

Happy St. Patrick's Day!



March 2015
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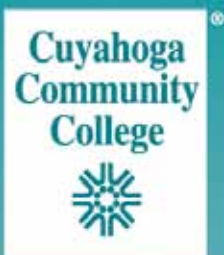


*Ali DeCrane
Rocks Rugby*



2015 Roses of Tralee
Story page 3

Irish American News



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Editor's Corner



John O'Brien, Jr.

As I sit in the sand in Clearwater writing Editor's Corner, I'm on vaca physically, but with the mighty March issue of the Ohio Irish American News looming here before me, there is no rest for the wicked. So I sat down with one of my favorite authors, Ann O'Farrell, who by sheer coincidence lives in Clearwater, and whose new book, *Roisin's Song*, has just been released. Love these kind of coincidences! Her's is an amazing story, and it was a story and fun filled evening with a wonderful writer; don't wait, get *Roisin's Song*. The review is on page 12..

Balance is beauty. We strive to balance the history with the historic, the past, present and future, within these pages. You hope you will find much to savor within.

St. Patrick, of course, figures prominently, but the Claddagh, The Forever Seven Signers of the Proclamation, Cleveland Rugby's new generation, Inner View profile of former Cleveland Mayor Jane Campbell, Taking Your First Trip to Ireland, the beautiful 2014 and newly named 2015 Ohio Rose of Tralee, highlighted with 2014

International Rose Maria Walsh joining in the naming of Ohio's Rose each have a pic and prose. Music and book reviews and enough events to fill five Green Seasons are also the stars of this month.

I am so looking forward to all the seminal events of the season leading up to the day. Mass at St. Colman's is always first, with family and friends all day, it is a hell's bells pace to relax with the God, saint and humans I love.

I'll be grateful to be home, to submerge myself with my fam-

looking for that, and to make an impact, and have a generous spirit for paying forward all our rich Irish culture provides.

Everyone here at the Ohio Irish American News is wishing a sincere and grateful congratulations to all the St. Patrick's Day Honorees; thank you is not enough, but a start; Thank You.

Slán agus beanacht. Le' Fhe'ile Pdraig – Good health and contentment to you all
Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Slán,
John



John O'Brien Jr. with author Ann O'Farrell

ily and friends in the St. Patrick's Day activities, and on the flip side, the massive preparation for all the new things coming to the 33rd Annual Cleveland Irish Cultural Festival, July 24-26 at the Berea Fairgrounds. Urgency is easily balanced by all the fun, creative buzz and excitement. Join us if you are

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About Our Cover

About Our Cover: Ali De-Crane has led her St. Joseph Academy High School rugby team to three state championships, and now plays rugby at Ohio State. She played on the first ever USA girls rugby squad. Photo by Marianne Mangnan www.mariannemangnan.com.

2015 Ohio Rose of Tralee Selected Valentine's Day

The Ohio Rose of Tralee International Festival is an annual ambassador selection among Irish women or women of Irish decent, aged 18 to 27, who exhibit outgoing personality, confidence, ability to communicate, charisma, talent, aptitude and attitude. The selected Rose must endeavor to showcase all of the fine qualities that lead to her selection, knowing that she represents her heritage and Ohio.

Tralee, Ireland is twin cities with Westlake, Ohio. The International Rose of Tralee dates back to 1959. Rose of Tralee centres can now be found in Irish communities across the world, including USA, Canada, Dubai, Europe, Australia and UK. Each centre selects a Rose, who in turns represents their region for an entire year, and travels to Ireland for the chance to be selected as an International Rose of Tralee.

The Selection Celebration for the 2015 Ohio Rose of Tralee was held Saturday, February 14th, at the West Side Irish American Club, in Olmsted Twp, Ohio. Special guests included Maria Walsh, reigning International Rose of Tralee and Since being selected as the Rose of Tralee, Maria has traveled to four continents and has recently completed a whirlwind tour of every County in Ireland.

Master of Ceremonies Dan Coughlin, assisted by Bridget Linton, 2011 Ohio Rose and current Fox Sports Girl coordinated the rose evening, with music, dance and final interviews with 2015 Ohio Rose of Tralee entrants culminating in the naming of the 2015 Ohio Rose of Tralee by Maria Walsh, 2014 International Rose and Grainne Mangan, 2014 Ohio Rose.

Grainne (Grah-nah) was selected as the 2014 Ohio Rose on April 25th, 2014. Grainne's family and her roots influence every part of her life, shaping who she is today. Grainne graduated from the University of Dayton in May 2014 and is now a Technical Recruiter with TEKSystems, in Columbus, Ohio. Grainne's father Pat's family hails from Achill Island, Co. Mayo; her mother Marianne's from Co. Cork.

"Representing my home state as the 2014 Ohio Rose has been an adventure I hope every young Irish woman gets to experience. Not only was I fortunate

enough to form friendships across the world, I also was able to bring my experience home to share with the strong Irish community of Ohio. I am truly blessed to have been selected to "mirror a changing Ireland" across Ohio. I look forward to the future, continuing to represent my Irish heritage and also sharing this experience with others in hope that they may be lucky enough to become a part of such a remarkable and beautiful tradition."

The Rose Wall in Tralee Town Park in Tralee salutes the more than 1,700 Roses who have represented their cities, counties, states and countries in the Rose of Tralee International Festival since 1959. It was unveiled on August 2013 in Tralee Town Park, a gift from Tralee Town Council on the anniversary of the 55th Rose of Tralee International Festival. Irish communities in five continents are represented on the wall and 117 Rose Centres are represented: twenty-four American cities and states, seven Canadian provinces, nine Australian, twenty-one from



*Rose Maura
English-Irish
Ohioan Rose*

Great Britain and nine from Europe. All thirty-two Irish counties are represented.

Tralee's Rose Wall represents the Rose of Tralee International Festival sentiment, "Once a Rose, always a Rose".

The Ohio Rose Selection Celebration is currently the major annual fundraising event for Westlake World Partners Co., which is a 501(c)(3) non-profit group established to help promote cultural, educational, and civic exchange for Westlake's Sister Cities Program. See www.roseoftralee.ie or www.NorthernOhioRose.com.

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MILESTONES



Austin Walkin' Cane

Congratulations to all the St. Patrick's Day Honorees! Your service, vision and commitment honor our past and our present, and pay it forward to strengthen our future.

Congratulations to Austin Walkin' Cane. His new album, ONE HEART WALKIN', was nominated for a 2015 "BEST NEW ARTIST ALBUM" BLUES MUSIC AWARD (formerly a W.C. Handy Award) by the BLUES FOUNDATION.

Congratulations to Mairin Petrone and Brittny Goodell, who got engaged recently. Mairin is one of my favorite Pittsburgh Irish Fest people, who always welcome me, my books and the Ohio Irish American News with open arms. We wish you both great health, wealth and happiness.

Congratulations to Sean Lackey of Lackey & CO CPA; Flanagan's Wake and The Yank, opening Gandalf's Pub this month at 6757 Center Road in Valleyview. Stop by and check it out.

Congratulations to Patrick, Zach & all the crew at West Park Barbershop, voted Best Barbershop in Cleveland!



There are over 1.4 million people of Irish descent in Ohio; 475,000 in Greater Cleveland; 176,000 in Cuyahoga County: Want to reach them? Advertise in the Ohio Irish American News: jobrien@ianohio.com.



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Sober St. Patrick's Day® returns

The Northern Ohio Sober St. Patrick's Day® Celebration will take place on March 17th, from 5pm until 8pm at Ahern's Banquet Center, 726 Avon Belden Road, in Avon Lake, Ohio 44012.

Sober St. Patrick's Day®- Northern Ohio offers outstanding Irish entertainment with performances by Mary Agnes Kennedy (guitar and vocals) singing traditional Irish ballads; Patrick Kilroy on bagpipes; The Burke School of Irish Dance; the popular trio Fíor Gael with traditional Irish tunes and songs. Fíor Gael features Brian Bigley, tin whistle & uilleann pipes, Rory Hurley, guitar & vocals, and Brian Holleran on flute and tin whistle. New to the lineup this year is Clash of the Tartans, a Cleveland based

all-women folk band specializing in adding a classical twist to traditional favorites.

The St. Ignatius Circus Company, face painters from Elyria Catholic and the Lights Camera Fun! Photo Booth will add to the fun with special activities for the children.

John M. Regan returns to share his wit and charm as Master of Ceremonies. Regan is a noted improvisational comic actor with the Irish Rodeo Clowns.

The purpose of Sober St. Patrick's Day® is captured in the organization's mission statement: "To reclaim the true spirit of the day and to change the perception and experience of what St. Patrick's Day can be, by providing family-friendly, alcohol free events celebrating the best of Irish music, dance and entertainment."

Pictures, videos, and the brief history of Sober St. Patrick's Day® can be found on

the website. www.soberstpatricksdays.org.

Admission is \$15 / \$10 for students & seniors, with coffee, tea and soft drinks provided, along with hot hors d'oeuvres. Convenient to I-90 just north of the Rte

83 - Avon exit, with ample free parking.

Tickets can be purchased in advance at www.soberstpatricksdays.org.

Sober St. Patrick's Day is made possible by the support of Recovery

Irish Company PEL Launches North American Operations in Cleveland

PEL Waste Reduction Equipment has established North American operations in Cleveland, Ohio to better serve U.S. customers and position PEL for sustainable, long-term growth in America.

PEL America's Vice President of Operations, Dan Hanna, "Cleveland offers a tremendous opportunity to begin filling the need in the hospitality industry for easy and effective waste-recycling solutions. The Republican National Committee choosing Cleveland to host it's 2016 Convention and the mid- to high 90% range of apartment occupancy rate downtown are two examples that point to a true revitalization Cleveland. PEL America is in a unique position to work with partners and stakeholders in Cleveland and Northeast Ohio to become a one-stop service for recycling programs in the hospitality industry."

"Bar and restaurant owners want and need an easy and effective way to recycling waste, especially glass. They just haven't had the right opportunity. We are excited to provide the products and strategies to do just that while bringing economic development to the area."

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2014 Ohio Rose Grainne Mangan
pours a pint at PJ McIntyre's.
Complete story on page 3



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Terry From Derry

by Terry Boyle



Progressive Green Revelation

Barely out of February, and the colour green becomes predominant. Cities throughout the world will celebrate the mass conversion of the pagan Celts to Christianity without knowing why. The old superstitions of paganism were quashed under the missionary zeal of one man, St. Patrick.

But as with every festival, the history is less important than the celebration, and this is not always a bad thing. Life is a continual cycle of revising, reinventing, and transformation. What we were, what we are, or become, is simply a matter of how we imagine it.

The notion of celebrating St. Paddy's Day as an occasion to kick the British and assert Irish autonomy is no longer relevant. The Queen has worn the green, visited the former colony of the Irish Republic, and Sinn Féin has embraced the democratic process and dropped its abstention policy. Now, the Queen's shilling is worth the taking, and a United Ireland, since the Republic's economic meltdown, less a preoccupation. I'm sure that these points are over simplifications, and matters of contention among those who are 'in the know', but it does seem as if the celebration of St. Patrick's Day could become something more than sentimental nationalism.

Ireland as a part of the E.U, and a modern progressive country now celebrates its inclusiveness, and diversity. It's now a place where sexual and cultural diversity is celebrated, and affirmed. The unity in the aspirational United Ireland has developed in ways not formerly conceived of.

It has become more than simply patching back the north with the south. Now, the island of Ireland is actively working against religious, sexual, and cultural sectarianism. The introduction of new cultures, European, African, and others, has helped to break the bipolar perspective of the Irish as simply Protestant and Catholic.

These changes in both the north and south of Ireland have not always been met with typical Irish generosity. Ironically, as a nation whose history is

scarred with the effects of emigration, Ireland has in the last decades found itself becoming a place of opportunity. Conversely, reports of racism run counter to the inclusive ideals of a nation whose past has been blighted by the loss of its people. We now can be a haven, sanctuary for those forced to leave their own countries.

The stranglehold of clericalism has changed not only public opinion, but public policies. Now, the guiding principles of government no longer have to doff the cap towards the cardinals in Rome. The mandate for governing is liberal humanism rather than religious indoctrination.

Religion has increasingly become identified with cultural identification and less about religious affiliation. The paganism of the past is alive and well in the superstitious affectations of modern Catholicism. The rituals of the church are less about instruction and more about good and bad luck.

These changes have significant repercussions on the popular interpretation of religious celebrations, and St. Patrick's Day is a prime example of a festival that has lost its religious significance. Faced with a world that is in danger of ruining the balance of climate, teetering on new dangers from religious radicalism, and generally feeling as though the apocalypse is just around the corner, St. Patrick's Day can be a note of hope; a moment of solidarity. Each nation would love to parade its best attributes, but no nation is without its shame, so every national holiday is a mixture of regret and hope for the future.

If it were simply a case for mass drunkenness, it could be any day of the week. It would be nice to reclaim this perception of the inebriated Irish, and make the day something more of who we want to be. There has to be something more we want from a day that should celebrate who we wish we could become rather than a reaffirmation of a stereotype.

I would hate to be thought of as a 'killjoy', but is it complimentary to equate the Irish with drunkenness? Or

is it simply a way of saying that we enjoy a good time? Could it simply be another form of disempowerment, and self-negation? Has our history been reduced to nothing other than a lamentation of the old wounds of injustices with another round?

I'd like to think we could embrace the value of the rich culture, and traditions of Ireland while still sober. And, if we travel backwards, then let our history become more than dates to be remembered, and more about what we've learned from the story of who we are. St. Paddy's Day has been hijacked

to become an Irish version of Mardi Gras. Is that what we want from a day that gives us a sense of national pride?

When it comes to this time of the year, I have mixed reactions. First of all, I hate that the general perception is one of casual racism: drunken Irish. The Irish love drinking so much they have a national holiday dedicated to getting paralytic. On the other hand, I love that people think about Ireland. It is the day we have the world looking at our small island on the western coast of Europe, and wondering why it's so important. What should prevail?

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 Seven Nations • Windermere, FL
 Dermot Henry • New York, NY
 New Barleycorn • Cleveland, OH
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All Things Irish

by Linda Fulton Burke

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 8 dessert made with bananas, carmel, cream, chocolate sauce
 10 Tommy Makem's partner
 11 blackthorn stick
 15 Co. Clare's biggest tourist attraction
 16 Cleveland's Twin City
 18 City of Tribes
 19 keening woman that forewarns of death
 21 St. Patrick used this to explain the Trinity
 23 County home to Rock of Cashel and Cahir Castle
 26 Mashed potatoes with cabbage, onion
 27 Folk Park with Castle in Co. Clare
 28 producers of wool
 31 Irish drum

37 small woodwind Instrument played with fingers and blowing into it
 38 Fin MacCool's path to Scotland
 43 Kiss this to get "the gift of eloquence"
 44 wee shoe cobbler
 45 the old pub by Bunratty Castle
 46 fish caught near the weirs of Ireland

DOWN

1 the fastest Irish sport
 2 He wrote "Four Freen Fields"
 3 biggest selling Irish whiskey
 4 Irish ale originally from Kilkenny
 6 trad music hub of Ireland
 7 Irish social dances
 9 Irish football for women
 12 Irish storyteller
 13 Irish folk group named after a rebel patriot
 14 Belfast made ship that sank

Answers on page 30



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Clevelanders



Love, Loyalty, and Friendship

In the past decade, words have become trendy. Stamped, painted, and spiraled on everything from beads and leather bracelets, to pillows and ceramics, words seek to inspire the trendsetters. In my house alone, I have a frame bearing Family, my daughter has a black and white screen print proclaiming Be You, and my muse, a rock, gilded with Celtic knot work, reminds me to Create. For me, words have always evoked enlightenment.

I am curious as to why it has taken popular culture so long to catch up with my vision. The framing of single words: Inspire, Believe may be current symbols of 21st century home décor, but the theme underlying the word is key to understanding the philosophy behind the art.

For over three hundred years, the Claddagh ring has represented meaning in both word and symbol. Even if the ubiquitous design of the two hands clasping a crowned heart is not present, the words Love, Loyalty, and Friendship evoke the message of the ring. A saddened Irish mother may have given her own Claddagh ring to her sixteen-year-old son on the day he left Ireland for America.

She wanted her boy to remember his culture, his homeland, and the love of his family. For these reasons, that son may have then given the ring to his own son on the day the boy marries. To the father, his mother's ring is a symbol of his past, his culture, and his love.

Interestingly, even powerful historical figures like John F. Kennedy, as well as artists such as Bono from U2 have chosen to wear the Claddagh ring. Their pride of heritage in the humble symbol of the Claddagh reflects a belief in Love, Loyalty, and Friendship shared by devotees of the ring the world over.

On St. Patrick's Day, revelers may be wearing the green, but the symbol of the Claddagh will be present on everything from scarves and t-shirts, to hats and banners. Personally, I most value the symbol of the Claddagh on a ring, thin and worn with time and history, on the hand of the elderly Irish man and woman with whom you share a handshake or offer a supporting arm. A symbol only means as much as the sentiment and love the bearer brings to it.

When my oldest two children were tod-



dlers and their unborn baby brother was nestled beneath the warm knit of my oversized Aran sweater, my husband and I attended mass with his mother and

dad at St. Colman's Church. All the way to the church, my son kicked his feet against his car seat to the beat of the jigs and reels that played in stereo in our car.

The day was one of those blessedly rare days in early spring when snow clouds break and the sun shines warm and bright on the troops of fifers and flag girls, pipers and priests that commence into St. Colman's for St. Patrick's Day mass. My children were awed by the boom of the drums and the peal of the fifes. Unsure as to how they fit into this crowded scene, the children stayed close to the comfort of my husband and their grandparents, while I did my best to keep my swelling belly out of the way.

Grannies with snow-white heads held hands with pink-cheeked, shamrock bedecked tots, smiling at the appreciative nods of friends with whom they have shared a seeming lifetime of St. Patrick's Day celebrations. It was and always will be a delight to witness the sight of generations of family coming together in love, loyalty, and friendship on this special day.

As a way of creating my own tradition, I read my children a storybook by Eve Bunting on the eve of every St. Patrick's Day, entitled St. Patrick's Day in the Morning. The story recounts the tale of young Jamie Donovan, a little boy too small to march with his father and older brothers during their town's parade. For a bit of adventure, Jamie and his sheepdog Nell decide to march through their sleepy town as dawn breaks one St. Patrick's Day.

Wearing his Da's black bowler hat, green sash, and whistling into his brother's flute, Jamie begins his own parade in grand style. The town's early risers greet young Jamie with freshly laid eggs, cherry-topped buns, and Irish flags as he and Nell march up Acorn Hill to the stage set for the day's Irish dancing and revelry.

Jamie and Nell know that St. Patrick's Day is about pride of place, tradition, and love for one's family. Jamie knows that a child need not be big to embrace the feeling of friendship that teems throughout the spirit of St. Patrick's Day.

Throughout the years, my children have participated in the St. Patrick's Day parade as fifers, in drill teams, and as dancers. In recent years, they have had the privilege of bearing banners with their father carrying the flag before them. No matter their level of parade participation, not a St. Patrick's Day passes that one of my three

children fails to mention the sweet story of Jamie and Nell. Traditions, both old and new, are important on St. Patrick's Day.

This St. Patrick's Day will be memorable for our family as my mother-in-law was selected as the 2015 West-Side Irish-American Club's Woman of the Year. Proud to march down the avenue surrounded by loved ones from near and far, my mother-in-law is very honored to be selected as Woman of the Year. The West-Side Irish-American Club has meant so much to her, as well as to the many young Irish who left their homes to begin new lives in Cleveland.

Content in her knowledge that the greatest honors come from living a good, honest life dedicated to hard work and service, my mother-in-law symbolizes the humble message of the Claddagh ring: love, loyalty, and friendship. To this, she would add two simple words – family and faith. Worn upon a finger or scrolled across a piece of canvas, these words are true symbols of love.

*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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The Forever Seven
The Seven Men Who Signed the Proclamation
 By Anne Waters

Thomas MacDonagh

Thomas MacDonagh was the third name on the Irish Proclamation. He was a man of many talents: a university lecturer, a poet, a play-write and finally a soldier. Born in 1878 in Cloughjordan Co. Tipperary, he was reared with an appreciation of music, literature and both Irish and English culture.

Both his parents were teachers but his mother, a convert to Catholicism was particularly influential in instilling a strong religious belief as well as encouraging his development as a writer and poet. He attended Rockwell College, learning to speak fluent French. Originally, he believed he had a vocation to the priesthood, but left shortly after commencing study. MacDonagh continued to teach at the school and pursue his literary interests, publishing his first book of poetry in 1902. He obtained a teaching position in Kilkenny and it was there he attended his first Gaelic League meeting, soon

immersing himself in the Irish language.

The pursuit of his interest in Irish culture and heritage may have affected his relationship with the school management in Kilkenny, for he soon left without obtaining another appointment. A new position in Cork with a stronger Irish ethos was more to his liking.

He taught from 1903 to 1908 in St Colmans whilst continuing to write poetry and plays and attend Gaelic League meetings. When Padraig Pearse opened his school, St. Enda's, MacDonagh accepted a position as a teacher. It was a bilingual school and suited MacDonagh's new found interest in all things Irish. He was considered to be 'a small, lively, talkative man always joking with the people he encountered.' (Ref 1).

Although a popular figure, he enjoyed his solitude and lived on his own in the school Gate Lodge, balancing his teaching and writing. His meeting with Joseph Plunkett changed the course of his life, as Plunkett, another Signatory, advertised for a teacher

to improve his proficiency in Irish.

MacDonagh answered that advert and the two became close friends. Plunkett introduced MacDonagh to the Gifford sisters and Muriel Gifford later became Thomas MacDonagh's wife.

Although MacDonagh continued to teach at St Endas, he now attended University College Dublin, where he studied English, French and Irish. His relationship with Muriel Gifford continued to blossom although with some difficulty, as her parents disapproved of MacDonagh. This may have been because he was a staunch Catholic and she a Protestant but, as her father was himself a Catholic, it is more likely that disapproval was due to MacDonagh's political affiliations.

They arranged to marry quietly with Pearse as best man. When Pearse failed to appear on the day they asked a gardener nearby to stand in. Mac-

Donagh's literary achievements continued with the publication in 1913 of his thesis on Thomas Campion and book of poetry 'Lyrical Poems'.

MacDonagh's writing was still uppermost and he became involved in a literary journal 'The Irish Review'. The paper's original focus gradually shifted, becoming more political. MacDonagh and Plunkett published several articles, including a 'Marching Song', written by MacDonagh for the Irish Volunteers. The politicization of MacDonagh was more apparent and in 1913 he joined the Volunteers. His advancement was rapid and by 1914 he was appointed Commander of the 2nd Battalion and wrote to his friend Dominic Hackett, 'I have found a great thing to do in and with life outside the very real

and wonderful interest that a wife and two children give me'. (Ref 1).

MacDonagh accompanied Sean MacDiarmada to Eoin McNeill's house to inform O'Neill of an imminent arrival of arms. He was devastated when O'Neill cancelled the planned Rising and was in agreement with the other Signatories to

reschedule to Easter Monday April 24th.

Easter Monday saw MacDonagh lead the 2nd Battalion to Jacobs Biscuit Factory. There was very little action at this post due to the factory's awkward positioning between small streets and laneways.

The use of snipers, as opposed to an all-out attack, was the method utilised on both sides. Reports indicate that Major John McBride, rather than MacDonagh,

was more of a military leader during the hold-up in the factory. Orders to surrender initially came from Elizabeth O'Farrell, a despatcher for the rebel forces. Reluctant to accept such instruction from an obvious prisoner of war, MacDonagh insisted on a meeting with General Lowe. It was agreed to allow him to confirm the surrender with Padraig Pearse. When MacDonagh returned to the factory, he wept openly in front of his troops.

As one of the seven signatories on the Proclamation, MacDonagh's fate was never in doubt, even though his engagement in active combat was limited. In one of his final statements, worry over finance and consequently his family, was naturally evident and he declared he had 'devoted myself too much to national work and too little to the making of money to leave them in competence'. (Ref 1)

Thomas MacDonagh's court room speech was inspirational as he declared, 'The Proclamation has been adduced in evidence against me as one of the Signatories. You think it already a dead and buried letter but it lives, it lives. From minds alight with Ireland's vivid intellect it sprang, in hearts aflame with Ireland's mighty love it was conceived. Such documents do not die.' (ref 2)

References: Ref 1: 16 dead Men (Anne Marie Ryan, Mercier Press 2014).

Ref 2: Last Words (Piaras Mac Lochlainn) OPW Govt Pub. 2006



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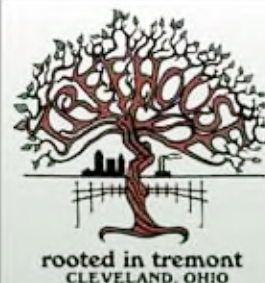
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Jane Campbell: Lean on Me; a Lifetime of Helping Hands

Jane Campbell served as the 56th and first female mayor of Cleveland, Ohio from 2002 to 2006. Community development, advocacy, equal rights and most of all, helping those that, for whatever reason, aren't getting the same benefits and opportunities available to others has been her credo and legacy since she first stepped into the

forefront of leadership, now spanning more than thirty years.

Jane was elected to the Ohio House of Representatives in 1984 and reelected five times, serving as the majority whip and later the assistant minority leader. She was also appointed to work with the Clinton administration intergovernmental group of governors,

mayors, county officials and state legislators on the Welfare Reform effort of the mid-90s.

"It came out of 'The War on Poverty,'" Campbell recounted. "We were trying to find ways to bring capital into underserved communities: housing, job opportunities, redevelopment, investment, the public/private partnership that is so much a part of Cleveland."

"The Public Policy side is to make sure that government is very aware of needs. Sherrod Brown is a great champion. The importance of maintaining credit on new bonds - tax credits fuel investment."

In 1996 Campbell was elected Cuyahoga County commissioner and reelected in 2000. Throughout her years as County Commissioner, Campbell efforts for urban development and redevelopment projects changed the face, and vibrant esteem of Cleveland. Overnight success usually takes about fifteen years. Steelyard Commons, Gordon Square Arts District, Battery Park, The Avenue District, East 4th Street redevelopment and the Euclid

Avenue transit corridor all found foundation under Campbell's interagency collaboration efforts. In 2004, Cleveland became the first city to host the International Children's Games.

In 2009, Campbell became Chief of Staff to Louisiana Senator Mary Landrieu, then joined National Development Council in 2014 as Director and Head of National Development Council's Washington office of Public Policy and Advocacy. NDC is a national non-profit with a mission to increase the flow of capital for investment, jobs and community development to underserved urban and rural areas across the United States. Campbell directs NDC's advocacy campaign, NDC Advocating for Communities Together, or NDC ACT. With NDC ACT as a platform, Campbell works to raise awareness of the impact of state and federal job creation and com-



munity economic development programs, leading its efforts to preserve capital for job creation and community revitalization.

"We are thrilled to welcome Jane as Director of NDC Public Policy and Advocacy," said Robert W. Davenport, Presi-

County. I had the privilege of serving in the General Assembly when discussions on peace in Northern Ireland in discussions on how to bring Apartheid down took place."

When Campbell was mayor of Cleveland, she led a delegation for the Twinning of Achill, Mayo and Cleveland. "It was a highlight for me. More than 70 people came from Cleveland to Achill to witness it. Steve Mulloy was the passion behind it. He had wanted to do it for years. He got my support as Mayor. I remember Steve singing Danny Boy. I have a great picture of all of us on the shore of Achill island."

"You look around, see all the glass windows, rescue squad plaques that say donated by

family and friends in Cleveland, Ohio. There are more people in Cleveland from Achill than are people in Achill."

Steve will be inducted into the International Hall of Fame in February; Jane is coming to Cleveland for the ceremony.

"Growing up, I was aware of being Irish. It wasn't a daily highlight, but rather more a part of a faith-based upbringing. Cleveland was such a destination for the Irish. The history of Cleveland, we welcomed the Irish with open arms. Discrimination was why they left. We look at what the Irish have meant to the community, enhanced the community, in the way that new immigrants are enhancing it now."

"My mom and dad, my brother are here. Whenever we gather for holidays, events,

Continued on Page 26

The Judges Gallagher

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Judge Eileen A. Gallagher

Ohio Court of Appeals, 8th District



Judge Laura J. Gallagher

Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas - Probate Division

Judge Eileen T. Gallagher

Ohio Court of Appeals, 8th District

Judge Hollie L. Gallagher

Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas - General Division

Judge Sean C. Gallagher

Ohio Court of Appeals, 8th District

Judge Shannon M. Gallagher

Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas - General Division



Owens Sports

By Mark Owens



The Growth of Youth Rugby: Many of you know of my involvement in Gaelic Football over the years, be it through my articles here or through simple word of mouth. I have been involved in many aspects; club management, fundraising and event planning, to name a few. As a club we were pretty good at these things; an area where we struggled was recruiting new blood, primarily at the high school level. We always knew in order to get people playing Gaelic Football from an early age that targeting them at the high school age was vital.

So we went about calling the schools where we had connections (alumni etc.). Each time we came up against the same barrier: RUGBY. They had beaten us to it, got in ahead of us and where well on their way to creating successful sustainable programs. Credit where credit is due, those involved with the various rugby programs in the Cleveland area nailed it when getting local high schools involved – well done to all of them!!

Black River Pirates: It seems that every year a new rugby program takes flight in this region: Westside, Eastside; Medina County, it goes on. One such program that is now entering its second full season is that of the Black River Pirates, a community focused program in the Rocky River area.

I had a chance to sit down with my friend and fellow Ulsterman John McKenna, club president, to learn more about the program. Although there are many similarities with the local high school in team colors and nickname, they are in fact independent of the school system and pull kids in from the surrounding communities: Rocky River, Fairview Park, Bay Village, Westlake, Lakewood and West Park.

The program was the brainchild of local Irish-American John Zuercher, a software developer from Rocky River. He started with a focus on high school aged boys, grades 9 through 12, in late 2013. Zuercher brought on another local, Eamon Curry, as head coach and things started to move along.

This age group plays the full rules, including 15-a-side with tackling. Along with McKenna, the program enlisted

the help of coaches Nick Gallo, Tommy Krecic and Rob Annen. Local business owner Sean Gormley came on board early as a sponsor with his Irish Barber business, also located in Rocky River.

Rookie System: The flourishing program is growing fast. Along with the high school aged program, they now also cater for boys in grade 5 through 8 with their 'Rookie Rugby' program. Grades 5 and 6 play flag rugby, teaching them the basic introduction to the game and the rules that go along with it.



Grades 7 and 8 is when they start to actually tackle, although all 4 grades (5-8) are currently run as 7-a-side programs. The 'Rookies' currently practice at either Elmwood Park or Impett Park, with games on Sundays played at St Ignatius' Wasmer Field in Ohio City – which is apparently always a treat for the young kids.

There are other similar rookie programs in Brunswick, Parma, West Park, St Angela's and Westlake, who all often provide the opposition. The long term goal is for the Rookie program to become a feeder team for the Black Pirates, although at this time it more simply to cater for the initial interest from this age group. There are currently approximately 30 boys playing in the Rookies teams.

High School Aged Program: The high school aged boys are off to a flyer in terms of competing. 2014 was their first full competitive season; they played teams from Avon, Avon Lake, St Ignatius, St Edward's, Shaker Heights, Lakewood, Lake Catholic and Brunswick. The Black Pirates finished the regular season 8-0, which including 4 shut outs. They lost in the 2nd round of the playoffs to the more established St Edward's High School. John McKenna was extremely proud of their achievements, saying, "It was a quite amazing inaugural year given that a lot of our boys had only started playing the game in the past year and picked it up quite well. We have a very dedicated coaching team and good leadership in place to continue the progress."

Whilst not officially associated with Rocky River High School, McKenna did say that from time to time they are allowed to use the local high school

field for games, typically on days where the field is not being used by any of the high school programs. When starting the program, the Black Pirates leadership kept high school officials in the loop in terms of their plans, including use of the 'Pirates' nickname and an adapted version of the logo, a logo which was previously used by Rocky River High School until a recent change.

The club primary focus is becoming a community team and they are on their way; the Black Pirates program is already between 25-30 kids strong, and that number is sure to rise as they become more organized and through word of mouth.

Getting involved: In talking with John, it is clear he has a passion for the sport, having played it growing up in Co. Monaghan, Ireland. When I asked him about difficulties they have experienced since its inception, the topic of 'misconceptions' of rugby injuries. When he talks with the parents of prospective new recruits there normally is a fear of kids getting hurt or suffering concussions, all common fears to have. But John is proud to point out that last year in the high school aged program who play full tackle – in ten games using on average twenty-four players per game, only one concussion was reported the entire season.

For those looking to get involved



irish american news

Ali DeCrane

in the Black Pirate program, their season starts March 29, when Avon visit the Black Pirates at Rocky River High School, 5pm start time, and runs through May. John McKenna can be reached at jjmckenna@mac.com and John Zuercher at zuerch@cox.net. The club Facebook page is www.facebook.com/blackpiraterugby; Twitter: twitter.com/blackpiraterfc. We wish them all the best as they move into their second full season.

Congratulations Ali DeCrane, Cleve-

Continued on page 20

Happy St. Patrick's Day!!! Brigid's Cross March Schedule



Sat. March 7 Wheeling, WV Celtic Celeb. 4:15pm & 9:45pm
Wed. March 11The Unicorn/Grafton 7pm
Fri. March 13The Hooley House/WESTLAKE 9:30pm
Sat. March 14.....The Hooley House/MONTROSE 9:30pm
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We look forward to a great season of Irish Festivals this coming summer, including Milwaukee, Dublin, all of the Cleveland area Irish festivals and more! We hope to see you.



Cleveland Irish

By Francis McGarry

The Feast of St. Patrick, Part 2

The Famine Irish who were able to immigrate made their way to all corners of the globe, those who crossed the Atlantic to America would soon find that St. Patrick was already here and doing well. In a more complex cultural milieu, the Irish in America had been expressing their Irishness with St. Patrick's Day events since 1737. However, the same terms to which St. Patrick was being venerated in Ireland followed the patron saint to America.

The Charitable Irish Society of Boston was founded on March 17th, 1737 as a benevolent society intent on providing support to Irish immigrants and honoring St. Patrick. Its by-laws stated that all members of the society must be Bostonians of Irish blood and Protestant faith. All recipients of their charity also had to meet that criterion. The historical record details other financially stable Irish Protestants hosting events on March 17th in recollection of Ireland. Unofficial public events also occurred amongst the less than affluent Irish, typically unpretentious family events that followed church services.

It was not until 1775 that the first public procession occurred on St. Patrick's Day. The Sons of St. Patrick, Irish officers in the 47th regiment of the British Army stationed in Boston, marched to Mass after dinner. A year later, all regiments of the British Army were fleeing Bos-

ton and the threat of the Continental Army, which included the leadership of Irish American John Sullivan. In the Boston area, March 17th is both St. Patrick's Day and Evacuation Day.

Throughout the Revolutionary War, both the British Army and the Continental Army made attempts to utilize St. Patrick's Day for morale and inscription. In Ireland, a military career was a potential profession. Many Irish chose to enlist, both Catholic and Protestant. Once in the service Catholics were limited to lives as foot soldiers while only Protestants had the opportunity to rise to an officer's rank. It was these Irish members of the British Army who marched in 1757 at Fort George; in 1763 at Fort Pitt; in the 1770's in South Carolina, Maryland, Kentucky, Baltimore and Charleston, and in 1779 in New York.

The British Army conscripted the Sons of Erin to fight their brethren in what was then their colony. St. Patrick was also conscripted to assist the Crown's troops and its war effort. The Irish Catholics who marched on St. Patrick's Day, led by their Irish Protestant officers, in and around British forts in the last days of the British colonial rule were another expression of contradiction that was St. Patrick's Day.

This was in a tragic contradiction as they killed and were killed by their brethren who were celebrating St. Patrick's Day in Continental Army camps. The British failed in the attempted ownership

of the patron saint for their benefit, as they did in the war.

Following the War of Independence, Irish Catholics in America found a religious freedom that was disallowed in Ireland. It was not without contention; however, the right of public worship was re-proclaimed every March 17th. In 1827 the British government lifted the emigration

orders, creating new societies and re-establishing historic organizations in the American context. These organizations were in positions to structuralize and administer St. Patrick's Day festivities across America.

The Great Hunger, which made March 17th celebrations trivial in Ireland and precipitated the crossing of the Atlantic by multitudes of



restriction for Ireland, and Irish citizens, largely Irish Catholic citizens, began a population influx in the Americas.

The Charitable Society of Boston, who in 1727 restricted membership to Protestants, was now succumbing to the demographic shift in the American populace. In 1837 the Society was dominated by Catholics who petitioned the Diocese of Boston, formed in 1808, to sanction a public procession and a formal dinner in honor of St. Patrick's Day.

Irish Catholic immigrants were joining establish social

Irish, would forever change March 17th in America. The Famine Irish dramatically reaffirmed the Catholic roots, the public display and the spirit of Irish Nationalism encapsulated by St. Patrick's Day.

There was not a hall in America that could accommodate the number of Irish who now filled American cities and wished to proclaim their legitimate position in society and their Irishness. Although there were eight established St. Patrick's Day celebrations pre-dating the Famine years, the 1840s initiated more public and common parades

in America. Festivities grew in congruence with the Irish in America. As in Ireland, March 17th was celebrated in different forms based on the social status of participants. Organizations and societies held formal functions that showcased their success in the American financial context. The masses of the Irish population reveled in public and familiar locales. But it was in the St. Patrick's Day Parade where all these segments of Irish America convened to share their commonality. By 1870 there were seventeen St. Patrick's Day Parades in America, including one in Cleveland, established in 1867.

The time span was 260 years from legal recognition on the Irish legal calendar to the first St. Patrick's Day Parade in Cleveland. In that span March 17th has existed in multiple states of functionality for various groups. It has been and still is today the feast day of St. Patrick, an observed religious day that begins in the pews.

Governments have attempted to utilize it for political and military gain. The Irish people have venerated it as symbol of Irishness both in Ireland and throughout the Irish Diaspora by both Catholics and Protestants. It has also served as an example and space for Irish nationalism. St. Patrick's Day has been and continues to be a voice of the Irish people and their descendants.

For additional reading, please reference "The Wearing of the Green: a history of St. Patrick's Day."

**Francis McGarry is the President of the Irish American Club East Side and the Bluestone Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians. He can be reached at w.francis.mcgarra@gmail.com*

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A Whale of a Tale

In this season of Green, we will all be celebrating in many superficial ways while thinking of the deeper, subtle things that are harder to celebrate. What we revere is not green beer and shamrocks, but real qualities

like wit, loyalty, intelligence, courage, pluck, and plain old luck. I came upon a story that is a combination of these.

The story begins in the Fenian uprising in the late 1800s. It involved a clever idea of turning the British army on itself, using the Irish soldiers within it. Ultimately, the conspiracy

ended in betrayal and many of the frustrated "plotters" were caught and sentenced to jail, or worse. The British were not foolish enough to house these nationalistic, conspiratorial prisoners together, and consequently, their fates were cast to the wind.

Some were jailed in England, some deported to America, and others still, sent to Australian jails. Australia, Van Deiman's Land, was a harsh fate at the time, given the distance and development of the country. The characters in this story suffered all of these fates in one manner or another.

John Devoy was one of the Fenian conspirators. A Kildare native, he served time in an English jail and was later deported to America. He made good in the Colonies, becoming a journalist in New York. Although he was forced from his country, he did not abandon his ideals. Devoy became a member of a secret society in the United States, Clan na Gael, that supported the Fenian cause.

Then on a fateful day that changed both his life and the lives of others; Devoy received a haunting letter from one of his comrades, who was languishing in an Australian jail. "Remember, this is a voice from the tomb," is how the letter began. It went on to illustrate the harsh conditions in Australia and the sense of abandonment felt by the members of the Fenian brotherhood who were barely surviving there.

The letter affected Devoy so deeply that he felt there was nothing for him to do but share it with the Clan na Gael and see if he could muster support for the handful of Australian convicts. It was not an act of naivety, a man, John Boyle O'Reilly, had escaped from that exact prison years before and landed in Boston, where he also worked as a journalist.

The letter "from the tomb" was shared at a Clan na Gael meeting in New York and support came pouring in. A plan was developed; the best way to complete the escape, minimize suspicion and fund the effort was to purchase a ship and operate it as if it

was an actual cargo ship.

To that end, the Catalpa was purchased. A captain, Mormon sailor George Smith Anthony, was hired and converted to the cause. Anthony knew of the real mission of the voyage and was an "inside man" to put into place was for an "inside man" to investigate and coordinate the



escape itself, when the ship arrived in Western Australia. That "inside man" was John James Breslin, a Fenian spy, who would be impersonating an American businessman interested in hiring cheap prison labor as part of an investment opportunity.

Breslin arrived and saw that while the prison was not heavily guarded, the environment itself would inhibit ideas of escape. Between the desert landscape, shark infested waters and the remoteness of the location itself, there was no place to run to if one did escape. Breslin was given access to the prison and able to speak to one or two of his Fenian brothers on occasion to let them know that help was on the way.

But the help, the Catalpa, was experiencing almost catastrophic conditions itself. The voyage and rescue had already run severely over time and budget, so part of the strategy was for the ship to fish, or better yet, capture a whale, in order to recoup some of the financial losses. Navigational equipment broke, crew members deserted and had to be replaced, the mast broke and the ship floundered in fish-barren waters. Without losing focus, Anthony sailed on and eventually arrived, ten months after leaving Massachusetts. Anthony and Breslin met and developed a plan.

The prisoners needed to

be available, preferably on a work detail. Carriages had to be arranged. The telegraph lines between the prison town, Fremantle, and Perth were to be cut to slow down communication. Captain Anthony wanted to keep the ship in international waters, and use a rowboat to meet the escape party. The prisoners all were on work duty and met with Breslin, who had carriages waiting to whisk everyone away to the shore.

The party made it all the way to the rowboat but were spotted by a local man. The fugitive group, especially Captain Anthony, did not want murder to be part of the escape, so the witness fled and sounded the alarm.

Pursuit was led by a boat called the Georgette. The rowboat was working furiously to beat the Georgette to the waiting Catalpa. Fortunately for the escape crew, the Georgette was running low on fuel and had to retreat. Then, a storm struck the crew, so severe that none of the party expected to survive.

Morning brought both survival and new challenges; the escaping party now found themselves pursued by the newly refueled Georgette and a police boat. The fugitives managed to get on board the Catalpa but the Australian pursuers were not willing to give up.

The Catalpa needed wind and currents to secure their departure and got neither. The ship drifted for a day or two and found themselves floating in and out of international waters. When a shot was fired by the Australian-British forces, the drama ended as Captain Anthony raised the American flag and declared that any further action would be considered an act of war against the United States.

The humbled Australians suppressed the story for years. However, it was immediately publicized as a great success in the Irish-American communities. Captain Anthony was given the Catalpa as a reward for his service. This story simultaneously illustrates some of the best traits of the Irish, the Irish-American community and the remarkable results of their collaborations.

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Out of the Mailbag ... Comes Songs & Stories

By John O'Brien, Jr.

Roisin's Song

by Ann O'Farrell
©2015, 337 pages. ISBN:
9781503354432

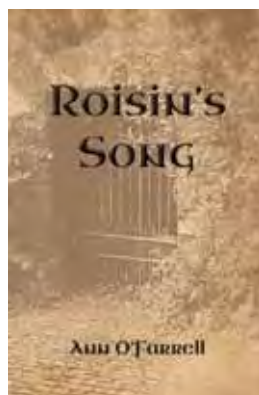
The greatness of a work is judged as great, when you can't stand for the story to end. It is not that the ending is disappointing, but rather, you want the life brought to life in the book, to go on; what would happen next for the saints and the sinners in the story? You've closed the cover, but yet you sit quietly ... as you imagine the tale's next scene, and perhaps sigh.

Roisin's Song is such a story. Rich with symbolism and stark cold reality, the compelling tale cringe touches the damage we do to each other, and the healing we can do to ourselves. Overwhelmed with heartache, hope wins. Among Ireland's loughs, hills and valleys, oceans open, despair is fickle and cruel and a bully, but still that little spark, like human kindness despite unholy orders to be less than kind, glimmers in unexpected places. A single life has the power to wash and restore even the most sordid of stains.

An author's life is nomadic. One of the prizes after travel, hauling, set up, selling, is the time between sales when you get to chat with other authors and performers, catching up and learning from old friends and new. Amongst the pros, it is an amazingly vibrant community.

Author Ann O'Farrell and her partner in humorous crime, husband John O'Farrell, are two of the funnest, funniest and most genuine people I have shared the road with in these travels, usually at Dublin Irish Fest each year. So when John called to let me know

Ann's new book, Roisin's Song, was coming, I saw a double bonus; a great read, as all four of Ann's previous books have been, and a chance to chat with really good friends when I reviewed the book for the Ohio Irish American News. I live in Cleveland, they in Clearwater, so chances to meet are few, wrapped around work, and too brief.



The book arrived; I read it. And as I knew I would, I loved it. Ann's work is classified as fiction, yet ... She has seen much, walked through many fields and touched many gates in her life growing up in England and

Ireland; in her work as a Drama Therapist, in which she has a Masters in Drama Therapy, helping the hurt, open more of those doors and climb those gates.

I loved Roisin's Song. I called Ann back, to set up an interview for after I returned from a vacation in Clearwater. Ann said John, we are 20 miles from Clearwater. We met at the O'Farrell's, chatted over a cuppa, went out for dinner, and as always, swapped stories and seminal moments, and we laughed and laughed.

Roisin's Song is set in Ireland in the 1930s. The old gate pictured on the cover of the book is a real one, Ann used to walk by it every day. Bram Stoker, author of Dracula, lived nearby, and had keys to the gate. He used to walk the fields there, looking for inspiration for his writing.

The gate is a little haunting; fitting, for the journey of Roisin too is haunting, hopeful, resilient, with unexpected emotions, trauma and triumph. The sense of hope, of relief replacing dread for what was to come next, was palpable – the weaved spell of a work well written transported me into the story – I

breathed; I had a leap myself, hand in hand with Roisin.

Truth hurts, truth is the backbone of any good work of fiction. If you read O'Farrell's Nora's Children, and Michael, you have a good start to the fiction, and the living truth in Ann's journey. She colored those roads with time worked in psychiatric hospitals, day care centers, youth clubs in private areas and other places not pretty, but that did provide a place for kids to go, whether damaged, burned, buried or neglected.

Troubled short lives somehow survive despite fear and mistrust for doctors, which Ann called White Coat Syndrome. Each with individual issues and obstacles, some by product of their past, some diabolical trips clothed in holiness.

Many of those she worked with, could not dress themselves, feed themselves, help themselves. One way Ann found to reach the hindered and haunted, was to put on plays, letting the actors lose themselves

in their roles, and forget that what they were actually doing, they previously could not do.

The patients thought it was fun, so they became engaged in the role, and disengaged from the hurts of their past. She would ask and was offered insight by asking over and over. "What was fun, when you were young?"

She retired, but still with much to give. I asked her how she wrote, what patterns worked for her?

"When writing, I wait until he [husband John, as her head bobs toward him] goes for a bit of golf. My strength is dialogue.

I hear voices, how they speak – you may laugh, but I hear their voice, their accent. I don't know, I am nervous when I hear a voice. Once I do, I know how they are going to behave: a good guy, headstrong, open for a bit of adventure. I know about his family. Characters appear at the end of my fingertips that I didn't know were coming. Then I write. I read everything to John, he is the first to hear; his soul is solid."

John is Ann's husband of 35 years, reader, advocate and fantastic salesman at her sign-

Continued on page 23



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Living With Lardie

by Richard Lardie



The Audition

"What are you a comedian?" The director of music said as 100 sets of eyes turned to look at me. I can't remember a time when I felt more self-conscious. All 100 people in that room had just gotten up to sing and now they were waiting for me to do the same. Oh crap, another fine mess I had gotten myself into.

A little background here to see how our hero had put himself in this position:

In late 1974 my brother-in-law Tom Joyce had convinced me to be an entertainer at his corporate Christmas party. I put together a set of jokes and did the deed. It went OK but I thought I would have felt better had I written original material rather than tell jokes. I didn't like it if I saw someone nodding, because they knew the joke I was telling. Tom thought that was a great idea, but I better get busy because I had a gig at a place called The Silver Garter in February. "You'll do fine." He said. Then he laughed as only Tom Joyce could laugh.

I got busy and wrote 40 minutes of what I thought was funny. On the way to the Silver Garter I did the whole act for my best audience, Kay Joyce Lardie. She didn't even crack a smile. Oh crap, another fine mess I had gotten myself into.

It went well. I actually killed it. (That's good). When I was done I was exhausted, but felt good. "Well that's that" I said. Tom looked at me and said, "probably not." He handed me a cassette tape of the whole 40 minutes. "You should pursue this comedy stuff."

Now, in 1975 there were zero comedians working in Cleveland. There were no comedy clubs here at the time. I thought that would

be the end of it.

Three weeks later I was at my office and I saw the cassette tape in the drawer and thought what the heck. I opened the Yellow Pages. (For you younger people that was a book that had phone numbers for various businesses. There was



Living w Lardie Our hero with three of the cast members from Sweet Charity waiting to go on

no Google.).

I looked up talent agents, and saw one that was near my office on Chagrin Blvd. I called, talking my way past the receptionist, and was put thru to an agent. I told him I thought I was a comedian. "Don't we all," he said, almost as if he couldn't be bothered. "What makes you think that?"

"Well, I did this routine and people laughed a lot." I stammered. "Yeah I'll bet they did." Now he was almost sarcastic.

"I have a tape of it," says I.

His attitude changed immediately. "You have a tape of your routine at a club? Can you bring it in so I can hear it?"

"Sure, when?"

"This afternoon?" says he. He was only four blocks away so I

told him I would be there in an hour. I hung up and had that feeling again. What am I getting myself into?

I stepped into his office with trepidation. He was sitting behind a desk three times the size of my own. Pictures of well-known entertainers and famous people adorned his walls and credenza. I was invited to sit and he asked for the tape.

No how are you? How do you do? Just give me the tape. I handed it over. He put it in a tape player and hit the start button. I heard my voice shouting out at me, with sporadic laughter, from the crowd, that was on the tape.

He sat back in his big chair and stared at me. He didn't crack a smile, he didn't laugh. He didn't talk. He just listened to my funniest stuff for ten minutes while he stared at me.

He then turned off the tape. I was going to tell him there was 25 minutes more hilarity to follow. He just stared at me. I thought that was the shortest comedy career anyone ever had. He stared some more. Then he said something amazing.

"Can you start work on Friday?" He asked.

"Doing what?" I asked.

"How about we go with standup comedy," says he?

"Sure I can start on Friday".

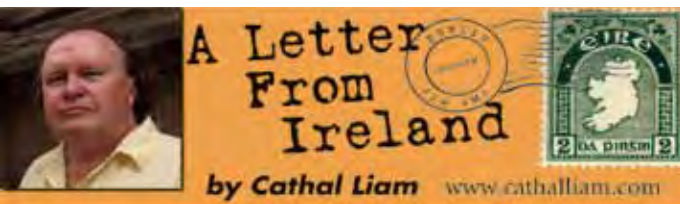
He turned around, picked up the phone (For you young people the phone had a cord attaching it to the wall. That's why he had to turn around), called someone and said I have your guy for the downstairs room.

"Can you work the next 6 weeks, Friday and Saturday nights?"

"Sure"

Well I worked the next ten weeks and mentioned to my agent how sometimes I was funnier than other times. He said I didn't understand audiences. He suggested I get in a play and see how the material stays the same but it is re-

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I write today with nostalgia in mind. It's March and we're on the cusp of another St Patrick's Day. Sure as Irish, we've much to celebrate...memories of grand times and some maybe not so. For Pat Fallon, a good friend and great Irish-festival entrepreneur, the 17th marks his eighty-first... may it be filled with many happy returns.

In remembering our patron saint...think back some sixteen-hundred years. Who would've imagined, standing on a grassy promontory over-looking a diminutive bit of rocky beach some fifty feet below, you wait and wonder. Today, that wee tract of Irish coastline once witnessed the arrival of a man of Anglo-Roman lineage named Pádraig. It was his second visit to Ireland, the first being some years earlier.

As a lad of sixteen, he'd been captured by marauding Irish adventurers, likely near his Welsh home, and sentenced to a life of solitude, herding sheep along Ireland's north-eastern coast. His captivity lasted six years before he was able to escape homeward. Now, a grown man, full of God's priestly intentions, Pádraig returned to Christianise the local pagans, most likely Picts and Anglo-Saxons, who then populated this remote island in the fifth century.

Stepping ashore, this assemblage of Christian missionaries was set upon by a group of locals intent on defending their land from strangers. No one is certain what happened next, but local history records one of the newly arrived was hit in the mouth by a stone. Despite being a victim of Irish ire, the man decided to stay and convert those who'd listen. So, in due course, the missionary, eventually called Manntach, the toothless one, established a church aptly named Cill Mhantán, the Church of Manntach. All the while, Pádraig and the others

decided to move further afield, spreading their Holy message minus their sailing companion.

It should be noted four centuries later, more invaders, this time Norsemen, landed and renamed the little settlement Wyknlo, a Viking word for meadow or lake. Today, this early community is called Wicklow.

Sure, if you're fortunate enough to find yourself in Wicklow Town or anywhere else in Ireland over the next weeks, you might overhear those around you talking about the changing times. Provoked by the ongoing debate sparked by the latest 'hot' topic, the Government's newly planned introduction of water rates/charges, your inquiry will likely ignite a passionate discussion. As you might know, lately hundreds of thousands of Irish have taken to the streets, from Dublin to Cork City and yes, up to Donegal, all voicing their displeasure with Taoiseach Enda Kenny and his Government's controversial water scheme.

Irish Water Ltd is a newly created water utility company, founded in 2013, to provide safe, clean and affordable water for all residents living in the Republic. It is also charged with managing waste-water disposal. In the past, local governments were responsible for providing these services at no cost to the public.

Now, coupled with the massive austerity measures already in place due to the recent economic, housing and banking disasters, these newly mandated water charges have proven to be the preverbal straw that's breaking the camel's back.

The protests are wide ranging and far from being resolved. The people are refusing to pay the planned water usage rates and for the installations of home water meters. Over the strident objections of the

citizenry, the Government has done some recent backtracking, which hasn't helped their position. With the public thinking they've gained an advantage, the debate continues to fester.

With this growing dissatisfaction of Kenny's Fine Gael/Labour Coalition Government, tremors of discontent can be felt among the electorate. Once the source of positive popular support, the taoiseach's polling numbers have been on a steady decline for months.

Reaping the fruits of the Government's slide, the fortunes of Sinn Féin plus the Independents and a group of smaller parties are on the ascendancy. Combined, they've become a formidable foe for the two old centrist parties, Fine Gael and Fianna Fáil. In fact, it is rumoured that at the next general election some pundits think Fine Gael will jettison its partnership with Labour and seek joining with their one time rival, Fianna Fáil, to form a new Government. [Back in the 1920s, Ireland fought a Civil War as Pro-Treaty/Fine Gael proponents opposed Anti-Treaty/Fianna Fáil adherents in a bloody, internecine conflict.]

In creating such a marriage, the two parties could share in the spoils of Government while keeping the upstart Sinn Féiners out of power. Today, SF is the most popular politi-

cal party in Ireland despite its close association with the violence that ravaged the island in the 1970s and 1980s, while its leader, Gerry Adams, despite his own personal issues, is currently the most popular party head in the land.

All this unrest came to a head recently when TD Lucinda Creighton announced she would soon be forming a 'new' political party. Yet unnamed, she was joined by

other influential politicians who want, as she states, "...to Reboot Ireland..." and give political power back to the people.

In speaking with RTE news recently, Creighton said, "We're not attempting to launch another traditional political party, but rather a political movement that intends to radically change a political system that is a generation past its sell by date."

All this dissatisfaction and

Continued on next page

Owens Sports

Continued from page 13

land: Speaking of good wishes, a special work of congratulations on behalf of everyone at the Ohio Irish American News to Cleveland native Ali DeCrane on her selection to the first ever USA Rugby Girls High School All-American (GHSAA) team! The 2015 GHSAA roster is made

up of twenty-four players from across the United States, representing California (9), Colorado (2), Hawaii, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Utah (2), Virginia, and Washington. Well done to Ali and best of luck to her and her family, especially your rugby family at St Joseph's Academy in West Park.

Trivia: Last month's question: Ireland

currently play their home rugby games at the newly renovated Aviva Stadium in Dublin – what was the stadium more commonly known as prior to the naming rights being sold: Lansdowne Road, located in the Ballsbridge area of Dublin. The old stadium was demolished in 2007 to make way for the Aviva Stadium, which officially opened in 2010.

This month's question: Ireland will play in the 2015 Rugby World Cup later this year, held in England, although a few games will be held in Wales – who will be their 1st opponents in the group stages?

**Mark Owens is originally from Derry City, Ireland and has resided in the Cleveland area since 2001. Mark is the Director of Marketing for Skylight Financial Group in Cleveland. Send questions, comments or suggestions for future articles to Mark at: markfromderry@gmail.com*

Letters from Ireland

Continued from page 19

public turmoil reminds me of an earlier time...the year was 1990 and Ireland had just installed a new president, a woman... Mary Robinson. In her inaugural address given on 3 December, she eloquently hoped, "May God direct me so that my Presidency is one of justice, peace and love. May I have the fortune to preside over an Ireland at a time of exciting transformation...where old wounds can be healed, a time when, in the words of Seamus Heaney, 'hope and history rhyme.' May it be a Presidency where I the President can sing to you, citizens of Ireland, the joyous refrain of the 14th-century Irish poet as recalled by W. B. Yeats: 'I am of Ireland...come dance with me in Ireland.'" Up '16, no royals and Éire Abú, Cathal

Living With Lardie

Continued from page 18

ceived differently by different audiences. "I'll arrange an audition."

I showed up and there were 100 people waiting to audition for Sweet Charity. My agent made me join the union so I could show my card. I was sure I was auditioning for some comedic part in the play.

We all had to do a reading of the same part. One after another, thirty-five men and sixty-five women, all doing the same thing over and over. I was about number thirty and I did manage to give a twist to the reading that got everybody laughing. I felt better about that.

The readings were done and the choreographer got four people up at a time and showed them a series of dance steps. They practiced it two or three times and then were asked to do it to the music. The choreographer then asked if everyone danced. I looked around to see if anyone else was going to audition for a dancing part.

This pretty curly blond sitting next to me raised her hand and when called upon told him, "This guy didn't dance", pointing at me. "Come on up and dance".

"I don't dance".

"We all dance"

So I got up and danced.

Then everyone got up and sang. Most had brought their own music. I watched until they were all done. They asked if everyone sang. You guessed it. Curly blond points at me and says "He didn't"

"I don't sing." I stuttered.

"What are you a comedian?"

I sang. I got the part.

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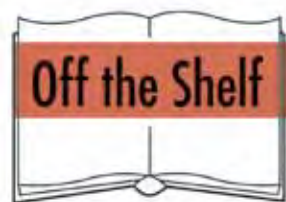
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by Terry Kenneally
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By Mary Costello
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Academy Street is a stunningly written story in which many readers may hear echoes of Colm Toibán's Brooklyn, previously reviewed in the Oh IAN, and soon to be released as a motion picture. It is the story of a young girl in the west of Ireland in the 1940s, following her from girlhood in western Ireland through her relocation to America and her life there, concluding with her reencounter with her Irish family after forty years abroad. After emigrating to the United States (New York City) at the age of 18, and becomes pregnant. She decides to keep the child and raise him by herself. America offers her the ability to do so, something that she could not have done in Ireland. Reading this book in the year of the Tuam motherhood and baby revelations makes her come across as defiant.



The story is replete with its share of angst over her attempts to locate the child's father, raising the boy as a single parent, and growing old in a city where she has almost no family and

few friends. The destruction of the twin towers on 9/11 provides one of the most heart wrenching parts of the story.

This book is the author's debut novel. What elevates the book beyond the category of promising first novel is the manner in which she brings to life a woman who would otherwise have faded into oblivion. I rate this book a TOP SHELF read.

*Terrence J. Kenneally is an attorney and owner of Terrence J. Kenneally & Associates co. in Rocky River, Ohio. He represents insureds and insurance companies throughout the State of Ohio in insurance defense cases. Terry has a Master's Degree from John Carroll University in Irish Studies and teaches Irish Studies at Holy Name High School. He may be reached at terry@tjkenneally.com.

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By J. Michael Finn



I Will Tell Nothing

One of the most inspiring characters from Irish history is Anne Devlin. Anne's occupation was a housekeeper, a servant, someone who normally would not be noticed by history. But, her actual role as an Irish heroine was much more important. Anne refused to inform on her employer despite suffering torture and imprisonment. Sadly, she died in poverty and obscurity.

Anne Devlin was born in Cronebeg, a townland east of Aughrim, Co. Wicklow, in 1778. She was the second eldest of the seven children of Bryan and Winnie Devlin. The Devlin's were fierce nationalists. The famous Wicklow rebel of the 1798 Rebellion, Michael Dwyer, was a relative, as were several other 1798 rebels. As a young girl Anne was often carried messages to Dwyer. The family left Cronebeg and moved to Corballis, a mile south of Rathdrum, a few years after Anne was born. There they farmed a rented 30 acre farm.

After the rebellion, Anne's father was arrested and put in

a Wicklow jail. During this time, the Devlin's home was often raided because the authorities knew about their rebel connections and suspected they were involved in the rebellion. When her father got out of prison in 1800, the family moved to Rathfarnham in Co. Dublin, where Anne's father began a dairy business and kept horses to rent to the local gentry. The Devlins soon met a new neighbor, a man known as "Mr. Ellis," who was actually the revolutionary leader Robert Emmet.

At one point "Mr. Ellis" asked Anne's father if he could recommend someone to serve him as his housekeeper at his house on Butterfield Lane. Devlin recommended his daughter Anne for the job. Emmet thought that having a housekeeper would add an air of respectability, helping to throw off any suspicions that a rebellion was being planned.

Anne proved to be so trustworthy as a housekeeper that Emmet used her as part of his rebel organization, under the guise of a servant, helping to organize Emmet's rebellion in Dublin. Just as she had in

1798, she often carried messages to and from Emmet and his co-conspirators in Dublin. The Rebellion of 1803, led by Emmet, was chaotic and poorly organized; however, it did serve as an important predecessor to the rebellions that would follow.

On July 23, 1803, Emmet realized that the rebellion he had hoped to start had gone wrong. Less than 100 men, fewer than expected, showed up to fight. The small group stormed Dub-



lin Castle, resulting in the death of Chief Justice Lord Kilwarden. The British put down the rebellion and rounded up or killed most of the rebels in a matter of hours; Emmet escaped to the Wicklow mountains.

On July 26, 1803, a gang of soldiers raided Emmet's Butterfield house and brutally threatened and tortured Anne. The soldiers wanted to know where Mr. Ellis could be found, and what Anne knew of any others who were involved in the rebellion. Each time her answer was the same, "I have nothing to tell, I will tell nothing!"

The question was put to her again, "Will you confess where Mr. Ellis is?" Her answer was, "You may murder me, you villains; but not one word about him will you ever get from me."

The soldiers, who had surrounded Anne pointing their bayonets at her, advanced their bayonets slowly until the points were at the brave girl's body. Soon the bayonets were advanced further until the points pierced the girl. She was soon covered with her own blood, but still she remained silent.

The soldiers threatened to hang her if she did not talk, but Anne remained silent. The soldiers took her in back of the house and tilted up a cart that they found there; they threw a rope across the raised arms of the cart. They made a noose which they slipped over Anne's head, and they pulled the rope, which tightened around her neck.

Believing that her death was eminent, Anne prayed, "A Thearna. Iosa, dean tró-caire orm!" (Oh Lord. Jesus, have mercy on me).

For a short time she hung there awaiting death as she lost consciousness. The soldier in charge gave a sign and the rope was slackened. Her body fell to the ground. Anne was still alive; she was a victim of the torture known as half-hanging. The soldiers left and she returned to her family in Rathfarnham.

Soon after, soldiers raided her home and her entire family was arrested. Her father, mother, three brothers, two sisters and Anne were taken, imprisoned in Kilmainham Jail, where they were subjected to questioning and torture at the hands of Major Henry Sirr, Dublin Chief of Police, and Dr. Edward Trevor, the prison's governor. About this time Emmet was also captured and arrested.

Robert Emmet was tried and convicted of treason. He was sentenced to be hanged drawn and quartered. The sentence was carried out in Dublin on Thomas Street near St. Catherine's Church on September 20, 1803.

During her imprisonment, Anne underwent further torture, but still she would not reveal any information. Sirr even offered her £500 pounds as a bribe, but Anne would not talk.

By the end of August 1803, more than twenty of Anne's family and relatives had been arrested and imprisoned in Kilmainham. Her younger brother, James, was barely nine years old when he died in the damp cells from neglect. Anne, although never convicted of any crime, spent three years in solitary confinement in a small underground cell and was

finally released in 1806, because of ill health. Seven of her family members had died in prison. Anne never revealed what she knew about the rebellion.

After her release from prison, Anne worked as a ladies companion and then later was a hospital laundress. She married a man named Campbell, who died in 1845, and they had two children. As she aged, Anne became too sick to work and was almost blind. Her children were too poor themselves to support her. She ended her days in dire poverty, in a miserable hovel near the Coombe, at 2 Elbow Lane, in the slum area of Dublin known as the Liberties.

In 1851, the noted Irish historian Richard Madden was working on a biography of Robert Emmet. After exhaustive enquiries Madden finally discovered Anne's whereabouts. Madden gave her what little financial help he could afford and he was able to document her story.

While he was out of the country, she died, probably of starvation, on September 16, 1851. Upon his return, he had her body moved from a pauper's grave to Glasnevin Cemetery. She is buried there under a Celtic cross.

There have been several books written about Anne Devlin. In 2003 a sculpture of Anne was erected in Rathfarnham Village. It is a life-size bronze statue by Irish artist Clodagh Emoe. She is barefoot and gazing out to-wards the Dublin Mountains and south to Wicklow where she was born. That same year a stamp was issued by the Irish government commemorating Anne. Patrick Pearse is quoted as saying: "Wherever Emmet is commemorated let Anne Devlin not be forgotten."

*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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Out of the Mailbag

Continued from page 17

ings. He knows as much about the books as Ann does, and both are engaging and sincerely interested in people's stories.

John is majestic and distinguished in appearance, and a retired Aer Lingus pilot. He has seen more than his share of war torn and ravaged. Ann recounted John reading a section of her work, and saying, "Where the hell did that come from?" John nodded with a bemused smile.

"All the books are true stories; I didn't have all the information; that is why they are novels [as opposed to memoirs or non-fiction]. I didn't feel Roisin's Song was my story to tell. I searched, but I couldn't find their stories, from the people who lived it.

"So I take the core of a true story, make it interesting, and add drama. I have to be motivated by the story I want to tell. In Rosin's Song, I wanted to highlight the situation in Ireland, I passed it each day, I heard it firsthand; justice has not been done."

As we well know, good and evil walking hand in hand. There is darkness and light; evil triumphs, good wins, battles physical and psychological, damns. We can't plan for the good or the evil. Single moments in time, actions, reactions to actions, alter roads in ways unimaginable. Roisin's Song is full of them, as any life worth living or good book can attest. The sense of hope, of relief replacing dread for what was to come next, was palpable in Roisin's Song. We can rail against the darkness; we can fight. Angels and demons wear invisibility cloaks; we only feel the level of benevolence.

Ann's writing weaved a spell, transporting readers hand in hand into the story - I breathed; I had a leap myself, hand in hand with Roisin.

Roisin's Song is a Top Shelf Selection. Ann's previous works, all highly recommended: Norah's Children; Michael; Going Home; Kitty's Hive. You can chat with Ann, get her books and see where she is appearing next, at www.annofarrell.net

Altan Touring on February 24th Release of The Widening Gyre

The seminal Altan, the longest running lineup of founding members in Irish music, are touring in support of their new CD, The Widening Gyre, released February 24th. The music on this album examines the lifecycle of Altan by "exploring the influence of Appalachian music on Irish music," says lead vocalist, fiddler, and

founding member Mairéad Ní Mhaonaigh.

Altan fused the traditional Irish music that they are known for, namely Donegal fiddling and Gaelic singing traditions, with American roots music, particularly that of the Appalachian bluegrass fiddle. The band was able to gather many of the roots musicians they've met over their thirty years together, including Tim O'Brien, Sam Bush, Jerry Douglas, Bryan Sutton, and Compass co-founder Alison Brown.

"We've made lifelong friends through music. The circle has expanded over the years, and our new album celebrates those relationships. The band was totally overwhelmed by our friends' endless variety of contributions," said Mairéad.

Mary Chapin Carpenter lent her vocals to the song "White Birds" to create a lush, meditative reimagining of the W.B. Yeats poem about being a bird on the sea, an



appropriate metaphor for a band who has musically and physically crossed the Atlantic in the making of the album.

Eddie Reader offers her angelic backing vocals to "Far Beyond Carrickfinn."

Altan borrowed the mournful waltz "No Ash Will Burn" from the legendary Nashville songwriter Walt Aldridge. Mairéad's crystalline vocals unlock the Celtic undertones of the song while standing in stark contrast to the plaintive baritone of Bruce Molsky, a long time friend of the band and well-known old-time fiddler and singer.

The bluegrass presence shows itself most clearly on "Buffalo Gals" and "Thomasino (Thomas Tourish's Tune)," a lively fiddle song written by Altan's own Ciaran Tourish. Ciaran is joined by bluegrass greats Alison Brown, Sam Bush, Stuart Duncan, Jerry Douglas, Todd Phillips, Bryan Sutton, and Darol Anger.

O'Brien duets on "The House Carpenter (Gypsy Davy)," a track which spotlights the shared musical roots of Irish and Appalachian music with references to both of these historical songs. O'Brien is best known for his work with Hot Rize, but like many dedicated blue-

Continued on page 26

West Side Irish American Club Upcoming Events:



March 6 Kevin McCarthy

March 7 Exhibition by the Ladies Drill Team and Senior Fife & Drum Corps Tickets \$20.00 - Call John Lally at 440-808-1729
Doors open 7:00 PM-Music 8:00 PM. Cash Bar

March 14, 2015 Claddagh Ball Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres from 6:00-7:00 PM followed by dinner served by O'Malley Catering. The Sean Fleming Show Band from New York will provide the music from 8:30 PM to Midnight Open Bar all evening Donation \$75.00
Please contact Kathleen Chambers for reservations at 440-427-0858
2015 Honorees will be recognized at this elegant event:

Mary Therese Lavelle - Queen
Kathleen Mangan - Woman of the Year
Tim Campbell - Man of the Year

March 16 Boxty & Irish Sausage Night Serving from 6:00PM-8:00PM

Live Music & Food in The Pub every Friday
General Meeting 3rd Thursday of every month.
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440.235.5868 www.wsia-club.org

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The Hilarious Interactive Irish Wake Every Friday & Saturday @8pm Kennedy's Theatre at Playhouse Square; Downtown Cleveland. 216-241-6000 or 866-546-1353 www.playhousesquare.org

Avon Lake

Ahern Banquet Center is booking weddings and special events. Call Tony Ahern / Lucy Balser @ 440-933-9500. 726 Avon Belden Rd, Avon Lake 44012. www.aherncatering.com

Brooklyn

Hooley House!
6th - School Girl Crush, 7th - Abbey Normal, 17th - open @ 8am for Kegs & Eggs, 9am - Morrison & McCarthy, 3pm - Folkic Irish Band, 5pm - Brigid's Cross 10310 Cascade Crossing, Brooklyn 216-362-7700. 1FunPub.com

Cincinnati

Irish Heritage Center
1st - Kick off to St Patrick's 5pm w/ Derek Warfield & The Young Wolfe Tones.
5th & 6th - Oscar Wilde's The Remarkable Rocket & The Happy Prince. Matinees 7th & 8th . 14th "Afters Celebration following the Parade" Irish food, drink, music, song & dance groups, kids room and parade. 17th - 2pm Irish mass, music, songs, dance. Irish Teas/Library/Genealogy Detective/all by appointment. Irish Heritage Center 3905 Eastern Avenue 513.533.0100. www.irish-centerofcincinnati.com.

Cleveland

Fr. Cregan Chapel at EnnisCourt Benefit to Feature New Barleycorn

12th - Fr. Cregan Chapel at Ennis Court Fundraiser w/ The New Barleycorn, Brady Campbell School of Dance and a Special Guest! Starts @7pm. For tickets contact Terri @216.226.3858. The Rev. John Cregan Chapel

Cleveland

at EnnisCourt: 13323 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio 44107.

The Harp

4th - Lonesome Stars, 6th - Mary's Lane, 7th - The Porter Sharks, 11th - Chris & Tom
13th - The Porter Sharks, 14th - Pitch the Peat, 17th - The Boys From the Co. Hell, 18th - Lonesome Stars, 20th - The New Pitch, 21st - Fionn Gael, 25th - Chris & Tom, 27th - Kristine Jackson, 28th - Chris Allen. 4408 Detroit Road, 44113 www.the-harp.com

Stone Mad

1st - Holleran Traditional Session, 8th - No Strangers Here, 15th - Boys from County Hell, 17th - Doors open 10:00 live music, Irish menu all day, 29th - Chris Allen. Happy Hour Monday-Friday 4 to 7. 1306 West 65th Street Cleveland 44102 216-281-65004 to 7. 1306 West 65th Street Cleveland 44102 216-281-6500

Flat Iron Café

1st - New Barleycorn after Corned Beef Dinner, 6th - Fish Fry No Strangers Here, 7th - Guinness and Harp I Bastard Bearded Irishmen, 8th - Mossy Moran after Family Day w Neal Jacobs, 13th - Fish Fry Donegal Doggs, 14th - Guinness and Harp II Boys from the County Hell, 16th - Portersharks, 17th - Neal Jacobs 1:30 Mad Macs 6:30, 20th - Fish Fry Pop the Cork, 27th - Fish Fry Craic Brothers. 1114 Center St. Cleveland 44113-2406 216.696.6968. www.flatironcafe.com

Treehouse

1st - brokENGLISH; 8th - Broke, Stranded, and Ugly; 15th - The Harmonic Minors; 17th - Craic Brothers Double Session; 18th - Marys Lane; 22nd - Cats on Holiday; 29th - Becky Boyd. 820 College Avenue, Cleveland, 44113 www.treehousecleveland.com

PJ McIntyre's

4th - Monthly Pub Quiz w Mike D. 7pm, 6th - Carlos Jones, 7th - New Barleycorn, 11th - DERVISH, starts at 7:30pm, \$20 cover, 13th - Craic Brothers,

Cleveland

14th - Stone Pony, 17th - Doors open @7am. First 100 people get commemorative t shirt. Really Big Show 9am-1pm. Marys Lane all day/night!! Irish Breakfast, Pipers, Dancers. 19th - Lunasa, 8pm- \$20 cover, 20th - Charlie in the Box, 21st - Smug Saints, 27th - Colin Dussalt, 28th - Disco Inferno. Coming April 25th - Leo & Anto from the Sawdoctors.

T-Shirt Tues: wear any PJs T-Shirt get 15% off bill! Whiskey Wed: ½ off every whiskey in the house. Thurs - Craft Beer \$2.50. . Book all your parties & Events in our Bridgie Ned's Irish Parlor Party Room. 17119 Lorain Road, 44111. www.pjmcintyres.com 216-941-9311.

Flannery's Pub

6th - Alex Kates & Amanda Barton, 7th - Kristine Jackson, 13th & 14th - New Barleycorn, 20th - Rob Dusky, 21st - Stacey & Mike of Rumors, 27th - The Bar Flies, 28th - Brent Kirby. 323 East Prospect, Cleveland 44115 216.781.7782 www.flannerys.com

Columbus

Shamrock Club Events

1st - General Membership Mtg; 6th - Fish Fry & Mossy Moran; 7th - Quiz Night; 13th - Fish Fry & Homeland; 15th - General Membership Mtg; 17th - Ladies of Longford, Hooligans & Drowsy Lads; 20th - Fish Fry; 27th - Fish Fry; 28th - The Sirens; 29th - General Membership Mtg. Happy Hour every Friday 5-7pm! 60 W. Castle Rd. Columbus 43207 614-491-4449 www.shamrockclubofcolumbus.com

Tara Hall

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

Cuyahoga Valley Ntnl. Park

13th - Outside Track, 8pm @Happy Days Lodge. Tickets: <http://www.conservancy-forcvnp.org/events>

Drake's Landing

8th - Ceili 1-4, County Mayo Band, dancers, food buffet & more. Drake's Landing Banquet Center (330) 729-9757.

Euclid

Irish American Club East Side
1st - New Barleycorn after Corned Beef Dinner, 6th - Fish Fry No Strangers Here, 7th - Guinness & Harp I Bastard Bearded Irishmen, 8th - Mossy Moran after Family Day w Neal Jacobs, 13th - Fish Fry Donegal Doggs, 14th - Guinness & Harp II Boys from the County Hell, 16th - Portersharks, 17th - Neal Jacobs 1:30 / Mad Macs 6:30, 20th - Fish Fry Pop the Cork, 27th - Fish Fry Craic Brothers. PUB: 7:30 - 10:30. IACES 22770 Lake Shore Blvd. Euclid, 44123. 216.731.4003 www.eastsideirish.org

Findlay

Logan's Irish Pub

11th - Trad Session, 13th - Brother Crow 14th - Socks in the Frying Pan 15th - The Outside Track 17th - Doors open 8am, The Mighty McGuiggans 11am, Athen Ry 4pm Trad Sessiún 3rd Wednesday. 414 South Main Street, Findlay 45840 419.420.3602 www.logansirishpubfindlay.com

Grafton

The Unicorn

11th- Brigid's Cross 7 pm

Hiram College

Sean Moore Irish

Music Lessons

29th - Learn tunes: 2:00 Open session: 3:00. Potluck refreshments—All welcome. Frohring Music Hall Room 102 (recital hall) 11746 Dean St., Hiram Village

Lakewood

Beck Center for the Arts

6th -8th & 13th - 15th Dogfight, 21st - 22nd & 28th -29th The Fairy Doll Ballet. 17801 Detroit Avenue Lakewood 44107 (216) 521-2540 www.beckcenter.org
Plank Road Tavern
Open Sessiún Every Thursday 7 - 10. \$3 Guinness and Jamieson. 16719 Detroit Avenue, 44107

Medina

Sully's 6th - High Strung Irish, 7th - Mossy Moran, 13th - New Barleycorn, 14th - Marys Lane, 17th - Lisa Spicer 1-3 pm The Roundabouts 7-9 pm, Celtic Eagle Pipe Band, O'Hare School of Irish Dance, 20th - The Other Brothers, - 21st - Westside Steve, 27th - One a U2 Tribute Band, 28th - Smug Saints. 117 West Liberty Medina, 44256 www.sullysmedina.com

Medina

Hooley House Montrose - 6th - Big in Japan, 7th - Carlos Jones, 13th - Old Skool, 14th - Brigid's Cross, 17th - Open @ 8am for Kegs & Eggs, 9am - Folkic Irish Band, 2pm - Mad Macs. 145 Montrose West Avenue Copley, Oh 44321 www.1funpub.com

Mentor

Hooley House

The Twisted Paddy

4th - Plaid Sabbath, 17th - open @8am w/ Black Sheep Pipes & Drums. 7079 Lakeshore Boulevard, Mentor, OH 44060 (440) 525-5565. <https://www.facebook.com/thetwistedpaddy>

Olmsted Township

West Side Irish American Club

7th - Pre-St. Patrick's Dance, music by Deirdre O'Reilly and Marys Lane, 14th - 11th Annual Claddagh Ball w Sean Fleming Showband. 16th - Boxy & Irish Sausage night 17th - 10 am Mass @St. Colman's 1pm Parade, Party after w food & music, 19th - General Mtg, 28th - Steak Shoot, 29th - Easter Bunny Breakfast (res required). Fish Fry every Friday in Lent 2/20 - 4/3. Great live music every Friday. WSIA Club 8559 Jennings Rd. 44138 www.wsia-club.org. 440-235-5868.

Solon

Murphy's Irish Arts St. Patrick's Day Concert

5th - 2:00-4:00pm Solon High School Auditorium. Irish music, dance & song; World Championship dancers; live musical performances and a special performance of the award-winning dance drama, Miracle on Whiskey Island, qualified to compete in the World Championships of Irish Dance in Montreal in April. Natalie McKinney 216-408-8642 / Jodie Kurtz 216-387-3849.

Westlake

Hooley House.

6th - Monica Robins, 7th - Velvet Shake, 13th - Brigid's Cross, 14th - the Atraxxion 15th - Marys Lane, 17th - Open for Kegs & Eggs @ 8am, 9am - Donegal Dogs, 2pm - Morrison McCarthy, 5pm - the Bogtrotters. 24940 Sperry Dr Westlake 44145. 1Fun-Pub.com (440) 835-2890

Willoughby

Croagh Patrick's Pub

11th - Plaid Sabbath, 17th - Open @7am w/ Black Sheep Pipes & Drums. 4857 Robinhood Dr, Willoughby, OH 44094. (440) 946-8250 www.croaghpatrikspub.com.

Mullarkey's

6th - The Thrifters, 7th - Kevin McCarthy, 13th - Eric Butler, 17th - Dan McCoy 11-3 One Shot Paddy 2-7 Dan McCoy 8-close; 20th - Nick Zuber, 21st - Dan McCoy, 27th 107.9 Band, 28th - Mossy Moran. Wed: Karaoke, Thurs: Ladies Night w/ D.J. 4110 Erie Street www.mullarkeys.com **The Wild Goose** 12th - Mary's Lane, 14th - Plaid Sabbath, 17th - Open @9am w/ Black Sheep Pipes & Drums, 26th - The Shizz. 4144 Erie St, Willoughby, OH 44094. (440) 951-6644 www.wildgoosewilloughby.com

The Wild Goose

12th - Mary's Lane, 14th - Plaid Sabbath, 17th - Open @9am w/ Black Sheep Pipes & Drums, 26th - The Shizz. 4144 Erie St, Willoughby, OH 44094. (440) 951-6644 wildgoosewilloughby.com

Cleveland Rocks St. Patrick's Day!

Traditional Irish Sessiúns Play along!

Akron Hibernian's Ceili Band Sessions, Wednesdays 7:30 pm. Mark Heffernan Div 2 Hall 2000 Brown St, Akron 330-724-2083. Beginner to intermediate

Croagh Patrick's - 2nd Tuesday of every month 8 - 10pm

Bardic Circle @The Shamrock Club of Columbus Beginner - friendly, intermediate level Irish session meeting every other Thursdays 8:00 pm - 11:00 pm

Plank Road - Every Thursday 7 - 10. All ages and experience welcome. 16719 Detroit Road, Lakewood, 44107

The Harp - 1st Friday of every month, 9pm

Logan's Irish Pub - 3rd Wednesday of the month, 414 S. Main St., Findlay, 7:30 pm

Oberlin's Traditional Irish Session - 2nd Monday of the month 7 - 9 Slow Train Café, 55 East College St., Oberlin. Informal all experience welcome: www.oberlin.net/~irishsession

Claddagh Irish Pub - Sundays 6:00pm-9:00pm. All experience levels welcome
o 585 S. Front St.
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Tara Hall - Traditional Irish music w General Guinness Band & Friends 2nd Friday 8:00 - 11:00pm. 274 E. Innis Ave. Columbus, 43207 614.444.5949.

Traditional Social Dance for Adults

Set Dance Lessons: Tues: 8-10 pm, St. Clarence Church, N. Olmsted / Wed: 7-9 pm, Irish American Club - East Side

Ceili Lessons: 2/5, 12 & 26: 7-9 pm, West Side Irish American Club.

Traditional Ceili: 13th - St. Clarence Church, Terrace Room, 8PM, \$10. Music by Fíor Gael-CeiliClubCleveland@gmail.com

The Murphy Irish Dancers St. Patrick's Day Concert

Sunday, March 15, 2:00-4:00pm at the Solon High School Auditorium. Irish music, dance & song; World Championship dancers; live musical performances and a special performance of the award-winning dance drama, *Miracle on Whiskey Island*, which qualified to compete in the World Championships of Irish Dance in



The Murphy Irish Dancers present their St. Patrick's Day Concert

Featuring:

- Irish Music, Dance & Song
- World Championship Dancers
- Live Musical Performances
- Special Performance of the Award-Winning Dance Drama, *Miracle on Whiskey Island*, which qualified to compete in the World Championships of Irish Dance in Montreal in April.

Sunday, March 15, 2015

2:00-4:00 P.M.

**Solon High School Auditorium
33600 Inwood Road, Solon 44139**

Advance Tickets:

\$15 for Adults, \$10 for Students and Seniors (over 60)

Tickets Sold at the Door:

\$17 for Adults, \$12 for Students and Seniors (over 60)

Reserve tickets by calling:

Natalie McKinney 216-408-8642
Jodie Kurtz (216) 387-3849

Montreal in April.

Advance tickets: \$15 for adults, \$10 for students & seniors (over 60).

At the door: \$17 for adults, \$12 for students & seniors (over 60).

Reserve your tickets: Natalie McKinney: 216-408-8642 or Jodie Kurtz: 216-387-3849.

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Sat., Mar. 21st - Stacey & Mike of Rumors
Fri. Mar. 27th - The Bar Files
Sat. Mar. 28th - Brent Kirby

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Out of the Mailbag

Continued from page 23

grass musicians, has shown a deep interest in Celtic music.

The Widening Gyre straddles time as it manages to remind listeners of the ancient bond between Irish and Appalachian music while at the same time breaking new ground through collaborations between masters of American roots music and Celtic music.

"The title The Widening Gyre appeals to us and depicts the spiral of life, widening and embracing the new. It has an innate energy. We think that idea is reflected in the album's music," says Mairéad.

The Widening Gyre is a compelling development in Altan's story, proving that they are still growing as artists, even after so many years together.

Altan is: Mairéad Ní Mhaonaigh: Vocals, fiddle Ciarán Curran: Bouzouki Ciaran Tourish: Fiddle, octave fiddle, whistle, low whistle, vocals Dáithí Sproule: Guitar, vocals Mark Kelly: Guitar, vocals Martin Tourish: Piano accordion, keyboards.

With Special Guests: Darol Anger, Will Barrow, Alison Brown, Sam Bush, Mary Chapin Carpenter, Jerry Douglas, Stuart Duncan, Jenee Fleenor, Julee Glaub Weems, Natalie Haas, Jim Higgins, Kenny Malone, Michael McGoldrick, Bruce Molsky, Tim O'Brien, Todd Phillips, Eddi Reader and Bryan Sutton.

Inner View: Jane Campbell

Continued from Page 12

we gather in Cleveland; it will always be Home. My company has an office in Cleveland as well, so that's great!

"We invest in commercial and housing development, which benefits the people in that neighborhood on a day to day basis. Building businesses forms a foundation for development – like we did around East 4th – Bowling (Corner Alley), House of Blues, comedy, ancillary development. It sets the stage for Cleveland. I am so pleased that the economic renaissance is slowly beginning to happen. People thought we were touched in the head, that we thought we could get people to come downtown. Now, the Heinen's; I really think it is a great opportunity for Cleveland."

"I watch my kids and nieces and nephews; they are excited. As they get married and have kids of their own, amenities, parks, education, sports. We were right to believe in Cleveland. It makes me so happy."

The vision, perseverance and heart necessary to do what is right for the long term betterment of mankind, and willingness to take the bruises along the way dished out by those looking for the short term score, has given our community more than a one street success. Campbell's lifetime of service, dedicated to giving equal footing and opening doors has served Campbell's legacy, and all of our community, well.

St. Patrick's Day Parade Pins On Sale

The 148th Cleveland St. Patrick's Day Parade Pins are now on sale. Stamped with 2015, the pins are an annual tradition, and the main source of funding for the 5th oldest parade in America. Only \$10. Contact John Togher @ 440.331.7849



Irish Language Intro Class

Thursdays starting April 16th 6:30 – 8pm



PJ McIntyre's Irish Pub

17119 Lorain Ave,

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Contact John O'Brien, Jr. 216.647.1144

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Katherine Mary the V

By Katherine Boyd



The Wearin' O the Orange?

The phones at the TV station lit up the moment I stepped off the news set.

"How dare you?!" a voice hissed, as I pressed the receiver against my ear. The caller slammed down the phone. I quickly picked up the next ringing line.

"You and your orange jacket can go to hell!" the woman screeched.

Puzzled, I looked down at the orange suit jacket I was wearing, and wondered if she was referring to me.

"My jacket?" I asked. "What's wrong with my jacket?"

"You know what's wrong with that jacket! How dare you wear an orange jacket on St. Patrick's Day?" Another click.

I was bewildered. Yes, it was St. Patrick's Day. And, yes, I'd worn an orange jacket to anchor the 6 and 11 p.m. news. But I had good reason. I'd worn my only green jacket the night before.

I was working at a TV station in Michigan at the time, and the Michigan State Spartans were competing in the

2000 NCAA Men's Division I Basketball Tournament. Our entire news team wore green that night on the news to show support. So when I was picking out my St. Patrick's Day outfit for tonight's broadcast, it made perfect sense to me to wear orange. After all, that's the other color in the Irish flag, right? What was so wrong with that?

The phone rang again. And I picked it up again. "You should be fired!" the man shouted. "How dare you disrespect the Irish on our day?"

"Sir, I meant no disrespect," I tried to explain. "Both my

grandmothers were Irish. I wore orange today because I wore my only green jacket last night for the Spartans, so today I wore orange because it's on the Irish flag."

"You're grandmothers must be rolling over in their graves!" he yelled. Another click.

Honestly, I had no idea what I'd done wrong. Or why so many of our Irish viewers were livid. I sat



Katherine Boyd at Cleveland Irish Cultural Fest

down at my computer, and searched, "Why is it wrong to wear orange on St. Patrick's Day?" And then I learned why the callers were so upset.

Green is the traditional color for St. Patrick's Day, and it is a traditional Irish Catholic holiday. Ireland is known as the 'emerald isle'—green is its color.

The orange significance goes back to the 1600's, where Irish Protestants (non-Catholics) would wear orange in protest/defiance of the Catholic holiday, and it became a very strong religious/political statement.

By wearing that orange

jacket to anchor the news on St. Patrick's Day, I had unknowingly made a strong religious/political statement against Irish Catholics.

Oh, the irony. And the shame.

I was raised Catholic. And both my grandmothers were Irish. Yet I had no idea that wearing an orange jacket on St. Patrick's Day was so offensive. I meant no offense, yet I had greatly offended. And that's my shame.

To be honest, I was afraid to share this story here. Afraid you wouldn't understand.

But in catechism class we were taught that through the act of confession, we are forgiven. And so I'm confessing my sin of ignorance.

And I ask my Irish family for forgiveness. I'm more than 50% Irish, yet I knew nothing about my Irish culture, heritage or traditions. That's one of the main driving forces behind my taking time over the past year to delve into my Irish ancestry.

Who was it in my family who came to the U.S. from Ireland? And why? And where did they come from? I now have answers to those questions.

Thanks to painstaking research on websites like Ancestry.com, I learned it was my great great grandfather, William Joseph Ganley, who left his family in Athlone, Ireland, to come to the U.S. Through ancestral DNA testing I learned I'm scientifically

51% Irish... a much higher percentage than any other nationality in my genes. Meaning I'm more Irish than anything else. And I feel more obligated than ever to learn about my Irish past and its traditions, so that I can pass on the stories and meanings on to my children.

Over the past year I've made some strides. I went to Cleveland Irish Cultural Festival for the first time and not even to drink beer! But to learn.

I studied the murals that hung in the halls of the Temple Bar and Museum. Deputy Director John O'Brien, Jr. was

kind enough to ask me to judge the Sean Moore Memorial Irish Vocals Scholarship Competition ... and as I sat there, my eyes brimmed with tears because those beautiful Irish ballads melted my heart.

Sad to admit, I'd never heard them before. But they touched something deep in my soul. The Irish in me.

Final take-away?

America is a beautiful thing. It's a melting pot. It's a second chance. It offered my great great grandfather the hope of having so much more than he ever could have in his homeland of Ireland. But we should never forget from once we came. We owe it to our ancestors to know a bit about their customs, their culture, their way of life.

And that's why St. Patrick's Day is so important to our people. It's not about drinking, and partying and wearing o' the green. It's about honoring where we came from. Honoring those who came before us. And definitely not about wearing orange!

Won't make that mistake again.



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Katherine Boyd is an Emmy-winning writer and reporter, and a proud fourth generation Irish-American. You can email Katherine at KatherineBoyd216@gmail.com.



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Congratulations to all the St. Patrick's Day Honorees



**Grand Marshal
Dan Corcoran**

In Cleveland, The 148th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade is Tuesday March 17, 2015.

Sponsored by The United Irish Societies of Greater Cleveland for the 58th year, the Day's Celebrations start with Masses at 9:30am at St. Patrick Bridge Avenue, St. Patrick West Park; 10:00am at Sts. William & Robert (Irish American Club East Side) and 10:30am at St. Colman (West Side Irish American Club). The Day's Celebrations conclude with the 148th Annual St. Patrick's Day Banquet, hosted by The Ancient Order of Hibernians and Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians at The Renaissance Cleveland Hotel, 24 Public Square, 6:00pm.

The 2015 St. Patrick's Day Parade theme is "150 years: Celebrating the Role of the Irish in the American Civil War" www.clevelandirishparade.org.

The United Irish Societies Honorees for the 2015 St. Patrick's Day Parade:

Daniel M. Corcoran, Grand Marshal: Dan Corcoran was born in Toledo, to Harold and Martha Corcoran. In 1972 he joined the Shamrock Club, where he volunteered in many club activities and started the Shamrock Club's Library. Dan volunteered as a Parade Marshal for the Columbus St. Patrick's Day Parade and was instrumental in bringing the first Irish Dance

school to Columbus so his daughters could participate.

Dan worked for Ohio Bell, Western Electric and AT & T. He was transferred to the Cleveland area in 1975, where he enrolled his daughters in the Burke School of Irish Dance.

There Dan met Sean Boland, who encouraged him to become active in the Greater Cleveland Feis Society. Dan was appointed as the first At-Large member, served as Treasurer and President.

In 1980, the Feis Society appointed Dan as a delegate to the United Irish Societies; the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee. In 1993 he was appointed Deputy Director and elected as the Executive Director in 2007.

Dan is a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, Gaelic Society, West Side Irish American Club and charter member of the Irish Heritage Club. he is the Secretary for the Boland Berry Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians.

Dan and Diana have been married for 52 years, with daughters Chris and Shannon and grandchildren Bridget and Alexander.



**Irish Mother
Pat Hollywood**

Patricia Hollywood, Irish Mother of the Year: Patricia Doherty Hollywood is a native of Ardara, Co. Donegal, emigrating to Cleveland at 18, where she began working in a



Irishman of the Year: Duke Hinton; Parade Marshal: Msgr. John Kelly Cody; Members of the Year: Debbi & Jim McDonald; Presidential Awards: Karen Fahy Finn, Mike Murphy.

Travel Agency. Pat returned to Ireland in 1969 to manage an American based Travel company with offices in Dublin, Limerick and Glasgow, Scotland.

In 1986, Pat & Ray Hollywood moved back to Cleveland. They are the proud parents of Mark, Claire and Bronagh and grandchildren Ava, Liam, Declan and John.

Pat owns and operates Travel Connection, which specializes in travel to Ireland. Despite a demanding work schedule, Pat has always made time to volunteer for various causes including the Irish Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children, Fundraising Committees for schools, Church and local benefits. As an active supporter to all Cleveland's Irish Clubs, Pat frequently donates tickets to Ireland and elsewhere for worthy causes.

Maire O'Leary Manning, Inside Co-Chair: Maire O'Leary Manning is the oldest child of Alphonsus and Mary Celine McNamara O'Leary. She is married to Rich Manning and proud parent of Maureen.

Maire has been an active member of Cleveland Ceili Club, Cleveland Branch of Comhaltas, Gaelic Society, Irish American Club East Side, Irish Dance Teachers Association of North America, Irish Dance Teachers of Mid America, Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians and the West Side Irish American Club.

Maire played Camogie with the Emerald Camogie Club As a young adult and served as Secretary to the National Camogie Board, named Honorary President in the 1980s.

She is registered as an



**Inside Co Chair
Maire Manning**

TCRG Irish Dance Teacher by AnCoimsian and is currently teaching Ceili dancing at the West Side Irish American Club. Maire was honored for 25 years of dedicated service promoting Irish Dance at the 2012 Midwest Oireachtas.

Maire has been a Hibernian for over 25 years, receiving the Degrees of the Order in 1994. Having served in many offices at Division and State levels, Maire is Vice President of the Ohio

State Board and Co-Director of the Ohio Degree Team.

Maire is a delegate to the United Irish Societies; she has marched in the parade with the West Side Irish American Club most of her life as a Major-ette and Ladies Drill Team.

Fr. Bob Begin, Outside Co-Chair: Fr. Bob Begin was raised in St. Patrick's West Park, where he attended Grade School, before entering Borromeo Seminary High School and College, St. Mary's Seminary. Fr. Bob was ordained in 1964 and recently celebrated his 50th Anniversary as a Priest.

Fr. Bob's accomplishment in his career include his assistance in beginning the West Side Catholic Center, St.

Continued on next page



**Outside Co Chair Rev
Bob Begin**

Herman's House of Hospitality, Templum House for Homeless and Battered Women, Casa San Jose for Refugees from Central America, the AIDS Housing Council and the Free Hot Meal Program.

In addition to his Pastoral duties, Fr Bob attended Law School and served on many Diocesan Committees. He recently retired as Pastor of St. Colman's, having served for 20 years. Fr. Bob was instrumental in leading the effort to keep St. Colman open, his mission to provide for all immigrants and people who need solace.

Sandy Reynolds, 2015 Hibernian of the Year: Sandy Reynolds joined the Hibernians in 1971, receiving her degrees in 1972. She has held numerous offices and worked on many St Banquets, celebrations, convention activities, Reverse raffles and with husband Pat has chaired the Banquet Hospitality Room until 2013.

Sandy attended St. Colman's grade school, St. Stephen High School and Cuyahoga Community College. The Reynolds have lived in North Olmsted for 30 years. Children Sarah (Michael Edelman), Kate (Keith Fagan), Patrick and Anne, have grandchildren Elyse and Michael Edelman.



Hibernian of Year
Sandy Reynolds

Sandy spent a great deal of time volunteering with the North Olmsted School System, was a member of the Church of St. Clarence and now St. Colman's, where she serves as an Eucharistic Minister, works on several committees and

wherever she is needed. Sandy retired after 14 years at Credentialing Corporation of America, Inc in July, 2014. In November she returned to work part time. Sandy is also a member of the West Side Irish American Club.



Robin Burton

The Irish American Club East Side Member of the Year: Robin Burton

Robin has been a member of IACES for more than 20 years. She initially brought her strong sewing and quilting skills to the Thursday night group. Her expertise added new dimensions, and no job was too small for her technical eye. She helped many a novice and veteran to create and finish a challenging pattern.

Robin has always stepped up to do anything that was requested of her. She is a past Executive Board member, Bereavement Committee member, Cleaning Crew member, bartender, volunteer Hall Manager. Her dedication is an inspiration to all who know her.

Robin was born in Massachusetts and moved to Los Angeles as an infant. After high school she moved to New Mexico and lived with her Grandmother, who inspired her to follow her dreams. She returned to L.A. and graduated from L.A. Trade Tech College, where she won awards for her clothing designs. In 1976 she moved to Hawaii with her parents and got a job designing clothes for the TV show Hawaii 5-0.

Robin met her husband, who was in the Navy at that time, and they came to Cleveland. Robin lives in Willoughby and has three children, two step

children, and three grandchildren. She works at Howard Hanna and is a seamstress for Expressions Bridal and Formal.

The West Side Irish American Club Honoraries for the 2015 St. Patrick's Day Parade:

Kathleen Mangan – Woman of the Year

Kathleen was born in Buckagh, Newport, Co. Mayo, Ireland to Katie (nee O'Malley) and Peter Mulchrone in 1944. She is the oldest of ten siblings: Mary, Bridie, Nora, Sheila, Nancy, Thomas, Pat, Peter (deceased) and Eileen.

In 1961, at the age of sixteen, Kathleen immigrated to Cleveland and came to her Aunt Bridget and Uncle Jim O'Boyle. Far from her home in Newport, Kathleen then embarked on her new life as a domestic for the Bolton Family in Shaker Heights, Ohio.

The West Side Irish-American Club (WSIA) was an important center of socialization and comfort for the young Irish of



Kathleen Mangan

Cleveland. Kathleen met her future husband, John "Con" Mangan (Dooagh, Achill, Co. Mayo) at the WSIA on Madison Avenue. They married in 1966 at St. Rose Church. Kathleen and Con are the proud parents of two sons, Michael (Sue) and John (Katie). They have six grandchildren: Katie, Michael, Declan, Allie, Jack, and Conor.

Preserving Irish culture and family life has always been important to Kathleen. Before she was widowed in 2004, Kathleen and Con traveled to Ireland as a couple and with their sons on many occasions. One memorable journey

involved the Achill-Cleveland Twinning Ceremony in 2003. Both Kathleen and Con served on the committee to organize this event. Kathleen continues to visit Ireland with her family.

Kathleen worked for thirty-three years at Baldwin-Wallace University in the ID office. After her retirement in 2012, Kathleen broadened her involvement in the WSIA. Always ready to lend a hand in one of the many volunteer committees that are the heartbeat of the WSIA, Kathleen assists with the Claddagh Ball, volunteers on the weekly Cleaning Crew, Fish Fries, and annual Clambake.

Kathleen is a great supporter of all the Irish events in Cleveland from the Famine Mass to the Irish Cultural Festival. She has volunteered countless hours to charitable organizations. Kathleen has contributed her time to Father McNulty's St. Augustine benefit. and has devoted her talents to serving on the committee for Father O'Donnell's annual benefit.

Tim Campbell – Man of the Year

Tim was born in Cleveland, Ohio to Patricia (nee Noonan) (deceased) and Thomas Martin Campbell (deceased) in 1961. Thomas emigrated from County Mayo, Ireland to Cleveland where he met Patricia at the West Side Irish American Club on Madison Avenue. Tim is the third of seven children, Thomas, Julia, Catherine (Kit), Melissa, Eileen and Rosemary.

Tim assisted with the WSIA float since he was eight years old with his father and Uncle Eddie Campbell. Tim eventually took over the reigns as the Float Committee Chairman 20 years ago.

Tim married Bernadette (nee Togher) at St. Brendan's Church in 1983. Tim and Bernadette have traveled to over 25 states; their retirement dream is to travel to all 50 states. Tim has worked at Dominion East Ohio Gas Company for the past 28 years. They are proud parents of T.J. and Daniel. T.J. and Daniel both marched with the WSIA Junior Fife and Drum Corp. for several years and both left marching



Tim Campbell

to help with the WSIA float to continue the Campbell Family tradition for the WSIA Club.

Tim is a self-taught woodworker and has built several items for family and friends that are heirlooms. He installed the new dance floor at the WSIA last year. Tim was also the co-chairman on the WSIA Playground Committee and also assisted in clearing the land of trees when the WSIA broke ground in Olmsted Township before moving from Madison Avenue.

Tim volunteered as a football coach at the North Olmsted Recreation Center for twelve years while his sons were in various sports in the North Olmsted where they grew up. Tim and Bernadette moved to Lagrange Ohio in 2013.

Mary Therese Lavelle-Queen

Mary Therese Lavelle is the oldest daughter of Michael and Anne Lavelle of North Olmsted. She is the third generation of Lavelles to have the honor of representing the West-Side Irish American Club as Queen, following her grandmother, Mary B. Lavelle (married to past club president Gerry) in 1973, and her aunts, Kathleen (McLoughlin) in 1992 and Mary Bridget in 2009.

Mary Therese's involvement in the St Patrick's Day Parade began when she marched with the Majorettes when she was six, continued with Flags and led the Pom-Pom Unit down the avenue last year. She is missing her Sundays at the Club this spring as she is in her second semester at The

Continued on next page

Congratulations to all the St. Patrick's Day Honorees

Continued

Ohio State University pursuing a degree in Engineering. Mary Therese danced with the Leneghan Academy of Irish Dance from the age of four, competing in numerous Feiseanna and the Mid-West Oireachtas since 2003. She is a graduate of St. Richard Elementary School and Magnificat High School where she received the Nancy Powell Service Award. She continues serving her community as an active member in Be a Match on Campus and the Buckeyethon Dance Marathon for Pediatric Cancer. Her brothers and sisters have followed her lead; Michael is a member of the Senior Fife and Drum Corps, Maggie marches with the Pom-Pom Unit, Sean plays the fife (and sometimes the drum) with the Junior Fife and Drum Corps and Maeve has just graduated from the Little Bridgies to the Majorettes this year. All her siblings also share the dance



Mary Lavelle

stage with Mary Therese. In her court is Becca Moorhead and Ashling Murray. The Shamrock Club of Columbus Honorees for the 2015 St. Patrick's Day Parade: Irishman of the Year: Duke Hinton; Parade Marshall: Msgr. John Kelly Cody; Members of the Year: Debbi & Jim McDonald; Presidential Awards: Karen Fahy Finn, Mike Murphy.



Mar 06 The Harp Cleveland

Mar 07 West Side Irish American Club Olmsted Falls

Mar 08 St. Luke (St. Patrick's Day Party) Lakewood

Mar 08 Music Box Supper Club Cleveland

Mar 12 The Wild Goose Willoughby

Mar 13 Avenue Tap House Lakewood

Mar 14 Lake Erie Harley Davidson Avon

Mar 15 Hooley House Westlake Westlake

Mar 17 WJW Fox 8 News Cleveland

Mar 17 House of Blues Cleveland

Mar 17 PJ McIntyre's Irish Pub Cleveland

Mar 18 The Treehouse (Hair Of The Dog!) Cleveland

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On This Day in Irish History

1 March 1794 - Statutes of Dublin University amended to allow Catholics to take degrees.

2 March 1979 - Christy Ring, legendary Cork hurler, dies suddenly at 58. Widely regarded as one of the greatest hurlers in the history of the game.

3 March 1924 - The world premiere of Sean O'Casey's Juno and the Paycock at the Abbey Theatre.

15 March 1895 - 'The Tipperary witchcraft case.' In the presence of neighbors and relatives, Bridget Cleary (26) was killed in her own home by her husband, Michael. He was convinced that she was a 'changeling.'

19 March 1870 - The first installment of Charles Kickham's immensely popular Knocknagow or The Homes of Tipperary- arguably the most significant single literary work ever written by a leading Irish revolutionary figure, appeared in The Shamrock magazine.

24 March 1909- John Millington Synge, playwright, dies.

29 March 1859 - The first edition of The Irish Times, Ireland's first daily penny

newspaper, appeared.
30 March 1603 - The Treaty of Mellifont was signed, bringing to an end the Nine Years' War between Hugh O'Neill, Earl of Tyrone, and the English Crown.



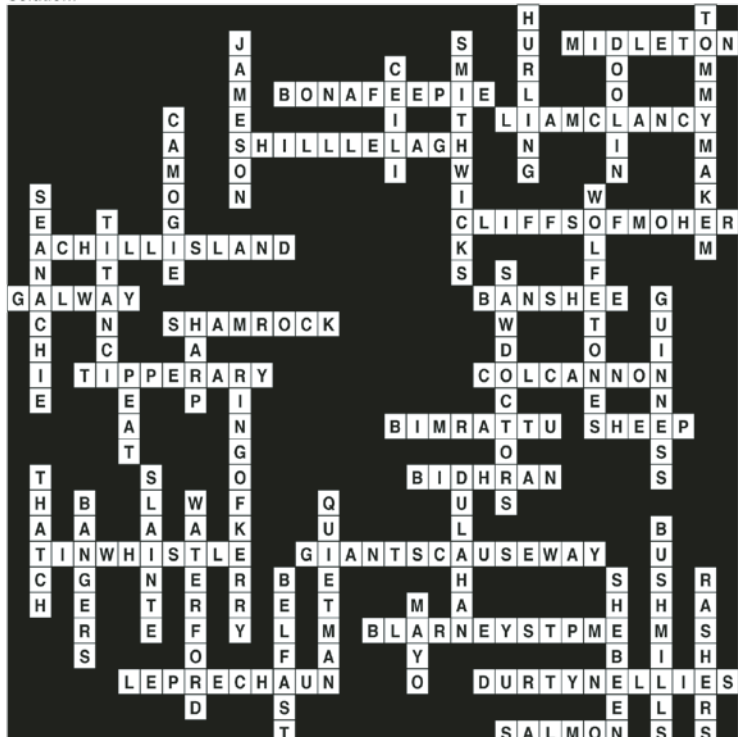
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All Things Irish

by Linda Fulton Burke

Solution:



THE 39th CLEVELAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL (CIFF) March 18-29

The 39th Cleveland International Film Festival, presented by Dollar Bank, is proud to announce its Opening Night film on Wednesday, March 18, 2015 will be *I'll See You in My Dreams*.

Directed by Brett Haley, the film had its World Premiere at the 2015 Sundance Film Festival. The film stars Blythe Danner as a widow who's settled into her life and her age, until a series of events propel her into a renewed engagement with the people and the world around her. The film also stars Martin Starr, Sam Elliott, Malin Akerman, June Squibb, Rhea Perlman, and Mary Kay Place. The film was written by Brett Haley and Marc Basch, and produced by Rebecca Green, Laura D. Smith, and Brett Haley.

Opening Night of the CIFF39 is sponsored by Parker, the company that can be found on and around everything that moves - including moving pictures.

Tickets to the Opening Night Gala are \$150 per person (\$125 for CIFF members). The Gala includes the film at 7:00 p.m. at Tower City Cinemas, followed by an *I'll See You in My Dreams* party at 8:45 p.m. at Post Office Plaza in Tower City Center. Scheduled special guests include director Brett Haley.

The 39th Cleveland International Film Festival, presented by Dollar Bank, is proud to announce its Closing Night film on Sunday, March 29, 2015 will be *Danny Collins*.

Danny Collins was written and directed by Dan Fogelman and produced by Jessie Nelson and Nimitt Mankad. The film stars Al Pacino as Danny Collins, an aging 1970s rocker who can't give up his hard-living ways. But when his manager (Christopher Plummer) uncovers a 40-year-old undelivered letter written to him by John Lennon, he decides to change course

and embarks on a heartfelt journey to rediscover his family, find true love, and begin a second act.

Closing Night of the CIFF39 is sponsored by University Hospitals.

Everyone in attendance at any of the films showing on Closing Night is invited to the Closing Night dessert reception and awards presentation program around The Fountain at Tower City Center.

For more information on the 430+ films that will be shown between Opening Night and Closing Night of the CIFF39, log on to www.clevelandfilm.org. Tickets go on sale to the general public on Friday, March 6th. Ticket prices for films are \$13 for CIFF members and \$15 for non-members. Tickets will be

available online at www.clevelandfilm.org, by telephone (1.877.304.FILM), in person at the Film Festival Box Office in the lobby of Tower City Cinemas, or by mail using the Program Guide order form. Program Guides are available throughout the region, including all Dollar Bank locations.

The Cleveland International Film Festival is supported in part by the residents of Cuyahoga County through a public grant from Cuyahoga Arts & Culture.

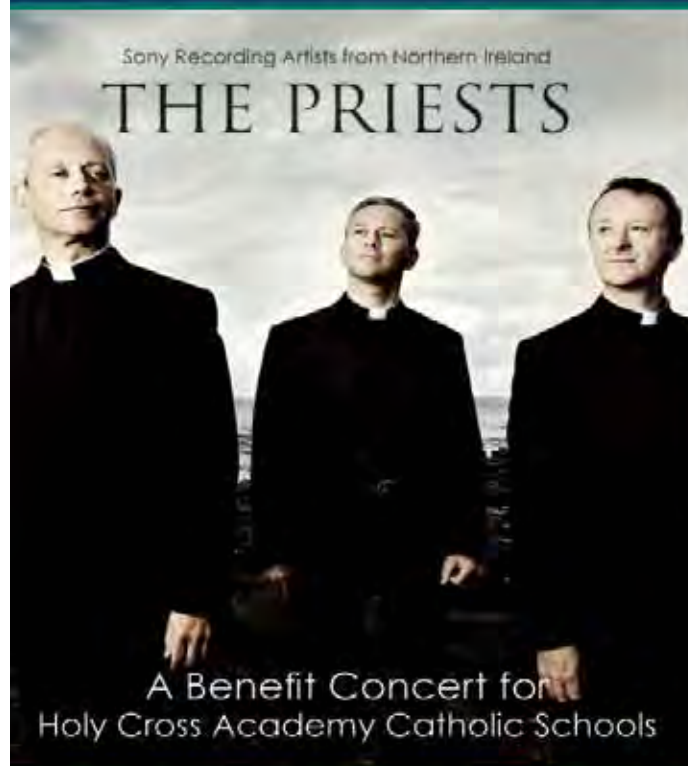
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