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Editors Corner

When I was 16, my dad walked into my bedroom and said, "Johnny, we're starting a festival; you're doing the parking. And he walked out." 32 years later, Here we go again ... Hope to see you at the 32nd Annual Cleveland Irish Cultural Festival. I am biased, but things worth seeing include 30+ performers like Black 47, on their final tour, The High Kings, Scythian, Dervish, Eileen Ivers, The StepCrew, Damien Dempsey and many more, an internationally recognized cultural hall with a brand new and very exciting, Temple Bar & Museum, three award winning Irish plays each day, Tir Na nOg (Land of Our Youth) Children's area, food court, workshops, presentations and so much more.

The weekend after is the Dayton Celtic Fest and Great American Irish Festival, and the weekend after that is the Dublin Irish Fest – so GOOD to be Irish, in Ohio, or anywhere ~ it's time to get your green on, and go!

Then, We're all off to Dublin, in the green, in the green ... I'll be performing "At Each End of the Rifle" at Dublin Irish Fest, Saturday at 1:30 in the Spoken Word Tent, and also at the Muskegon Irish Music Festival September 13th – 15th.

"From throughout mankind's history, brothers and neighbors have fought; wars of words, wars of philosophy, and simply just, wars. Our similarities, tho often hidden, tie us together, more than the differences tear us apart. At Each End of the Rifle explores, in poem and famous verse, those similarities, in a legacy filled with stark reminders of just how similar we all are, whether born in Boston, in Belfast, or in Bethlehem."



John O'Brien, Jr.

tured in this issue, in the continuation of our summer long Festival Focus, kicked off by the 8th Annual Festival Focus Issue last month. Irish and Celtic Fests in Cleveland, Dayton, Dublin, Great American (NY), Kansas City, Pittsburgh Cincinnati and Muskegon follow. Check them out and make your plans to make this summer, the best summer.

The World Cup is well under way, but here in America – It's Independence Day – how blessed we are, as we watch events unfold across the world. Owens Sports has the low down on soccer and Irish football, for all ages; Terry talks of the Books That Define Ireland; we have milestones and puzzles, The Book of Kells finds Illumination and Memory Lane is just a page or two away. We found a fantastic, funny, new writer in Richard Lardie, his 3rd column is inside We still have two more openings for col umnists; so if you think you can, submit

Out & About Ohio and Out of the Mailbag highlight things to do, hear and revel in, and don't forget, around the world, they are coming to Cleveland for The Mayo Convention.

Please stop by and say hello at the fests in Cleveland, Dublin or Muskegon I love your FB posts, Tweets, texts and emails, but putting a face to a name Even more festival highlights are fea- gives beauty to your byline. Slán, John

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Screaming Orphans reading OhIAN Where do you read yours? Submit a pic and win!

Michael P. O'Malley Attorney at Law

JULY 2014

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June Issue's Winner: Where Do You Get/Read Your Ohio Irish American News?Rose Conway, Kevin Campbell, Angela Campbell Murphy, Frank Conway and David Campbell gather for the June Issue of the Ohio Irish American News.

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



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Congratulations to the newly elected officers of the Irish American Člub East Side: President Francis McGarry, Vice President Helen Murphy Vura, Secretary Linda Carney, Treasurer Mike Gronick and Membership Secretary, our own OhIAN Crossword Puzzle Columnist Linda Burke, plus Members in Charge Colleen Frank, Bill Homan, Michael Byrne, Erin Homan.

President Obama Announces U.S. Ambassador



Kevin OMalley Ambassador

President Barack Obama announced his intent to nominate Kevin F. O'Malley - Ambassador to Ireland, Department of State. President Obama said, "I am proud to nominate such impressive men and women to these important roles, and I am grateful they have agreed to lend their considerable talents to this Administration. I look forward to working with them in the months and years ahead."

Kevin F. O'Malley, Nominee for Ambassador to Ireland, Department of State is an officer in the Litigation Department at Greensfelder, Hemker and Gale in St. Louis, Missouri and has been a practicing trial lawyer for over 35 years. Mr. O'Malley has been an adjunct professor at Washington University School of Law since 2013, and taught at St. Louis University School of Law from 1979 to 1985. He served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in St. Louis from 1979 to 1983 and was a Special Attorney in the Organized Crime and Racketeering Section of the De-

partment of Justice from 1974 to 1979. In 2009, Missouri Governor Jay Nixon appointed Mr. O'Malley to the Missouri Board of Healing Arts. Mr. O'Malley served as a legal instructor for the American Bar Association's Central and East European Law Initiative in Moscow in 1996 and Warsaw in 1999. He received an A.B. and a J.D. from

Saint Louis University.

irish american news

JULY 2014 Vol. 8 Issue 7

Publishers John O'Brien Jr. / Cliff Carlson Editor John O'Brien Jr.

Website-Cathy Curry & Ryanne Gallagher-Johnson Columnists

Blowin' In ... Susan Mangan Behind the Hedge ... John O'Brien, Jr. Crossword Puzzle..Linda Fulton Burke Illuminations ... J. Michael Finn Letter From Ireland ... Cathal Liam Off the Shelf ... Terry Kenneally On This Day in Irish History..

Terry Kenneally Ireland Past and Present ...

Niamh O'Sullivan Out of the Mailbag John O'Brien, Jr. Owens Sports ... Mark Owens Terry From Derry ... Terry Boyle Guilty Pleasures.... Christine Gallagher Kearney

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and click on the word "Distribution."

2014 Mayo Societies World Convention Comes to Cleveland

The 2014 World Convention of Mayo Societies will be held in Cleveland, OH USA this fall. Mayo-the global family in action provides a unique, affordable, and intimate conference experience with international speakers offering high-quality panel sessions as well as networking opportunities. Distinguished experts from Ireland and the United States will lead discussion on the newest areas of collaboration and innovation in business, health, and education.

For example: Our business panel is being moderated by Jim Boland and consists



of Eddie Crawford, representing publicly held business; John McCann representing Local Manufacturing business; and Ed McNamara of Aon Risk Solutions to name a few.

National Geographic will be involved as well, presenting on the findings of the Genographic study carried out in Mayo in 2013. Representatives from each of the Mayo Associations attending will have an opportunity to have the test administered (a cheek swab.) The results will be added to the overall findings of the 'Gathering the Mayo Genes' project.

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- Optional excursions to explore Cleveland, Ohio
- Networking and socializing with Mayo Societies from around the globe
- MSGC's Annual Mayo Ball and presentation of Mayo Society Person of the Year: Edward F. Crawford

It is with much excitement that the Mayo Society of Greater Cleveland (MSGC) hosts the 2014 World Convention of Mayo Societies in Cleveland, OH USA this

The 2014 World Convention of Mayo Societies provides a unique, affordable, and intimute conference experience with international speakers offering highquality panel sessions as well as networking opportunities.

Distinguished experts from Ireland and the United States will lead discussion on the newest areas of collaboration and innovation in business, health, and education.



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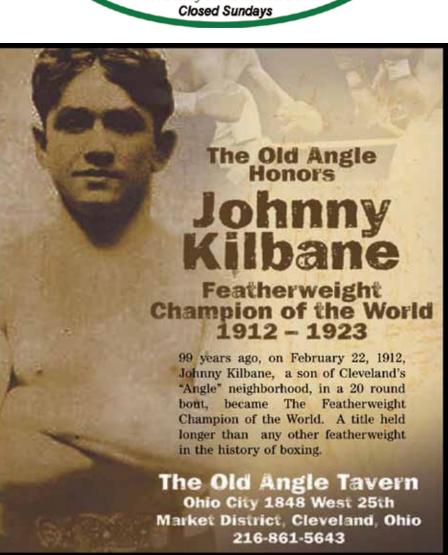
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MAYO SOCIETY OF CLEVELAND

The Mayo Societies are worldwide organizations established in 1879 to provide support for those who left County Mayo in Ireland to find work in other places throughout the world. The City of Cleveland boasts more people of County Mayo heritage that any other city in the US. Part of our mission is to promote cultural and literary exchanges between the People of the United States and the People of Ireland, will particular emphasis on County Mayo. Begun in 2012, we sponsor John Carroll University students at the National University of Ireland, Galway. These cultural exchanges enrich both the John Carroll and Irish communities by helping prepare students to lead and serve by engaging the world.





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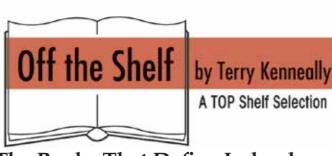
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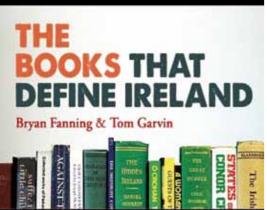
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A TOP Shelf Selection

The Books That Define Ireland



the great Irish writers, Joyce, Beckett, Yeats, Wilde, and O'Casey quickly come to mind, so you would think that a book titled, The Books That Define tions by a least several of them. Think again! This months Off the Shelf book by Fanning (a sociologist) and Garvin (a historian) consists of 29 chapters and 32 selected titles and touches mainly non-fiction books that capture the development of Irish social and political thought from the seventeenth

century up through the present. The books chosen expose the conflicts that have shaped modern Ireland. These include the emergence and development of nationalism (with selections from Horace Plunkett and Michael Riordan, James Connelly, Canon Sheehan and Padraic Pearse), the rise and decline of Catholic power (James Kavanagh, Paul Blanshard, Michael Sheehy), authoritarian control of sexuality (Edna O'Brien and John McGahern), the Troubles (J. Q. Stewart) and present day political corruption (Fintan O'Toole, Elaine A. Byrne).

I found the book intriguing for bringing up other writer's works that have been underappreciated in terms of their sig-

nificance. One example being Brian Merriman's 1780's Irish language poem The Midwhich satirizes the reluctance of Irish men to get married early. As the author notes, "This book crops up

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When one thinks about ries and several times in the book mentioned in discussions of social class, cultural revival, accomplished exactly what they and issues of sexuality."

Another selection by Mary Raftery and Eoin O'Sullivan, thought provoking. From this Ireland, would include selec- "Suffer the Little Children: the writer's perspective, The Books

Inside Story of Ireland's Industrial Schools" is an expose' of the physical and sexual abuse of children confined to industrial schools. These schools, while state-funded, were clerically run. Many of the religious congregations who managed the night Court, reformatory and industrial schools were the same religious orders who also operated the now infamous Magdalen laundries.

The two authors have done a decent job with their selections and any book of this type is not over the centu- meant to be a definitive list but rather to provoke debate and reflection. Fanning and Garvin set out to do, write a book that is fascinating, frustrating, and

That Define Ireland, is a TOP SHELF read.

*Terrence J. Kenneally is an attorney and owner of Terrence J. Kenneally & Associates co. in Rocky River, Ohio. His practice consists mainly of defending insured's and insurance companies throughout the state of Ohio. He has a Masters Degree in Irish Studies from John Car roll University and will begin an Irish Studies program at Holy Name High School in Fall 2014. terry@tjkenneally.com



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IAN Ohio "We've Always Been Green!" www.ianohio.com JULY 2014



GAA Football Season: The GAA football season is well under way back home in Ireland and it promises to be another cracker of a year.

- Dublin and Donegal.

Dublin took care of business in their Leinster Championship match up with Laois at Croke Park last month – and once chances against a tough defense and we encourage the players, if the shot is on, to take it."

Donegal on the other hand are coming of a season of disappointment when they firstly lost to Monaghan in the Ulster Final before succumbing to eventual finalists Mayo 4-17 to 1-10 – last year.

Many will argue that last year Donegal had too much of a hangover from winning the All-Ireland Championship West Side Irish American Club in Olmsted Township, run by volunteers from the St Pat's club. The primary goal for this summer is to make local kids aware of the sport of Gaelic football and to introduce them to the rules and skills of the game, inspiring a lifetime of devotion to the GAA games.

Part of our reason for hosting

the sessions at the Irish Club are simple; this is a club that has been home to many an immigrant or Irish-American over the years and a place where many families met up to socialize, they still do. In talking to many of the adults of my age group/ generation it is clear that back in the day this is where they met a lot of their current circle of friends – this is where many friendships and even marriages started. It appears though that the latest generation of mainly Irish-American kids in the Cleveland area, are missing out on this great opportunity of growing up in a readymade Irish community (center). We

way through September. For the month of July we will have sessions on both Sunday July 13th and Sunday July 27th. All sessions start at 12.30pm and finish by 2pm. Cost is only \$25 per kid for the entire summer.

A Facebook page dedicated to the youth program has been set up at www.facebook. com/clevelandstpatsyouth and other updates on the St Pat's Club in general will be posted at www.clevelandstpatsgfc.com. For any questions on the program, please email stpatsyouthgfc@gmail.com.

Trivia: Last month's question: Brazil are this year's hosts – when was the last time they won the World Cup, who did they beat and where was it played (country)? The Brazilians beat Germany by a score line of 2-0 in the 2002 World Cup, held in South Korea and Japan jointly Ronaldo, who would also win the Golden Shoe for finishing as the tournament's top goal scorer, with eight goals, scored Brazil's two goals in the final.



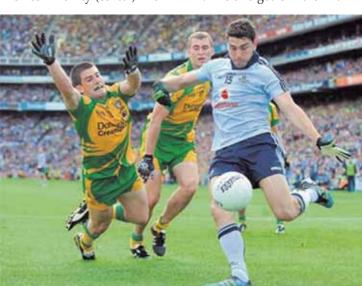
It's early on I know but it is already obvious to most who will be there in the end. Most of you have either watched a game – especially with it being free for a few weeks – or you might have read some results online here and there.

In the All-Ireland Football Championship, I've watched a fair share of games this past month. There have only really been two teams I've been impressed with again it's goals, goals, goals for the Dubs as they seek to be the first team to win back-to-back Sam Maguire's since Kerry did in 2006 and 2007. On their way to winning it all last year the boys in Blue scored 13 goals and it appears that they envisage doing the same again this season. Dublin manager Jim Gavin, "The most pleasing thing from a coaches perspective is that we continue to take those goal

the previous year, and they will be out this year to prove it was a one off. I watched Donegal beat Derry recently in the Ulster Championship and they did with fire in their bellies. There wasn't a time when a Derry player had the ball that it seemed three Donegal players were surrounding him and forcing the turnover of possession. I predict that Dublin and Donegal will meet in the final this year. But who could rule Mayo out as they bid to wipe several years of final failure away once and for all?

Youth Gaelic Football in Cleveland: This time last year the City of Cleveland and local clubs Cleveland St. Jarlath's and Cleveland St. Jarlath's were gearing themselves up for the biggest Irish sporting event this side of the Atlantic to hit the e area – the 2013 North American Gaelic Games finals. We are now nearly one year along and the legacy of the 'Games' continues.

This past month, St Pat's kicked off their inaugural Youth Gaelic Football Program – part of a pledge made at the time of being awarded the Games to keep the sport alive and growing in the area. The program is being hosted at the



have been very fortunate over the years for the support the WSIA has given us and without it, who knows where we might be today. Thus St. Pat's feel the importance of keeping our youth program at the club. If we can help a new generation to the club through the culture of Gaelic Games then we have done the right thing.

The youth sessions and sign up is very easy. We started these in June, initially running two classes per month all the

This month's question: When the Republic of Ireland played in the competition in the USA 20 years ago, who was their captain and what English club team did he play for at that time?

*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.



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Mick McEvilley w/ the Oscar Wilde Award for Best New Play, Tho It Were Ten Thousand Miles; Technical Director Jim Hunt w/ the Behind the Scenes recognition award for Dancing at Lughnasa; Director Maureen A. Kennedy, Adjudicator John Countryman, Actress Carrington Rowe.

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Irish American Theater **Company Wins Gold**

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The International Acting Irish Theater Festival award was presented to IATC with the "Oscar Wilde" trophy for the Best New Show. The Theater Company is ready to tour Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Illinois and other states with the show. Anyone interested in having the company perform should contact the irishamericantheaterco@fuse.net.

The Irish Heritage Center will be preparing to host the Acting Irish International Theater Festival in May of 2015. Acting Irish Theater Festival is an entire week of Irish Community Theaters from Ireland, Canada and the USA. Funding/volunteering contact Maureen Kennedy: 513-225-6915.





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32nd Annual Cleveland Irish Cultural Festival July 18 - 20

Featuring: Ronan Tynan, High Kings, Eileen Ivers & Immigrant Soul, Dervish, Malachi Cush, Scythian, Black 47, Damien Dempsey, The StepCrew, James Kilbane, Brigid's Cross, Bernadette Ruddy, Fintan Stanley, Dennis Doyle, Dermot Henry, Donal O'Shaunessy, The Kilroys, New Barleycorn, Guaranteed Irish, Marys Lane, Lost State of Franklin, Leneghan Academy of Irish Dance, Tesse Burke School of Dance, Campbell Brady School of Bodies in the Bog & More.

Dance, 87th Pipe & Drums, West Drum, Irish American Club East Side Pipe & Drum.

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Plus: Tir Na nOg Children's area; Food Court; More than fifty Irish gift and import vendors; Internationally recognized cultural hall with workshops and presentations on our instruments, history and heritage in our brand new Temple Bar & Museum - explore over 200 exhibits covering the land, events, people and places of our Emerald Isle, including: Remembering Patrick Kavanaugh, Holy Places of St. Patrick, The Bard of Armagh, Seamus Heaney, Irish July 25 - 27 Vampires, The Fighting 69th, Brian Boru, Visiting Howth, The Irish & Cancer, Exploring the Burren, Irish Folklore & Ghosts, Biking Ireland,

And Profiles on such Side Irish American Club Pipe & Irish luminaries as: The High Kings, Dervish, Solas, Frances Black, Goitse, Slide, Christy Moore, Derek Warfield, Donal Clancy, Mary Bergin, Clannad, Full Set, We Banjo 3, Liz Carroll, Eleanor McEvoy, Finbar Furey and much

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13th Annual **Dayton Celtic Fest**

Featuring: Gaelic Storm, Scythian, Socks in the Frying Pan, Full Setand more.

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place, cultural demonstrations, children's activities, food, beverage, 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, Whiskey Tasting, Bike ride, Irish Ceili Dance Saturday, a traditional Gaelic Mass and Celtic breakfast on Sunday and lots more FREE family-friendly fun! RiverScape MetroPark, 111 E. Monument Cuyahoga County Fair- Avenue, Dayton Ohio and surclevelandirish.org www.face- Dayton. United Irish of Dayton, book.com/clevelandirish Twitter: Inc. 937-372-9788 or www.daytoncelticfestival.com

11th Annual Great **American Irish Fest** July 25 - 27

Featuring: High Kings, The Elders, Barleyjuice, Ratheltair, Fighting Jamiesons, Kilmaine Saints, Hair of the Dog, Seamus Kennedy, Makem & Spain Brothers, Runa, Tallymore, Get Up Jack, McLean Avenue, Sprag Session, August 1 - 3 Moxie Strings, Blarney Rebel Band, Rattlin' Bog, Pat Kane, Donal O'Shaughnessy, Kevin McKrell, including: Red Hot Chili Pip The Stoutmen and more.

Plus: Celtic vendors, 5K



and an Irish Mass. Campsites available. Herkimer County Fair grounds, just off Route 5s in Frank fort NY www.gaif.us

Proceeds from the annual festi val help establish an Irish Cultural Center in the Mohawk Valley. Con struction has begun at the former St. Patrick's Church, corner of Columbia & Varick Streets in Utica

27th Annual Dublin **Irish Fest**

Featuring more than 75 bands ers, Sharon Shannon, Solas, We

Continued to next page

It's Time to Get Down!

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FRIDAY 25 | 6P-11P **SATURDAY 26** | 12P-11P **SUNDAY 27** | 9A-6P

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Performances By:

Gaelic Storm Full Set Scythian Socks in the Frying Pan

Irish Ceili Dance:

Saturday & Sunday

5K/10K Race:

Saturday, 10:01 a.m.

Celtic Breakfast:

Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

Gaelic Mass:

Sunday, 10:00 a.m.



















continued from previous page



Banjo 3, The StepCrew, Scythian, Skerryvore, Ashley MacIsaac, Cara, Full Set, Black 47, Willis Clan, Munnelly & Conneely, Rambling Irishmen, Tempest, Old Bay Ceili Band, Mossy Moran, Homeland, Ladies of Longford, Drowsy Lads, Brigid's Cross, Dance Groups, Pipe Bands, Local groups and

clude: Amateur Highland Games, Kids Highland Games, Sheep Herding, Dub Crawl and IGS Energy/Dublin Irish Festival 5K, Irish Dancing and the Columbus Feis, Shop till You Drop, an Traditional Irish Wake, Irish Sports

demonstrations, Whiskey Tasting, Dublin Wine Cellar, Sunday Mass, Contests, dancing, Celtic Canines,, Brian Boru's Ireland, and of course, a great cup of Irish tea! "Like Ireland, Except Smaller." www. dublinirishfestival.org

12th Annual Kansas **City Irish Fest** August 29 – 31

Featuring: The Elders, Gaelic Storm, Mundy, Carbon Leaf, The Killdares, Shana Morriaon, Eddie Delahunt, Ashley Davis, Qristina and Quinn Bachand, Socks in a Other Weekend Highlights in- Frying Pan, Fullset, dance schools and many more.

Plus: Cultural displays Festival & interactive workshops, Tourism Ireland's Culture Café, Comedy Stage, shopping, ethnic food, genealogy, Whiskey Tasting, Beer Tasting, Children's Village, Rock



Climbing Walls, inflatables, Irish Marketplace, Art in the park, Catholic Mass 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Art in the Park, The Snug, Boulevard beer tastings and Jameson Irish Whiskey tasting. Crown Center Square – Downtown Kansas City: www.kcirishfest.com

24th Annual Pittsburgh Irish September 6 - 8



Featuring: Scythian, Screaming Orphans, Makem & Spain Brothers, Socks in the Frying Pan The Willis Clan, Moxie, Matt & Shannon Heaton, Tom Sweeney, Evans & Doherty, Clear Blue Sunday, Cahal Dunne, Dennis Doyle, Matthew Craig & The Kerry Tipper



Festival Sighting: Scythian!

Band, Red Hand Paddy, Hooley w Gaelic Mass on Sunday. Visit www Liz Shovlin, Corned Beef and Curry, Mike Gallagher, Burke Conroy School of Irish Dance, Pittsburgh Ceili Club, Pittsburgh Irish Reelers, Bell School of Irish Dance, Shovlin Academy of Irish Dance, Muskegon Irish Terry Griffith, Ballet Academy of Pittsburgh, Alan Irvine, Pittsburgh Police Emerald Society Pipes and Drums Band, Macdonald Pipe Band of Pittsburgh, Patrick Regan, Slua, The Wild Geese, Donnie Irish, and Whiskey Limerick.

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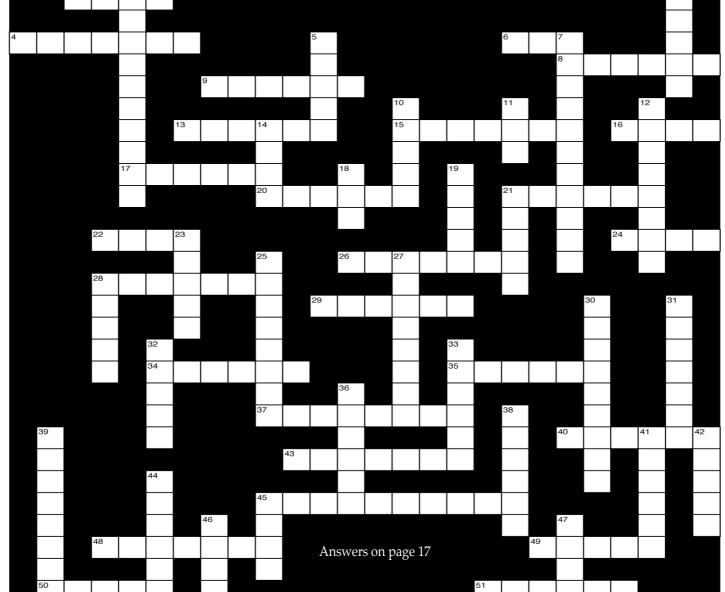


IAN Ohio "We've Always Been Green!" www.ianohio.com JULY 2014

Things to Do and See in County ANTRIM By Linda Burke

By Emaa Bar

14



www.CrosswordWeaver.com

ACROSS

1 Visit The Antrim Castle Gardens, an absolute gem with 400
___ old gardens.
4 Be careful at Portrush's ____ Castle ruins...some of it has fallen into the sea and what remains has had to be reinforced.
6 Take a dip in the cold water at Brown Bay on ___ Years Day at Islandmagee,
8 Stroll around Cushendun village with its pubs, small selection of shops, harbour

and coastal walks in the Glens
of _____.
9 Visit the cairn of Sean _'___
who was murdered in 1567,
located in Cushendun
13 Take some phots of Ballymoney's Dark ____, 200 year old

intertwined trees featured in the Game of Thrones. 15 Play Paint Ball or Laser Tag at Escamouche ____Laser Tag fpr a great dayout in Randalstown. 16 Walk along Whitehead's beautiful Blackhead _____ to the lighthouse with beatiful scenery and dophins playing along the coast. 17 Go through a cut through the rock face marked "THE GOBBINS" to the cliff path proper to have a great hiking adventure near Whitehead. 20 Spend a quiet afternoon exploring the ancient Bonamargie____ and its gravesites in Ballycastle

21 Take a walk on the Car-

rick-A-Rede _____ in Ballintoy.

22 Place a wager on the at Drumbo Park Greyhound Stadium. 24 Browse the arts and crafts at the ____ House in Whitehead. 26 Tour The _____ Belfast visitor attraction with special effects, dark rides, full-scale reconstructions and innovative interactive features. 28 Explore Larne's Carnfunnock Country Park with panoramic views of the Antrim Coast and the North._ 29 Camp out or spend the day at Glenariff ___ __ Park and be sure to stroll along the Falls' Walk. 34 Stop in for a beverage at the Crown ____ Saloon in Belfast with its many snugs and memorabilia from the Brittania, sister ship of the Titanic.

35 Take a ride on a 19th century steam _____ train complete with Jazz musicians at the Whitehead Excursion Station. 37 Climb to the top of Knockagh _____ in Carrickfergus to see a specatular view over Belfast Lough to the Mountains of Mourne 40 On a rainy day take your family or friends out for a day of ____ at the Need 4 Speed indoor Karting track. 43 Catch a performance at the _____ at the Mill in Newtownabbey. 45 Learn to drive a real race car at Eddie Irvine's Race School Ireland in Aldergrove. 48 Stop at Ballintoy ___ the filming site for Gsme of Thrones' Pyke, the capital of the Iron Islands!

Forest's ____ of Owls. 50 Rent a boat to spend the day out on ____ Neagh. 51 Let the children clamber about Olderfleet in Antrim **DOWN** 2 Take the kids to Barry's for a day of rides and arcade games. 3 Take an ____ or guided tour of Dunluce Castle in Bushmills. 5 Take a lovely gentle walk of about 2k up the side of a river to the. Cranny ____ in Carnlough. 7 Have fun in the pool and on __ in Lisburn's Lagan Valley Leisureplex 10 Tour the Bushmills Distiller join in a whiskey tasting or enjoy a nice hot____ made with the famous Irish Whiskey 11 Visit the meerkats, baby gorilla, and lots of other animals at the Belfast ____ in Newtownabbey 12 Visit the Giants _, Bushmills, Northern Ireland's most popular tourist destinatio n with a large stretch of staircaseshaped rocks. 14 Play a round on the Royal Portrush ____ Club's Dunluce links course. 18 Drive down the steep road to Murlough ___and Fair Head for some spectacularviews near Ballycastle. 19 Discover Ireland's industrial heritage in Lisburn's Irish Centre & Museum's award-winning exhibition 'Flax to Fabric. 21 Stroll along the white sandy Ballycastle ____ near the harbour. 23 Explore the white _ beach at White Park Bay near the Giant's Causeway. 25 Sail on the Maid of Antrim boat to the Topedo _____ and to Shanes Castle in Antrim Town. 27 Sign up to explore Belfast, discover new things and solve some clues and learn facts about the city by following a _Trail 28 Grab some photo ops at Kinbane Castle, located on the side of a ____ in Ballycastle

49 Visit Randalstown

by Cathal Liam

My recent comments about 1916 and Ireland's age-old struggle for independence have struck a concordant note as did Tommy Graham's editorial in the latest issue (May/ June 2014) of History Ireland. Commenting on Irish Taoiseach Enda Kenny's invitation to include some 'English royals' at

30 Take some fabulous photos at the Gleno _____near Larne. 31 Visit the birthplace of the 7th US President, at the Andrew Centre and the US Rangers Centre in Boneybefore, Carrickfergus. 32 Take a __ taxi cab tour of Belfast. 33 Spend a few hours exploring the Carrickfergus Museum & Civic ____ with armor, can-

36 Spend some time viewing the many artifact collections and artists' displays in the Larne ____ and Art Centre. 38 Stop to see the 3.500 year old Ballylumford _____ in Islandmagee.

nons, fire engines, and more.

39 Spend some time at the Joey Dunlop ____ Garden dedicated to the memory of 2 great motorcycle racers in Ballymoney.

41 Take a ferry to Rathwhich lies between Ballycastle and the Mull of Kintyre (Scotland).

42 Take a scenic drove through the nine _ of Antrim: these green, tree-filled valleys by the sea are some of the most scenic spots in Europe.

44 Attend a service at St. Nicholas ____ with its tall steeple towering over other biuildings in Carrickfergus. 45 Visit Sentry Hill Historic

House, a historic ___ _ house in Newtownabbey.

46 Attend a church service at Green Pastures, a modern church with a ____ band a lots of youthful members in Ballymena.

47 Stop at Carrickfergus Castle, a historic ____ that forms an imposing landmark on the shores of Belfast Lough. Dublin's 100th 1916 Rebellion anniversary, Graham feels as I do: Why would Ireland wish to have the royal presence be the centre of attention, as surely the press would make it, instead of focusing on the men and women of '16, the Irish patriots who we're planning to honour?

Editor Graham makes his case for excluding any of the Windsor clan after Queen Elizabeth endorsed the taoiseach's suggestion. "Interestingly, there was little media comment on the nuance and precision of her choice of words: 'the palace would welcome participation in commemorations leading up to the founding of the Irish Free State.'

Why would it? The Irish Free State came about in the wake of a treaty grudgingly accepted by a slim majority (64-57) of the Irish people under British threats of 'immediate and terrible war', not to mention a disastrous civil war."

Speaking of 2016, Irish historian and writer Seán O Mahony wrote me regarding his assessment of those preparations now underway. He notes that the Irish Government appears confused, mixing 1916 Commemorations with the Great War 1914-1918 observances. Seán commented that both events seem to garner equal weight: 1916 men and British soldiers. "After all, the Irishmen who fought in Flanders, the Somme and Gallipoli were fighting people who had never injured them or had any interest in Ireland. They were serving an imperial adventure and in my opinion cannot be compared with the 1916 men who fought for their own freedom in their own homeland."

One bit of good news, if the Government doesn't muck it up, concerns the recent developments at #16 Moore Street, close by the GPO. As you may remember, I've written you about the efforts to preserve and develop the structures at #14-17 Moore Street, the final headquarters of Ireland's Provisional Revolutionary Government during Easter Week, 1916. Pearse, Connolly,

Clarke and others had retreated

to #16 from the burning GPO on Friday evening, 28 April. It was from that humble abode on the following day that Patrick Pearse marched out to confer and then surrender to the British army. Over the succeeding years,

this dwelling fell into disrepair and was about to be knocked by property developers. But thanks to a group of dedicated preservationists, this won't happen. Instead, as Gerry Adams, Sinn Fein president and Irish TD recently said, "I want to take the opportunity to officially launch, at this most appropriate venue and at this appropriate time, the document — The 1916 Revolutionary Quarter, A vision for Dublin's historic centre. It is aimed at ensuring that the 1916 National Monument at Numbers 14 to 17 Moore Street is fully protected and preserved in its entirety...."

So with any luck, the building, the street and its laneways will be carefully returned to what they were a hundred years ago and that a thriving and historic educational centre will be up and running by April, 2016.

As you no doubt have guessed from the copy and adverts in this paper, Ohio is about to begin another wonderful Irish festival season. So in early May, I attended its kickoff celebration in Cleveland. As part of the 5th Kamm's Corners Hooley, Ohio's IAN Editor John O'Brien, Jr. organised a booth and corralled some of its columnists to meet and greet festival attendees. Together, we handed out hundreds of newspapers and talked to countless people. It was a great promotion and, hopefully, we introduced many Clevelanders to our nearly eight-yearold Irish-American paper.

On a personal note, for several decades now, I've been carrying on a love affair with, can you believe it, salt. I've watched chefs on the telly sprinkle in a pinch or dash of it during their food preparations. Then, some years ago while on holiday in the south of France, I discovered Fleur de Sel from the Camargue region, south of

Arles near the Mediterranean Sea. Its taste and texture sure top Morton's hands down.

Today's salt masters of this Rhone River delta still practice an ancient art. Carefully, they harvest the 'precious' white crystals formed on the surface of their crystallizers or saltpans. Needless to say, their white 'gold' is dear, but used in moderation, it's well worth the added cost.

My salty horizons expanded a bit more while visiting Brittany last year. There in a little gift shop was an unexpected surprise...Fleur De Sel de lile de Noirmoutier. With its own unique taste, I promptly purchased several small bags. In its simple packaging, it was less expensive than the fancier Provencal canisters.

But the real coup de grâs came on a recent journey home. There in the local newspaper was an entire page devoted to rewarding the best of the Irish food and drink industry. Proudly displayed among other entrepreneurs were the smiling faces of Michael and

Aileen O'Neill, founders of, you guessed it, Irish Atlantic Salt. Harvested by hand from the purest Irish seawater, their sea-salt flakes are born of timehonoured artisan techniques.

www.cathalliam.com

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Begun five years ago in West Cork, their partnership has given birth to a range of handcrafted Atlantic gourmet sea salt. Last year, with the completion of a new salt production facility on the Beara Peninsula, the O'Neill's expanded trade in both Ireland and overseas. With their products securely anchored in Irish speciality shops, they've branched out into Irish multiples such as Tesco and Dunnes stores.

Irish Atlantic Salt is truly a gift from the sea. Its unique salt fakes literally melt in your mouth and give food a distinctive accent. Put a box or two on your list of things to buy when you are next over...they're truly a unique, practical and inexpensive gift/purchase. Check their stocklisted places of where to buy at www.irishatlanticsalt.ie.

Safe travels & God bless always, Cathal



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Squire's Castle: Tony's Big Idea

by Richard Lardie

In 1957, Man, was it hot. It had to be 95 degrees and no breeze to cool you off. I was carrying two bags at Manakiki Golf

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Course, up the hill on the 16th hole. The sweat was pouring off my head, down my cheeks and then down my neck onto my shirt, which was soaked. I threw the bags down at the top of the hill to wait for our golfers to get to the top; they were riding up in a cable car device. They did not seem to be as sweaty as Tony and I.

This is when Tony came up with the idea. His ideas were always good but sometimes got us more than we bargained for.

Tony said, "Let's talk John into driving us over to the swimming hole when we are done today. John was caddying in the foursome behind us along with another buddy, Dave. John was the only one old enough to drive. He had bought an old car for \$50 and was living the life. When we got

to the 17th tee John and Dave had reached the 16th green. Tony walked past them and mentioned our idea. They both nodded in agreement.

The swimming hole was in a strand of woods across from Squire's Castle in the North Chagrin Reservation on Route 174. We all finished our loops (18 holes of carrying a golf bag) and headed to the car. It had to be 100 degrees now; we had to wait for the car to cool off with all four doors open.

We headed out the drive, turned left on

Eddy Road and then right on #174. It was great now, for the wind was blowing in the windows and we were boisterous in our anticipation of jumping in the creek. When we crossed Route 6 (Chardon Road) there were little cones down the middle of the road because they had just painted double yellow lines on it. I can't say if it was Tony or I, but one of us suggested that



John should weave in and out of the cones, like a slalom course. The weave began immediately. Down the hill, in and out, in and out, never hitting a cone. The cones stopped; we continued our merry way to the swimming hole.

Great fun was had as we cooled off jumping in, splashing each other, swinging on the rope, laughing, pushing each other and other all around shenanigans. Half an hour later, we were ready for an ice cream. Back to the car we hiked.

> That was when we saw it. The Willoughby Hills police car sitting next to John's car. with a very big officer leaning on the car. "Hi boys, been swimming?"

"Yes sir," we all chimed in. "That's a good way to cool off after weaving thru cones on a hot day," says he.

We all looked at each

belief. We were sure no one saw us.

John says, "What are you talking about?" "Well," says he, "all that yellow paint on your tires tells me you are the boys who got paint all over my road, and the Mayor has called me twice to see if I have solved this crime." CRIME!! Tony and I looked at the yellow tires, then at each other. Oh man, here we go again.

"OK boys, here is the plan. I can take you to the station, make a full report call your parents and set a court date

"Or what?"

"Or we can go up to the store, get some scrub brushes and gasoline, and you boys can scrub all the yellow paint off my road that you smeared in your little game of weave."

Did I mention it was 100 degrees? To cool off after caddying we were now on our hands and knees on an asphalt road scrubbing with scrub brushes and

gasoline. It had to be 15% hotter on that road. The police officer was there with his flashing lights to protect us from traffic and to make sure we didn't leave.

People kept stopping and laughing with the police officer. The Mayor stopped and talked to us and told us how lucky we were that they were letting us work our way out of this. Did I mention how hot it was? I wasn't feeling lucky.

It took us about two hours to get it done; I thought I was hot before. Nothing com pared to the heat I felt now.

Tony says, "I have an idea to cool off." I was about to tell him to keep it to himself when the policeman told us we were trespassing if we went to the swimming hole again. We headed for home, tired and sweaty, with blisters on both hands from scrubbing, and reeking of gasoline.

So if you ever go to Squire's Castle on route 174, have a good look at how clean the road is and give thanks for the four hot other with the look of dis- lads that made it that way!



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View From Ireland

By Maurice Fitzpatrick



A Writer for Our Time

One hundred years ago, on June 15th, 1914, a young man from Dublin issued a book which would, he maintained, give Irish people a chance finally to view themselves in his finely polished looking glass. He had also declared that unless his first book was published the civilisation of his country would be retarded.

Time has a way of dealing with such grandiose claims. The Court of Chronos exacts justice in nearly every case. Spoofers are thrown out of court, never to be heard of again; those whose work rightly deserves attention are given a fair hearing. For all his bluster, the case put forward by that young man, James Joyce, for his book of fifteen short stories, Dubliners, has been upheld.

Justice is more than a metaphor here. Joyce spent more than a decade of extraordinary struggle to defend the legitimacy of his writing. In his fiction, he used proper names, slang and curse words; he expressed the tragedy of Dubliners' lives, and even confronted the dysfunctionality of their sexual relations. Publishers hemmed, printers hawed; they asked for changes, then more changes which were never enough. Ño diplomat, Joyce challenged publishers' view that the book was immoral with the irony that would characterise his later work. For nearly ten years one publishing house after another rejected the book. Joyce joined a writer's guild, and the publication of the book cost him infinitely more in delays and le-

Today Dubliners reads as a prescient collection. In one story, 'An Encounter', two truant schoolboys meet a man in a great coat who is the worse for drink. The man interrogates them about

appears, apparently to interfere with himself. On his return, he is overbearing and menacing towards the boys. Neither the publishers cum censors who parsed the book for obscenity, nor the myopically sighted moralists of the day spotted the potentially scandalous implications of that

The less innocent Ireland of 2014 is rather more aware of the threat of child abusers, which leads to the most searing news story of this month. Why is it that when the remains of 800 mothers and babies were discovered in an unmarked grave in Tuam, Co. Galway, the Archbishop of Dublin vociferously condemned the egregious treatment, and welcomed an official enquiry into abuse at institutions charged with taking care of young women and children, and certain Irish politicians rushed to claim that the numbers were exaggerated?

The answer is power: whereas once the clerical class breezily made such distinctions, today our political class is the one most removed from the exercise of conscience and compassion. Archbishop Martin has done a wondrous job of attempting to address the wreckage of abuse perpetuated within the Catholic Church; he has been brave, honest and humble. The power that the Catholic Church used to have in Ireland has been so thoroughly discredited that nobody but a wilfully blind adherent will trust in its explanations of past abuse. The Catholic Church is finally to be subjected to the law—the archbishop is right to welcome this novel approach to justice.

Against this backdrop, how gal fees than he ever saw from it. would James Joyce, a hundred years on, have viewed the state of public and private morality in Ireland? We know from conversations recorded with Joyce in his mature years that he was dismayed that the most Irish rant critic. Just as their sweethearts and then dispeople managed to do with their Joyce's Mr. Duffy cre-

political independence was to hand it over to a coalition of the Catholic Church and a self-serving middle class. But how exactly does Dubliners reflect the lives of modern Irish people? Luckily, Tramp Press has ad-

dressed just that question with a book, Dubliners 100, a retelling of Joyce's stories in modern times. Tramp Press assembled fifteen of Ireland's skilled prose writers to create their own stories inspired by the lineaments of Joyce's originals. And they did Joyce proud. The most outstanding ver-

sions of Joyce's stories collected here are 'A Mother' by Elske Rahill and 'A Painful Case' by Paul Murray. 'A Mother', who appears as a puritanical tyrant wielding unwarranted control at her daughter's first big concert in Joyce, morphs into a watery Gaelscoil busybody in Dubliners 100. Irish language schools, or Gaelscoileanna, are just the setting for a modern rendering of 'A Mother'. The mother in this story, Kathleen, belongs to a swelling proportion of the Irish middle class who push for Irish language schooling, although their under-

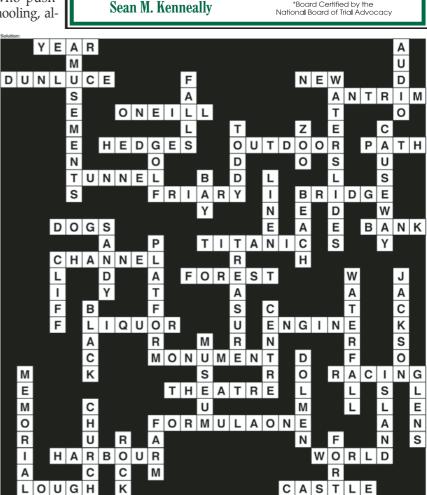
lying aspiration is for something entirely different. Not for her the liberal views of Educate Together, Rahill's remade title character, Kathleen, sees in such schools an oppourtunity to shield her princess from the worst assaults that exposure to a multi-ethnic society may bring; she is deftly wrong-footed in the story when she is forced to cope with other mothers who refuse to follow her lead.

The retelling of 'A Painful Case' captures the humour of later Joyce when the hermitic and anemic Mr. Duffy is transformed into Dublin's most feared restauated a worldview that trapped "we are still learning to be Joyce's him and ultimately destroyed any chance of happiness he might have had, so this Mr. Duffy had hid behind an armoury of savage restaurant reviews and contempt for yuppy company, which succeeds in perfectly translating the spirit of the Joyce story into a 21st century setting. Richard Ellmann's view that

contemporaries" is as true today as it was when he wrote it in 1959. On the centenary of the publication of Joyce's first book of fiction, Dubliners 100 has provided a compelling reason to read James Joyce in our time It is a welcome book.

Dubliners 100 was published by Tramp Press in June 2014





The Book of Kells

Each day a crowd forms on the campus of Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland to await the opening of the Old Library. The crowd is not there to borrow books; they are there to view one book in particular that is kept under glass in

the college library. The book is known as the Book of Kells and is the most famous book in Ireland, and possibly the most famous illuminated manuscript in the world.

The book was written around 800 AD. It is a book of the gospels, written by hand in Latin and beautifully illustrated with color pictures, Celtic designs and drawings. We do not know the names of the authors of the book. There are

signs that more than one person wrote the book as there are several different styles of handwriting. The illustrating (known as illuminating) was also done by several different hands.

What we do know is that the book was written, illustrated and assembled in a monastery, possibly two monasteries, by monks who labored day and night to copy and illustrate the four gospels

of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. It is believed that the two monasteries connected with the Book of Kells are the monastery of Iona off the western coast of Scotland and the monastery of Kells located in County Meath, Ireland. Both seem to have been involved in the making of the Book of Kells. The monastery of

Iona was founded by St. Colmcille (also known as St. Columba) in the year 563 AD. Colmcille was a master at copying the scriptures and he taught others how to make copies. About two hundred years after the founding of Iona, the monastery was attacked and burned by Vikings. The abbot of the monastery along with many of his monks escaped to

the monastery at Kells. Some historians believe that the Book of Kells might have been created as a very special tribute in the year 797 AD, the two-hundredth anniversary of the death of St. Colmcille. How much, if any, of the book may have been copied on Iona is unknown. It is generally accepted that the book was completed and fully illustrated at Kells.

The art of creating and illuminating



By J. Michael Finn



manuscripts was not easy. Some of the designs are so intricate you need a magnifying glass to view them. There were no magnifying glasses when the book was made, so we can only wonder at how exactly the designs were drawn.

The pictures and patterns created in the book are much more numerous than in any other illuminated manuscript. There are full page portraits of Jesus and the four Evangelists. On the written pages are pictures of people and angels, monsters and animals. Most often the illustrations are used to bring out the meaning in that particular section of the gospels.

It is estimated that the Book of Kells may have taken as long as 30 years to complete and involved the work of hundreds of monks. Just assembling and preparing the materials was a complicated task. The pages of the book are not made of paper, they are made of vellum. Vellum is made from calf skin. It is made by cleaning the skin and soaking it in water and lime. After several weeks the skin would be dried and scraped on both sides with a pumice stone removing all the bits of hair and removing any imperfections. The skin is then stretched, flattened and trimmed to make a smooth writing surface. There are 340 calf-skin pages called folios. That many pages would require the skin of roughly 150

The monks designated as scribes wrote with a pen made out of a reed or a quill, which was a goose or swan feather. Ink was made out of the juice of plants, leaves and roots. There are five main colors used on the illustrations in the book. There are also browns and blacks, used to fill in the background of the full-page illustrations. The colors have been studied by chemists but it is not always clear how these colors were produced. The secret of how they mixed the colors has been lost and attempts to try to duplicate them have failed to match exactly the colors in the book. The colors, by the way, remain strong and vibrant after 1,200 plus years.

In the year 1006 AD the book was stolen from the sacristy of the stone church at Kells. In reporting the theft the Annals of Ulster described the book as, "The chief treasure of the western

at the time, which has never been found

since the theft. Two months after the theft the book was recovered buried un der a piece of sod. After that the monks at Kells watched over the book day and night to protect it.

The monastery at Kells came to an end in the twelfth century. The Book of Kells remained in the parish of Kells until 1654 In that year, Cromwell's cavalry was quartered in the church at Kells, and the governor of the town sent the book to Dublin for safekeeping. The Anglican Bishop of Kells, Henry Jones, presented the manuscript to Trinity College in Dublin in 1661, and it has remained there ever since.

The best way to view the Book of Kells is to travel to Dublin. However, there are other options if you can't afford the trip Facsimiles of the book were created in Switzerland in 1990. These have recently been rescanned by Trinity College using state of the art imaging technology. The new digital images, in the words of Trin ity College, "offer the most accurate high resolution images to date, providing an experience second only to viewing the book in person." These images can be accessed on the Trinity College digital collection website at http://digitalcol lections.tcd.ie.

If you want to view one of the 1,480 Swiss made facsimiles of the Book of Kells you can do so in Ohio. The book bound as one volume, is on permanent display at the Washington-Centerville Public Library in Centerville, Ohio (near Dayton). Two pages are viewable at a time with major decorated pages featured during certain holiday seasons

The Book of Kells is one of the many art treasures that have been handed down to us through the diligent work of thousands of monks who worked to preserve knowledge and through illu minated manuscripts were able to "turn darkness into light."

*J. Michael Finn is the Ohio State Histo rian 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

world." It had a gold and jeweled cover, FCoolavin@aol.com.



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New Irish Courses From Living Language

For those looking to reconnect with their heritage through their mother tongue, Living Language presents two courses based on thousands of years of tradition: Living Language Hebrew And Living Language Irish. Though both were previously on the verge of extinction as spoken languages, they are now vital links between the past and present.

Both Hebrew and Irish come from ancient cultures of legends, poetry, music, folklore, and religious study. After becoming virtually obsolete in everyday use, Hebrew was revived as a modern language and now has an estimated 9 million speakers worldwide, a number that continues to grow. Today, one in four Irish citizens say they have some knowledge of Irish, and a burgeoning international community are exploring their origins while becoming Gaeilgeoirí (Irish speakers).

For those looking to discover their roots, knowledge of Irish or Hebrew can help decode original documents, records, and even surnames, as well as connect travelers journeying to their homelands with fellow speakers. Alongside the lessons, Living Language's courses include culture notes to provide context on everything from ordering at an Israeli restaurant to Irish curses and blessings.

Living Language encourages flexibility and engagement with learning materials over multiple platforms, so users have options in choosing the courses and formats that are right for them. Irish and Hebrew courses are available in a variety of formats and levels, including:

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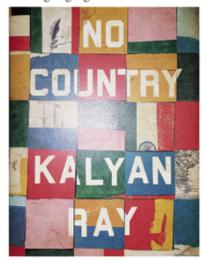
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put yer rosary Beads away ma

A Salty Tale of a Young Man's Musical Dreams and Struggles in 1970's Ireland

by Cahal Dunne

In his new book, Cahal tracks the progress of a young man from Cork City: choir director, music teacher, and showband musician, to seminal Celtic rocker, Eurovision-acclaimed songwriter, and US based solo performer since 1983. He does this through a series of interwoven vignettes, some hilarious and some heart wrenching, but all vastly entertaining. I can unreservedly recommend this book to anyone who would like an insider's perspective on the Irish music scene of the 1960's and 1970's.

Rosary Beaos away

Seamus Kennedy

Singer Songwriter Author, Washington, USA

Anybody who ever played in, or danced to the beat of an Irish show band, has to read this book. Apart from that however, it is a great read in its own right, and should appeal to anyone who likes a story of a young man's dreams and struggles to make them come true. A universal tale, beautifully chronicled.

Sean O Se Cork, Ireland



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PUT YER ROSARY BEADS AWAY BY CAHAL DUNNE

This book is a joy to read. It is filled with life and humanity, and radiates the enchantment of being fully alive. The book follows the exciting adventures of the author's alter ego, Billy Golden. He is a boy from Cork who grew up and lived during a time in Ireland when there were very few possibilities, and little hopefulness. Giving up his secure teaching job, to the chagrin of his mother, he follows his heart for better or for worse.

Dunne knows how to tell a story. He uses humor and suspense, thus making the book a fun and easy read. "Billy" joins a showband in the waning days of the craze that swept Ireland from the 60's through the 70's, and Dunne takes us on some hilarious journeys as the lads play in chancy dancehalls throughout rural Ireland. Along the way, we learn about the band members love stories and romantic heartaches, as they grow into one of the first ever Celtic Rock bands.

Weaving modern Irish history, together with all his anecdotes and experiences, he has a great ability to create colorful scenes. This book is screaming out to be made into a movie.

Frank West, Book and Play Reviewer, Irish American News, Chicago

No Country

No Country, By Kalyan Ray begins against the backdrop of rural Ireland in 1843, when the lives of Padraig Aherne and Brendan McCarthaigh change forever after Padraig embarks on a trip to Dublin. There, a tragedy forces him on a ship unexpectedly bound for Calcutta, separating him from not only Brendan, but also the young woman he hoped to marry and their newborn daughter.

Unable to return to Ireland, Padraig builds a life for himself in India but never forgets his roots. Meanwhile, Brendan, too, finds himself exiled from Ireland by unforeseen circumstance: the Great Potato Famine. With no choice but to flee or perish, he travels to North America with Maeve, Padraig's young daughter whom Brendan has come to raise as his own.

Forced to create new lives for themselves, Padraig and Brendan's respective journeys cast them as the progenitors for two separate but forever connected families. As their two family trees take root on opposite sides of the world, Ray connects the stories of their descendants to bring this ambitious novel full-circle by divulging the long-seeded motivation behind the terrible murder in a sleepy New York town first introduced to readers in the novel's opening pages.

Published by Simon & Schuster Published June 17, 2014, Hardcover \$27.00, 544 pages. ISBN: 9781451635997

e-Book ISBN: 9781451636390

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Cleveland

peat, 12th - kristine Jackson, 16th - lonesome stars, 18th - becky boyd, 19th - chris allen, 23rd chris & tom, 25th - brent kirby, 26th -fior gael, 30th - lonesome stars. 4408 Detroit Road, 44113 www.the-harp.com

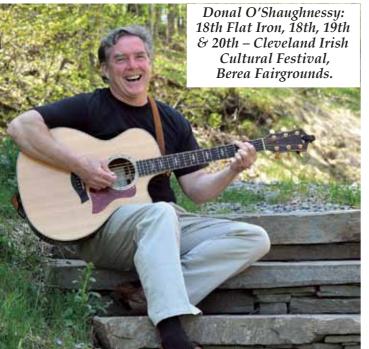
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I have been hearing about Ashley Davis for two or three years. The mighty Anita Daly in New York turned me on to her music. But her new CD, Night Travels, became the impetus to have a chat with Ashley, to see if she was as intriguing as her music. She is that, and far more.

Ashley is Kansas born, with those common sense country values of family, strength in the face of adversity and listening to the voice within, which so

many Irish exhibit in forging successful careers, and successful lives. Ashley's songwriting evolved from her Appalachian Mountain influences; country, folk, bluegrass and Americana music, to the full bloom of Irish and Scottish roots further forged through American immigration. The drive to fulfill yourself, to seek out and conquer greater opportunities, has replayed itself throughout Ashley's family history, and is continuing today as well, in both word and action.

We spoke for more than two hours. The CD review turned into a profile sometime during the chat; hope you enjoy both.

"I don't have a typical Irish story. On my father's side, my great, great grandfather, James Davis, left Northern Ireland, in the 1860s, headed for New York. He heard there was land being given away out west, so he went with his Irish

bride. He got a job with the U.S. Calvary and worked in the early days of the Wyoming Territory," Ashley recounted.

"My great, great grandmother immigrated from Italy, 'Rosa Maria Marte' - I said, 'Wait, Rose Mary Murphy?' - an Ital-

ian had married an Irish woman, they kind of hid that. Their son was born in a wagon being lowered over a cliff during an Indian raid. They moved to Kansas, to be safer! "A lot of my influences,

of where my songs come from, have to do with my Midwest upbringing. This granddaughter of a Dustbowl survivor; if you complained, they would say, 'where's your pioneer spirit?'

"Age fourteen was my first public, paying gig, on the back of a flat bed truck on a trail ride, sitting in with a Country & Western band – they let me sit in and sing a few songs. I then had a regular gig at a Honky-Tonk. I had an odd teenager life with gigging, with a lot

of outdoor festivals, indoor auditoriums and small towns. I absolutely knew; that what I was going to be doing."

After her Kansas upbringing, Ashley moved to New York. Folks would ask her her heritage, and she would say "Kansan". They would respond, "Yes, but where are you from?" This was foreign to her. She would say "Irish and Italian", and folks would say, "No, no, you gotta pick".

"We had no clue we were even Irish – we were just Kansan's. People would ask where did you get the Irish influences in your music? I didn't know what they were talking about."

The idea of "Blood Influence" that it could skip genera-

tions, or lie waiting to bloom, was new to Ashley, though many of us have experienced that genetic pull. Ireland is knee deep in ghosts, and many have crossed an ocean. Ashley began to explore Scottish and Irish songs, finding special connecYork, then became more prolific. I have more of a traditional approach to songwriting, on paper [vs Blackberry or iPad]. It all kind of comes full circle. If you can see yourself doing any other career - then do it. If you can't, then you should be



tion in Clannad and the music of lead singer Moya Brennan.

"I thought 'I am like them, I phrase like them'; it was almost an overnight thing –Bam! I am no longer interested in Country music, just like that. I went to music stores while at college in Nashville, and found Clannad, and others.

"I was buying into Clannad music – you just have to trust what is around the corner. A few years later, I'm on stage in New York singing with Moya.

"My parents were into 60s folk music - which had that wonderful song writing influence going into me, unknowingly. Joan Baez, Bob Dylan, a big Gordon Lightfoot fan. I still am. I hold a lot of influence from those early folks.

"A pivotal point for me was finding Loreena McKinnett – I was using literature in my writing at nineteen or so. She was really well read and successful using those words, influences in her songs – and doing it at a high level. For me, it was a unique way, a neat way of [incorporating] public domain literature and making it your own ... I've been influenced by this piece ...

Ashley has collaborated with the Chieftains' Paddy Moloney, Eileen Ivers, Cormac De Barra, John Doyle, John Spillane, Nickel Creek's Sara Watkins and Moya Brennan. Moya has nurtured Ashley, serving as a mentor and offering Ashley an amazing education, as she learned about building the "spectacular" vocal walls that are a family trait for the Brennans, especially for Moya and her younger sister, Enya. "I write on guitar and piano. My voice is my main instrument of course. A guitar is like a pencil for me. Once Cormac [De Barra] came into my life, I really focused on guitar - I learned to use it in different ways.

in music. If you are not built

for it, you should be a chiro-

practor or something else."

"When I was paying my dues, it was just me and the guitar. I was definitely aware I had to go through those days, of playing before a few drunk guys, who only want to hear the same song over and over. I knew I had to pay those dues.

"You realize its hard work. I wanted to be in a place where people were listening, where they wanted to hear the music. I

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"I was a poor musician in New

just looked at those gigs as practice; you're going to get in four hours of practice tonight and try out new material – it was four hours where I could just play.

"Dad used to say, 'My daughter lives the life of an Opera; she has extreme highs and extreme lows. She's been everywhere in between.'"

Many of Ashley's songs, and all on Night Travels, deal with love, with finding, reaching for another. "I clearly was in a place that years/days were daydreams and night dreams were in my life – a friend pointed it out, I didn't plan it."

I asked her if she was addicted to love: "What bleeding heart writer isn't? If you are honest with your heart and with your audience, they can relate. If it is too painful, put it in the 3rd person.

"There is no greater debt than loving beyond your means [Liner Notes]. I am not referring to the person saying it, but to the other person, they don't have the ability to love you to the depth that you need. Circumstances become clear that they can't. The deficit becomes the debt. Certain people have different capacities in their heart – are you going to be with someone who can love you like you love, or something less?"

The lyrical voice of Ashley Davis, whether in her songs, or in her conversation, have an ache, a practical realization that, as Daniel Patrick Moynihan said, "To be Irish is to know that in the end the world will break your heart." Most deserve love, most don't get as much love as they deserve. And some, some have the capacity to both give and to receive, far greater.

Ashley attended Nashville's Belmont University, taking advantage of Belmont's renowned music program and studying literature from the Irish, British and Latin traditions. Pursuing a graduate degree from the Irish World Academy of Music & Dance (then known as the World Music Centre) at the University of Limerick, Ashley then earned her Master's degree under the direction of Mícheál Ó Súilleabháin.

"We were the 3rd class to go

through the program. It was the best decision of my life. I was thrown into the fire – doing Masters classes, in Irish. I made friends with a girl fluent in Irish, I was good at understanding dialects. I learned so much; it influenced my writing and me. It was a great experience."

In 2006, she journeyed to the Isle of Man, where she was an Artist in Residence, capturing and recording the native Manx language, as well as the melodies and stories of the island.

Another of the singer-



songwriter's unique musical adventures was a stint in Las Vegas, where she was chosen as the soloist for the Vegas premiere of Michael Flatley's "Lord of the Dance." Ashley spent one year with the show. In 2010, she was named one of the most influential Irish-Americans under the age of 40.

There is no greater testament to her formidable talent, perhaps, than the invitation Ashley received from the head of the Grammy Museum to teach world music songwriting for the Grammy camps around the country. The program chooses the most talented high school students to whom she teaches the unconventional but most traditional technique of songwriting.

"I want young writers to be able to open up and write from a true place because that's where the good music is going to come from. [They shouldn't] try and conform; but to see themselves. I really believe in reading, and having a heavy, steady diet of reading. Reading is #1. I have a list of books, trying to keep myself on a schedule.

"I once heard a professor say. 'Have a steady diet of reading; stick to that diet.' I am obsessed with books: fiction, non, of any kind. As many of those words that you're putting on a page each day, you need to replenish in your head so that you have a constant well of fresh water to draw from. Woodie Guthrie said, 'You write what you see', and that's the truth.

"I was so focused on Night Travels. I now have the time to look ahead. I'm one of those people pretty content day to day - writing, looking at new places I'd like to play.

"What would I like to do? Be-

sides win a Grammy, or an Oscar in the music category -That would work! I would love to see my music be placed in a motion picture – that's a goal for me I'm focusing more and more on that, spending more and more time in L.A., that sort of thing.

"Being true to myself and putting out what I feel is honest, and good, music. I study, learn from the past, but I'm very much a right now, dayto-day person. I'm doing some work in Nashville – I have been asked to write some country pieces - full circle! I am also writing stuff for what will be the next album and trying to go to Ireland, to see Moya, in August.

"If an opportunity doesn't present itself, it probably means there is a better one around the corner. Be kind to others. You will succeed if you put in the hard work. I want to give my absolute best to every moment of what I am giving the listeners."

Night Travels, Ashley Davis Daisy Rings Music 2014. 11 Tracks, 47 minutes www.daisyrings.com

Guests Moya Brennan, John Doyle, Eileen Ivers, Sara Watkins

His Bride I'll Be (w/Sara Watkins) – Ashley said fans found connection, responded the most to this song, and #11, Horses, but I found solace, connection, in each of the 12 songs on Night Travels. His Bride I'll Be is a slow sway, yearning for another, which is a theme of Night Travels. Ashley's voice is strong, vibrant and expressive. You can hear the want and the longing in her voice, and feel it, played out in the song.

I Follow You – Strolling down the lane, aware but without urgency, I Will Follow You has expectations - an ebb and flow, like life and love holding on, believing there is something better, ahead.

Barbara Allen (with John Doyle) – Virtuoso John Doyle on the guitar is a perfect complement for Ashley's vocals. Her voice takes on the same tone in this auld folk song of unrequited love, with a new arrangement.

Night Travels – The title track, Night Travels continues the mood and theme of dreams - daydreams, night dreams, lost in the longing for love, for people, and for places.

The Blackest Crow - The warmth of Ashley's voice fills a room. It especially shines on this track. Fluctuations in the timbre, in and out of dreams and desires, hot summer nights lying awake, sort of, with the dreams of tomorrow, content to think and dream, for that moment.

With You Tonight (with Eileen Ivers) – I have never met a more gifted, or genuine soul, than Eileen Ivers. She joins Ashley on this song, and the beat picks up with the fiddle; maybe a morning jig surviving the nightmares, as the warmth of both the fiddle and voice fill the moment, drifting with memories and hopes. Beside You Near (w/ Moya

Brennan) – Ashley wrote this song especially for Moya; the trademark Brennan voice alternates with the matching silky softness of Davis' – just a beautiful song, sung beautifully.

Alone with Me – A little bit of zip, a little more tease.

Horses – This is the song most fans connect with, most. The ideas behind the words, of another not being capable of giving all that full love entails for your partner, are the core of the song:

You loved beyond your means Now she's to pay your debts Well it must've been love It follows her home every night

Like it follows you every night Ashley Davis collaborates with several of the best and brightest Celtic music performers of our time on Night Travels; her vocal and songwriting talents stand equal with them. That they join her is testament to their esteem. Taking the road less traveled, I collided with a gifted, insightful woman of immense talent, overdue to be recognized by a wider audience.

Night Travels is a Top Shelf Selection. I also recommend Ashley's two previous recordings, Songs of the Celtic Winter, 2012 and Down by the Sea, 2011 You can get them on Ashley's website: www.daisyrings.com



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On This Day in Irish History:

1 July 1937 - Eamon de Valera's new constitution, with its definition of Catholic morality and 'women's place" is approved, causing major protests among Irish women.

4 July 1690 - James II flees to France for assistance after his defeat by William of Orange at the Battle of the Boyne.

5 July 1922 - Cathal Brugha (47) was mortally wounded fighting on the Republican side against Free State forces in Dublin's O'Connell Street and died two days later.

12 July 1694 - Over 7,000 die in the Battle of Aughrim, the Williamites (Irish, English, Dutch, Germans French Protestants, and Danes) are victorious over the Jacobites (Irish Catholics, French Catholics, and Germans).

14 July 1819 - Ellen Scanlon (nee Hanley) is murdered by the servant of her new husband, Stephen Sullivan. Both Gerald Griffin's novel The Collegian, and the play The Brides of Garryowen are based on the murder. Irish barrister Daniel O'Connell defended Hanley in court.

21 July 1972 - Bloody Friday' in Belfast. Over a period of 65 minutes the IRA detonated twenty bombs in the city, killing nine and injuring at least 130 others.

24 July 1908 - Birth of Roger McHugh, known for his play Rossa.

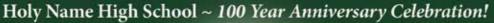
26 July 1856 - Birth in Dublin of George Bernard Shaw, playwright and winner of the Nobel Prize

27 July 1805 - Death of Brian Merriman, poet and teacher. Known chiefly for his 1000 line long poem The Midnight Court, widely regarded as the greatest comic poem in the history of Irish literature. Its principal themes being the plight of young women, clerical celibacy, free love, and the misery of a young woman married to a withered old man.

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Guilty Pleasures

Shandy, the sweet mix of lager and lemon Fanta reminds me of summer in Ireland. One sip of the honey-colored brew and I am transported back to a stunning Saturday afternoon in June, 2006, when I found myself relaxing on the patio of Belfast's Cutter's Warf.

Friends and family had gathered to celebrate a birthday. Our skin was quickly converting from pale white to a bright red under the unrelenting rays, as we lifted glasses and knocked them together proclaiming "Slàinte!"

Just a few days ago, my fresh summer sunburn, acquired after an afternoon bike ride in Lincoln Park, reminded me of that particular sunny afternoon, and suddenly I was craving a Shandy – along with something summery and tasty, such as a BBQ.

Eating outside is one of the things I love most about summer in the Midwest. There's something nostalgic about the experience, even as it's happening in the moment. Lighting the coals for the grill, calling up some friends, and throwing together a wonderfully impromptu summer soiree feels like the world slows down just enough for you to catch your breath, sip on something iced and sink your teeth into a juicy hamburger.

Back when I lived in Ireland. what I missed the most, besides sunny days, were drink options beyond beer, cider and simple mixed drinks. A Chicago BBQ (and perhaps an Irish BBQ too) cannot go wrong with a special cocktail to accompany the array of summer salads, fruits, vegetable skewers, hotdogs, hamburgers, and brats.

This is where Revae Schneider of Femme Du Coupe comes in. She's a Chicago-based entrepreneur who specializes in bar-styling, custom drink

consulting, and cocktail crafting classes, among other boozy things.

For Schneider, when it comes to the art of cocktails, it's all about creativity and accessibility. "A lot of people want to know how to make cocktails, but there are many obstacles because it's very intimidating," she says. "My goal is to take the intimidating factor out of mixology."

To support her goal, Schneider is planning a book, one based on simple 3-step cocktails. And she's working on expanding a product line of specially crafted cocktail syrups that have names like Ginger Zest and Winter Spice.

In the meantime, for your summer BBQ, she recommends



a cocktail using her own Le Sirop Lavender Honey, which she whips up in her own kitchen and sells online. "The one that I've been doing lately that I'm hugely obsessed with is comprised of freshly squeezed lime juice, watermelon juice, lavender honey and tequila."

You can follow Schneider's recipe below or enroll in one of her classes, where she is an encouraging, hands-on presence.

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"When I teach a class, I am able to see my student's reactions to making their own drinks," Schneider said. "Seeing the excitement on their faces and knowing that what they are making is cool to watch."

Schneider teaches classes locally and, on occasion, nationally, but she would love to teach abroad and travel as much as possible. One of her inspirations is Paris, after all. It's part

of her business' namesake.

She's never traveled to Ireland, though. When I asked her which cocktail she'd introduce to the Emerald Isle, she stopped and thought for a minute. "I would do an old fashioned or some sort of gin cocktail."

Her summer favorite kumquat, thyme, ginger, scotch, and fresh-squeezed lime juice will have to wait. "It's just phenomenal, but who keeps Kumquats on-hand?"

Not me, but I would certainly love to try a cocktail that requires one. Maybe Ireland would too.

Sandia Fresca

2.0oz Blanco Tequila (Olmeca Altos recommended) 2.0oz Watermelon Water 1.0oz Lime Juice 1.0oz Le Sirop Lavender Honey

Femme Du Coupe Revae Schneider, Proprietress (773) 916-6070 FEMME@FEMME-DUCOUPE.COM @FemmeDuCoupe

ENTERTAINMENT

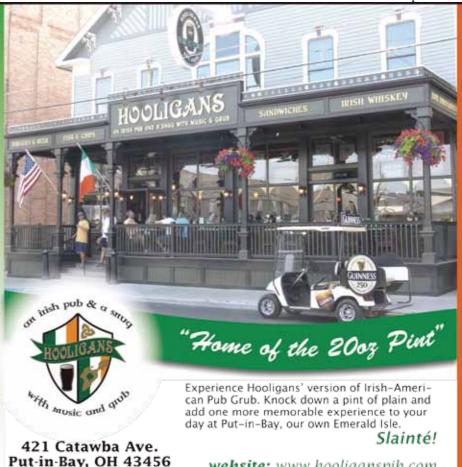
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Blowin' In

By Susan Mangan

Independence

There is something almost human about the eyes of a horse. When afraid, the horse raises its eyelids in distress, whites showing, lips curling over strong teeth in a frightened grimace. At rest, the horse's eyes appear languid, seal brown, liquid with contentment.

Every young girl seems to go through a "horse phase." For a time between my twelfth and fourteenth year, I longed to have a horse. My older Missouri cousin had a brown beauty named Lady. She would ride Lady in rodeos and through black walnut woods on warm summer evenings before the sun set. Eventually, my cousin acquired another horse, a large, grey-coated, and very masculine animal. His name was Tony, and he had the look of a feral stallion in his eyes.

When my cousin went off to college, her brother and I were left to tend to the horses. We fed them and stroked their silky snouts. I can still smell the pungent odor of their bodies, a combination of burlap, hay, and sweet saliva.

Over time, without the exertion of rodeo riding and nightly cantors, the horses became grass-founded, overfed and underworked. Naturally, my younger cousin and I thought to take them out for a ride.

Not wanting to draw attention to our intent of taking the horses out without permission, we slipped onto the horses, barebacked. Confidently, we trotted around the small, fenced-in field. I felt like Annie Oakley, fearless atop Lady's shining back. Convinced that one man could tame another, my cousin mounted Tony. Together, we took the horses on a leisurely ride through the hot field, ripe with dried cow pies and prickly juniper trees.

After a time, my cousin and I became bored with the fenced in surroundings. He suggested that we open the gate to the larger field and

stretch the horses' legs a bit. Little did we know that when a horse senses his first taste of liberty, he explodes in a rush of wind toward the open field. Both horses galloped toward the wider expanse, then abruptly turned into the field where our ride began.

Lady pulled me through an overgrown juniper bush and came to a halt. Other

heat of release, but longed to be safely tethered to our childhood.

My daughter, my firstborn, is finishing her last final exam of her freshman year in high school. From the moment of her birth, she was an otherworldly being with a mind of her own. After nearly 24 hours of labor, she arrived into this world on her own terms, incorrectly positioned,

"sunny side up." She was fiercely independent from the moment she drew her first breath, and is to this day.

Her hair is long and of a deep chestnut brown. In looks and spirit, my daughter has always reminded me of a Selkie, the mythical seals who glide through the dark sea with haunting eyes and souls in need of adventure.

In some ways she is like me, but not. I admire her strength of character. She is not a "yes" person like her mother. When she learns to temper the fire of her will with the goodness in her heart, she will run through her horizon with confidence.

Legend has it that the Selkie can shed its seal skin and live among humans. The only hitch is that the skin must never be stolen or the Selkie cannot return to her watery home when her time with the humans has passed. Thought to make wonderful wives, the human who longs for the Selkie falls into the snare of the mystical creature's seduction. Selfish with desire, the human steals the coat of the Selkie in an attempt to capture her in human form. Stripped of her liberty, the Selkie would surely die if she could never return to her home beneath the sea. The Selkie longs for the life of both a human and seal according to her own overriding need for independence. When I traveled to London

for the World's Irish Dancing competition, my daughter decided to rid herself of her rich chestnut locks in favor of a "beach-like, summery look." Without her father's knowledge she had the unassuming hairdresser dye her hair with blond highlights, a definite variance from her natural look of a Selkie.

Once again, my first-born took control of her life in a most headstrong way. Not all that different from her mythical other, my daughter longs for that which is not natural to her, but still clings to the familiarity of her true nature.

My daughter will soon leave with her grandmother for a month long holiday to Ireland, sporting her new blonde highlights. This is her first time leaving home. I am sad to see her go, but envious of her chance to see the world with the fresh eyes of an adolescent on the verge of many great adventures.

Despite her desire to change her most "Irish" physical attribute, her dark, dark hair, her longing to visit the home of her father's family pulls strong on her spirit. Although I worry over her impending homesickness, she will adapt. The fragrant hillsides of Ireland and the salty rush of the sea will lead her toward new discoveries and a greater awareness of what truly demarcates her home. A child of Irish ancestry, an American child who longs to immerse herself in Irish culture, my daughter will run headlong toward the seeming freedom of her new horizon, but will inevitably return back to the comfort of home.

*Susan holds an MA in English from John Carroll University and an MA in Education from Baldwin-Wallace University. She may be contacted at suemangan@yahoo.com.



than a scratch from the juniper's rough needles, I was unscathed. Wild and confused, Tony bucked and threw my cousin from the great height of his strong back.

Michael landed with a thud, but was miraculously uninjured. Silently, my cousin and I shared a look of relief. It would be a long while before either of us would ride bareback again; a long while before we would conspire to release an animal unused to unbridled freedom.

To this day, I am not quite sure what possessed my cousin and me to take such a risk. With sleepy trout ponds and ever-needy cows, the farm spoke of childhood innocence, but demanded responsibility. Cows must be milked twice daily, horses needed to be fenced, calves needed to be guided into this world beyond the trembling flanks of their laboring mothers. My cousin had his daily chores, and I, the visiting guest, was the assistant, to labor and distraction.

On the brink of adolescence, we searched for adventure on our own terms. Like Tony and Lady, we wanted to feel the

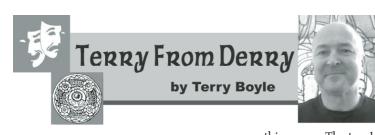
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In the early 80s I became a member of an ecumenical community. The interfaith group was committed to encouraging reconciliation, and dialogue between Protestants and Catholics. The community aimed to bring about a genuine encounter that would prove to be transformative. But, to be honest, I joined up simply because it was such a welcome change from the riots, and shootings that went with living in Derry.

Now, I was safely ensconced in a village, beautifully placed at the base of the mountains of Mourne; It was nice feeling to have finally escaped the violence, and tension of the city. I was with educated, peace loving people who offered sanctuary to those who lived in difficult situations by offering them an oasis of peace.

Barely out of my teens, this new venture was luxury compared to where I'd come from. I was meeting people from all over Ireland, Europe and the rest of the world. It was great talking about the Troubles without being directly involved in them. But despite my exposure to the political violence of the North, I was still quite naïve in certain respects, as the following story will demonstrate.

I'd returned to the community after a short stint back in Derry. During my absence from the community, a young married couple had arrived for help. However, this couple needed help far beyond the good wishes and prayers of this kindhearted group. The couple's drug addiction had left them mentally unstable.

During his short visit, the husband took himself off to the woods with a knife, slashed his wrists and had to be admitted into hospital. The whole thing was a mess, and soon he was bandaged up, released from hospital with the recommendation that he be admitted to a mental hospital. And, since he was from the South, it was decided to take him to Dublin where he lived and admit him to a hospital. His wife was of no help at all. A drug addict herself, and a victim of her husband's abuse, she was incapable of making any decisions or talking any sense to her spouse.

Since the wrist bandaged man threatened to throw himself out of the car, I was designated to travel in the back seat with my finger on the button of door where he was sitting. I was familiar with rioting, bombing and military raids but this

was something new. The trouble started shortly after we set off on the three-hour drive. Imagining himself to be the Devil, he began to rant about how he could destroy us all, especially the one making it impossible for him to escape. It seems I had a special place in his thoughts as he consigned my soul to hell, and my body to any number of diseases.

His delusions shifted from the satanic to being a prophet of God. Suddenly, he was having apocalyptic visions of death and destruction; again the brunt of such disasters was directed my way. Soon after he was Jesus Christ returned, and his first miracle was to try and kick the windscreen out. Forcing the driver to stop, the others worked to pacify him, and it worked for a while. Throughout it all, I never took my finger off the lock. I could feel his hatred towards me in every rant.

The plan was to separate husband and wife when we reached Dublin. I would take the wife to a safe place while the two others took the husband to the mental hospital. The plan sounded good to me. The sooner I got away from the crazy man, the sooner I could take my aching finger off the button.

When we reached Dublin, my finger was numb. Carefully removing my finger from the lock, the wild man pushed open the door. It seems that the Devil and Jesus were not happy with their confinement. On making his escape, the damnedsaviour delivered his final blow squarely to my chin. Initially stunned, I wanted to crucify or exorcise him myself, but we were peacemakers, and I found myself hopelessly trapped by my own ideology.

While my friends escorted the husband away, I walked the wife in the opposite direction. My jaw was hurt in sympathy with my finger as I marched her down a busy street. Thinking myself safe, I was surprised to hear the sound of car horns behind us. Looking back, I could see the husband walking unaccompanied behind us. With each honk of the horn, he would walk onto the road and bang on the windshield of the offending car.

The wife was slowing me down as she pulled herself towards the demonpossessed messiah. At this point, I was not very patient, and pushed her into the nearest pub. But the crazy man would not be dissuaded. Into the pub he came shouting 'Give me back my

wife!' Out of the corner of my eye I could see the regulars looking at the lot of us and arriving at every number but the right one. The wrong husband, the adulterer and the sinful wife bringing their domestic into the bar must have looked like a right soap opera moment.

The drama only stopped when he heard the sound of sirens. Thinking himself trapped he ran out of the pub. As I was trying to stop the wife from running out after him, one of the bar patrons came up to me and

asked 'Are you from the Shankill (Protestant) or the Falls (Catholic)?

Had I missed something? I'm in Dublin. I've spent over four hours wishing this nightmare were over, and this man wants to know if I'm a Catholic or a Protestant? I wanted to laugh at the absurdity of it all. The Troubles I thought I'd escaped had found me out.

*Terry, originally from Derry, now resides in Chicago and teaches Irish and British Literature at Loyola University, Chicago. terryaboyle@gmail.com.





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