

KATIE GRENNAN THE SECOND STORY



*Katie Grennan
is her own Gaelic Storm*

... Page 29

OHIO Irish American NEWS

MILESTONE

Our thoughts and prayers remain with the families of John Duffy and Tom Lynch, laid to rest



John Duffy



in December. Both were men who lived in action the credo of giving to those in need; their obituaries are on page 12

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On This Day in Irish History

JANUARY

by Terrence Kenneally

14 January 1965 - Taoiseach Sean LeMass and the prime minister of Northern Ireland, Captain Terence O'Neill, meet at Stormont Castle, breaking the ice in cross-border relations for the first time since partition.

20 January 1915 - Sir Arthur Guinness, head of the family brewing business (1868-77) and philanthropist who donated St. Stephen's Green to the city of Dublin (1863) died.

20 January 1968 - Death of Sir Arthur Chester Beatty. Born in New York, he was the first honorary citizen of Ireland. A miner by trade and a collector of art, books, and minerals, he made a significant contribution to the raw material supplies for the allies during World War II, for which he was later knighted. He left his library in trust and was the first private citizen to be accorded a state funeral.

22 January 1632 - Work begins at a Franciscan monastery in Donegal on the Annals of the Four Masters. Beginning with the deluge (dated as 2,242 years from creation to A.D. 1616), they are an

astonishingly accurate record of medieval history. Several manuscript copies are still in existence.

23 January 1608 - "Plantation of Ulster" begins. James I allows English and Scottish Protestants to settle on land confiscated from the Gaelic Irish.

24 January 1973 - Death of musician, folklorist, and master carpenter Willie Clancy, best known for his playing of the uilean pipes.

25 January 1627 - Robert Boyle, creator of Boyle's Law, is born in County Waterford.

16 January 1907 - First production of John Millington Synge's, "The Playboy of the Western World" at the Abbey Theatre, immediately provoking controversy as it implied that the Irish were unfit to self-rule; the infamous "Playboy" riots resulted.

30 January 1972 - Bloody Sunday - the British Army fires at unarmed civil rights protesters in the Bogside district of Derry. Fourteen marchers die of their injuries and another thirteen are wounded.

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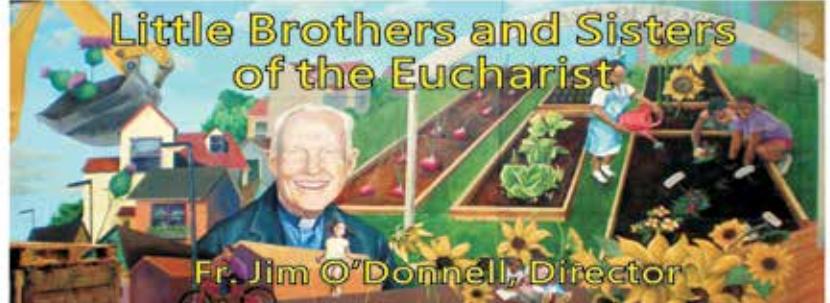
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By Bob Carney

Greenisland Pub and Restaurant

Greenisland is a town in County Antrim, Northern Ireland. It is also Greenisland Pub and Restaurant, named for the Belfast neighborhood that owner Sean McConnell lived in

cabbage. A fine selection of spirits and ales can also round out your meal.

Greenisland occupies a former Lawson's location. When Sean moved into the building, he designed and did most of the renovation himself, all while working for The Ford Motor Company. He put a lot of thought and



before leaving for a new life in America in 1971. Located in Bay Village, it is easily accessible just off of Interstate 90 at Route 252 / Columbia Road. Sean has focused on good food and great service. His staff are all long time employees that he considers family.

More restaurant than pub, the menu offers items not usually associated with pub fare. The Norwegian Salmon Filet is one of my favorites. Steaks, pork chops, lamb chops, as well as a variety of Irish specialties are some of the dinner entrees.

Grilled burgers and sandwiches, including a Teriyaki Portabella sandwich (a portabella mushroom cap topped with sautéed peppers and onions, a grilled pineapple slice, served with tomato and lettuce on a kaiser roll) are also available. On the 17th of every month, you can celebrate St. Patrick's Day with corned beef &

personal touches on the decor and it shows.

Greenisland is a very comfortable place; Sean makes you feel very welcome, and I think that's why most of the diners are long-time regulars. Stop in and give Greenisland a try; you won't be disappointed.

Editor's Note: The heart of our issue has always been our advertisers. Greenisland has been of one heart with the Ohio Irish American News since 2008.

Look for Sean's compelling story of Belfast, and his emigration, in an upcoming issue of the OhioIANews.

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SPEAK IRISH

Labhair Gaeilge

By Bob Carney



Bliain na Gaeilge 2018

Happy New Year everyone I hope the holidays went well for you. I have a couple of quick notes before we jump into our lesson for the month.

Bliain na Gaeilge 2018 is a year long celebration of the Irish language and marks the 125th anniversary of its revival. Conradh na Gaeilge is the democratic forum for the Irish speaking community.

Established July 31, 1893, it's work inspired and played a role in Irelands push for independence by instilling national and cultural pride throughout the country. Over fifty Irish language, Gaeltacht and culture groups are taking part in Bliain na Gaeilge 2018 so far. The Gaelic Athletic Association in particular has a few events planned and hopes to put more emphasis on the language. There will be a Lá Gaelach (Irish day) at Croke Park in March, and the events will be run in Irish.

All of the programs being initiated are to create awareness of the language and to inspire all of us to participate. It will be an opportunity to highlight the challenges as well as the achievements regarding the language in the past 125 years. I will pass on information as I receive it, so you can participate in these events.

In this month's Cleveland Comrá, I included the motto used by The Akron Celtic Guards. The last phrase, Faugh na Ballagh, is an anglicized spelling of Fág na Bealach (faw nah bah-lahk) Clear the Way!

It was first used as a battle cry by the Royal Irish Fusiliers in 1798, and later adopted by the 16th New York Volunteer Infantry in the American Civil War. It is not uncommon to run across words or phrases in literature that, although Irish, have taken on English spelling.

As beginners, sometimes it can be difficult to follow someone as they're speaking, or we may have trouble finding the correct word to use. This months vocabulary will help us to understand and to be understood.

Ceart go leor (kyart guh lore) ok , all right
 Tá sé sin go maith (taw shay shin guh mah)
 That's good
 Tuigim (tigg-um) I understand
 Ní thuigim (nee higg-um) I don't understand
 Níl a fhios agam (neel iss ah gum)
 I don't know
 An bhfuil Gaeilge / Bearla agat?
 (ahn will gawl ah gay / ber lah ah gut)
 Can you speak Irish/ English?
 Tá beagánín Gaeilge agam
 (taw ba ah gon in gawl ih gay ah gum)
 I speak a little Irish
 Cuir Gaeilge ar ... dom, le do thoil
 (car gawl ah gay ar...dum lay duh hahl)
 How do you say...in Irish, please

Cad is brí le...? (kahd iss bree la...)
 What does... mean?
 Abar arís é, más é do thoil é
 (ah ba areesh ay, mosh ay duh ho lay)
 Repeat it please
 Ná labhair chomh tapa san, más é do thoil é
 (nah lowhr koh tapa sahn, mosh ah duh ho
 lay) Speak more slowly, please
 Scríobh é, más é do thoil é
 (skreeve ay, mosh ah duh ho lay) Write it , please
 Tá an ceart agat (taw ahn kyart ah gut) That's right
 Ní féidir liom Gaeilge a labhairt
 (nee fay-der lum gawl ah gay a lowh irt)
 I can't speak Irish
 Ba mhaith liom Gaeilge a chleachtadh
 (buh vah lum gawl ah gay ah kell tah)
 I want to practice Irish
 Ba mhaith liom Gaeilge a labhairt
 (buh vah lum gawl ah gay lowh irt)
 I want to speak Irish
 Ba mhaith liom é a fhoghlaim
 (buh vah lum ay a oh lum) I want to learn it
 Tá mé ag foghlaim Gaeilge
 (taw may ahg fow-lim gawl ah gay) I am learning Irish
 An bhféadfaí cuidiú liom?

(un vayd-faw cudge-oo lee-um) Can you help me?
 Abair arís é go mall, le do thoil
 (ah-ber areesh ay guh mawl, leh duh hull)
 Please repeat that slowly
 Tá ceist agam (taw kesht ah gum) I have a question

Once again, I want to mention how helpful a dictionary is in learning the language. My favorite and free on-line dictionary is Teanglann www.teanglann.ie. It has a pronunciation tool to allow you to hear the word spoken by speakers in all three dialects, as well as the definition and phrases using the word.

Social media has numerous pages you can follow on Facebook and Twitter. My friend John Handy of Philadelphia has a fantastic page to follow called Irish Language Learners. Every day he posts a very short lesson aimed at beginners. Finally, The Ohio Irish American News offers Speak Irish Cleveland Classes, where you can learn a few phrases and meet some new friends. Our next session starts January 16th. Contact me at the email below to sign up.

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Tasmanian Irish: Can My Pony Come Too?

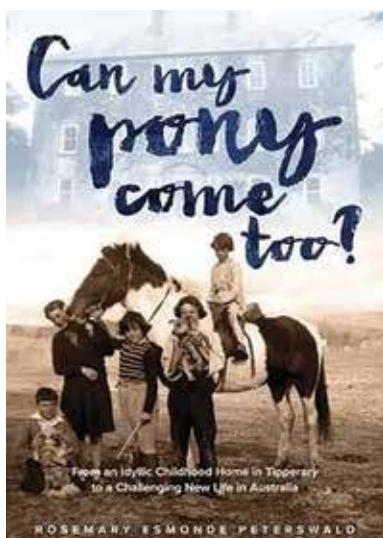
by Paula Xiberras

Rosemary Peterswald has made the journey not just from Ireland to Australia, but from living in real estates, in the form of big houses and a castle in Ireland, to working in real estate here in Tasmania. We might claim Rosemary as a Tasmanian even though she no longer lives here; her family's legacy continues in the form of daughter Charlotte's Peterswald Real Estate.

Presently, Rosemary and her husband sail around the world, writing about seafood and wine and the places they dine! I caught up with Rosemary to have a chat about her autobiography, 'Can My Pony Come Too?' which recounts her early childhood in Ireland and subsequent immigration to Australia and later Tasmania.

Rosemary, known as 'teeny' to her family, owing to her fifth child status in the family, spent her early life around Glendalough, in her home of Wicklow, Ireland. Glendalough is the place of St Kevin's monastic settlement and the famous rock called St Kevin's Chair, which it is said, if you sit on it you can cure illness.

In her book Rosemary revisits some of the pivotal places of her childhood, including Haughton Castle, once owned by Rosemary's family, the Esmonde's. She meets its colourful inhabitant, a lady who is one of the few people who can boast she conversed with both WB Yeats and Mick Jagger, when they stayed at the castle.



The castle is also famous for its celebrities of another era, in the form of ghosts, including the first wife of Lord Esmonde, Ailish O'Flaherty, who was the granddaughter of Ireland's Pirate Queen, Grace O'Malley. The ghost of Ailish appears in a section of the castle where she stood awaiting for her husband's return from war.

Far away from this fairy tale world of castles and magic, Rosemary and her family set up life in Australia with characteristic resourcefulness that saw them take on a number of different jobs. However, perhaps the most difficult job was coping with the snakes and bats of Australia; the former of course, unknown in Ireland having been banished by St Patrick!

An additional difficulty faced by Rosemary and her family was adapting to the peculiarities of their new land. Rosemary recounts examples of her mum's grappling with the language, such as being asked to 'bring a plate' to an evening out,

and quite literally bringing a plate, but an empty one! On being asked by a neighbour to take care of the children and 'hoping they don't get in the road' Rosemary's mum was quick to answer that she always kept a keen eye on them, and they wouldn't get out on to the road'.

Rosemary met her husband Rob, through her brother, when they both trained in Duntroon. After marriage, Rosemary and Rob were posted to New Guinea. When they returned to Australia, a casual meeting encouraged them to move to Tasmania, where they set up an apple farm.

This produced its own apple anecdotes, such as the time a representative of the Jewish community on the mainland interested in purchasing some apples came to observe the farm. Fortunately, he nodded off during the visit and didn't see the pigs interacting with the apples!

Later on, Rosemary and Rob entered another career change, this time into real estate, as 'Peterswald'. Eventually it was time for this eclectically enthusiastic couple to explore new horizons, literally, as they began sailing Australian and international waters, experiencing the culture, seafood and

wine of their travels. This resulted in the production of a number of coffee table books.

Tasmania still holds a special place in Rosemary's heart to the extent she chose to launch her autobiography here. 'Can My Pony Come Too?' is out now published by Ballynastragh Books. You can read more about Rosemary at

<http://ballynastraghbooks.com.au/index.php/about-rob-and-rosemary-peterswald>



The 176th Cleveland St. Patrick's Day Parade Pins are now on sale. Stamped with 2018, the pins are an annual tradition, and the main source of funding for the 5th oldest parade in America. Only \$10, make checks to UIS (United Irish Societies). Mail SASE to OhioIAnews 14615 Triskett Road Cleveland, OH 44111 or call John @ 216.647.1144.





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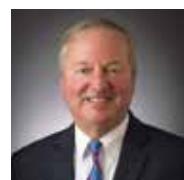
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A Firm Foundation

by Ken Callahan

Karen Corrigan-Davis

While Irish Americans can with pride reflect on the contributions they have made to the larger Greater Cleveland Community inordinate to their mere numbers, in political life, in law, the clergy, the arts and in commerce, it is a rarer occurrence for such contributions to come from a single extended family.

Mary Ann Corrigan-Davis is the product of such a family. She herself is the perfect admixture of East/West Side Irish backgrounds:

Her Mom's family, the Hopkins, emigrated from Crossmolina in County Mayo and grew up in St. Philomena's parish on Euclid Avenue, while her Dad, the Honorable John V. (the "original") Cor-



to Our Lady of Angels Parish. She attended St. Joseph Academy, graduating in 1971, and later graduated from John Carroll University cum laude in 1975. Mary Ann attended Weatherhead, where she got

her Masters and did some undergraduate work at the Sorbonne in Paris.

Corrigan joined the American Greeting Card Corporation as a sales rep and rose, in her 27 years with the company, to Senior Vice President, and headed up the Asian Pacific Group. While there, she met and married her husband, Ed Davis. The couple are parishioners at St. Malachi Parish.

After many years of service on its Board, Mary Ann was named President of St. Joseph Academy, when she left American Greeting in 2006, where she has been happily ensconced ever since.

Karen credits the influence of her faith as providing the foundation that inspired her life's work. Her Dad, once a Jesuit Postulant, was appointed first to a vacancy on the Cleveland Municipal Court by Governor Frank

Lausche in 1952, and was later elected to the Common Pleas Court and 8th District Court of Appeals. As with many Irish families, the week pivoted around the Sunday dinner table, with prayer and

reflection, and in the presence of clergy, including her uncle, Monsignor Tom Corrigan.

She is very fulfilled in sharing and discussing her faith with the students at St. Joseph Academy, with her "720 daughters" as she puts it. Mary Ann recently told the Plain Dealer: "One of my goals for the young women here is to give them a global perspective. We have girls from Columbia, Venezuela, Vietnam ... we have refugees. We need more immigrants in Cleveland. Diversity is exciting. That is the world."

Mary Ann Corrigan-Davis'

view of the world is formed in part by her nearly 30 years of corporate work. It began and continues to be transmitted to young women in the parlors and classrooms of Cleveland.

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By Lisa O'Rourke

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That Funny Little Mark

Being anonymous can be a good thing. It can also be frustrating; sometimes you want to be memorable. I started life with a name that is the modern equivalent of Jane Doe. The New York Times, describing the baby girls who were born in the sixties, called my first name, Lisa, a juggernaut in a piece.

Alright, but a common first name can be saved unless your last name is, hmm..., Smith. I know that I don't need to say

more. I was generic.

It wasn't easy to be forgettable as a Jane Doe, and it got worse when I started college. There were often so many Lisa's in my classes that professors offered to use our last names to ease the situation; it didn't help me.

Saying my name usually elicited a rolling of eyes. I tell this tale so that you can imagine my delight when I received my new married name, O'Rourke, which is so distinct and clearly ethnic.

The beginning of my married life started in England and Ire-

land. My new last name was not a problem, except for an occasional minor spelling inquiry. While O'Rourke is not a common name, it is well known there.

My newfound name happiness was short-lived. Time went on, and my husband and our new family moved to Ohio. I don't need to tell you that I went from a name that I never spelled once in my life, to one that I have never stopped spelling in O'Rourke. Now, I spell it as I say it and I absolutely will not stop in the middle for corrections, because I learned that people get very balled up in the o's and r's.

Spelling is one element. The apostrophe adds a whole other dimension. I am sure that there are readers out there who feel my pain.

We play a game called the apostrophe Hokey Pokey. It is a game that I play every time that I have to spell my name: "Put the apostrophe in, take the apostrophe out, put the apostrophe in and shake it all about." Apparently some computer systems recognize that mark and others don't. It is completely random and kind of exhausting.

You never know when you are going to get lucky and guess correctly which system that you have chanced upon, or when you are going to frustrate everyone while some indifferent worker checks the system to see if they can find you. I say things like, "How about we just use my phone number?" Once I was ordering a cake for one of my sons and the lady at the bakery asked me, "How you spell apostrophe?" thinking that my name was Oapostropherourke.

There were a few times that it was not funny; missing airline reservations, insurance problems... Then came the ultimate for us.

I had to do the FAFSA for the first time for our younger son. I knew what I was facing since I had done it a few times for our elder son. Those of you who have not endured this, it is the computer bureaucracy that the government generated for citizens who hope to send their children

PATRONYMIC



Ó means "descendant of," also interpreted as "grandson of."

to college. Count yourself lucky if you have avoided this.

I prepared, as many parents do, with lots of coffee, document gathering, candy supplies and some shouting. I finally completed the hours of screens and attestations and printed my certificate of completion. Hurray!!!

Only I received an email a few days later stating that I had never submitted! The process began again, coffee, documents, candy and shouting. This process repeated several times before I decided to try the "help" line. After about ninety minutes on hold, a person on the line confirmed that we had submitted and all was well.

That was until we got to Cincinnati and were moving my son in only to find out that the form was not submitted and he was not formally registered for school. What I discovered to my genuine amazement was that when we moved back to Ohio and went to the local Social Security office, whomever did our paperwork there, put two members of our family in the system

with apostrophes in the name and two without. My younger son was one of the ones put in without. I had to take his green, two-foot long, handwritten Irish birth certificate down to the Social Security office.

The initial reaction was that document was not acceptable. To their credit, the people in the office quickly realized that we were all about to make the papers, and they decided that they could accept his birth certificate.

A few weeks ago, I saw in a newsletter that I receive that a family, the O'Learys, have started a movement to induce improvements in software conventions so that apostrophe use is recognized and consistent. It is called the Keep the Apostrophe in Irish Names. Irish families are not the only ones that use the apostrophe.

I know that some Italian names also use that little mark, and I'm sure that there are others. In the Irish example, it comes from the preposition, ó, which means out of or from. So a family would be "of Rourke". It was a way of stating who your family patron was, with ó, it was the grandfather. Removing the O', blurs the meaning. In our multi-cultural world, it should not be that difficult. I had an acquaintance tell me how much she liked my name and I reluctantly shared with her that it is a bit of a pain. It would be great if all of us O's could feel good about our funny marks.

*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. She enjoys spending time with her dog, cats and fish. Lisa can be contacted at olisa07@icloud.com.

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*Ireland
Past and
Present*

By Niamh O'Sullivan

Nollaig na mBan

It is a charming old Irish custom – Nollaig na mBan, or Women's Little Christmas. It takes place annually on January 6, the twelfth and final day of Christmas. Irish women celebrate this day which is shared with the better known Feast of the Epiphany. Sadly Nollaig na mBan is a dying tradition in many counties, with the exceptions of Cork and Donegal.

I carried out a mini survey for this column. Whilst all those questioned had heard of it, virtually nobody was aware of precisely what it entailed. My own personal memories were also rather vague – I remembered the mere outline, describing it as "a day for women to be spoiled by their families".

We all know about the twelve days of Christmas; mothers and grandmothers in Irish families have hosted the previous eleven days, working ceaselessly with no thought for themselves to ensure the entire family enjoys the season. The twelfth day is theirs. Several distinct rituals are involved: the children might bring Mom her breakfast in bed; or women might get together to finally enjoy their own personal Christmas whilst their men would stay home and carry out all the chores. Other versions have women traditionally visiting each other's houses for tea, cake and a chat.

My (ironic) favourite is the tradition where a special cake is presented on January sixth to the mother by her family for her delectation. She has, naturally, baked the cake herself several days previously! Whichever activities are enjoyed, great-hearted women are finally waited upon hand and foot – this day is all about them.

Three years ago, the Jackie Clarke Collection, in Ballina, Co Mayo, decided to celebrate Nollaig na mBan. Anne Marie Forbes, Community Development Officer with the Jackie Clarke, and her wonderful Volunteer Committee wished to revive the custom, influenced greatly by Anne Marie's mother-in-law, who nurtured a great love for this special women's day.

January 6th, 2018, will be their fourth year in a row shining the spotlight on Nollaig na mBan. Since their initial success in 2014, many other groupings in Ballina have become involved. They all coordinate the timing of their various events,

working closely to avoid any clashes, so everybody can attend and enjoy any of the 6th January proceedings on offer.

The Jackie Clarke Collection are aiming for their planned celebra-

tion to be the first of two special occasions, preparing people for International Women's Day in March. Their idea is to invite a small number of well-known women from the town of Ballina, motivated women who have made an impact on their community, to the beautifully restored bank building which today houses the vast collection of Irish political and historical artefacts which comprise the Jackie Clarke Collection.

On this sixth of January the occasion will be presented as a kind of "Afternoon at the Oscars," a marvellous day celebrating senior inspirational women of Ballina who will be championed by a matching number of younger inspirational women following in their distinguished footsteps. Amongst those on the list of invitees will be a lady in her nineties who was the first female mayor of Ballina, and who was always highly involved in the Irish Countrywomen's Association. Another lady spent her life playing the organ in Ballina cathedral. The Community Development Officer and her female Volunteers are hoping to highlight Elizabeth Ham, whose father built the stone bridge over the river Moy in Ballina in the 1880s. Elizabeth herself was a diarist, mentioning among other aspects of Ballina life the military barracks in the town.

Amongst the younger women presenting several of these distinctive guests, will be for example, a hard working female journalist with the Western People, a woman who works wonders behind the scenes with various choirs in Ballina and hopefully, a respected author now living in the West. The presentations will be mixed in with songs and music, all performed by a distinguished Ballina songsters group, Studio 54.

The Volunteers and Community Programme workers engaged in this heart-warming event which will start off the New Year in the Collection are extremely aware of the significance of the 2018 date. Irish women were first permitted to vote in 1918, after the end of the Great War. 2018 will be the 100 year anniversary of this momentous triumph. In writing this piece I was surprised at how reluctant I was to type those words "permitted" or "allowed" to vote. How gracious of those who decided! But that is another column...

January 6th will be a quiet, joyful recognition of the achievements of North Mayo women. It will be prepared and presented by women in consequence of the unique bonds of friendship which bind women everywhere together.

I am reminded in a strange way of the Republican civil war female inmates in Kilmainham Prison in 1924; a community of women forced together, sharing an unobtrusive sense of looking out for each other and their younger and more vulnerable comrades, remembering those who had gone before them and validating themselves during this difficult time with their exceptional sense of camaraderie. Thus also with the Jackie Clarke Nollaig na mBan day – warm friendships, helping hands, great interest and pride at sharing the achievements of their very own unique sisters.

The most valued guest of the day will sadly not be present physically, but it is

doubtful that anyone attending will not remember her. Mrs Anne Clarke, wife of Jackie, and the donor of his wonderful historic collection of Irish artefacts. Anne was a gracious, lovely presence in the Jackie Clarke, and I feel honoured to be among those who remember her dropping in for a cup of tea and a chat before her death in 2015. She will be joining everyone in spirit on January 6, 2018. I am also assured that all men are most welcome to attend on the much anticipated day!

Many older readers of the Ohio Irish American News sharing North Mayo roots might themselves recall some personal stories of Nollaig na mBan. This great day may hopefully stir their memories and begin many reminiscences and conversations in faraway Ohio. Please send on your stories to us, through John, jobrien@ianohio.com.

Happy New Year



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Home to one of the country's few original family-run Bronze Foundries - Kilbaha Gallery & Crafts in Loop Head, Co. Clare have just recently launched a beautiful and sophisticated catalogue and e-commerce site online: www.kilbahagallery.com, to ensure that a the global Diaspora audience can see what stunning work Irish contemporary artists are producing. Kilbaha Gallery & Crafts also has some of Ireland's leading names in portraiture (both bronze and oils).

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Angels, Safe Home

JOHN A. DUFFY



January 07, 1926 - December 12, 2017
 JOHN A. DUFFY, age 91. Native of Killucan, Co. Westmeath, Ireland. Beloved husband of 54 years to Mary (nee Keane); father of Brian (Patricia), J. Stephen and Colm (Mary); grandfather of Clare and Ella; brother of Anna Baker of England, Phyllis Reville of Ireland and the late Michael and Sr. Yvonne Duffy of England; uncle and great-uncle of many. John was a retired supervisor for East Ohio Gas Company. Passed away suddenly December 12, 2017. Funeral Mass Saturday, December 16, The Church of St. Clarence

(30106 Lorain Rd.) at 10 A.M. Interment Holy Cross Cemetery. Friends may call at CHAMBERS FUNERAL HOME of NORTH OLMSTED, 29150 LORAIN RD. AT STEARNS RD. FRIDAY 2-4 AND 6-8 P.M. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions are suggested to The Pioneer Total Abstinence Assoc., 4286 Springvale Circle, Avon OH 44011.

THOMAS M. LYNCH



November 28, 1926 - December 07, 2017
 THOMAS M. LYNCH, age 91, passed away peacefully on December 6, 2017; loving son of James J. and Beatrice Gallagher Lynch; beloved husband of Margaret Gibbons Lynch; dear father of Margaret, Kathleen (John Blaney), Timothy (Pamela Shimrak), Mary (Paul Jarrell), and Patricia; doting grandfather

of Grace Kenney, Claire Kenney, Rachel Kenney, Anne Blaney (Dan Stiglitz), Neil Blaney, Cara Moore (Andrew), Michael Jarrell, Colette Jarrell, James Lynch, and Rose Lynch; great-grandfather of Tegan Stiglitz; cherished brother of Michael J. Lynch and Dennis Lynch; esteemed brother-in-law and uncle. Preceded in death by his parents; siblings James, Francis, John, and Maureen (Gallagher); children Eileen and Thomas; and grandchild Eagan Jarrell. Funeral Mass FRIDAY DECEMBER 22, Our Lady of Angels Church (3644 Rocky River Drive) at 10 A.M. Interment Holy Cross Cemetery. Friends may call at CHAMBERS FUNERAL HOME of CLEVELAND 4420 ROCKY RIVER DRIVE AT PURITAS THURSDAY (DECEMBER 21) 2-4 & 6-8 P.M. (PLEASE NOTE DATE OF MASS AND WAKE) Memorial contributions in Tom's name may be made to Catholic Charities and John Carroll University. Tom was born November 28, 1926. He and his family were long-time parishioners of St. Ignatius Parish, where the family lived for many years on W. 105th Street. Tom attended St. Ignatius High School, graduating from high school in 1944. After serving briefly in the Navy toward the end of World War II, he attended John Carroll University and graduated in 1950. He joined the police force but took accounting classes at night at John Carroll. He got his foot in the door at the accounting firm that was at that time named Ernst & Ernst by taking a part-time job as a proofreader in 1952. After passing the CPA exam, he subsequently spent his entire career at

Ernst & Young as an accountant, serving in both the Cleveland and National offices. He was the partner in charge of audit in the Cleveland office at the time of his retirement in 1988. After his retirement, he served as executive director of the Domed Stadium Corporation and as the Chief Financial Officer for Sudbury Inc. He worked on various fundraising campaigns for his alma maters, St. Ignatius and John Carroll University, and chaired the first, critical campaign after St. Ignatius made the decision to stay in its near-West side location. He was a longtime member of the Board of Catholic Charities and served a term as President of the Board. He was on the Board of St. Augustine Health Campus for a number of years, including several stints as Treasurer. He also served as treasurer or fiscal advisor for a number of non-profit organizations: The Cleveland Medical Library Association, the Irish American Archives Society, the Coterie of St. Augustine Health Campus, and the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians. He is a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, West-Side Irish American Club, and the Mayo Society. He was Irish Man of the Year for the Cleveland Athletic Club in 1982, received a Walks of Life award from the Irish American Archives Society in 1999, and was named Hibernian of the Year in 2014. He and his wife Margaret were married sixty-six years and had 7 children, 11 grandchildren, and 1 great-grandchild.

*Tom's and John's obituaries are courtesy of Chamber's Funeral Homes:
www.chambersfuneral.com*

Growing UP Irish

by Maureen Ginley



Hello, 2018

WOW, I cannot believe that 2017 is coming to an end. It feels like just yesterday I was drinking coffee on December 31, 2016, trying with all my might to stay awake until the clock struck midnight. I can't remember if I made it until 12:00 that night, but I remember nearly everything that happened to me during the following year – because 2017 was equal parts amazing, challenging, happy, and even sad.

This past year was filled with memories that make my heart swell with pride, life-changing events that – at the time they happened – filled me with nerves, and sad moments that I have since learned so much from. I know I say this every year, but I think 2017 was my best yet.

For me, 2017 started off as many of the past years began. After wrapping up a month-long break from school that was filled with lots of spin classes and trips around Cleveland for donuts and coffee with friends, I started my final semester of graduate school. During my last term as an MFA candidate, I worked diligently on my thesis project – the first part of a novel-length project chronicling the life of an Irish immigrant living in Central Ohio (A note: this project was written before I moved to Columbus for work. As I drive through the suburbs where my thesis takes place, I am filled with great joy as I imagine the characters of my novel loving and living and learning about life in the United States).

This project brought me closer to my Grandma, who gave me tips and advice for making the text as authentically Irish as possible. One of my greatest joys of 2017 was sharing this story with her.

During the past year, I was also able to participate in another

amazing celebration of Irish heritage – the 2017 Ohio Rose Selection. The two weekends of Selection activities were beyond



incredible – the women I met (who became cherished friends I spend time with to this day), the stories I got to share (such as my great respect for Seeds of Literacy and City Dogs, organizations I volunteered with while living in Cleveland), and the sheer joy I felt while surrounded by like-minded individuals as interested in their Irish culture as I am – and I smile every time I think of those nights in February. I have said it before, and I'll say it again... my involvement with the Ohio Rose Centre has helped me grow as a person, and I truly value each moment I get to share with an Ohio Rose, fellow Rose applicant, or Centre Coordinator.

Another exciting thing to happen in 2017 was the successful defense of my thesis and my eventual graduation with an MFA degree. For years, all I could talk/think/write about was getting an advanced writing degree. My love for the written word – which grew from fiction to poetry to non-fiction – was what propelled me to work hard, write harder, and take the risk of changing my thesis project nine months before it was due.

I learned so much in my three

years of graduate school. I studied the history of my Irish family; I edited and re-edited poetic sequences; I branched out and started writing personal essays, realizing that I did, indeed, have my own stories to tell. This three years of rigorous studying, writing, and revising was challenging, but it shaped me into the confident writer I am today. And for that, I am grateful.

My summer was equal parts fun and a little bit (okay – a lot) sad. I had a wonderful nannying job with a family in Lakewood that took me all around Cleveland with three extremely fun kids. We got loads of ice cream, went swimming until our fingers pruned up, and watched movies until our eyes were tired. It was such a blast!

Halfway through my second-favorite season of the year, though, my beloved Grandma Ginley passed away. "Growing Up Irish" readers are familiar with Sweet Mary Jo. She appears in my articles more often than not; I'm named for her and her mother, and she is - to this day – my very best friend.

I would call her nearly every day on my way home from

school, detailing the happenings of my day and what I was looking forward to during the rest of the week. She'd help me pick outfits for all the events I attended at the WSIA and around town. She even, as previously mentioned, helped me immensely with my thesis; she didn't just inspire the main character (a strong Irish woman that made the best out of each challenging situation thrown her way), she gave me ideas for plot developments and how to include a little bit of the Irish language in the story.

I miss her each and every day, but I am so glad to have had the twenty-five amazing years I did with her – she saw me and my siblings graduate college, she taught me how to bake, and most importantly – she loved me with all of her heart. I know she is up in Heaven with my Grandpa, watching my family and I with a smile as we live out the legacy they left behind.

A month to the day after my Grandma's passing, I got the most exciting e-mail I have ever received – a job offer from a company in Columbus I had applied to on a whim. While visiting the city for my brother's graduation

from OSU, I decided to expand my comfort zone and apply to jobs not in Cleveland. One such job was for an Editor position at a marketing agency in the Arena District.

The company offered free Starbucks to its employees, so that was a major draw, but the job posting also mentioned looking for someone who was passionate about proper grammar and good writing... so I knew I had to apply. After an interview process, during which I channeled the energy of a million Maureens, I got an offer letter that admittedly made me tear up in a Lakewood Laundromat. Since that e-mail, I packed up my things (mostly books and a few pieces of furniture), moved to the 614, adopted an amazing dog who lights up each and every one of my days, and hit the ground running. It's been a challenging few months, but I've learned a lot about myself as a person, writer/editor, and Irish woman.

So that is my year in a nutshell: lots of happy, a little bit of sad, and a whole lot of love. I will end this article with one last sentiment – bring it on, 2018. Bring. It. On.

Below: Brady Campbell Adult Ceili Dance Team Awarded First Place, with a perfect score of 300, at the Midwest Oireachtas Championship





By Susan Mangan



Here the Angels Sing

As I unpacked the last of our Christmas decorations, I came across two hand-knit Christmas stockings embroidered with my name and my brother's, at the top of each. Hanging nearly two feet in length, the stockings were my favorite part of Christmas. It was my responsibility to secure them from the railings on the staircase that led to my grandmother's apartment in our small Chicago bungalow.

At night, I would sit on the dark stairs peering out above the rims of the stockings and look at the colorful lights of our Christmas tree. A dreamy child, I would often find myself dozing off as I gazed at life through my five-year-old eyes.

To me our parlor was beautiful. We had a black piano and a clock that resembled the one from the Nutcracker ballet. Grand as our modest living room seemed, all I wanted was a candy cane, a new box of crayons, and a coloring book - that and to listen to my mother play the piano as I sat upon my box seat on the stairs, dreaming of Clara and her Nutcracker prince.

We had a Christmas songbook compiled with every tune from "Silent Night,"

to "I'd Like to Teach the World to Sing." When she had a spare minute, my mother would sit at the piano and play her favorite songs, singing the words in her sweet and mild tone.

I knew my grandmother could hear my mother play, pausing in her kitchen to look out the window beyond the gray roofs of the neighboring homes and telephone lines that crossed over our postage stamp yards and deep alleys. I knew, because my grandmother started to sing. Her voice crackled like her favorite egg-beater as she crooned, "Silent night, holy night, Son of God love's pure light." Grandma Rose did not have my mother's lovely voice, but she sang with honesty, and now, looking back, I realize the crackling in her voice was not from age, but from heartfelt tears of peace.

No matter our circumstance, music has the power to transport the listener to other times and places. The sheer beauty of the Wexford Carol played on the soaring strings of a fiddle, paints a mysterious image of shadow, holiness, and light. I still hold fast to the memory of my husband and me, long before we were married, when our romance was new, lying in his darkened room, looking out the window, wordlessly, at the first snow that fell one cold winter's night. Each snowflake fell in mystical syncopation with the notes from George Winston's Carol of the Bells

streaming from the tape player. The future was far away, but that moment seemed prophetic.

Many years later, my husband and I walked hand in hand on Christmas Eve through the quieted streets of Newport, Ireland. After early evening mass, the children had been ushered back to our relation's home, pondering how Santa Claus would know that they were in Ireland.

My husband and I were marveling at how surreal it was to be spending the holiday across the ocean, when we heard laughter and then a hush of voices emerging from a softly lit window in an apartment above the town.

I watched as a silhouette of a man as he took his place at the window. With his back to the sheer lace curtain, he began to sing an old Irish song. The rain started to fall and the cobbled streets became slick. It was time to go home, but in that moment I would not have been surprised if the skies opened and a choir of angels descended upon that narrow road.

The Irish have long revered songs and stories. Recently, my husband's family celebrated his aunt and uncle's 50th wedding anniversary. For one delightful week, the family sang songs, played the guitar, danced, and enjoyed the blessing of one another's company. The singing could begin at any time and carry through until the wee hours of night. Everyone, the young and the old, had a song to sing and story to tell.

My favorite reminiscence involved the

bride as a young girl in Ireland. When asked to fetch water, she would walk through the fields singing like a film star, thinking that no one could hear her. Meanwhile, the farmer down the road or in the next field stopped in his work and doffed his hat at the angelic voice of the little girl.

I smiled at this memory because it reminded me of myself as a pre-teen girl on my uncle's farm. Desperate to help, but also keen to stay out of my hard-working uncle's way, I often lingered by the watering troughs. It was my job to ensure that the cows had fresh water and that the trough didn't flow over, so I sat while the tanks filled. Imagining that I was Maria from The Sound of Music twirling through Alpine meadows, I began to sing. I sang early heavy metal songs from the 1970s, Kansas and Rush. I sang Christmas songs and my father's beloved big band tunes: Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree and The Cliffs of Dover. I kicked hardened cow pies to the slow rhythm of Bob Dylan, "Everybody must get stoned." I reckoned myself the teenage girl in Springsteen's Thunder Road, anxious for the future, but lamenting her lost innocence.

No one was in that field to judge my voice, except for the soulful cows and awkward calves. The cawing of the crows, the chirp of the barn swallows, and the whistle of the June bugs in flight took over when my voice began to falter with loneliness and reflection. Sometimes, music strikes chords in our hearts over which we have no control.

Despite our efforts to still time during moments of gladness and turn the hour hand past those of sadness, Time will move forward. Embracing the spirit of friendship, fate, and Time's passing, Scottish poet Robert Burns penned the original lines to Auld Lang Syne. The poem was first published in 1787, and later set to music:

For auld lang syne, my dear,
For auld lang syne,
We'll take a cup of kindness yet,
For auld lang syne.

Words and song act as metaphor for human emotion. Music inspires epiphany: an awakening of self and recognition of one's place in the world. Welcome the New Year with an open heart, and listen closely, for here the angels sing.

*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 contacted at suemangan@yahoo.com.

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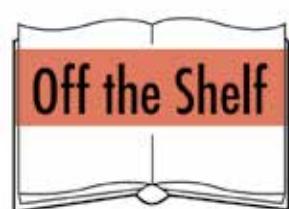
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Off the Shelf
by Terry Kenneally
A TOP Shelf Selection

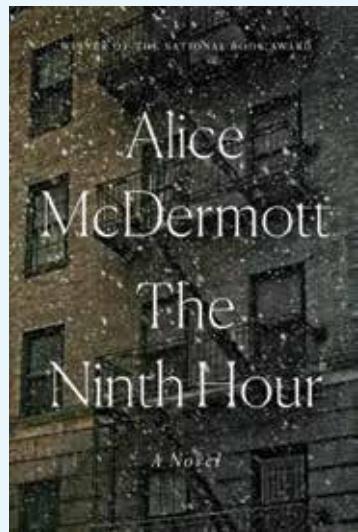


The Ninth Hour

By Alice McDermott
Farrar, Straus and Giroux
ISBN 9780374280147 2017
247pp.

The novel's title points to sacrifice, the "ninth hour" being one of the canonical hours, 3 PM (notionally the ninth hour after dawn), the hour that Christ died on the Cross, sacrificing himself for the sins of the world. The theme of sacrifice permeates the novel.

The story opens in early-twentieth century Brooklyn with a thirty-two-year-old Irish immigrant preparing to take his life. He opens a gas tap in his

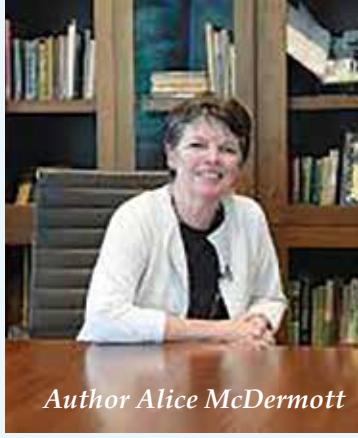


fast in an attempt to arrange a Catholic burial which forbids for a suicide.

After the birth of Annie's child, Sally, the nuns give her a job working in the convent laundry, where eventually Annie brings Sally, who the nuns tend to while she works. Sally grows up in the midst of the doting religious women.

After Sister St. Savior dies, other nuns in the order come to play a role in Annie and Sally's lives. Their influence causes Sally to believe she has a religious vocation. Experiences along the way lead to change, and surprise.

The Ninth Hour is Alice McDermott's third book reviewed by this column. She is regarded as a stylist and storyteller of the first rank. This writer rates The Ninth Hour a TOP SHELF read.



Author Alice McDermott

tenement apartment to prove to his subway bosses, who recently fired him, and to his badgering, pregnant wife, Annie, that "the hours of his life...belong to himself alone".

He dies, leaving his wife and unborn child with no means of support. Enter the Little Nursing Sisters of the Sick Poor, Congregation of Mary Before the Cross. The nuns, whose vocations are based on sacrifice, step into Annie's life and help her in the immediate aftermath of her husband's death. One sister in particular, Sister St. Savior, takes over comforting the young widow and moves



Madigan Muses

by Marilyn Madigan

New Year of Great Events and Anniversaries.

2018 will be a special year. St. Patrick West Park will be celebrating 170 years. The Irish American Club and Murphy Irish Arts will be celebrating their 40th Anniversary. For the second time in the History of the St. Patrick's Day Parade, the delegates have chosen all women to be honored by the United Irish Societies.

On January 21, the Parade Honorees and the Hibernian of the Year will be introduced at the St. Brigid's Day Mass and Brunch. St. Brigid is the Patron Saint of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians. Every year, the Our Lady of the Rosary Division celebrate the Feast with Mass followed by a Brunch. The Mass will be held at St. Patrick West Park at 11:00am followed by a Brunch in Thorpe Hall. At the Brunch, there will be a short program where the 2018 Honorees will be introduced. Congratulations to Grand Marshal Sheila Murphy Crawford, Irish Mother Joan Reali, Parade Co Chairs Linda Burke and

Noreen Haley and the Hibernian of the Year Jim Kilbane. All are invited to attend this celebration. For more details please contact me at memadigan@gmail.com.

On Friday January 26, the City Club of Cleveland will be hosting Ambassador of Ireland to the United States Daniel Mulhall. Please check with the City Club for more details. This is a special privilege for our city and the Irish community should support this event.

The Irish American Club East Side will be celebrating their 40th Anniversary on Saturday January 27. The Anniversary Dance is \$30 for members and \$35 for guests. Entertainment by Mary's Lane. For more information please visit

the Club's website at www.eastsideirish.org

Murphy Irish Arts is proud in their 40th Year that their founder Sheila Murphy Crawford is the 2018 Grand Marshal of Cleveland's St. Patrick's Day Parade. Sheila is the 3rd woman to be selected for this wonderful honor. What a year for Sheila, her family and all of her dancing family.

Irish Network of Cleveland will be very busy in the upcoming months celebrating the 20th Anniversary Tour of Riverdance and the Irish Heritage Night with the Cavaliers. Riverdance will be appearing at the State Theater on Thursday February 15. Irish Heritage Night with the Cleveland Cavaliers will be on Thursday March 1. Discount tickets for both events available on www.clevelandirish.com

Please make one of your New Year Resolutions to support events sponsored by the many Irish Organizations in our community.

Congratulations to the 2018

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Inside CoChair: Noreen Halley
Outside CoChair: Linda Fulton Burke (Puzzle Columnist)
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TaraTrips

By Tara Quinn

Communication barriers: my first experience of the challenges of not sharing the same language was a trip to Jakarta with the Global Autism Project. It was my first time in a non-English speaking country. I remember watching my trip leader Teresa sit in the front seat of our minivan taxi, artfully talking to our sweet taxi driver Aris.

I would think "How does she know how to do that?" "That" being the art of bonding while rarely understanding each other, and not insulting the other. I found myself fascinated by two people's desire to connect despite the lack of Bahasa and English between them. Teresa used less words and rephrased when Aris had difficulty understanding and he would try to play music we knew so we could find common ground of appreciating Beyoncé or Michael Jackson. They were kind to each other when there was a disconnect and kept trying. I witnessed this energy, where bonding was important to the both of them.

Driving to work for two weeks, an hour each way, there wasn't a ride that we sat in silence. Teresa taught me to give people the dignity of being seen and heard; to not get frustrated with the listener, but to get creative, to simplify, to listen. Because one of the greatest gifts we can give one another is to see and hear them.

My desire and new art form to connect and see people got me a front row seat nearly every trip to the center we worked at in Nicaragua. After several cups of Nicaraguan coffee, I was that perky morning coworker that everyone dreads on a Monday. Recalling Teresa's example, I knew it was important to try to get to know our driver. We could sit

in silence for two weeks, or we could go out on a limb, despite the uncomfortableness, and see if we could get a new friend. Exchanges between Nelson and I were nothing less

than entertaining.

I may teach children appropriate social skills for a living, but often fail to implement those in my own life. With extreme-

intense early morning belly laughs. I saw him, and I heard him, and as a result my life was enhanced with joy and human connection.

Silence is lovely. I'm an avid fan of silence. But when reflecting on traveling adventures, the memories that bring the most joy are the ones with the people I meet. I can still feel the joy thinking about the dozen humans my path has been privileged to cross with. Most of them have limited English and all I bring to the table is Google Translate.



ly limited Spanish, I gratefully had some assistance with a Spanish dictionary app. I got zero assistance from a team member in the back of the SUV, who minored in Spanish, but found the exchanges too hilarious to throw me a bone.

I can't remember my topics of conversation with Nelson but remember

Abuela would be one of those humans that taught me more than I could tell her. I decided to spend a week in Rivas with a woman named Rosa and her family. Most people pay to stay there to enhance their Spanish. I think I went there and allowed the family to practice their English.

Abuela reminds me of Grandma Rita. Gentle with a presence; a sense of reverence for a life with so much history; humble. Abuela and I sat quietly for breakfast the first few mornings. She has no English and I was still confused morning, afternoon and night in my morning greeting.

The end of February in Rivas is hot, and by 8am it was easier to just be still. And I followed their lead, which was little small talk at breakfast. But something was happening between Abuela and I.

Maybe it began when we both laughed



together watching Shrek with no subtitles; or the moment I remembered I had Google Translate on my phone and could ask Abuela questions when Rosa wasn't there translating; or the moment she went in the back room and proudly brought out a gorgeous blanket she had handmade to show me; or the moment I was told to call her Abuela, because as Rosa says, "Tarita, she is your Nicaraguan Abuela."

I would have Spanish class in the early morning, and venture out for the afternoon. I'd spend too much time in the sun, come back home and be greeted by Abuela. I felt safe and cared for by a woman that was a complete stranger a few days prior.

One of my last days, I was able to get us a horse and carriage and five of us girls went on a trip to Popoyuapa church. I will never forget the look on Abuela's face when she realized she was going with us. She was like a young child.

My heart aches with joy just thinking about her soft excitement. We walked together around the church and Abuela started talking to me. Rosa translated, letting me know that Abuela was telling me that the large painting hung up on the wall was her son's. And that she hadn't been here to see it in quite some time.

We walked to a back room, and sat and prayed. I began quietly crying.

Pure connections with other humans bring me such fulfillment. They remind me of the vast and powerful capacity of my heart; that there is so much room for so many individuals; that love is not scarce. And that I limit myself and my

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Tara Trips Continued

growth if I refuse to be open and vulnerable, even when it's uncomfortable.

The morning I left, my ride came at 4am. And to my surprise, Abuela was up to say goodbye. Goodbyes are terri-

my struggles and success.

Yet there we were, saying a painful goodbye because we shared a love between us. As I gave her one last hug, Rosa let me know that. She said, "Please come back soon." Those words will sit on my heart for a very long time. It's an honor when someone wants you to return.



ble for me. They tell me this moment is over, and it will never be recreated. They tell me to soak it up as much as you can, because this adventure is ending.

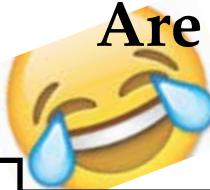
Tears streamed down my face as I hugged her tight. How did this woman come to have such a profound effect on my heart? Someone I could barely communicate with? I didn't know much of her story and she didn't know mine.

I longed to tell her about my adventures and hear all the stories of her life. We never were able to exchange that. I don't know her journey. She doesn't know about my joys and pains,

What I know: Abuela and Tarita saw each other. They heard each other and held space for each other. My heart expanded a bit more because of her.

And to honor Abuela's simple and profound impact on my life, I want to go into this New Year with the mindset of seeing and hearing each other. To letting people know that I can hold space for them even if it is a struggle to understand them. Because as much as I love the silence, it's the moments of connecting to each others spirits, despite the barriers or the misunderstandings, that fill my life with the greatest memories.

When Irish Eyes Are Smiling!



Brought to you
by Maury Collins

A husband and wife were driving through Louisiana. As they approached Natchitoches, they started arguing over the pronunciation of the city's name. They bickered back and forth until they stopped for lunch. At the counter, the husband asked the cashier, "Could you settle an argument for us? Would you pronounce where we are very slowly?" She leaned forward and said, "Burr-gerr Kiiing."

~

A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds. After explaining the commandment to 'honor' thy Father and thy Mother, she asked, "Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?"

From the back, one little boy (the oldest of a family) answered, "Thou shall not kill."

~

The Monsignor greeted Paddy



A pickpocket was in court for petty theft. The judge declared, "Sir you are hereby fined \$100.. His lawyer stood up and said, "Your honor, my client only has \$75 on him at this time. If you would allow him a few minutes in the crowd..."

~

A sick man asked his friend to recommend a doctor so he gave him his doctor's name and phone number. Is he expensive, the man asked?

He is not really cheap, the friend admitted. He charges \$100 for the first visit, but after that, it's only \$25. So the sick man makes an appointment, and as soon as the doctor comes in, he exclaims "Well Doc, here I am again!"

~



how to celebrate?" "

"Well," said Paddy, "on our 25th Anniversary I took Mary to Ireland."

"And what are you going to do on your 50th?" asked the Msgr.

"Well," said Paddy, "I think I'll bring her back."

~

Murphy, O'Brien & Casey are sitting in a bar discussing the words they would like to have spoken over their coffins at their wakes. Casey says, "I would like them to say. "He was a wonderful family man- he always supported his wife and kids, and they never wanted for anything."

O'Brien says, "That's lovely Casey, but I would like to have them say, "He was a great man in the community - he undertook a lot of projects to make his community a better place."

Murphy says, "That's very nice, O'Brien. But I would like to have them say, "Look! He's moving!"

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Cleveland Comhra by Bob Carney

Art by John P. O'Brien

Nick Frank & The Akron Celtic Guards

I have an old t-shirt with a picture of a man holding a hurley in the air and the caption, "This lads, is a hurley, a cross between a hockey stick and murder!"

Although an exaggeration, it does give insight to the sport of hurling, mental. Played by fifteen individuals per team, without protective padding, (helmets and facemasks became mandatory in 2010) it has been called the fastest field sport in the world. Three thousand years old, it combines the skills of baseball, hockey, rugby and lacrosse. Hurling came to Ireland with the ancient celts; it's referenced in the tale of The Táin Bó Cuailgne, with the hero, Cúchulainn (Koo Hull lnn) playing the game at Emain Ma-

cha (Owen Macha).

Local villages would play against one another, but it wasn't until the formation of the Irish Hurling Union in 1879 that the rules of the game began to be standardized. Finally in 1884, the Gaelic Athletic Association established the written rules and began governing the sport.

Iománaíocht, (the Irish for hurling) is played with a camán (hurley) and a sliotar (hurley ball). The object is to get the ball over the crossbar of the goal for one point, or under the bar, for one goal, which is worth three points.

The ball can be caught and carried

for up to four steps, struck in the air or on the ground with the hurley, kicked or slapped with the open hand and bounced or balanced on the hurley. It requires teamwork, and as far as I'm concerned, nerves of steel!

In this OhioIANews readership area, we are fortunate to have a team based out of Akron. The Akron Celtic Guards were formed in 2002. They

compete at local, regional, national and international tournaments throughout the year. The team is a member of the North American Gaelic Athletic Association, a constituent of the Irish GAA. Their mission.... "to promote Irish culture and heritage through sport." Their motto "Trample the wounded, hurdle the dead. We are the Akron Hurling Club. Faugh An Ballagh."

For this Cleveland Conversation, I met with 31 year old Nick Frank, defensive player and team chair for the Al O'Leary Tournament, held in Bath, Ohio, to discuss his involvement in this ancient game.

OhioIANews: Nick, how did you learn about the sport?

Nick: I first heard about the sport at the Ancient Order of Hibernians Club on Brown Street, in Akron. I was in law school at the time, a classmate was a member of the club and told a bunch of us to come down some night; he said the drinks were cheap! So one Saturday night we were down there, when a fellow walked up to us; he was one of the founders of the team. Anyway, he saw a bunch of bigger guys sitting at a table, all of us young and said, "You gotta have a fire in your belly, if you want to play this game!" Then he showed us videos on his phone.

Later, his son, who was on the team, came down and showed us more videos and explained the game to us; we became really interested. We had a little liquid encouragement by this time and they told us they practiced



Nick - top, 4th from right, and the 2017 Akron Celtic Guards Hurling Club

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Continued on next page

Nick Frank & The Akron Celtic Guards Continued

on Sunday, and invited us to come. Two of us said yes. I woke up in the morning, and my friend and I called each other and said, "Are we really going to do this?" I said I was willing if he was; we went, and the first practice was an indoor practice, I've been in love with it ever since.

OhioIANews: How long ago was that?

Nick: That was six years ago.

OhioIANews: Did you finish law school?

Nick: I did, I also have my MBA, I work for a software company in Solon, MRI Software, more on the business side of things, but yeah, I do have my law degree.

OhioIANews: What position do you play on the team?

Nick: Currently, I'm a fullback on the defensive side. When I started out, I was a full forward. I was responsible for trying to score three points as opposed to scoring one point over the bar.

About two years ago, my coach asked me if I could move back, I tend to have a strong swing and he thought I would be helpful clearing the ball out. What's funny is, I didn't think I'd enjoy it as much, there's less "glory" and less scoring, but, the high and the thrill you get clearing the ball out of our end more than makes up for it.

I always wondered what led some players to take up defensive positions in team sports, now I get it. Our back line is made up of guys who have been playing together for a while now, we trust one another and work well together.

OhioIANews: How did you end up as chair for the team?

Nick: After my first full season, I wanted to show my appreciation and dedication so I joined the board and took on the role of treasurer. I held that position for about a year and then our Chair was stepping down and I was elected by my teammates to take over for him.

We've increased the size of our club. Our board is amazing, our finances are up, our membership is up, and our sponsorship is up. Of the seven board members, five or six of us have been the same core group for awhile. All of us have the same passion for the sport, the team and the community.

OhioIANews: What goals do you and the board have?

Nick: We're actively recruiting, we're always trying to find new players. Sometimes, people are unsure if they have the skills to play but, we're open to all levels and ages. A lot of our guys and girls are people who played other sports growing up and missed that competition they had in high school or college. We invite everyone to come to a practice to see for themselves, just like I did!

We have a very competitive men's team right now, and would like to grow our women's team, camogie (camógaíocht) in the next year or two to the same level. We've had the same core group there as well, but not enough players for a full squad, so that's a big push now to get more women involved.

OhioIANews: How about youngsters?

Nick: We do have a youth program as well, and we are always looking to get kids involved.

OhioIANews: Who is Al O'Leary?

Nick: Al O'Leary is one of the founders of the team, our tournament is named for him. Every once in a while he shows up at practice; he grew up playing the game, and even though his wife doesn't approve, he'll run some drills with us. At one national meet, he even went in at goal for a little bit, I think he was 88 or 89 then, it was pretty awesome.

OhioIANews: Is the sport growing here in the U.S.?

Nick: At the end of the day, the clubs across the country that are really taking off are the ones that make it a family affair. They'll come to practice, the husband to the mens team, mom with the ladies and the kids with the youth program. It builds more than just the sport; it builds and strengthens

the family.

All of us on the team are best friends. When we travel to different meets, it's like going on vacation with all of your friends, all while getting a good workout and playing a great game.

OhioIANews: What is the biggest thing you get from the game?

Nick: The coolest thing about hurling, in Ireland you play for your community, where you're from; if you're good enough, you'll play for your county. The counties play one another in the All-Ireland Finals. There's no paid hurler, even at the GAA Final they had 80,000 fans, and before the game they give the players name, position and occupation. There's no pay, they play for the love of the game. Play on Sunday and back to work on Monday. Because of that, they stay true to their county; there's no trading of players.

On the back of the jersey, there are no names, only the number, 1-15, designating the players position. It's not about you, it's about the team, that's what matters.

For more information-

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By appointment; Discover your Genealogy w help from the Genealogy Detective (free to members); Irish Teas for groups; Tours of the center; tips on Irish travel.

New classes: "Lets Write our Family Story"; 27th - "Speak Irish" Social Language Workshop 10:30am.

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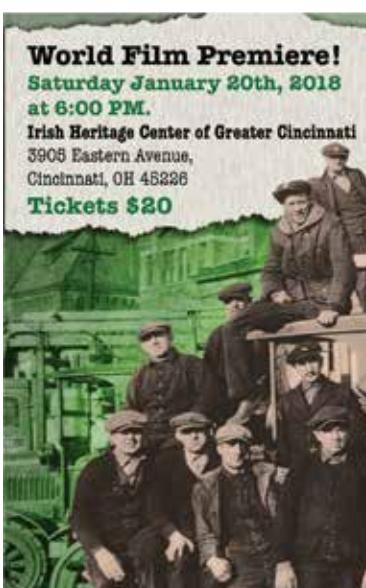
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The Cleveland Ceili Club promotes the musical traditions of Ireland by providing opportunities for adults to enjoy traditional Irish music and dance.

Set dancing lessons: Tuesdays 7:30-9:30 pm, St. Clarence Church, North Olmsted; Wednesdays 7-9 pm, Irish American Club - East Side.

Ceili dancing lessons: Thursday Jan 4, 11 & 25 @West Side Irish American Club; Dance workshop: Sunday, January 21, 12-3 pm @P.J. McIntyre's.

Winter Ceili, Friday, February 16, 7:30 pm, Irish American Club- East Side, music by the Kilroys.

For more information: CeiliClub-Cleveland@gmail.com or find us on Facebook



#1 Coddle

The best thing about this time of year is the food we can share. After a brisk walk or long workday, nothing beats comfort food. My wife Mary's lamb stew, a bowl of hot soup, or Sheperd's

1lb. firm smoked sausage
(Slovenian Sausage from Giant Eagle is the one I use)
2 lg. onions
2 leeks
2 bay leaves
1/4 cup chopped parsley
Black pepper
6-8 potatoes cut into chunks
1 pint of Guinness
2 1/2 cups chicken or veg. stock
2 tbsls. Kerrygold butter



Pie are some of my favorites.

We'd like to know some of your favorites; send us a recipe of a dish or dessert that comforts you and we'll share it here. Include information on where ingredients can be obtained if not available in most grocery stores. For example, the Irish bacon and Bangers I used in the following recipe were obtained from Casey's Irish Imports in Rocky River and are also available at Gaelic Imports in Parma.

Here is my take on a not so traditional "coddle."

INGREDIENTS:

1lb. Irish bacon
(Canadian bacon can be substituted)
8 pork sausages or bangers

Olive oil

In a large stew pot or crock pot, add olive oil and butter, sauté onions and then add smoked sausage. In a separate skillet, over med. heat fry bacon and then add to stew pot. Place the pork sausages or bangers in the skillet and cook, turning until evenly browned.

Remove from skillet and cut into bite-size portions and add to stew pot. Add stock and Guinness, along with parsley and bay leaves. Add leeks and potatoes. Bring to a boil, reduce heat and simmer, stirring occasionally until potatoes are tender. Serve with soda bread or brown bread and a Guinness.

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7th - Parade Marching Practice Starts

13th - Open Mic Night

27th - Steak Shoot

2/4 Super Bowl Party: Dan @440-236-8539

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Join us for the Ireland trip July 1-10

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General Meeting

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Cleveland Irish

By Francis McGarry



Three weeks. This article is submitted about three weeks before it makes it to print. Took me a while to figure that out. I penned a few comments with temporal distinctions that were inherently ex post facto. My apologies.

Mensis Ianuarius. El Dia de Los Reyes Magos. The Day of Kings is one of my favorite days with a title. Nollaig na mBan in our native tongue. In Ireland it has been celebrated as a day when husbands and wives practice inverted stereotypical gender roles. The ladies go to the bars and the men clean. It is traditionally the day to take down the Christmas tree.

Grannie leaves her tree up until Lent. In all my years, she has never had the tree out for

city pick up. I was baptized on the Days of Kings. It was in the dining room I have been told.

The Romans celebrated the Compitalia in January, Mensis Ianuarius. Guardian deities who control the crossroads were offered sacrifices. The Romans practiced these customs throughout the empire.

Septimius Severus was Roman emperor from 193 to 211. He won victories in Gaul and Arabia; he conquered Britain and Scotland. He did not conquer Ireland. Severus was born in Africa, henceforth an African. History considers him Roman. Casper was the King of Sheba. Melchior was the King of Arabia. Balthazar was the King of Egypt. They didn't conquer Ireland either.

In Cleveland, the census data in the late 19th century begins to lose Irish as Africa lost Severus. It is what happens when data is restricted to birthplace of parents and an individual's birthplace. This is crucial in understanding the peopling of Cleveland.

Studies of ethnic settlement in Cleveland in the Gilded Age produce data similar to other

metropolitan centers in America. Attempts to apply the heuristics of human ecology to the incorporation of immigrant groups and their offspring have historically followed predictable patterns. These interpretations assume a direct correlation between rate of assimilation and residential segregation.

Assimilation has been synonymous with success in American life. This analysis includes correlations between segregation and economic dynamics. Home ownership and residential centralization in metropolitan and then suburban contexts allow an assimilation rubric to be theorized. Immigrant groups are evaluated on rate of citizenship vis à vis length of residence. Occupational dissimilarities and education contribute in minimizing the socio-cultural nexus of city habitation.

Sometimes data gets in the way of such homogenous paradigms. Boston by number and by reputation is considered a city with large Irish population. Cincinnati and St. Louis are cities that have accommodated sizable German populations. Applying the metrics of assimilation to all three contexts shows that Irish in Boston are considerably less segregated in Boston than in Cincinnati and St. Louis. Germans are much less segregated

in Cincinnati and St. Louis than in Boston. Residential segregation varies contextually and is codependent on particularities of ethnic origins.

Immigrants may become culturally adapted. Immigrants may not become socially accepted. Many immigrants and their descendants may become acculturated, but for various reasons may not be assimilated. This binary is vital in the discussion of the peopling of Cleveland. We cannot conceptualize the process of assimilation as super organic, a process operating above and beyond the immigrants themselves. Gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Let us look at internal migration for elucidation. In 1870, only thirteen hundred African Americans were living in Cleveland. Most lived on or near Central Avenue on the near east side. The 1890 census has 3,000 African Americans in Cleveland and that number doubled by 1900.

Residential locus was focused north of Central Avenue up to the wealthy residential section of Euclid Avenue, sequestered by the Cuyahoga River and its industrial zone and by East 55th. This was considered Cleveland's first black neighborhood. It would be wrong to imply that individuals were restricted to this area.

There were smaller enclaves: Hamilton Avenue between East 9th and East 14th, East of Carnegie Avenue and East 105th between Cedar and Euclid, Hough Avenue between East 84th and East 95th. African Americans were still less than 25 percent in each of those areas. However, out of the 155 tracks that comprised the city of Cleveland, all but 17 had African American inhabitants.

The end of the 19th century also increased the bricolage of European immigration. Italians on Mayfield and Woodhill Roads; The Alta House is named after John D. Rockefeller's daughter, Alta. Italians were also in the Central Market area of Woodland Avenue.

At that time, the Italians were more residentially segregated

from non-Italians than any other ethnic group in the city, including African Americans. Hungarian, Russian and Romanian immigrant communities also demonstrated a high degree of spatial separation.

A Polish neighborhood was formed on Broadway Avenue. Slavs and Hungarians settled near Woodland Avenue. Polish and Croatians had areas along Superior and St. Clair.

Each ethnic group had various degrees of segregation.

Italians areas were nearly 80% Italian. Romanian 65%. Russians 52%. Hungarians 45%. Germans 21%. The Irish in the City of Cleveland were 28%. All these numbers are contextual.

African American numbers were not substantial in many parts of the city. However, within the physical demarcations that were dictated politically for the census, African Americans overwhelmingly resided in direct proximity. That is, if a ward was 10 percent African American, that ten percent lived next door to each other. This is similar to the micro-analysis of the 5th and 7th Ward Irish. Further analysis of the ethnic percentages above also indicates that wards were comprised of neighborhoods with ethnic enclaves.

The Irish and German percentages are comparatively lower. That is a function of historical migration and census limitations. Second and third generation Irish become "native born." Their Irishness is lost to the census form. Their Irishness becomes whiteness.

What we have begun to see in the 5th and 7th Ward is that this longitudinal data is traceable, albeit laborious. What we have seen is that Cleveland by 1900 had substantially increased the number of countries heard from. European immigration reinforced and illustrated how people peopled our city. The argument that this made the Irish more assimilated, i.e. less Irish, I believe is problematic. That will be discussed next month: Februarius. The purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary.



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By J. Michael Finn



The Lusitania and Ireland

RMS Lusitania was a British ocean liner that was sunk off the coast of Ireland by a German submarine during World War I. The ship was built in Clydebank, Scotland for the British Cunard Line and it was launched in 1906. At the time, it was the largest and fastest liner in the world. It made a total of 202 trans-Atlantic crossings.

Competition among shipping lines for the North Atlantic passenger trade was fierce and Cunard responded by trying to outdo the other passenger lines in speed, capacity, and luxury. The Lusitania was fitted with revolutionary new turbine engines that enabled it to maintain a speed of 25 knots (29 mph). It was equipped with elevators, wireless telegraph, and electric lights, and provided 50% more passenger space than any other ship. The launching of the RMS Titanic, built in Belfast, Ireland in 1911 for the White Star line, was in direct response to the success of the Lusitania.

The Lusitania departed New York for Liverpool, on May 1, 1915. Aboard her were 1,266 passengers and a crew of 696, which combined for a total of 1,962 souls. On May 7, 1915 the Lusitania was nearing the end of her voyage and was on schedule to dock at Liverpool.

The ship was running parallel to the south coast of Ireland, and was roughly 11 miles off the Old Head of Kinsale when the liner crossed in front of the German U-boat, U-20. Captain Walter Schwieger, in command of the U-20, gave the order to fire one torpedo, which struck the Lusitania on the starboard bow, just beneath the wheelhouse. Moments later, a second explosion erupted from within the Lusitania's hull and the ship began to sink, with a prominent tilt to starboard.

Immediately the crew scrambled to launch the life-boats, but the conditions of the sinking made their launch extremely difficult, and in some cases impossible. In all, only six out of 48 lifeboats were launched successfully, with several more overturning and breaking apart. Eighteen minutes after the torpedo struck the ship, it slid beneath the waves settling on the bottom in 300 feet of water. Of the 1,962 passengers and crew aboard the Lusitania at the time of the sinking, 1,198 lost their lives.

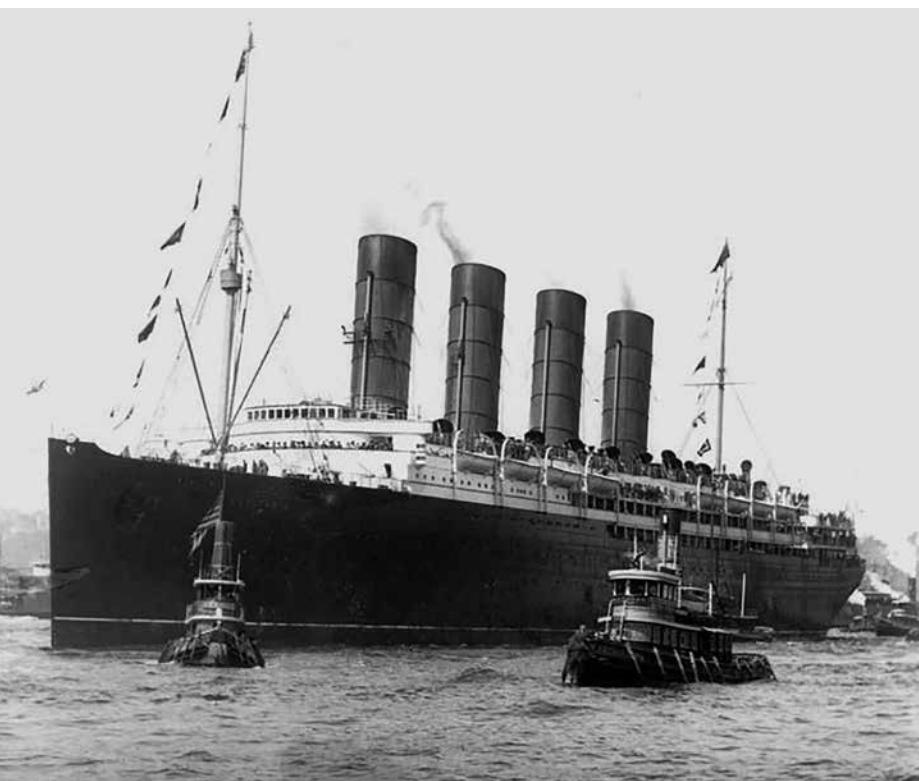
The HMS Juno, a British cruiser, left anchorage in Cork Harbor to render assistance only a short time after the ship was attacked. Just south of Roche's Point at the mouth of the harbor, only an hour from the site of the sinking, she turned and returned to Cork as a result of orders issued from the British admiralty at Queenstown (now Cobh).

Some say this was done as part of a British conspir-

acy to worsen the loss of life in order to bring America into World War I. A week before the sinking of the Lusitania, Winston Churchill wrote to Walter Runciman, the President of the Board of Trade, stating that it is "most important to attract neutral shipping to our shores, in the hope especially of embroiling the United States with Germany."

By the following morning, news of the disaster had spread around the world. While most of those lost in the sinking were British or Canadian citizens, the loss of 128 Americans in the disaster outraged many in the United States. The US magazine The Nation called the sinking "a deed for which a Hun would blush, a Turk be ashamed, and a Barbary pirate apologize."

The people of Cobh, Ireland responded to the sinking with a sense of purpose that remains a source of pride for the town. For weeks they dealt with the awful human



loss of the Lusitania as hundreds of bodies either washed ashore or were picked from the seas around Co Cork. Survivors of the sinking were taken to Cobh, where they were given food, shelter and medical attention.

After the sinking, fishing boats put to sea from Cork, Kinsale and Cobh to rescue the survivors. Without the efforts of locals who risked their lives to save others, the death toll would have been worse. The dead were put in open coffins on the Cobh dockside for identification; many whose next of kin had also drowned were never identified. The Old Church Graveyard in Cobh contains three mass graves, where over 200 unclaimed victims of the Lusitania are buried. In addition, there are many individual graves of identified victims in the cemetery.

The Cunard offices in Cobh were besieged "by a pitiful little group of men and women, many bandaged, some on crutches," according to a reporter from the New York Tribune. Grieving mothers wandered the town, looking for their children. One newspaper message read:

"Lusitania – missing baby; missing a baby girl, fifteen months old; very fair curly hair and rosy complexion."

Dozens of Irish people, who were making their way home via Liverpool, were also killed. According to the Irish journalist Senan Malony, who wrote *Lusitania: An Irish Tragedy*, about 140 Irish people died when the ship went down (70 passengers and 70 crew members). Among the 140 were James McDermott, the ship's surgeon, from Co Cork, his assistant, Dr Joseph Garry, from Co Clare, and the Irish composer Thomas O'Brien Butler.

The Germans claimed that sinking the Lusitania was justified in a war zone because its cargo included ammunition and shell casings to be used by the British in the Great War. The Cunard Line and the British government denied the charge. They were lying.

The Lusitania was carrying ammunition, gun powder, gun cotton, explosive fuses and 46 tons of aluminum powder. Some of these items were on the cargo manifest,

but others were intentionally listed as butter or furs. It is speculated that some of these explosive items may have contributed to the secondary explosion after the torpedo struck the ship. The German government had previously published a warning in 50 US newspapers warning that passenger ships traveling in British waters were subject to being fired upon and the passengers were traveling at their own risk.

Was Lusitania a legitimate target of war? While it is certainly abominable to deliberately sink a ship with civilians on board, the fact remains that the Lusitania was running munitions through a German blockade. According to cruiser laws, the Germans should have stopped the ship and destroyed the contraband; however, Winston Churchill had sent orders for British captains not to stop their ships for German submarines, but to ram them at full speed. With German U-boats unable to stop enemy ships without the threat of being rammed, Captain

Schwieger's only course of action to stop the munitions from reaching England would have been to torpedo the ship.

US Secretary of State William Jennings Bryan advised President Wilson that, "ships carrying contraband should be prohibited from carrying passengers ... it would be like putting women and children in front of an army." While the sinking of the Lusitania did not bring the US immediately into war as the British hoped, it certainly was one of the factors in the final decision in 1918 for the US to declare war on Germany.

*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.



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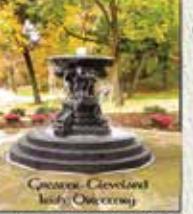
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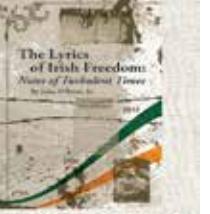
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where history
was made and
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The Lyrics of Irish Freedom
Notes of Turbulent Times
Tells the story and the
history behind rebellious bard
and ballad from the beginning
of Irish time, by John O'Brien, Jr.

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The Love of Language

There is something to be said for those who use words in the most profound ways. For me, one of the main attractions into the arts, particularly literature, was reading. When I was a teenager, I devoured novels. I just could not get enough of those wonderful worlds created in the minds of those who had accomplished the mastery of words.

My appetite for reading was only stifled by a lack of funding. We had little money, and what we had went on more important things than books. School provided me with books, but they were made to be educational in the worst possible way. It seems that the way to kill a passion for literature is to limit it to an examination, or torture the art of writing with endless analysis. It's ironic, since I never thought that I'd ever live to become the very person I've



Terry From Derry

by Terry Boyle



just described, an English teacher.

Most parents understand the emphatic language of teenagers. They either hate or love something. There's little in-between these two extremes. If there is any indifference at all, it's usually because the teenager is bored.

As a teenager, when it came to books, I was rarely indifferent. I either loved or hated what I read. Schools books were obviously consigned to the damned region, whereas those I stole from the local bookshop had to be savoured.

Often, I get fixated with fantasy novels. Tolkien and the like had won me over. I read Lord of the Rings three times and The Lion, Witch and the Wardrobe series with an equal amount of enthusiasm. My world, for the longest time, was lived inside someone else's imagination.

To understand how important these books were to me you need to appreciate how chaotic life was back then. The Troubles were at their worst. School, housed close by to a police station, was a flashpoint for riots. Can you imagine a principal of a school standing before an armoured tank while trying to harangue his pupils back into their place of education?

It wasn't quite the Tiananmen Square, history making event of the century, but this brave man's efforts certainly put the army and the students squarely in their place. He may not have been a political agitator, but he made an impression on all of us.

Home was equally troubled. Constant raids by the police and army made escape from the chaos almost impossible. There was only one escape left, books.

On opening the pages of a good book, I could be immediately transported into the shire with Bilbo and Frodo, or Narnia with animals that spoke and acted like humans. Among the impossible, the unreal, I could hide from the absurdity of real life in Northern

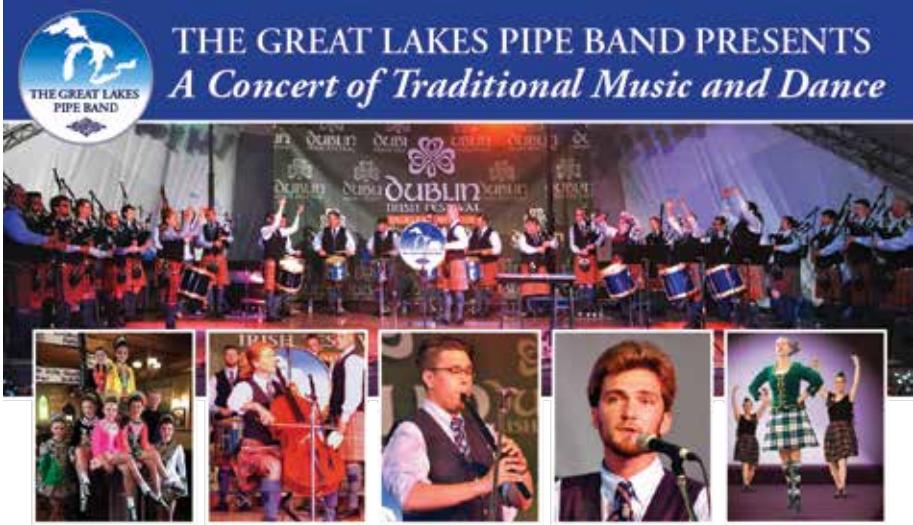
Ireland. However, the magic can only be sustained by words. Language has a music of its own. When the right words come together, they create a rhythm; each sentence takes you further and further into a new and exciting place, and the promise of a great escape.

To some this might appear as simple escapism, but it's more than that. While I do believe that the fantasy genre helped me to cope with an extreme situation, it also led me to value the beauty of language.

From fantasy, I was drawn towards Victorian literature. My absolute favourite is Wuthering Heights. Having read it and re-read it, I am, after all these years, reading it again on my iPad. The story of Cathy and Heathcliff has managed to follow me through the technological revolution.

Magic kingdoms fell to the stark, wild, Yorkshire moors of Emily Bronte. In her only novel, she bequeaths to us a romance that has subsequently been transferred to the stage and screen. Her tale of tortured souls continues to haunt those who are ravenous for a good story. For those who see this tale as a romance novel, they have obviously never read it. Nelly Dean and Mr. Lockwood, the narrators of this tale, are in themselves as much of a mystery as the fated Cathy and Heathcliff.

My journey from the fantastical worlds of the imagination to the tales of this world has had one common denominator, beautiful language. Anyone can write, but not everyone can write well. Even now, when I power up the iPad, my mind is captivated by the music of Emily's harrowing tale of love and loss. The Brontes, metaphysical poets, Shakespeare, Milton etc. have taken their place in my mind, sometimes as an escape, but more often than not now, as a reminder of how powerful language really is, and how beautiful it can be in the right hands.

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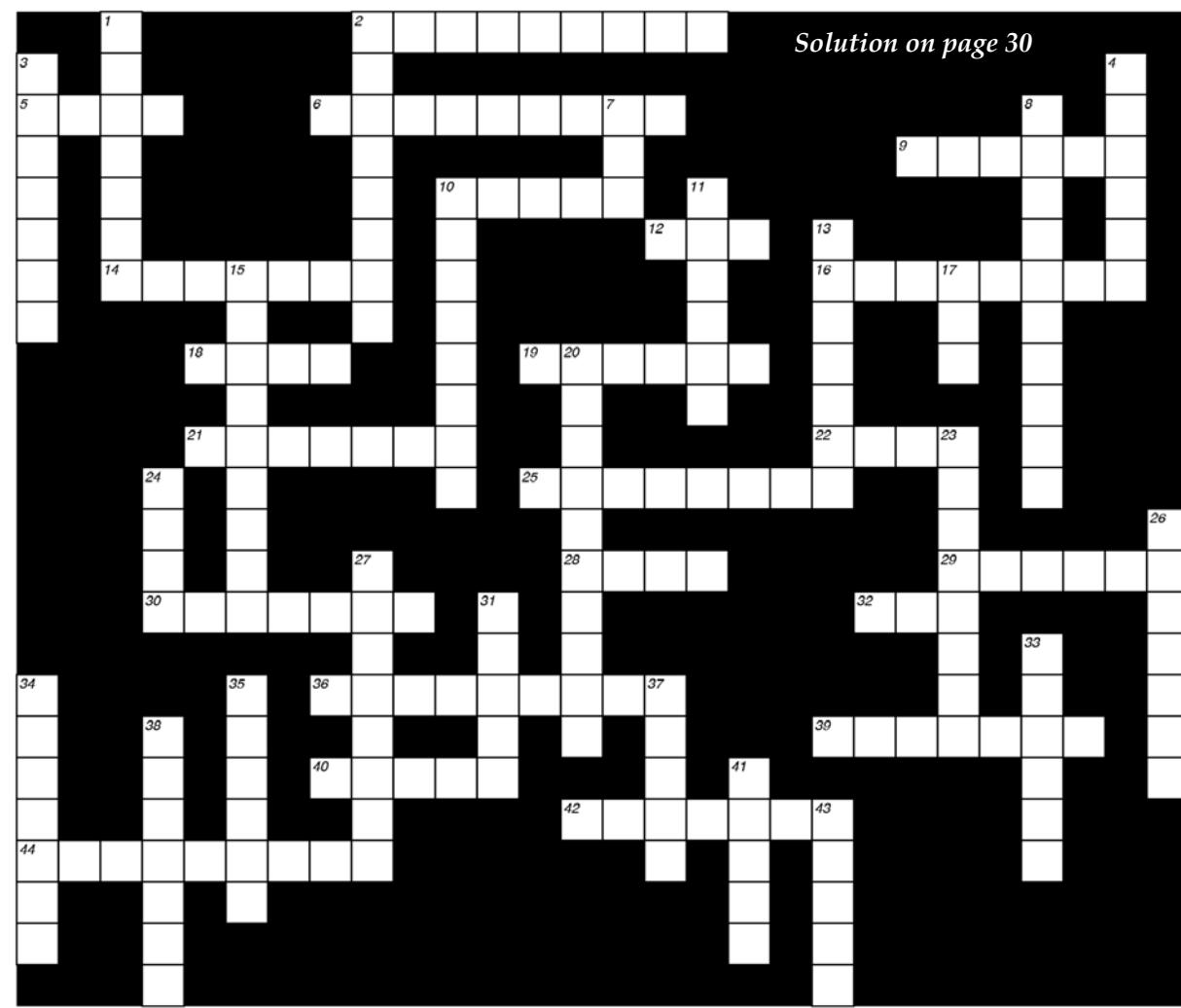
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Showbands of Ireland Part I

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ACROSS

- 2 _____ Showband [Bundoran]
- 5 _____ Minstrels Showband [Louisburg]
- 6 _____ Showband featuring Deidre [Newry]
- 9 Pete Browne and his Band of _____ [Kiltimagh]
- 10 _____ Mack Showband [Ballaghaderreen]
- 12 Eight [Dublin] (Started by Brendan Bowyer and Tom Dunphy after leaving the Royal relocated to Las Vegas)
- 14 _____ Carlton Showband [Strabane] (The "original" showband - started the Saturday Night Jukebox dance)
- 16 _____ Showband (featuring Joe Dolan) [Mullingar]
- 18 _____ Cummins Orchestra [Dublin] (Resident in the Macushla Ballroom)

- 19 Jim _____ Showband [Dublin] (featured Roly Daniels)
- 21 _____ Showband from Cork (started in 1963, featured Rory Gallagher)
- 22 Cadets Showband [Dublin] (Eileen _____ was Ireland's first female superstar with a string of hit records)
- 25 _____ Showband [Belfast]
- 28 Alpine Showband featuring Monty _____ [Belfast]
- 29 _____ Showband [Northern Ireland] (became Dan and the Farmers in 1973)
- 30 Galway _____ Showband [Galway] (60's showband)
- 32 _____ Cantwell Big Band [Kilkenny] (10 piece band which featured Paddy Day as lead vocalist in 1970)
- 36 _____ Showband [Castleblaney] (Fronted by Gerry Black and later Tom Allen)
- 39 _____ Showband [Newtownabbey] (featured

lead singer Clarke Frampton)

- 40 _____ Benson Orchestra [Limerick]
 - 42 _____ Showband [Finaghy] (featured Joe Duffy)
 - 44 _____ Showband [Dublin] (featured Pat Lynch-broke up in 1971)
- DOWN**
- 1 _____ Showband [Claremorris] (band featured Royal Blues' Gill brothers-from Colman Rushe)
 - 2 _____ Showband [Derry] (featured Pat McCrossan in the late 60's)
 - 3 _____ Showband** [Ballina] (later became the Fairways)
 - 4 Peter Cusack and the _____ [Bray, Co. Wicklow]
 - 7 Allen Showband^ [Summerhill, Co. Meath] (resident in Shelbourne Hotel, Dublin)
 - 8 _____ Showband (featuring Des Smyth) [Dublin]
 - 10 _____ Showband [Belfast] (featured Oliver Harcourt)
 - 11 _____ Conway Showband [Magherafelt]
 - 13 _____ Showband (featuring Kevin Flynn)^ [Cahir]
 - 15 Dawnbreakers featuring _____ [Enniskillen] Also featured Dora
 - 17 Five Showband*** [Mayo]
 - 20 _____ 7 Showband [Limerick]
 - 23 _____ Showband [Dublin] (featured Kevin O'Doherty)
 - 24 men (featuring Dermot O'Brien) [Dublin]
 - 26 _____ [Derry] (originally The Barristers Showband switched names in late 1966)
 - 27 _____ Showband (featuring Declan Ryan) [Cork]
 - 31 Johnny _____ Dance Band [Claremorris]
 - 33 _____ O'Keefe's book, Goodnight, God Bless and Safe Home.
 - 34 _____ (featuring Dawn Knight) [Monaghan]
 - 35 _____ Boys Showband [Graignamanagh, Co. Kilkenny]
 - 37 Jim Farley All _____ (featuring Terry Mahon) [Dublin]
 - 38 _____ Power's book, Send 'Em Home Sweatin'
 - 41 _____ Hughes Showband [Mullingar] (on the road for nearly 50 years)
 - 43 Johnny _____ Bandshow**/P2 [Dublin] (Resident band in Clery's Ballroom-featured Helen Jordan and Johnny Hyland)

Toledo Irish

by Maury Collins



The Toledo Irish American Club Making a Comeback!

The Toledo Irish American Club is a social non-profit group formed to celebrate the culture, music, dance and history of the Irish. The club's principle belief is that anyone who has a love and passion for the Irish culture are welcome to become members.

The club was started on 1992

er locations included Lourdes College, and a field outside a motel along I-75. They found a "permanent" home at the city of Toledo's International Park alongside the Maumee River.

The Heinzman Irish Dancers, now known as the Ardan Dancers, were started in Toledo with the support of the Toledo Irish American Club and performed every year at their festival. The talented bands featured include: Brigid's Cross, New Barleycorn, Norman Paine, Stephen's Green,

the festival. A few fundraisers were held to pay off debt. Very little was heard about the Toledo Irish American Club after that. Rumors would pop up now and then that they were planning to start up the summer festival. Those rumors proved to be false and it was generally believed that the club was gone forever.

Towards the end of summer, there was an announcement of an upcoming fundraiser by the Toledo Irish American Club to raise funds for a concert coming in February. Club president, Kelley Zawierucha, was bringing the club back again.

The first fundraiser was held at The Blarney on October 14th, and included a session by Toraigh an Sonas and a performance by the Ardan Irish Dancers. The second fundraiser was held at Earnest brewWorks on November 14th.

Soon the announcement was made that the concert, "For the Love of Irish Music," will be held on Saturday, February 10th, featuring The Drowsy Lads. The Drowsy Lads thundered onto the Irish music scene in the Midwest a dozen years ago and have become favorites at pubs, clubs, festivals, universities and concert halls.

Ohio brothers John and Daniel McKewen, father and son Phil and Josh Franck, and lifelong friend Bryan Brookes bring to the stage a concoction of "we dare you to hold still" Irish dance tunes as well as a full emotional gamut of songs. They've won the affections of audiences ranging from casual music-lovers to those steeped in hardcore Traditional Irish music.

Each Lad is a multi-instrumentalist, and the combined lineup includes fiddle, button accordion, tenor banjo, flute, whistle, guitar, bouzouki, Uilleann pipes, 5-string banjo, concertina, and bodhran. The Lads are fond of creating their own spirited arrangements and offering occasional original compositions, and even mixing in some bits of Bluegrass or Classical. But these never get in the way of their obsession with the pure old musicality of traditional Irish

tunes and songs.

Check out the Drowsy Lads on You Tube.; you will get excited about the show just as I did. The concert will be held on Saturday, February 10th from 6:00 PM until 10:00 PM at the Maumee Indoor Theater 601 Conant Street Maumee, Ohio.

Tickets are \$15.00 at the door through Eventbrite or \$13.50 in advance. Links are available

at Toledo Irish American Club Facebook page or The Drowsy Lads web site: <http://www.thedrowsylads.com>. The show will also feature a session by Toraigh an Sonas and a performance by the Ardan Irish Dancers. Penny (The Saint) and I have our tickets. We hope to see many other Irish music lovers there as well.

Coming in February!



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Every Sunday: Irish Music Session @Pj McIntyre's

- 4th – Superbowl Party @WSIA
- 10th – The Drowsy Lads, Maumee Indoor Theater
601 Conant Street Maumee, Ohio
- 17th – St. Pat's St. Jarlath's Gaelic Football Club's Nite
at the Races @West Side Irish American Club.
- 17th – Northern Ohio Rose of Tralee
Selection Ceremony
- 17th – Irish Network Chicago Annual Ball
- 21st – Gaelic Storm @House of Blues Cleveland
- 22nd – Walk of Life Awards @ Windows on the River
- 27th – Alan Doyle @Music Box CLE
- 3/1 - INCLE Irish Nite @ The Cavs
- 3/1 – Scythian @Music Box CLE

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The Drowsy Lads

Lively Traditional Irish Music

"Folks loved their powerful performances and I can agree that they are a lovely surprise for the jaded music fan." Irish American News

"...the spirit of Irish music in the Midwest" - Mick Broderick (SLIDE)

by John Connolly. They met monthly at various locations over the years. The Toledo Irish American Club was famous for its Toledo Irish Festival, held during the summer months.

The Festival began in a motel ballroom on Secor Road. Oth-

Vinegar Hill, Coyote Run, Hunting McCloud and Celtic Cross. The festivals were very popular and well attended.

Trouble came in the form of terrible weather three years in a row, from 2006 through 2008, and the club had to discontinue

*All the Words that I gather,
And all the Words that I write,
Must spread out their wings untiring,
and never rest in their flight....*

~W.B. Yeats



**We wish John O'Brien first class
success as he takes ownership
of Ohio Irish American News**

**All the Best,
Cliff and Cathy Carlson
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InnerView

by John O'Brien, Jr.

Fiddler on the Hoof: Gaelic Storm's Katie Grennan Ascends, with The Second Story

Kathleen (Katie) Grennan is known in and around Chicago for her teaching chops in fiddle and dance, her grace and her impact so deeply rooted in her students, that she has become as much sage as celebrity. The celebrity part grows with each new tour with Gaelic Storm, the unstoppable Celtic and World music powerhouse. While I was in Chicago finalizing the purchase of the OhioIANews, I missed Katie by minutes at the Chicago Good Fellowship Christmas Luncheon, and then we weren't able to catch up at the Galway Arms later that night. The session was small but mighty, and Katie looked down at me from the painting of her jamming alongside Paddy Homan, on the wall above the musicians and singers.

So we had a nice long chat this week. It was intended to be a CD review, but went much deeper. I've never lied to you: Get the CD; it is one that I will listen too over and over and The sage part, the self-awareness and gift of giving that is Katie, and is far deeper than passing by on the road, kept arising in our conversation. Read on, and I think you will agree.

Katie: My dad, his family is from Mayo and Roscommon. We moved when I was about three to the U.S.; the rest of my siblings were born in the U.S. My grandma and grandpa used to go out dancing in New York. It was really important to the social aspect for immigration. I remember the energy the first time I walked in (to an Irish club), it was joyful.

I was playing violin when I was four. It wasn't until I was in my 20s that I immerse myself in fiddle. No one else in the family played

instruments. My parents grew up and met in Long Island when Dad was in his 20s. My dad decided he wanted to go to medical school, to the University of Pittsburgh, so they moved to Pittsburgh.

I have a younger brother who plays in the Shannon Rovers pipe band; he plays in and around Chicago. I moved from Pittsburgh to Chicago because I went to the University of Notre Dame. I started dancing on and off with Trinity Dancers; I initially went to Chicago every other week.

When I graduated from ND, my first job was with a management company in the heart of the city. I could walk to the Galway Arms from my apartment. First I just listened, but eventually I started to fit in; I felt comfortable.

JOBJr: So which is home, Ireland, Pittsburgh or Chicago?

Katie: Both Pittsburgh and Chicago are home to some degree. The Irish music scene - you can't compare to Chicago. For me, there's so much music. The musicians are so welcoming. The amount of people that play music there, it's amazing.

I wouldn't be able to do what I do now if it weren't for the violin. My teacher was really strict on fingering, etc. I'm just now starting to embrace all of that. I am involved in other projects that are not strictly Irish or classical, currently rock, country, other things. The violin is not my primary area of focus. I can get away with tin whistle but ... (not very well).

JOBJr: What's been the biggest challenge?

Katie: My biggest challenge is not one thing; a lot of events led to this point in my career. I had a lot of great musicians steer me in the right direction, on what I should



*Katie, on fiddle, beside bodhran player Paddy Homan.
Painting on the wall @The Galway Arms.*

be listening to. I try to get better.

People said you are getting hired because you are blonde; you look good on stage. It so saddened me; it drove me to work even harder.

Doing a desk job every day, I always dreamed of how can I get out of this position? I knew I

wasn't good enough (yet). People say you have come so far in such a short time. It was kind of a serious job; I took it seriously. It didn't feel short to me. I was going to sessions, asking questions.

When I look back, time advanced quickly. I know, sometimes, I felt I was just stuck in

place.

Your work never is done. When I look back in five years, because I got hired for certain things I didn't feel I was good enough for, but I got hired. Playing in front of so many people, it made me get better. Being uncomfortable,

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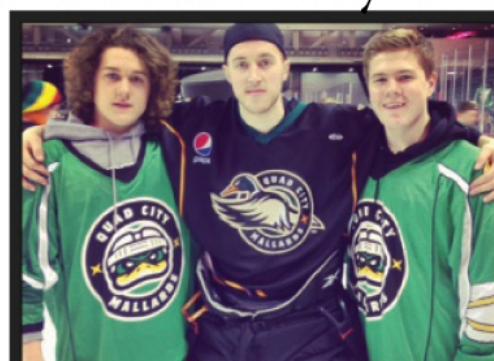
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Fiddler on the Hoof: Katie Grennan

playing with world-class musicians (you can't make a mistake); it just can't happen. You can't be afraid, you get over it and just muddle through it, and you concentrate on getting better.

I am most proud of working with kids and passing on what I have learned, to them. To see them, the passion; not doing it because they have to. To hear them say I couldn't wait to practice to the new album; people enjoying the music, it becomes part of their lives; it is awesome.

When I was in front of people I really admired, on stage or at a session, I always wondered if people were judging every single thing. They are not; sometimes they're not listening at all. I stopped freaking out about all the little details. I just got over it. Not everyone is judging you. Look at the bigger picture: is it really important if you miss a click? It's not the end of the world; it's not what people are looking for.

If you put the work in, you listen hard, and play in the right sessions, you will do fine. People like Liz Knowles, she inspires me. People say, you can't be good if you're not from the traditional background; you can't be a good fiddle player. I didn't grow up in the trad background. Liz is an inspiration to me.

I don't know what iteration I would

be - the album getting released two weeks ago; playing with Gaelic Storm full-time; playing all over Chicago; life happens fast. Being around people I admire, people that are passionate about what they do. It is hard work. I just hope people investing in the music are pursuing their own dreams.

JOBJr: Your newest CD is titled Second Story - Why did you choose that as the title?

Katie: Second story has two meanings - it is my second album; the second story I am telling. The second tune is called second story as well. It was written about the second story at Galway Arms; it's famous, the owner is a great supporter of Irish and other folk music. Four nights a week there are sessions, plus special concerts on Friday and Saturday.

JOBJr: Katie has a master of arts in management. She has an MBA, but focused on working in the school of fine arts, and public policy. You don't have to be old to gain wisdom, just learn from what ever university life has you in at the moment; for every road and every encounter is a learning experience, if you choose for it to be. She has a serious side, but her eyes glimmer with mischief and you sense the beginning of a smile always tugging, just a heartbeat away.

Katie: For fun, I love meeting with friends for a walk; playing music - I love to play for enjoyment, not just practicing and learning. I like to read on the bus when we are on tour. My life is very full and Chicago, be-

tween my friends and music, I love going to concerts: indie bands and stuff, because the past couple years, it's been so hectic: getting my Masters where I was learning booking, expanding my skills, improving my musical techniques. As a player, that broad knowledge of music? I think that is very beneficial.

I don't really have a bucket list. I make



KATIE GRENNAN
THE SECOND STORY

the best of things as they come; that's life. There are things I would like to have happen; countries that I would like to travel to.

Being on the road it's not nearly as glamorous as people think it is. Being able to perform for a living; seeing the most completely absurd things you could ever imagine, (you have to be) accepting the negative - what you're willing to put up with or not put up with, that is how your career is going (to go).

Gaelic Storm came at a funny time for me. I was at a point where I wanted to stop learning. I was almost ready to go back into the workforce. Then the band happened. I was really lucky I was able to sign off on it.

Our society is so based on achievement. I see this in my students every day. It is never ending up reach. You should, whether running or dancing; you should be doing it because you love it. You have to have some focus. Own who you are and own what you do, and don't worry about what others are doing.

Dancers come back from competing and, "How did you do," I ask?

"Well, I didn't place," they answer.

I ask, "Did you work hard? Did you do your best?" They answer yes. Well then, all the work was worthwhile.

JOBJr: Do you realize you are very is self-aware?

Katie: I wasnt for a while. I had to learn to rely on myself as a freelancer, so yes I guess I am aware.

JOBJr: What advice would you give to dreamers?

Katie: I would say, it's really the journey, not the destination. A lot more comes with it then just work; it's luck, timing. If you

feel joy along the way, that's the dream. The sessions, meeting people - that was the way it was supposed to happen. You have to preserve your dream - you have to reach at it, create opportunities. These things were supposed to happen.

I believe in that. An honest effort leads to success. There are a lot of ways you can define success. Be open to your signs from the universe, of people around you. I believe in karma, it's a real thing; you have on other things, helping people. If you don't spread the wealth, in the end, you won't be happy. If another fiddler, the same age as me, auditions, they can only hire one of us. If you are always watching your back, and not helping others, it's not going to serve you well.

In the new year I will be touring with Gaelic Storm. I am doing a PBS Special on John Kennedy with Michael Londra. I play with a little family band, we have a couple gigs in the winter, and they're releasing a new CD next year.

Now that the album is out with Gaelic Storm, I'm just trying to enjoy it. I enjoy playing with the band and meeting people, learning more tunes - that's the really great thing about playing music - you can never know what is going to come up.

Don't ever be afraid to ask for help people from people in this business that you look up to, they are willing to help.

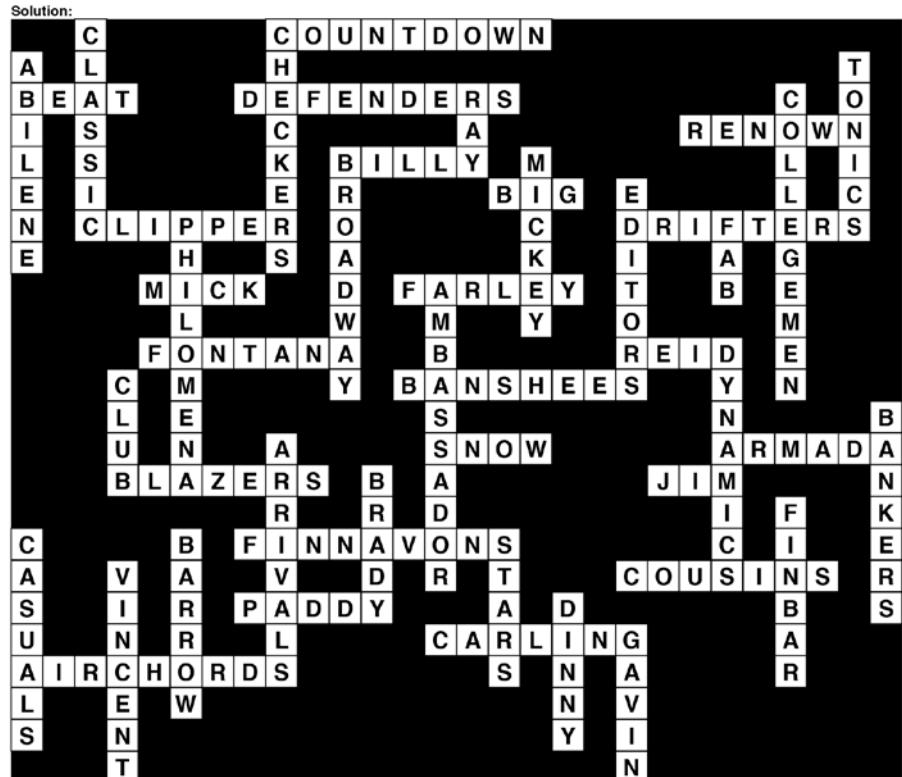
The Fiddler on the Hoof is always on the move, always paying forward to students, audiences and friends Katie meets along the way. The circumstance of a life well-lived and thereby, well rewarded, is attuned to all the faith and effort that it took to get there.

The openness that Katie meets every person with opens new opportunists to learn, laugh, love life, and reach a hand down, to pull up the person coming after. The Inner View, births fantastic and often unexpected locales on that journey; never reaching the road that has neither map, nor destination, engraved in stone.

You can find out more about Katie, her tours, music, and projects, and pick up Katie's FANTastic new CD, The Second Story, on iTunes, CDBaby and Amazon, or at www.katiengrennan.com. Tell her John sent ya!

Showbands of Ireland Part I

Linda Fulton Burke



About Our Cover:

Katie Grennan, solo and Gaelic Storm fiddler extraordinaire, releases her "The Second Story" CD.



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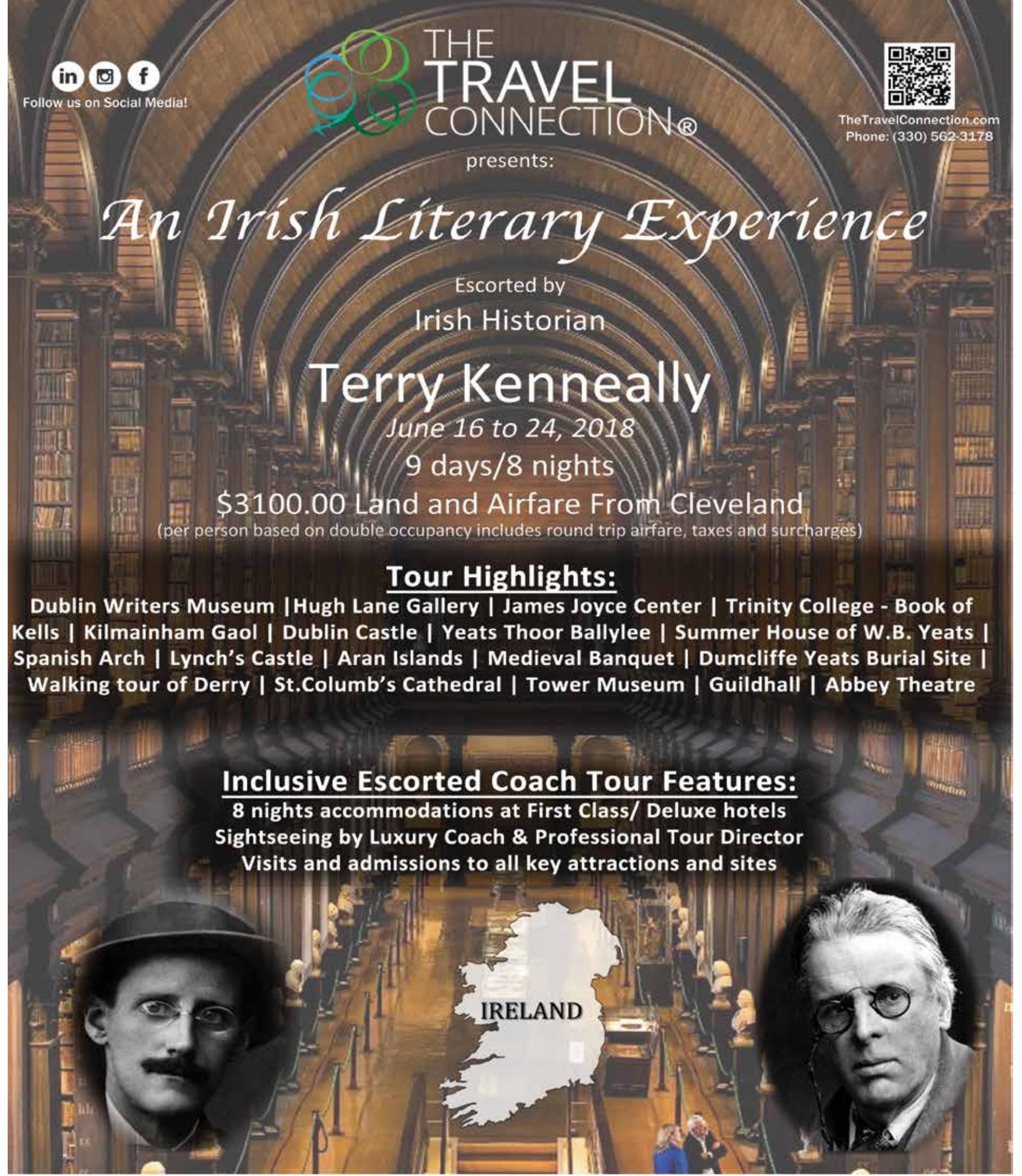
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IRELAND

**Katie Grennan Ascends,
with The Second Story,
see page 29 & 30.**

