international news including WTAM, WKYC, WEWS, WOIO, WCPN Idea Stream, Fox News, Saturday Night Live, The Today Show, The BBC, ARD German Public Television, Switzerland Public Television, Argentina Public Television, and Sweden Public Television, to name a few.

Tom is a fitness enthusiast and talented, life-long softball player. His team won the 2017 World Tournament of Champions AAA Title in Florida. He has been inducted into the Greater Cleveland Softball Hall of Fame and the Greater Cleveland Senior Softball

Hall of Fame.

Tom is blessed with two adult children and anxiously awaits his first grandchild.

Thomas J. Coyne would like to sincerely thank the Cleveland Irish Goodfellowship Club, all present and all of the wonderful people who have befriended him throughout his career. He is honored and humbled to receive the Irishman of the Year Award.

"May you live as long as you want, and never want as long as you live!! God Bless you."

Callan – Spiritual, Real Home

Continued from page 13

grandparents' house was owned by Lady Annaly, an ancestor seemingly of British Princess Diana. These days most Callan people affected have bought out their ground rent.

One particularly distinctive house, the Stone Cottage dating from the 1870s, is said to be the building where tenants of old would pay their rents. This beautiful edifice still stands in Callan.

Veering towards a darker side, Callan Workhouse looms yet over the town today. It experienced a profoundly sad history during the hungry years of 1845-1852, although some of the horror wore off in more modern times when part of the Workhouse was used as a knitwear factory.

A long and completely straight road near the golf course, known presently as The New Line, was originally constructed by Famine victims under the Public Works acts. And the middle arch of Callan's lovely stone bridge crossing the King's River was blown up by republican forces in 1922 during our bitter civil war.

I have pictorial evidence of my out-and-out favourite story. The Irish Press newspaper featured a photograph on the front page of its Monday May 2 1938 issue, portraying Margaret McLean, a little girl with curly hair, making a presentation of Gaelic Diarist Humphrey O'Sullivan's works to the then American Ambassador to Ireland, Mr John Cudahy.

That little girl is my mother, then utterly unaware of the fact that she would subsequently marry an American from Cleveland, Ohio. He would work for many years in that same newspaper, the Irish Press. And his name was O'Sullivan.

So it was that several years ago, when a number of circumstances rendered it impossible for me to remain living in Dublin, it took me no time to decide where I should relocate. Callan has lived up to all of my mother's stories.



Where Do You Read Your OhIAN?

Future Roses at Leneghan Academy of Dance reading about the 2017 Rose Meghan Adams

Send us a pic of you with this or a past month's copy of the *Ohio Irish American News* or post it on our Facebook page and Winners will receive a \$20 gift certificate for the Hooley House, Pj McIntyre's or any of our other OhIAN advertisers, courtesy of your *Ohio Irish American News*.



Growing UP Irish

by Maureen Ginley



An Interview With the New Ohio Rose

Meghan Adams was named the 2017 Ohio Rose. Throughout the Selection process, she exuded the poise and sparkling personality that both Roses and Rose Entrants are known for. As we went from our Rose Tour to Selection Night, I had the pleasure of getting to know Meghan, her aspirations as a modern Irish woman, and her hopes for the year ahead.

1. How has life changed since you were chosen as the 2017 Ohio Rose?

I have enjoyed every second of this process and am here for the ride! I am now recognized at all the events I go to, and I get a ton of amazing advice from everyone that has even a little bit of an association with the festival. It's been incredible. I have met so many of my grandparents' friends, which I've been so grateful for, since they passed away while I was young. It goes to show how amazing they were. I live every day to make them proud. I wore a brooch that was my Grandma Kathleen's for Selection Night, so I am constantly reminded

through the various Irish activities I was involved with while growing up. Women I looked up to went through the process. However, I was re-introduced to the Festival as I was going into college. I decided not to do it then because I was going to school in Chicago, and I'm someone who puts my all into everything, so being in Chicago wouldn't have been a good idea for me.

This year, however, I decided to apply because I called my mentor from high school, Colleen Corrigan-Day, and asked her how I could get involved with the community. I knew I wanted to come home after graduating and needed additional reasons to come back to my beloved Cleveland. She immediately told me that this opportunity would be extremely beneficial to what I ultimately wanted to do.

3. What were your first thoughts upon hearing Sean Lackey announce your name on Selection Night?

I remember all of us applicants



the rest of the women. When they said my name, I was honestly in disbelief. My body was in shock.

Luckily I had all the other applicants hugging me, so no one noticed, but I was frozen. My brain had not even comprehended what had just happened (and wouldn't for a couple days to be honest). I still am slightly in disbelief. I am so honored and humbled.

4. What are some things - out-of-state, and in Ireland - that you would like to do with your year?

I want to go to as many Selection Nights in the States as I can. I'm aware that in Ireland, Roses will travel to other Selections, and I think that's incredible. I am so excited to

meet the other women!

I plan on going to the Chicago Rose Selection and possibly the Toronto Rose Selection. Here in Ohio, I want to get the word of the Ohio Rose Centre out. We have AMAZING women here in Ohio, but we may not have reached all of our potential applicants.

I plan on doing so by traveling to other Irish American clubs in Ohio, and inviting girls that stand out in their neighborhood to apply. This may be my excuse to go visit the 2016 Ohio Rose, Kathleen O'Donnell. Shh!

In Ireland, I plan on being myself and having a good time. It would be an amazing honor to win



of her presence.

2. How did you hear about the Ohio Rose Centre? What made you apply for this year's Selection?

I heard about the Ohio Rose Centre

hugging each other waiting for the announcement and thinking to myself, "I am surrounded by some of the most amazing women I have met to date." I was really happy to be among you and



Casey's Irish Imports

**Religious Gifts ~ Jewelry
Traditional Irish Sweaters
Inis Perfume ~ Candy and Food
Waterford Crystal ~ Belleek China**

**Stop into Casey's this Spring
for all your Easter, Communion,
Mother's Day and Graduation gifts...**

17% off any one item

(excludes food, gift cards, lucky finds, and previous purchases)

expires 4/30/17

Casey's Irish Imports, Inc.

19626 Center Ridge Road
Rocky River, OH 44116
(440) 333-8383
www.caseysirishimports.com





Using the Unskilled Narrative

It was William F. Hickey in *Irish Americans and Their Communities in Cleveland* who noted that the first Irish in our town were "rough and tumble, mannerless men, who seemed interested only in obtaining the bare necessities of life and drinking..." These were the canal workers who inhabited Whiskey Island. These Irish "fluctuated between rage and despair and needed their bottle and brawls to stave off madness on an epidemic scale," according to Mr. Hickey.

He is not alone in his depiction of the Famine Irish. For many, it is the Famine Irish that tells the tale of all Irish immigration. Historians regurgitate the same dogma of our diaspora. The Irish immigrant lacked skilled labor. The Irish immigrant was uneducated and illiterate. The Irish immigrant was tied to a cultural tradition that had difficulty adapting to industrial America.

If only poor Paddy was as skilled as those German Americans. They took

all the skilled jobs, being so skilled and all. The Famine Irish were so backward that it was necessary to invent the term Scots-Irish. We would not want those skilled Protestants to get confused with the "ghetto Irish," another Hickey phrase.

Scholarship on the Irish in America increases our understanding of the Irish immigrant. We can now examine in more depth how emigrant groups survived in multiple contexts, in spite of their social and assimilation obstacles.

It is true that the Irish emigrant did not settle exclusively in urban centers, but a substantial majority did. It is also apparent that the vast majority of emigrants who left nineteenth-century Ireland, in particular during the second half of the century, were poor, with few economic resources. No one is belaboring those points.

Most Irish did not have the capital to invest in land in rural America, like those skilled Germans. Irish inhabited initially the corpulent urban centers of the east, such as Boston, New York and Philadelphia.

Ireland became an endless source of cheap labor for these industrial metropolises. The question I ask is why? As an intellectual descendent of cultural materialists like Marvin Harris, I stipulate to the economic realities. Emigrants had been among the poorest groups in Ireland; they occupied a similar position in America.

The majority of Irish secured the most menial employment in urban centers. They toiled amid unforgiving working environments, received derisory wages and endured cyclical economic depressions.

Max Weber, a German, noted that the cultural nexus never points in a singular direction. The Irish did not aspire to manual labor. The Irish were not elated to dig canals. The Irish were not predisposed to dig canals. We must look beyond the paradigm of the end as catalyst to the means. These tales of backwardness supplement stereotypes with faux historicity.

Employers regarded the Irish as disposable and much of the laborious, treacherous drudgery was delegated to them. Enslaved Africans were deemed to be of more economic esteem. Yet, the Irish continued to emigrate.

Once in America, they represented the lowest rung of the social scale, not a novelty in their narrative. It was also not by choice. Nativists and American industrial management recognized them as vulnerable and consumable. Second verse, same as the first.

Industrial America imported not only cheap labor from Ireland; but it also imported the racism and bias of England toward the Irish. The backward Irish were only capable of labor. So unskilled. Oddly enough, that storyline worked out perfectly for the same employers who required exactly that. Collective and individual defense mechanisms were exploited to reinforce the same stereotypes that caused the defense mechanisms.

The Irish in America and in Cleveland utilized the limited advantages available by living and working together in close-knit communities in what historians classify as, "an Ireland away from Ireland." They formed their own associations and membership in bodies which signified their ethnicity.

The ruffians of Whiskey Island found jobs at the docks. Their labor continued to be all that was required, or allowed, by America. It was not all they had to offer.

The issue is not what skilled and unskilled are defined as, it is what they are saying; terms that extend a simple meaning to mean that people are simple. A third of the Irish coming to America did not

speaking English. That does not make them illiterate. It makes them Gaelic speakers.

In Ireland, industrialization was restricted. Laws were made restricting occupations based on religion. Education was limited. That does not make the Irish dumb. My people were not simple. My people were not solely interested in the bare necessities and the bottle.

Monies obtained by sweat and blood on the Cleveland docks was not directly deposited in one of the 13 pubs on Whiskey Island. The Irish in Cleveland contributed to the economic survival of their families in Ireland, at times providing the primary means for survival for entire Irish cities.

The Irish in Cleveland contributed to the building of Catholic Churches; the Irish in Cleveland contributed to social and political movements in Ireland to. As more of their brethren arrived on the shores of Lake Erie, they built sizeable economic and political strength.

One of the most important features to emerge from recent scholarship is an insight into the work practices and labor organizations of the Irish in America. Cleveland Irish and the Irish in America had a plan.

We went from working on the docks to running the International Longshoremen's Association. However, our success does not reaffirm the prejudices suffered by the early Irish in America. We have not come farther by agreeing to place the early immigrants lower.

These "unskilled and backwards" immigrants understood the global economy and the value of remittance. Germans purchased farms and were skilled enough to milk cows. So skilled. Many of them did not speak English, however illiterate and ignorant is not their narrative.

The Irish gained an economic and political comprehension that allowed upward mobility. In Cleveland we moved up from the Flats, both eastwards and westwards. Not backwards. Not unskilled. Geographically up.

It is vital as we re-understand our history, that we do not accept the same bias inflicted upon our people. Today's historians who use the unskilled narrative to explain a people intertwined with the nomenclature of contemporary scholarship are telling the same story; they are the thoughts of Cromwell in modern ink. No less biased; no less incomplete.

For additional readings please see: Kerby Miller, *Emigrants and Exiles: Ireland and the Irish Exodus to America*; or Dennis Clark, *Hibernia Ireland: The Irish and Regional Cultures*.



Want to gear Up for St. Patrick's Day? Feel the benefits to your body of Massotherapy

Purchase (3) 60 minute or 30 minute massages, Get (1) 60 minute or 30 minute massage FREE Must purchase by 4/30/17

West Park Massotherapy and Dance!

Got Waltz? Get it Here

Featuring expert instruction with Marilyn Valentino

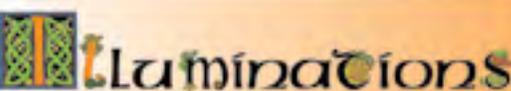
Hustle Class every Tuesday evening w/ Ken Muntz & Rosanne Dute 7pm Beginner/ 8pm Intermediate

Call us for more information! 216-671-6080

Licensed by Ohio State Medical Board Certified BWC Provider 4168 Rocky River Drive Cleveland, OH 44135

www.westparkmassotherapy.com





By J. Michael Finn



The Bull Laudabiliter

The Viking influence in Ireland ended when Brian Boru defeated a Viking led force at the Battle of Clontarf, in 1014. Little did Brian know that the ancestors of the Vikings, the Normans, would return to Ireland 155 years later. Ironically, this second Viking invasion occurred at the request of one of Brian's distant ancestors.

By the 12th century, Ireland was divided politically into a number of sub-kingdoms, their rulers contended for the High-Kingship of Ireland and for control of the whole island. On August 1, 1166, Dermot Mac Murrough, King of Leinster (a distant ancestor of Brian Boru), was forcibly exiled from Ireland by a confederation of Irish forces under the High King, Rory O'Connor. The grounds for the exile were that MacMurrough had, in 1152, abducted Derbforgail, the wife of Tirenán O'Roarke, the King of Breifne Breifne territory included current day counties of Leitrim and Cavan, along with parts of County Sligo.

The exiled Mac Murrough fled first to Bristol, England and then to Normandy. He sought and obtained permission from King Henry II of England to hire Henry's Norman subjects as a mercenary force to return to Ireland and recover his kingdom.

In exchange for this support, Mac Murrough pledged an oath of allegiance to Henry II, who would also supply English and Welsh soldiers to support the invasion. To the Norman lords who would help him, he offered plunder, riches and land.

Armed with Henry's support, in 1167 Mac Murrough obtained the services of Maurice Fitz Gerald and Maurice's half-brother Robert Fitz Stephen to take part in the expedition. Most importantly, he also recruited Norman Lord Richard de Clare, 2nd Earl of Pembroke, also known as Strongbow. To gain the support of Strongbow, Mac Murrough promised him the hand of his daughter Aoife in marriage and the future kingship of Leinster.

In 1169 the Norman force landed in Ireland at Bannow Bay. They laid siege to Wexford, which fell in May. The forces of High King Rory O'Connor marched into Leinster and opposed Mac Murrough. With the mediation of the Church, the commanders of the two armies began negotiations at

Ferns, County Wexford, Mac Murrough's political base.

An agreement was reached, whereby Mac Murrough was allowed to remain King of Leinster and in return he would recognize O'Connor as High King. Mac Murrough was later known by the somewhat derogatory title Diarmait na nGall (der-met na ngal which is Irish for "Dermott of the Foreigners").

But intrigue was brewing across the Irish Sea. Mac Murrough's promise to Strongbow that he would inherit the Kingdom of Leinster became a concern to King Henry II. Henry feared the establishment of a rival Norman state in Ireland. Accordingly, he resolved to visit Leinster to establish his authority. Henry's authority for exerting his invasion of Ireland was the Papal Bull Laudabiliter.

A bull is a letter written by the Pope that takes its name from the lead seal attached to it. This bull derives its title from the Latin word *laudabiliter*, meaning laudably or in a praiseworthy manner.

The bull was allegedly issued by Pope Adrian IV (the first and only English pope) in 1155. The bull purports to grant the right to King Henry II to invade and govern Ireland and to enforce religious reforms on the Church in Ireland. Irish Church reform was promoted by the Archbishop of Canterbury William Theobald in response to an earlier establishment of Ireland as being under the authority of the Archbishop of Armagh. Theobald believed that the Irish Church should be under English control. He was likely one of Henry II advisors who encouraged the invasion of Ireland.

Historian Stephen J. McCormick, in his preface to *The Pope and Ireland*, notes that it was well known that the forgery of Papal documents was fairly common in the 12th century. Currently, any attempt at locating the original document is impossible, as neither England nor the Vatican has an original copy of the document.



Mac Murrough

Both Waterford and Dublin were proclaimed Royal Cities.

Henry awarded his Irish territories to his youngest son, John, with the title *Dominus Hiberniae* ("Lord of Ireland"). When Henry's brother John unexpectedly succeeded him as King John, the "Lordship of Ireland" fell directly under the English Crown.

Henry was acknowledged by most of the Irish Kings, who saw in him a chance to curb the expansion of both Leinster and the Normans. Most of the Irish kings submitted to Henry at Dublin. This led to the ratification of the Treaty of Windsor (1175) between Henry and Rory O'Connor. However, with Mac Murrough and Strongbow dead (in 1171 and 1176), and Henry back in England, within two years it was not worth the paper

Consequently, many historians have attacked the bull *Laudabiliter* as being a complete forgery. The historical controversy regarding the *Laudabiliter* generally focuses on one of three conditions: the document is authentic; it is a complete forgery, or it is a modified version of the original.

In addition, it is likely, if the bull actually existed, that it was based on inaccurate information or misunderstanding regarding the then state of the Church in Ireland that had been reported by St. Malachy through the writings of St. Bernard of Clairvaux. Henry II landed with a large fleet at Waterford on October 17, 1171, becoming the first King of England to set foot on Irish soil.

it was inscribed upon.

Norman privateers and soldiers of fortune flooded into Ireland. Norman John de Courcy invaded and gained much of east Ulster in 1177; Raymond Fitz Gerald had already captured Limerick and much of north Munster; while other Norman families were actively carving out virtual kingdoms for themselves.

What eventually occurred in Ireland in the late 12th and early 13th century was a change from acquiring lordship over men to colonizing land. The Norman invasion and occupation of Ireland resulted in the founding of walled borough towns, numerous castles and churches, the importing of tenants and an increase in agriculture and commerce. Some Normans living further from Dublin and the east coast adopted the Irish language and customs and intermarried with the Irish.

The *Laudabiliter* had a continuing political relevance into the 16th century. King Henry VIII of England was excommunicated by Pope Paul III on December 17, 1538, causing his opponents to question his continuing claim to be "Lord of Ireland," which was based on the *Laudabiliter*.

Henry established through an act of Parliament the Kingdom of Ireland in 1542, whereby the kingdom was to be ruled in "personal union" with the Kingdom of England. This was not recognized by Europe's Roman Catholic monarchs. As a result, in 1555 a further papal bull *Ilius* was issued by Pope Paul IV, naming Queen Mary and her husband Philip II of Spain as monarchs of Ireland.

*J. Michael Finn is the Ohio State Historian for the Ancient Order of Hibernians and Division Historian for the Patrick Pearse Division in Columbus, Ohio. He is also Chairman of the Catholic Record Society for the Diocese of Columbus, Ohio. He writes on Irish and Irish-American history; Ohio history and Ohio Catholic history. You may contact him at FCoolavin@aol.com.

BRANCHES AND ROOTS

Genealogical Research & Services

Matthew T. Hout-Reilly

matthew@branchesandroots.us

P.O. Box 161143 • Rocky River, OH 44116-9998

WWW.BRANCHESANDROOTS.US

**CLE
INT'L
FILM
FEST**

41

ILLUMINATE

MARCH 29–APRIL 9, 2017

PRESENTED BY DOLLAR BANK

clevelandfilm.org

RIDE RTA TO TOWER CITY



**CLE
INT'L
FILM
FEST**

41

ILLUMINATE

MARCH 29–APRIL 9, 2017

PRESENTED BY DOLLAR BANK

clevelandfilm.org

RIDE RTA TO TOWER CITY

