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### **About Our Cover:**

Festivals hottest new star, Ally the Piper, awakens the dormant Carrie Furnaces.

Photo by John O'Brien



# Halloween **Origins Are in** Ireland

iche Shamhna Shona duit!" (ee-ha how-na hun-uh

**17 YEARS** 

Halloween originated in Ireland. These words mean Happy Halloween in Irish. Samhain – pronounced

'sow-in', with the emphasis on the sow, literally means 'summer's end,' while Oíche Shamhna is 'the eve of Samhain.' Learn even more of the legends and the words of Halloween in Bob Carney's Speak Irish Column within.

Casey's is 30

We wish the Happiest of anniversaries to Casey's Irish **Imports,** celebrating their 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at the beginning of this month. October 5th -7th! A

load of great offerings are part of the party, so be sure to stop by Casey's, wish them Congrats and a Thank you or two, too. If you can't make it, they also have a great website to visit, often (www. caseysirishimports.com).

### Al O'Leary Hurling & Camogie

The 7th is also the Annual Al O'Leary Hurling & Camogie Tournament, Hosted by the Akron Celtic Guards, at the Akron Indoor Soccer facility – fear not, all the games are outdoors. This has been a very fun event every year, and the setting is perfect. 73 Rosewood, Akron 44301 is a quick drive from Cleveland. Hope to see you there.

### **Mayo Ball**

details too.

The end of this month features the Annual Mayo Ball, a fixture in the celebration of our roots for so many of Cleveland's immigrant Irish, and a great cause with all of the work they do for so many in Greater Cleveland and abroad. It coincides with the 20th Anniversary of the Twinning of Cleveland and Achill, in Co. Mayo, so there will be loads of celebrations and fun activities all weekend long. I am getting a new knee on the 9th, so I don't know if I will be mobile, but if I can, save the last dance for me.

more within for all craic, and the

Are you where everybody knows your name? See the What's the Craic?, Taking New to the Fields of Glory, and so much

# **Cleveland?** We'd like to help:

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no bub ort) Give me a gift or I'll play

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WHO I KNOW."

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the dance)

John

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### On This day in IRISH HISTORY BY TERRENCE J. KENNEALLY

1 October 1843 - Daniel O'Connell held what would be the last of his "monster meetings", in Mullaghmast Co. Kildare. These were enormous rallies held all over Ireland aimed at the repeal of the Act of Union between Britain and Ireland.

October 1992 - Sinead O'Connor appeared on the NBC television program Saturday Night Live as a musical quest. She tore up a picture of the Pontiff, and tossed pieces on the floor saying, "Fight the real

- 8 October 1871 Catherine O'Leary. an Irish immigrant living in the city of Chicago, was blamed for starting a fire which killed 300 people; 100,000 were left homeless and 10 square kilometers of the city was destroyed.
- 11 October 1988 Rev. lan Paisley, one of the members of the Europea Parliament for Northern Ireland, interrupted Pope John Paul II, as the Pontiff was speaking in the parliament in Strasburg, France.
- 12 October 1975 Oliver Plunkett was officially declared a saint by Pope Paul VI, making him the first Irish person to be canonized since Laurence O'Toole in 1225.
- **18 October 1791-** The inaugural public meeting of the Society of United Irishmen of Belfast, founded days earlier, was held.
- 19 October 1745 Death of Jonathan Swift, author and poet, known for Gulliver's Travels.
- 20 October 1870 Death of composer Michael William Balfe in Dublin. He is best known for his opera The Bohemian Girl.
- 22 October 1641- The start of the Ulster Rebellion when rebel Catholics surprised Protestant settlers, massacring large numbers.
- 24 October 1920 Death of Terrence MacSweeney, revolutionary and Lord Mayor of Cork. His hunger strike in Brexton attracted international
- 25 October 2002- Death of actor. producer, director and singersongwriter Richard Harris.



# Carmilla

nam Stoker's *Dracula* has Dinspired and set the bar for vampire fiction. The Count or thinly veiled versions of him have

8 YEARS 🛕 ilrish

appeared in countless books, stories, films and plays for over one hundred and twentyfive years.

We even have breakfast cereal and a character on Sesame Street based on Stoker's vampire. This year alone, Hollywood has given us Renfield with Nicholas Cage and The Last Voyage of the Demeter, which is based on one chapter from Dracula.

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Patrice Campbell, LNHA

It has certainly been one of my all time favorite books and I can't even count (pun intended) how many movies I've watched and rewatched inspired by the book. How can you not love Bela Lugosi when he says, "To die, to be truly dead, that *must be glorious.*" And then he tells us," There are far worse things awaiting man than death."

Today, Bram Stoker's *Dracula* is recognized as one of the greatest vampire fiction novels of all time. but in 1897, it really didn't create much of a stir. Horror fiction was already established as a literary genre in the Victorian era and vampires were a common topic.

One of the writers that was central to the development of that genre was also an Irishman. Joseph Thomas Sheridan Le Fanu was born on August 28, 1814 on Dominik Street in Dublin. Writing was in the blood of the family, his grandmother and a great uncle were playwrights and his mother was a writer. She had written a biography of Dr. Charles Orpen, who had founded the Claremont Institution for the Deaf and Dumb in Dublin in

Joseph's father was a clergyman for the Church of Ireland and the family moved accordingly when he was appointed to new rectorships. Joseph used his father's library to further his education and by the time he was fifteen he was writing

By the time he started at Trinity College Dublin to study law, he was going by Sheridan Le Fanu. He was a brilliant student and was called to the bar in 1839, but never practiced. Instead he put all of his focus into journalism. He had begun contributing stories the year before to Dublin University Magazine, including his first ghost story, *The* Ghost and the Bone Setter.

Sheridan worked in many genres in his lifetime, but is best known for his horror tales. One of the best known works is the story of Carmilla, written in 1872, twentysix years prior to the publication of Stoker's Dracula.

Carmilla is from an old, aristocratic family, she is young and beautiful and also just happens to be a vampire. She preys on vulnerable young women to whom she is sexually attracted. The story starts with Carmilla being welcomed into the family home of Laura, after a staged carriage accident. An uncomfortable romance of a sort develops between the two, while a mysterious illness descends upon some of the townspeople, resulting in their death.

When Laura becomes afflicted, her father begins to regret his decision to allow Carmilla into their home. Before he can vocalize his fears, an old family friend, General Spielsdorf, shows up and relates his story of a bizzare relationship between his late niece and a beautiful young woman named Millarca.

Carmilla flees before she can own experiences and the General's niece. General Spielsdorf has made Carmilla.

era, some scholars speculate that Carmilla's open vampiric lesbianism was a statement portraying female sexuality as a dangerous and evil thing. I don't know that I agree with that, after all Laura didn't totally reject Carmilla's advances and even welcomed them in the beginning.

I hate to admit when "she who must be obeyed" (my darling wife) is right, but last year, upon returning from a trip to hear Dacre Stoker speak about his great-uncle and the novel *Dracula*. and spending the evening with him afterwards talking all things Dracula, I was swept up in all the literary nuances of the book. My wife and I were driving somewhere and I rattled on about the book and the weekend. It had been right up my alley! Anyway, at some point I said, "Dracula is one of those great stories you can just read and enjoy

Mary cut me off saying " or you can analyze the crap out of it."

I think with Sheridan Le Fanu's classic vampire story Carmilla, that is the best way to enjoy it. I

originally read this book many years ago and wanted to refresh my memory for this column. This time I listened to a fantastic enacted version on Audible, it brought a deeper understanding of the characters and I thoroughly enjoyed it.

So grab a cup, turn down the lights, cozy up to the fire and meet Carmilla.

Bob Carney is a student of Irish history and language and teaches the Speak Irish Cleveland class every Tuesday at PJ McIntyre's. He is also active in the Irish Wolfhound an Irish dogs organizations in and around Cleveland. Wife Mary, hounds Rían, Aisling and Draoi and terrier Doolin keep the house jumping. He can be reached at carneyspeakirish@gmail.com

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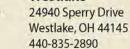




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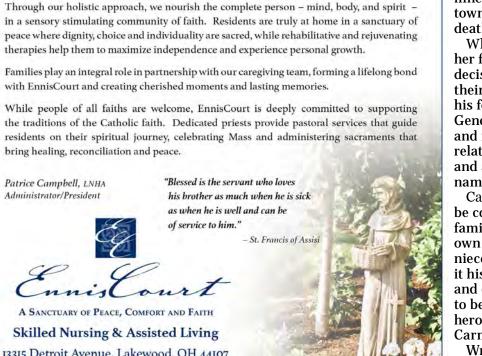
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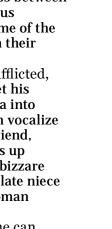
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be confronted and Laura and her family see the parallels in their it his life's mission to track down and destroy the woman he knows to be a vampire. Leading our heroes to pursue and catch up to

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his brother as much when he is sick



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# Rosanne "Rosie" Hackett

"It took four hundred policemen to take down four women."

Often you run into characters from Irish history that make you wonder, "Why don't we

know more about this person?" Rosanna "Rosie" Hackett is one **16 YEARS** of those characters. She dedicated her life to improving pay and working conditions for

**October** 

6-Nathan Henry

14- Greg Crowe

21-8mug8aints

27- The Music Men

28- The Other Brothers

29 - Sully's 12th Annual Wake

w/ The New Barleycorn 1-4pm.

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7- The Island Doctor

13- Gabrielle Haddad

20- Crawley and Sofranko

Irish women.



Rosanna "Rosie" Hackett was born in the Dublin inner city on July 25, 1893, to Joseph Hackett and his wife Rosanna Mary Dunne. Rosie's father, who was a barber by trade, died September 19, 1895 when Rosie was only two years old.

In 1901, Rosie was living in a tworoom tenement at 27 Bolton Street with her mother, her two uncles, her aunt, her younger sister Christina,

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worked as a housekeeper, was the principal earner of their household. From an early age Rosie was involved in the trade-union

movement, and was one of the first members of the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union (ITGWU), founded by James Larkin in January 1909. As a teenager she worked as a packer in a paper store. In 1911, she moved to a job as a messenger at Jacob's Biscuit factory on Bishop Street.

and a male lodger. Her mother, who

In 1911, the men at Jacob's bakehouse went on strike, and Rosie was one of the main organizers of the women's sympathy strike on August 22, 1911. Jacob's was the principal employer of women in Dublin at the time. Över 3,000 female employees went on strike. With the women's help, the men secured better working conditions and a pay raise.

On September 5, 1911, Rosie, at the age of 18, co-founded the Irish Women Workers Union (IWWU) along with Delia Larkin, sister of James Larkin. Among those who spoke at the first meeting were James Larkin, Hannah Sheehy-Skeffington, and Constance Markievicz. From its outset the IWWU was linked to the ITGWU.

Over the next two years, Rosie Hackett became a leading member of the IWWU, which played an important role in the fight for the rights of women workers. On May 1, 1913, she, along with other representatives from the IWWU, marched in Dublin for the first time. Rosie was also among the



crowd that gathered on Sackville Street (now O'Connell Street) to hear James Larkin speak on Bloody Sunday (August 30, 1913), during which the crowd was charged by the Dublin Metropolitan Police, and two people were killed and over 300 were injured.

### 1913 Dublin Lockout

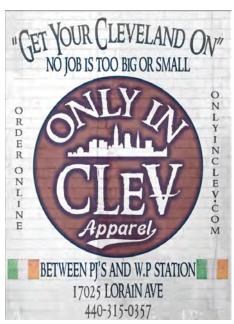
During the Lockout, Rosie helped mobilize the Jacob's workers to strike in solidarity with other workers. The striking workers were locked out by their employers.

This did not stop Rosie's work to help others, and she along with several of her IWWU colleagues set up soup kitchens in Liberty Hall (the headquarters of the ITGWU), to help feed the strikers and their families. In 1914 she was fired by Jacob's due to her role in the Dublin Lockout.

Rosie began work as a clerk in the print shop in Liberty Hall, and it was here she became involved with the Irish Citizen Army (ICA). a military unit founded to protect strikers from police violence. Rosie was also involved in preparations for the 1916 Rising helping with printing and making first-aid kits and knap-sacks. The preparations in which Rosie was involved were first-aid training given by Dr Kathleen Lynn and night-time route marches.

### **Proclamation of the Irish Republic**

Through her experience of working in the Liberty Hall print shop, she was the only woman who helped print the



october 2023

Proclamation of the Irish Republic. She subsequently told family members of handing the still wet proclamation to James Connolly before it was read by Patrick Pearse outside of the General Post Office on Easter Monday.

At 8 o'clock on Easter Monday morning (April 24, 1916), Rosie was sent for by Dr Kathleen Lynn to report to Liberty Hall. She was given a white coat and dispatched as a nurse to the Citizen Army garrison stationed at St Stephen's Green under Michael Mallin and Constance Markievcz. They came under heavy fire and moved to occupy the Royal College of Surgeons, where Rosie continued her first-aid work.

Another first-aider, Nora O'Daily, later reported that during those days: "I have a very kind remembrance of Little Rosie Hackett of the Citizen Army, always cheerful and always willing. To see her face about the place was a tonic itself."

After the surrender of the St. Stephen's Green garrison Rosie and the others were arrested and marched to Dublin Castle. At the castle, the women were separated from the men, and first brought to Richmond barracks.

Later that evening they were moved to Kilmainham jail. Rosie Hackett spent ten days in Kilmainham, after which she was

In 1917, on the anniversary of James Connolly's execution, the ITGWU decided that to commemorate it they would hang a banner from Liberty Hall that read, "James Connolly, Murdered May 12th, 1916." According to Rosie, the sign was only up for about and hour before the police took it down.

Rosie, along with Helena Molony, Jennie Shanahan and Brigid Davis, decided it was important that everyone knew it was the anniversary of Conolly's execution. was honored with a full military The group printed out another banner, climbed to the roof of Liberty Hall. They nailed the access doors shut and placed coal against the door and proceeded to hang the new banner across the top of the building.

Rosie said the police mobilized from everywhere, but it took them hours to get in. The poster

remained in position until six o'clock that evening.

Rosie Hackett also has the

hundred policemen to take down

was worth it, to see all the trouble

the police had in getting it down."

After the signing of the Anglo-

activities and helped re-establish

the Irish Women Workers' Union.

which at its height in the 1940s

1970, she received a gold medal

in recognition of her 60 years of

Rosie never married and lived in

Fairview with her brother Tommy

until her death on July 4, 1976 at

the age of 83. At her funeral, she

salute and her coffin was covered

in Glasnevin Cemetery next to

her mother Roseanna and her

with the Irish flag. She was buried

service to the Irish trade union

movement.

stepfather.

organized 70,000 women. In

Irish Treaty in 1921, Rosie

continued her trade union

four women. I always felt that it

Rosie later bragged, "It took four distinction of being the first woman to have a Dublin bridge named after her, in recognition of her lifetime's work in the trade union movement. The Rosie Hackett Bridge in Dublin opened on May 20, 2014. It spans the river Liffey, joining Marlborough Street to Hawkins Street. •

> 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 past 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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Sessiúns: See What's the Craic for a new, updated list!

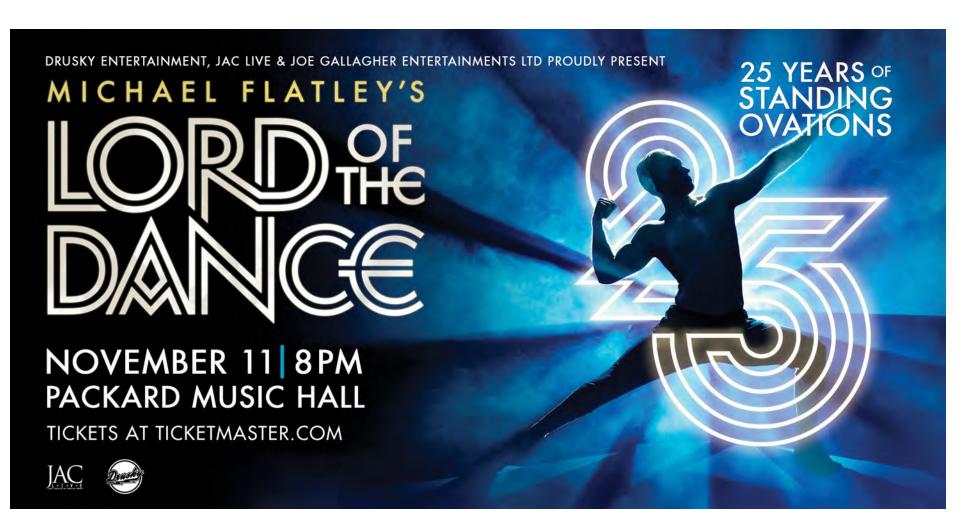
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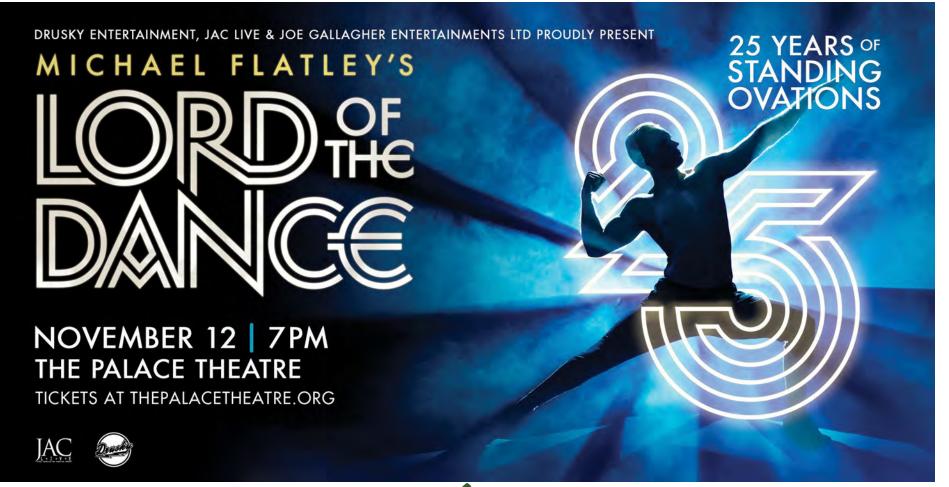
- 11th Special Tribute Mass and Dinner for Marilyn Madigan @WSIA
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# "I'm Looking for an Irish Husband"

### By **Sheila Ives**

No, dear reader of *iIrish*, I am not the one looking for a husband. Irish or otherwise. That would be a "Kitty Carey straight from Tipperary," who is the subject of this song I discovered while doing research on the wonderful website of the Library of Congress.

The song is from the 1913 Broadway musical, The Marriage *Market*, featuring the music of the legendary composer Jerome Kern, with lyrics by M.E. Rourke. I grew up listening to the music of Tin Pan Alley and early Broadway, so I am familiar with the music of Jerome Kern, the composer of over 700 songs, including such classics as, "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes," and "All the Things You Are."

However, I was unfamiliar with the lyricist, M.E. Rourke. Curious about his story, I abandoned the research I had been doing, and it was a bestseller and classic work. It was down the rabbit hole I went in search a song that would help catapult the of Mr. Rourke.

Michael Elder Rourke (1867-1933)

was born in Manchester, England, to Irish immigrant parents William Rourke and Mary Reynolds. He attended a monastery school for several years and then started his career as a news agent and playwright in London.

In 1903 he moved to New York City. There he began collaborating with the entertainer Al Jolson, author and playwright P.G. Wodehouse, and performers Frank Tinney and Fanny Brice.

Rourke wrote lyrics for several songs composed by Jerome Kern, and both partnered with other musical artists. During his long career, Michael Elder Rourke wrote lyrics for over 100 songs. In 1913 he started using the pen name Herbert Reynolds.

Although many of these songs have been forgotten, one, which he wrote with Kern, went on to become career of Kern.

Reynolds) were asked to contribute songs for the musical comedy *The* Girl from Utah. Their song, They Didn't Believe Me, was a game changer and impacted popular music for decades to come.

Instead of using the traditional waltz rhythm that was common in musicals, Kern chose to use a 4/4-time signature and syncopated rhythms. Reynolds abandoned the usual flowery sentimental words that had characterized musical comedy and wrote lyrics that were more conversational in style.

They Didn't Believe Me became a #1 hit in 1915 for Harry MacDonough and Olive Kline. The song has since been recorded by Bing Crosby, Frank Sinatra, Harry Belafonte, Tony Bennett, Judy Garland, Barbra Streisand, and Elvis Costello.

The star performer in both *The* Marriage Market and The Girl from Utah was another Irish American, Donald Brian. Donald Francis Brian (1877-1948), the grandson of Irish In 1914, Kern and Rourke (Herbert immigrants, was born in St. John's,

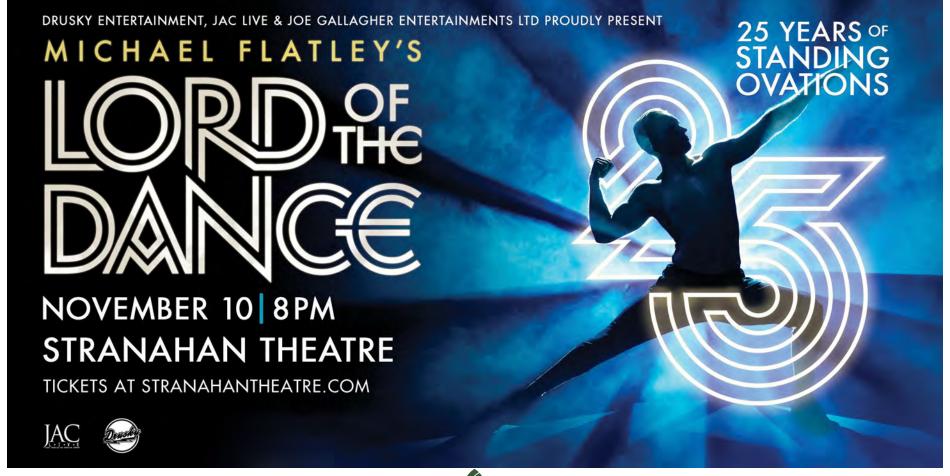
Newfoundland.

### **Herbert O'Sullivan**

From an early age he showed musical talent. As a young boy, he was singled out to perform in the church choir. The choir director, Herbert O'Sullivan, was a voice teacher and offered to give him vocal lessons for free. Brian also took tap dancing lessons with Dennis Ryan, who ran a local dance academy.

Brian's singing and dancing abilities made him a versatile entertainer. He began performing throughout St. John's with an amateur company, earning a sixpence or shilling per performance. As Brian stated in 1943, "There were no films, not even radio at that time. Live concerts were the only form of entertainment and people with nothing else to do packed the church halls and community halls every night of the week. I must have sung and danced to every Irish ballad ever written."

Continued on page 10



We've always been green october 2023 october 2023 www.ilrish.us

### Irish Husband

Continued from page 9

### **George Cohan**

Brian's father died in 1886, and his mother, seeking more financial security, decided to move to Boston, Massachusetts in 1893. She had been offered a job managing a clothing plant there.

Donald was reluctant to go but was convinced by Ryan that he would have more job opportunities as a performer there. He then had a fateful encounter with the great, multi-talented and influential artist, Irish American George M. Cohan (1878-1942), known for such classic songs as "Over There," "Yankee Doodle Boy," and "Give My Regards to Broadway."

Cohan was born in 1878 in Providence, Rhode Island, the only son of Jeremiah "Jere or Jerry" Cohan and Helen "Nellie" Costigan. George's paternal grandparents were Michael Keohane and Jane Scott, who were from Bantry, County Cork. When Michael Keohane immigrated to the United States in 1841, he changed the spelling of his last name

to Cohan.

Cohan's parents were involved in vaudeville, and when their two children, son George and daughter Josephine "Josie," were old enough, they began performing with their parents in their traveling vaudeville act, known as "The Four Cohans." In Cohan's obituary, November 6, 1942, in The New York Times, his closest friend, Gene Buck, former president of ASCAP, called him, "the greatest single figure the American theatre ever produced - as a player, playwright, actor, composer and producer."

Cohan recalled in his first autobiographical work that he spotted Brian dancing on the sidewalk near the shop he managed. Recognizing the young man's talent, he immediately offered him a job performing with "The Four Cohans."

Two nights later, Brian gave his first professional performance, in a Boston theater. He then toured with "The Four Cohans" for 47 weeks, making \$10.00 a week. Near the theater in St. Louis where they would be performing, young Brian saw a large billboard that foretold his future. It read: "And introducing

Broadway's next star, tap-dancer supreme, Donald Brian."

Over the course of his career, he had leading roles in over 20 Broadway musicals. He gave his last live performance in 1943, in a touring production of the musical *Abie's Irish Rose.* He died in 1948 in Great Neck, New York.

Brian was recognized as an exceptional dancer. At least some of the credit goes to his dance teacher in Newfoundland, Dennis Ryan, and to an old Scotsman named Peter McKeon, who taught him how to clog on stove lids and to dance a jig by practicing on blocks of wood.

After Brian's death, he received words of high praise about his dancing from Fred Astaire, who stated, "Donald Brian was undoubtedly the most graceful and elegant dancer ever to appear on the Broadway stage." Famed Russian ballet dancer Rudolph Nureyev, who had seen a short film of Brian dancing, proclaimed, "In my entire career, I have never seen a dancer so skilled."

### **Appearing in Cleveland**

Both Cohan and Brian appeared in Cleveland theaters during their careers, as they toured the country in traveling theater productions. As noted in a 1906 *Plain Dealer* article, "Mr. Cohan has long been a favorite in Cleveland. He won popularity when he presented his comedy skits at the Star Theater, and he accumulated local favor by his appearances at the Lyceum and more frequently at the Opera House."

Brian's first appearance in Cleveland was in 1914, in *The Marriage Market* at the Opera House. In 1925 he appeared at the Ohio Theater in the musical comedy *No. No. Nanette.* 

When large numbers of Irish immigrants began arriving in the United States during the 19th century, they were often scorned and depicted negatively. The discrimination they faced was highlighted in the song "No Irish Need Apply." In the 1880s, Irish Americans Edward "Ned" Harrigan and Tony Hart developed their own musical skits and comedies about the Irish in New York. During the early part of the 20th century, artists such as Michael Rourke, Donald Brian, and George M. Cohan, made important contributions to the performing arts and helped develop a more positive image for Irish Americans.

The legacy of these artists, and countless other Irish American men and women who worked in the spotlight and behind the scenes, endures. In the 21st century, Americans of Irish descent continue to enrich the entertainment industry with their creativity, talent, and passion.

As I listened to some of the early recordings of the songs whose lyrics were written by Rourke, I was transported back to the small apartment where I grew up. My father owned a collection of 78 rpm records; I can still hear the needle hitting the shellac disc and the crackle and pops coming from the record. My father would often sing along to the words in his rich baritone voice. It is a memory I cherish. •

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Maureen Gregory catching up on iIrish newsmagazine in Westport, County Mayo while traveling with the Murphy Irish Art Center's 45th Anniversary trip to Ireland Northern Ireland and Scotland.







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### Student Stories: The Lady of the Dance

By **Shauna Meehan** 

Nearly 15 years ago, I was offered a spot in an Irish Dancing class. My mother accepted it, not knowing what we

it, not knowing what we were getting ourselves into. Despite her hailing from Galway and my father from Armagh, they had no knowledge of

the world we were about to enter; one of glitz, glam, excitement, & ups and downs that have become





### Shauna Meeha

irreplaceable moments in our lives. In 2009 I went to my first Irish Dancing class because my parents felt obligated to sign me up in order to keep me "connected to my roots." I don't think they expected me to continue dancing for long, but 15 years later I'm now writing an article about my journey, so it is safe to say I stuck with it.

Like all dancers, I began with a simple point and point to a reel, that I could eventually compete at the local 'feis.' That reel eventually became light jig and slip jig, which caused us to buy my first pair of hard shoes.

Suddenly, I knew hornpipes, heavy jigs, and all the traditional set dances; and was competing at the New England Oireachtas in solo and team dancing. Since that simple day in 2009, not a day has gone by that I haven't thought about Irish dancing; it has never been a part of my identity because it is my identity.

It has solidified my connection to my Irish heritage in a way nothing else could have done, because no matter where I go, it always follows. I have ventured from the mountains of Vancouver to the Waterfront in Belfast, the bayous of New Orleans, and the streets of Central London all because of this amazing sport; and it makes me nothing but grateful to be a part of the Irish community.

Currently and while growing up, my parents, sister, and I take frequent trips home to see our family. Despite being back so often, growing up in America does leave a question as to what I see myself as: Irish or American? I have two Irish parents, so genetically I am Irish. But I grew up in America, so does that make me American?

There has always been a grey area that has never had a clear answer. To most Irish people, I am American, but to most American people I am Irish, so what am I?

My family at home could be whatever they want to be and still be Irish at their roots, but living and growing up in America has always left a gap in my heritage. I believe that Irish Dancing is what fills this gap for me.

Just as a footballer plays for his county or a musician plays the fiddle, it is not just a hobby or a sport because it is so deeply rooted in Irish culture that it becomes a lifestyle, and a part of one's identity. Even now, as I live in my quaint Pittsburgh apartment, nine hours from my home in Boston, I feel just as sure about my identity as I ever have, because Pittsburgh and its university is a place where Irish culture is heavily ingrained.

I researched Pittsburgh during my college search because it was the first city my father came to in the states, and I got more than lucky with what I found. I believe that it is fate I came to Pittsburgh because I cannot see myself so comfortable in any other city: I joined the Irish dance club to feel at home and now I have been elected president, I took Irish culture and traditions to learn more about my culture and I know I will never take a better class. Although it's not home where I have my family, dancing, and my Irish community Pittsburgh has become a place where I am more than comfortable to feel like my full self.

Practice, Practice
Like all things, you can only

be good at Irish Dancing if you practice, which took me a while to figure out. I would attend local Feiseanna and never place how I wanted to and would ask my parents why I wasn't doing well. They would respond, "well maybe if you practiced..." and I said, "no that can't be it."

Eventually I caught on and hit my stride when I qualified for my first world championships in 2019, and from there Irish dancing has been a well-oiled routine in my day. Even more so during the pandemic, dancing has been a daily task of mine that will always be contributed to by either actual dance practice, sessions at the gym, or physical therapy.

Everything I do that is extra in my life that is not dancing, is for dancing, because it is necessary for all competitors keep up with one another. For me, living in Pittsburgh, this routine has changed and evolved with my move to keep up with what is expected of me by my teachers at home. Despite the great lengths of effort it takes, it is what makes me feel the most at home in a city that is so far from where I grew up; the hard work is always worth the outcome.

This past April, I competed two 8-hands at the World Championships in Montreal with all our preparation being done separately, because I live in a different city. The regiment of practicing a team of 8 alone, was certainly not an easy task, and one that I will never forget doing; it was a task done purely out of pleasure and free will, and ended in a world championship title for one team and a second place in the other.

I feel so proud to hold these titles with my teammates. But I feel even more lucky that I have had the opportunity to keep dancing for so long. I am more than happy to say that I'm still dancing, with no intent to stop!

Shauna Meehan, Psychology and Sports Studies at the University of Pittsburgh. Class of 2025. ●

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# That Summer in Dublin

"I remember that summer in Dublin..."

Think I will remember this summer a little different than the group Bagatelle, who released the song "Summer in Dublin" in 2018. The Liffey did not stink, rather it glistened in the evening twilight, and I did not receive any advice from drunken passengers on the public transportation.

Yet, their refrain has been stuck in my head since I returned from Ireland last month. Among many memories will be my college days at Trinity, both of them. What a unique experience.

During the crowded tourist season Trinity College rents out their dormitories to travelers for half of what you might pay for a hotel, and you are close to Temple Bar and many other tourist attractions within a mile's walk. I spent two nights in a brand-new living space with a double bed and modern fixtures in the bathroom. I do not recall my Ohio State dormitory being half as nice.

I will also remember visiting "The Door of Reconciliation." I wrote about it in my April column. I must have been overwhelmed by all the history in Dublin. It did not even dawn on me as I pointed out our proximity to St. Patrick's Cathedral that I was actually going to come face to face with THE door. As we crossed the street to the cathedral and its adjacent courtyard, my friend pointed out that this was where the door resided.

I immediately became like a young boy about to meet his sports idol. Yes, of course I "chanced my arm" and put my hand through the door. Even though my friend and I were



not at odds, he obliged me and shook hands for a picture.

It is amazing the treasures great and small that you will find waiting around the next corner. A short Google search and a few map directions later, we were in a Lidl grocery store. I thought it was to get his son some sustenance after walking all morning. No, it was to see Viking ruins buried beneath the store's floor.

A thick acrylic flooring covered a pit where 11<sup>th</sup> century Norse ruins were found. This was believed to be a basement of a house. It consisted of local limestone and wooden planks just feet below the eggs and vegetable on the store shelves.

These were just the Dublin treasures. I have many more memories which will undoubtedly show up in the future, include the relics of St. Valentine. Yes, the guy who spawned a greeting card industry. That story and many more, including a stop "down at the pub" in Cong, will have to wait. (Over there, they pronounce it Co-han's).

### A More Troubled History

Judge Michael Mentel, who actually did attend Trinity College for a semester of legal studies, has authored a book researched from declassified documents related to the 1981 Hunger Strikes. Judge Mentel will be discussing his book on November 9 at the Shamrock Club in Columbus. See michaelcmentel.com

for all the details and to order your copy of the book.

The book tells the story of the protest by ten men in H-Block of Long Kesh prison, who, as political prisoners, were denied basic human rights by the British government. Mentel also examines decisions made by the British leaders which caused the hunger strike, and their failed attempts to end the protests.

Having watched the recent PBS series, *Once Upon a Time in Northern Ireland,* I look forward to hearing what went on behind the scenes during this time.

### **Around the City**

Byrne's Pub will be hosting their annual golf fundraiser on 10/8/2023. Proceeds benefit Crohn's & Colitis Research. For more information, go to Byrne's Pub Facebook page.

The Greater Columbus Irish Cultural Foundation will host their Fall Road Bowling Classic on 10/28/2023 at Deer Creek State Park. The event features teams of four bowlers competing to reach the end of a mile and a half course in the fewest number of bowls. If you have not seen Irish Road Bowling, look it up on YouTube and join us. You will not be sorry.

The Shamrock Club hosted their annual Halfway to St. Patrick's Day event on 9/16/2023, featuring Columbus' own Drowsy Lads. If there is a finer group out there right now, you would be hard pressed to find them. The Drowsy Lads got their start at the Shamrock Club over 15 years ago and are now a top act at many festivals across the Midwest. Check them out at <a href="https://www.thedrowsylads.com">www.thedrowsylads.com</a>.

After a successful summer of cornhole and horse leagues outdoors, Shamrock Club activities will move indoors with Men's, Women's, and Co-Ed dart leagues. Stop down at the pub. Teams are often looking for players to fill in.

\*Andrew is a transplant to Columbus after graduating from The Ohio State University with a Major in History and Minor in Political Science and Folklore. He is a past president of the Shamrock Club and a lover of a good story and a pint. You can contact him at drushu@aol.

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# **Naked & Afraid:** The Armada **Edition**

Tt seems unnecessary to state Lthat a person wandering alone naked was also afraid. The terms seem synonymous unless you happen to be Madonna.

Yet reading the sixteenth century letter written by Captain Francisco de Cuellar in 1591, those two words combine with cold and starving to tell an Irish survivor story that is horrifying. How did a Spanish Armada captain find himself in Ireland and in this kind of trouble?

These questions arose from a recent trip to Sligo. My brother-inlaw, in his capacity as tour guide extraordinaire, took us to Streedagh Beach in Grange. The beach is on a peculiar little isthmus, with views of the green, flat-topped Benbulben to one side and the hills of Donegal on the other, with teal water and white beach in between. Just beautiful.

Down the beach, a white flag with a red cross fluttered in the breeze. It sits in the middle of a facsimile of a ship prow and is a memorial to an Armada shipwreck.

The coastline was far from beautiful on the evening of September 25, 1588. That evening, three damaged ships, fresh from battle, found themselves floundering off the Sligo coast. They were in retreat from a skirmish with Queen Elizabeth's English Navy. The Armada had attempted a surprise attack on the English Navy, ending up the worse for their

The English blocked the channel, so the only retreat for the Spanish, despite difficulty and length, was for the ships to go up around the northern tip of Scotland and then down along the western edge of Ireland, hoping to make it into the open Atlantic and back to Spain.

That September evening, the ships met with bad weather and the tricky water off the Sligo coast. A thousand sailors drowned in the water. How sailors would sail and not be able to swim or be silly enough to try to with gold doubloons stitched into their clothes is nothing short of amazing.

### **Escaping the English**

The few who made it to shore quickly found out that they were far from safe. They were met by English soldiers intent on murdering them on the spot. The soldiers were embedded thanks to the already active English gentry presence in Ireland. The soldiers did not manage to slay every sailor who crawled ashore.

According to the letter writing survivor, Captain Francisco de Cuellar, those that lived were next set upon by savages. Yes, he was calling the Irish people savages. He continued that perception for the seven months that he travelled around Ireland, wait for it, naked and afraid.

Captain de Cuellar seemed to encounter more mild brutality



**Roger Williams** rwilliams@vineyardmediation.com

Cases resolved with

than kindness in his wander around Ireland. He blundered around, randomly struck and stripped of everything he owned or accumulated. He was wounded and hiding from the English who were still looking for survivors.

He never mentions that anything has any beauty to him but for a few women. Maybe that was a thing then. He continues, hiding from almost everyone, barely clinging to life, until he meets a friendly old woman, who instructs him to go over the hills and find O'Rourke. O'Rourke was no friend of the English and would certainly help

How could I resist this? History seduces us by offering a brave and flattering version of our ancestors, letting us reflect that glow. I had to know this story, especially since some old dots were connecting, but more about that later.

Indeed, de Cuellar followed that advice and a trail marked "de Cuellar Way" is visible from the road and marks the presumed walk he took between Sligo and Leitrim. The walk winds through the hills around beautiful Glencar Falls and the side of Benbulben. From there, de Cuellar arrived in what was then Breifne, clan homeland of the O'Rourke chieftains.

### **Irish Hospitality**

And it is there that de Cuellar is finally given the hospitality that the Irish reputation promises. He is given some blankets and rough clothing. He is fed, although the food; chiefly butter, oaty bread and milk (some things never change), was not to his taste.

Most importantly to him, he also met other Spanish sailors who had been sheltered by the Chieftain, Brian O'Rourke. I suddenly knew how this story ended for Brian.

Several dozen years ago, an O'Rourke auntie and nun was transferred to London for a few years. Being the family historian, her curiosity led her to the Tower of London. She found herself standing in front of the Tower warden Beefeater asking if she could research her ancestor, Brian O'Rourke, known as Brian of the Ramparts.

She knew that he had been a prisoner in the Tower. She also knew that he was hung, drawn, and guartered in London of 1591, a nasty death. His crime was treason.

Was it treason to give shelter to human beings whose existence depended on finding some bit of kindness? Yes, it was if you know anything at all about Queen Lizzie. She took no prisoners, as the saying

Well, at least I had the comfort of knowing that our ancestor, Brian, was brave and kind. I had that comfort for a day or two. Curiosity led me to research the O'Rourke chieftains of that era.

Apparently "Game of Thrones" style morality was the way to hold power at that time. No one person or family had any worries about killing pesky relations that threatened them. It was the cost of leadership.

It had stuck with me that Auntie Maureen, in talking about her research, commented over and over again after her visits, how kind the English soldiers at the Tower always were to her. After all, on some level, she was a symbol of O'Rourke and his clan and, alternatively, they were a symbol of a long dead queen. Instead, they all chose to live in the moment, realizing the puzzle of the past was far beyond them.

Even the history written by de Cuellar may have been skewed to illustrate a penance paid for abandoning the fight and retreating from the English Channel. Our eyes cannot see that far behind us, but they can navigate a road ahead. •

Lisa O'Rourke is an educator from Akron. She has a BA in English and a Master's in Reading/ Elementary Education. Lisa is a student of everything Irish, primarily Gaeilge. She runs a Gaeilge study group through the AOH/Mark Heffernan Division, and is married to Dónal and has two sons, Danny and Liam. Lisa enjoys art, reading, music, and travel. She likes spending time with her dog, cats and fish. Lisa can be contacted at olisao7@icloud.com.

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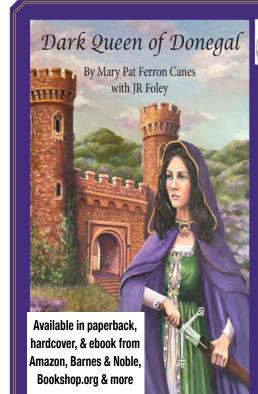


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14 We've always been green





# A Witches' Brew Awaits in Salem, Mass.

Break out the pumpkin spice and don your favorite political costume. It's that time of year again.

And don't worry about the calories. Those choco-bars are funsized! They're specifically designed to be scarfed down by the dozen.

As most of you know, Halloween had its origins with the Celts, and in particular, the celebration of Samhain (pron. sow when), the winter solstice, when the harvest was over and the long, hard days of winter were coming. It was believed to be a time when the portals to the other world were open, and spirits could pass more freely between worlds.

### The Witch Trials

However, you might not have had the pleasure of visiting the epicenter of ghosts and ghouls in America, probably the scariest, tackiest, and yet most wonderful of all American Halloween destinations—Salem, Massachusetts. Believe me, the tourist industry aside, it's the real deal.

Salem is famous first and foremost for the Witch Trials, which took place in 1692-93. More than 200 people were accused of being witches and warlocks and thirty were found guilty. To quote the band Rush, from their song *Witch Hunt*, "The righteous rise with burning eyes of hatred and ill-will. Madmen fed on fear and lies to beat and burn and kill."

The first victim was Bridget Bishop a sixty-year-old woman, who ran two taverns with her third husband Edward. She enjoyed wearing exotic clothes in bright colors. She was accused of bewitching five young



There was a Custom House in Salem since 1649, where taxes were paid on imported goods, first for the British Government, but after 1789 for the newly formed American Government. This iteration was constructed in 1819.

women

Bishop was hanged on June 10, 1692. She was the first of nineteen hanged that year, fourteen females and five males.

A man named Giles Corey was pressed to death on Sept. 19, 1692. He endured three days of pressing for refusing to plead guilty or not guilty. Pressing was a technique the courts used to "encourage" cooperation, where more and more weight would be piled onto the victim, who was laid on the ground.

Having not pleaded and not being found guilty, Corey was able to pass on his land and wealth to his offspring. Otherwise, it would have become the government's.

Scholars have argued that the gruesome way in which Corey died helped to turn the tide against the Witch Trials in public opinion. Elizabeth Johnson Junior, who was accused, but never executed, was the last of the 200 accused to be exonerated. That was due to the efforts of an eighth grade teacher and her class from North Andover,

Mass.... in 2022.

Today, there is a memorial in Salem to the nineteen who were hanged, as well as Corey, who was pressed to death. However, there were an additional five who died in prison, likely due to torture or maltreatment. Included in those was Mercy Good, born in prison to Sarah Good, who was hanged.

Yes. She was born to an accused witch in prison and died in prison after her mother was hanged. The concept is wholly unfathomable.

In 2009, a couple purchased a home overlooking a wooded ledge in Salem. They were perplexed when visitors stopped by to photograph an empty lot on the property, tucked between houses and overlooking a Walgreens. It turns out, that site was where witches were hanged and their bodies summarily dumped into a low spot beneath the ledge, known as the "crevice."

Townsfolk in 1692 could hear relatives of the victims crying at night and carrying away the bodies of their loved ones, to be buried elsewhere.

Through a community grant and donations from descendants of the Witch Trial victims, a memorial was erected on the site.

### **House of Seven Gables**

Aside from the Witch Trials, Salem boasts one of the country's most famous residences, the House of Seven Gables, associated through Nathaniel Hawthorne's novel of the same name with the supernatural and witchcraft. Some of Hawthorne's ancestors played a part in the Witch Trials.

Originally built in 1668, the house still stands, but has been through a couple of major changes, the last of which, in 1908, restored its perceived original appearance. It is now part of a museum complex, including Nathaniel Hawthorne's birthplace and several other period buildings.

### **Around Salem**

Depending on when you venture to Salem, the crowds will vary.
Obviously, a trip in the latter days of October is going to be different from a week in May. Likewise, the cost of

Wilmott Redd was hanged on Sept. 22, 1692, as part of the Salem Witch Trials, along with six other women and one man. It was the single most prolific execution day of the trials. Today, there is a memorial to the victims of the Salem Witch Trials, each with a plot like this one for Wilmott Redd. Five others died in prison through maltreatment or torture, including Mercy Good, who was born in prison to an accused witch, and died there.

accommodations will rise during the witching season. Plan accordingly.

The town of Salem is located north of Boston and is built around the supernatural. There are all manner of psychics and witch museums, knickknack shops and historical buildings. It is also a seaport, so anyone wanting to catch a view of the Atlantic Ocean won't be disappointed.

I'd recommend taking in the Witch Trial Memorial and the adjoining graveyard. It's noteworthy that none of the victims are buried in the graveyard, although you'll find judges who sentenced the poor souls to death. After having been found guilty of witchcraft, the victims were not allowed to be buried in Christian burial sites. Nobody really knows

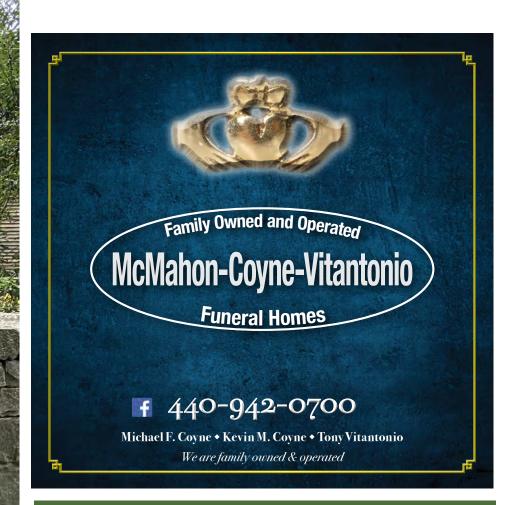
where they are buried.

If you'd like to continue on the road to introspection, the memorial located at the site of the hangings will fit the bill. ●

Conor Makem spent 22 years traveling and honing petty gripes as an Irish musician, and enjoyed a further 13 years of people not returning his calls as a journalist. He is fluent in English, American and old Kerry farmer. More of his photos are on Instagram under cb.makem. Visit cbmakem.com or email contact@cbmakem.com.

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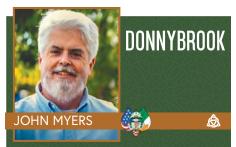
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# **Sinn Fein Leading Polls**

ecent polling by Ireland Thinks Kfor the Sunday Independent shows Sinn Fein, Ireland's oldest political party, with a significant



Irish Parliament, the Dail Eireann. Ireland has not had a one-party majority government in decades, coalition governments have been the norm in recent years.

Currently the two historic parties are in coalition government. New elections are expected in 2024. The Ireland Thinks poll shows Sinn Fein winning 67 Dail seats, Fine Gael winning 40 seats, Fianna Fail at 35 seats, Independent Party 10 seats, Social Dem party nine seats, Labour Party three seats, and five seats to various smaller parties or independents.

While still only a poll, it is evidence of a seismic breakthrough for Sinn Fein to be seen as electable and in a position to lead and govern the Nation. The Dail was recently expanded to 174 seats from 160 seats, and new districts were drawn up giving Sinn Fein additional opportunities. The new magic number will be 87 seats to form a government.

This means the horse jockeying will be who will be Sinn Fein's dancing partner to form a coalition government. Politically, Fine Gael seems a very unlikely partner, and the smaller parties would be a real challenge to knit all their differences under one banner, so that leaves Fianna Fail as the likely suspect.

A joint Sinn Fein and Fianna Fail coalition government would



**Cuvahoga County Executive Chris Ronavne and Mayo County Cathao**irleach Michael Loftus at dedication of 20th Anniversary Bench on Achills Greenway along the Wild Atlantic Way.

give a very comfortable majority of 107 seats. If one had told the man or woman on the street a decade ago that the political elite would be talking of a Sinn Fein led government they would have thought you daft. While the election is still to be had and the only poll that matters is on election day, it is a remarkable turn of events to see Sinn Fein as the leader of the pack.

### Ahern in US

Former Taoiseach Bertie Ahern will travel to Ohio to receive the Ancient Order of Hibernians Sean MacBride Humanitarian Award. Ahern will travel to Youngstown to receive this award at the AOH Presidential **Testimonial Award Ceremony** October 13th and 14th, 2023. AOH President Danny O'Connell is most proud to recognize the indispensable role Taoiseach Ahern played in the Irish Peach Process.

It is especially important to recognize Ahern's work during this 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Good Friday Accord. The award is conferred to memorialize the human rights contributions made by Nobel Peace Laureate Dr. Sean MacBride (son of 1916 leaders Maude Gonne and John MacBride) and to recognize the efforts of others who make similar contributions in the cause of peace, justice, and the economic wellbeing of the Irish People.

For information on the Presidents **Testimonial dinner contact:** AOH.MacBride@gmail.com.

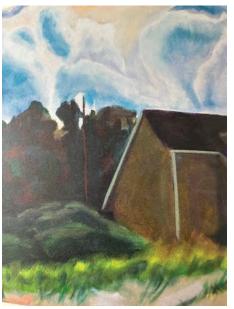
Congratulations to Ohio's own Danny O'Connell for his tenure at the helm of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, the largest Irish and Catholic fraternal organization in the U.S.A.

### **Custom House Studios and Gallery**

Located in lovely Westport, County Mayo, Eire will host an exhibition by Irish American Artist Dr. Maureen O'Leary. The exhibition is entitled: By the Same Sea, Homes of the Irish Diaspora. Maureen's work focus' on every day, unremarkable things. Her work draws us in to see the mundane, every day in a different way, literally in a different light.

One can often sense taking a double take of everyday life as it might strike us in a different way. It seems O'Leary brings these to our consciousness by looking at her largely Irish American neighbors' homes on Long Island. Some of Maureen's ancestral family hail for County Mayo Ireland, in essence the next county over from long Island across the Atlantic Sea.

O'Leary says, "Observing the new homes, centuries later, the product of escape and rebirth from this tragedy, has inspired this body of work. Long Island homes and western Ireland homes remain, geographically, each other's first and last points of contact, separated only by the Atlantic Ocean. Long Island, N.Y. and is the daughter These two sets of homes form an Irish of the late Thomas F. O'Leary and



### Maureen O'Leary's STORM

American continuum, a metaphorical neighborhood."

The Customs House Studios and Gallery in Westport will be showing O'Leary's work September 28th through October 22nd, 2023. Maureen will be present for the opening reception from 6 to 8pm on Thursday the 28th of September. This collection has been published in collaboration with Achill Island's Red Fox Press.

Dr. O'Leary lives and works in



**Cuyahoga County Executive Chris Ronayne presents Key to Cuyahoga Coun**ty to the County of Mayo with Irish Radio host Gerry Quinn, Mayo Chairman Michael Loftus and Mayo CEO Kevin Kelly.



A check in the amount of \$10,000.00 was presented to St. Edward High School's Institute of Innovation from the Pete Leneghan Entrepreneurship **Foundation Run/Walk** 

Washington, D.C. based, Irish-American activist Stella O'Leary. See maureenoleary.com.

### Remembering Pete

The annual Peter Leneghan **Entrepreneurial Foundation 5K walk** and run took place on Labor Day Weekend last month. The Foundation was created after the early death of Pete Leneghan in 2020.

Peter was a serial entrepreneur, in particular, in the hospitality business. Pete's dad, who helped open Cleveland's "Pride of Erin" pub. inspired his sons to carry on the tradition of hospitality. Pete and his brothers were urban pioneers in Cleveland's Tremont neighborhood, building the Treehouse Pub. Peter later went out on his own to build Stone Mad Pub and Restaurant in Cleveland's Detroit Shoreway neighborhood.

The run and walk started at his creation, Stone Mad Pub. A bright sunny day helped Pete's family and many friends celebrate his legacy. Pete was a graduate and star soccer player at Lakewood's St. Edward High School. This year the Leneghan family and friends presented a check in the amount of \$10,000 dollars to St. Edward school to support students at the schools Center for **Entrepreneurial Solutions. Thanks** to all and look forward to next year's event.

### Quinn Fetted.

Cleveland based Gerry Quinn, host of Quinn's Irish Radio Show, was recently feted by Mayo County Council. Quinn, a native of Ballina, County Mayo was accorded an official

reception at the County Council house in Castlebar, Mayo.

The County Council took this time to honor Quinn for his tireless work over the decades to keep the ties between Ireland and the U.S. alive and vibrant through his radio program and with his help creating and building the Cleveland Mayo Society and The Irish American Club. Eastside. Gerry's son Sean travelled with him, as well as radio co-host Colleen Corrigan Day, Cuyahoga County Executive Chris Ronayne and members of the Cleveland-Achill Twinning Committee. Congratulations to Mr. Quinn. See quinnirishradio.com

### **Twinning Cleveland and Mayo**

A delegation lead by Cuyahoga County Executive Chris Ronavne and Cleveland Mayor Justin Bibb's Chief of Government Affairs, Ryan Puente, travelled to County Mayo, Achill Island to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of these communities being joined or Twinned as Sister Cities. Meetings were held with Mayo County Council, plus a dedication of a memorial park bench on the newly christened Mayo/ Achill Greenway, was capped with a celebratory dinner at Alice's at the Sound.

Additionally, Ronayne meet with business and academic leaders to open the doors for continued economic and cultural exchange between Ireland. The European Union and Cuyahoga County. Special presentations were made by Majella Gallagher, Terrence Dever and Kenny Deery of The Achill **Development Group, Comhlacht** 

Forbartha Áitiuíl (CFAA) to Kathleen flawed and irredeemable Legacy & Con Mangan family, Andy Dever & Bill has always only been about one Family, Colleen Corrigan Day and in thing – closing the door on families particular to the family of Stephen & ever getting truth and justice. It is Ann Mulloy, who were the principal architects of formally establishing this twinning relationship. All shared a special salute to Cleveland Mayor Jane Campbell,

who authorized and led the initial

#BillofShame

delegation.

The Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Bill is the formal name of legislation due to go into effect in May of 2024. After that date. London will ban any civil and criminal cases related to The Troubles. In a very rare moment of unity, to show what a shameful folly this bill is, ALL major political parties in the Six Counties have opposed the

Sinn Fein MP John Finucane stated, "The British Government's

absolutely cynical and cruel that the British Government is forcing this bill through despite clear opposition from victims, all the political parties in this island, human rights experts, churches, the US, UN, EU and the Irish Government."

This is a whitewashing bill to protect the British Army and past Brit Governments. Expect an appeal by the Irish Republic to the European Court of Human Rights. U.K. P.M. Sunyak is clearly thumbing his nose at the White House and bi-partisan Congressional leaders who have expressed grave concerns about the legislation. This is what empires do.

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- 1. In what year was the **European Union founded?**
- 2. What year was homosexuality decriminalized in Ireland?
- 3. In what village was Ballykissangel filmed?
- 4. What year was "transition year" introduced as an extra, optional year in Irish secondary schools?
- 5. Who became president of Ireland in 1990?
- 6. What was the name of Pierce Brosnan's first James Bond movie in 1995?
- 7. In what year was the movie In The Name of the Father released?
- 8. Who played the part of Eamon de Valera in the 1995 movie Michael Collins?
- 9. Which Irish poet was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1995?
- 10. Which American Celtic punk band was formed in **Boston Massachusetts in** 1996?

| Murphys  |     | Colqen Eye   | .8 |
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### HEALTH MATTERS

# **October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month: Busting Common Breast Cancer Myths**

By Dr. Mita Patel



reast cancer **D**is the second most common cancer in women, next to skin cancer, accounting for 1 in 3 new cancer diagnoses in women each year. For men, the

incidence of male breast cancer is 1 in 833.

When understanding the disease and its impact on the body, it's important to have the facts. There are many myths about breast cancer. I am going to set the record straight and bust these common breast cancer myths.

### Myth #1: Having a lump means you have breast cancer.

While having lumps can be sign of breast cancer, most lumps are benign (not cancerous). In fact, in the earliest stages of breast cancer. there may not be a lump that you can feel during a self-exam and some patients with breast cancer may never feel a lump.

Other signs and symptoms of breast cancer can include swelling of the breast, redness and irritation, nipple changes or discharge, breast or nipple pain and changes in the shape or texture of your breast. There can be many indications of breast cancer, which is why it's important to conduct self-breast exams every month and watch for changes in your breasts. It's equally important to get an annual mammogram if vou are aged 40 or older.

### Myth #2: Your mammogram can spread and even cause breast cancer.

The pressure from a mammogram does not cause breast cancer, nor can it spread it if you have it. Mammograms are the number one tool for early detection and save lives every day.

While mammograms do release very small doses of radiation,

any risks from this exposure are incredibly low. The benefits of detecting breast cancer through a mammogram far outweigh the small doses of radiation you will

While no mammogram is foolproof when it comes to detection, they are still the best way to catch breast cancer. Yearly mammograms beginning at age 40 are essential for early detection, as breast cancer can develop between annual screenings. Between your annual mammograms, you should continue regular self-exams and watch for any changes to your breasts.

### Myth #3: You can get breast cancer from deodorant, bras, hair dyes, and your cell phone.

No, you don't have to throw away your bra with an underwire or forego deodorant. There is no scientific evidence that links breast cancer diagnoses and underwires, antiperspirant, cell phones, hair dyes or various foods.

However, there is research that indicates certain environmental and lifestyle aspects that can increase your risk. Maintaining a healthy weight, exercising, and limiting alcohol consumption can all lower your risk of breast cancer. as can quitting smoking if you are a smoker.

### Myth #4: I don't have a family history of breast cancer, so I won't get it.

While many think that most forms of breast cancer are inherited, most often people diagnosed have no family history of breast cancer. In fact, according to the American Cancer Society, only 5 to 10% of breast cancers are hereditary, or passed down from parent to child through genes.

This means that, unfortunately, the most common risk factors of getting breast cancer are being a woman and being above the age of 40. However, if any of your family members or close relatives have a history of prostate, ovarian or breast cancer, share this with your physician so they are aware of your potential higher risk.

### Myth #5: Breast cancer only occurs in women.

Men can also be diagnosed with breast cancer. According to the CDC, about 1 out of every 100 breast cancers diagnosed in the United States will be found in men. Unfortunately, this is oftentimes diagnosed as more advanced stages of cancer, as men are less likely to watch for breast changes or lumps.

If you're a man with a family history of breast, ovarian or prostate cancer and you want to stay proactive, notify your doctor about higher risk. In addition, pay attention to any changes, lumps in the breast or swelling of the lymph nodes in the collar bone or around the arm. While these changes might not indicate cancer, it is important to contact your health care provider as soon as possible if you notice them.

October is breast cancer awareness month, but the threat of developing or being diagnosed with this disease can happen all year long. The best way to stay vigilant and prevent breast cancer is to schedule your annual mammogram, get a yearly breast exam, conduct regular self-exams and work with your health care provider. •

Mita S Patel, MD, is a breast surgical oncologist and medical director of the Mercy Health -Breast Program. Dr. Patel treats patients from northeast Ohio at *Mercy Health — Sheffield Breast* Surgery, Mercy Health — Elyria Breast Surgery and Mercy Health Oberlin Breast Surgery.

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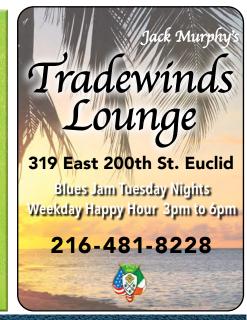
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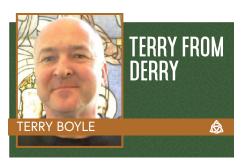


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# **Strange** Weather indeed

ife these days is full of surprises, though some of them shouldn't be such a surprise to us. This year, the planet has endured the hottest



summer on record. No surprise there since scientists have been warning us for decades of what to expect, and, for some reason, we've

been ignoring it. In this year, we've experienced the first wave of troubling weather and witnessed the devastation it can bring. Maui, a relative paradise, is devastated by

wildfire, and the city of Lahaina is destroyed. The loss of life by these consuming flames is still unknown.

Reports of wildfires in Europe have also contributed to our



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transition into a new epoch of strange weather patterns. The world we used to know, no longer exists. It's beginning to crumble beneath us, despite what the naysayers think, since they are as smart as those who believe in a flat earth.

Living, as I do, in a desert, I expect the summer to be as hot as hell. The temps are usually over 100 degrees most days. What I didn't expect to see in the desert though was a Hurricane.

Hilary moved through the Coachella Valley in a way no one expected. Leading up to the landfall of Hilary, one of our neighbours had advised us to sandbag our home. The idea of sandbagging was foreign to me.

### Flooding the Desert

It was August, hot as hell, and here we were preparing for an unusual amount of rain. While the neighbour's words sounded apocalyptic, my other half was being the devil's advocate and downplaying the warnings. To stay on the side of safety, we drove with the neighbour to the local fire station to get our bags, and then onto the sandpit to fill said bags.

What I remember of that day is that it was so incredibly hot. I was just over five weeks out of a total knee replacement surgery, and already I'm in the middle of a sandpit digging out sand. The whole thing seemed incredibly surreal.

For some silly reason, it made



ocated at 4408 Detroit Avenue

me think of Noah building an ark and how ridiculous it must have seemed to everyone around. I'm sure it looked equally ridiculous to see a crowd of people huddled around a sandpit while the sun shone, and the temperature was over 100 degrees.

After digging and filling our sandbags, we went home to wait for the alarms to start. The blue sky gradually began to fill with ominous clouds.

When the rains came. I was struck by awe and wonder at how fast and furious the rain came down. There was no letting up on the downpour.

We kept a watch for possible flooding, but we were among the lucky ones who didn't need to use the sandbags. Our neighbour had some trouble with her atrium, but other than that, this area of Cathedral City was relatively unaffected.

However, when we watched the news, we saw that our area as a whole was one of the worsthit places. Roads were flooded, some of them costing a fortune to repair. Houses were flooded. Mud and water made the main highway impassable.

After the rain, the wind came up and trees were level to the ground. This was the first hurricane of its sort in over 80 years and I'm sure we'll see even more strange weather to come.

Word of the hurricane's devastation spread quickly. I had friends and family call or write to see if everything was alright with us. What struck me was that if we were to simply think about our neighbourhood, the impact was minimal, but moving a little further out the real effects were plain to see.

### Climate Change

In some ways, it's a parable for how we see the effects of climate change. We might live in a space that remains relatively free from any serious effects, at least for the moment, and therefore don't see the larger picture. Just beyond the margins of our narrow worldview lies a greater reality, a true picture of what is in store for all of us.

The paradise of Maui is struggling to recover. Its main industry, tourism, is severely damaged and it will take years for this small island to recover. Who knows if it can ever recover? Next year, what will our summer bring?

Remember how as kids we used to look forward to summertime? Summer was always equated with fun. Now, as the climate patterns of the world change, we have no idea what each summer will hold. The exotic places we once thought of as great travel destinations might well become subject to extreme weather.

There's no knowing what we have unleashed in our refusal to cut back on fossil emissions. I wish that I could say that we still have time, but we ignored that warning some time ago, thinking that had more time than was predicted. If we thought the scientists were merely scaremongering us into change, we are sadly wrong. Time is not on our side.

We need to pressure those in power to wake up and act. It's not enough to believe that politicians will act to correct the wrongs we've done to the planet.

Politicians, if left to their own devices, will follow their own agenda. They will only listen to the electorate if they feel their position is at risk. We need to remind them of what we want and that can only happen by voting for the right people.

If a candidate misrepresents the subject of climate change as leftist or liberal, they should be forced to spend some time in Maui, Greece, or Portugal. They should spend some time in Africa during a time of drought.

By voting in people who make climate change an important issue, we have people who see the whole picture and not their own neighbourhood. We want to have people in power who have our best interests as a global community and not those whose narrow response ignores the world around

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# **Hibernian Happenings**

his fall will be a busy time for Hibernians in the State of Ohio. What an honor for Ohio to host two National Hibernian

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Events this fall. The AOH National will be meeting in Youngstown for AOH National President Danny O'Connell's Testimonial and the

Presentation or the Sean McBride Award on the weekend of October 13 and 14.

The AOH Boland Berry Division and the LAOH Our Lady of the Rosary Division will also be hosting the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Reverse Raffle, to be held on Friday November 3. Prize: \$2000. Donation \$65. Please call or email Ray McGann at 216-671-6219 or r4aly2@aol.com or Pat Lavelle 440-596-8552 or playe31228@ gmail.com

The Ancient Order of Hibernians will present the Sean McBride Humanitarian Award to former Taoiseach Bertie Ahern on Saturday October 14, in Youngstown. Bertie was one of the signers of the agreement This Award is "to memorialize the **Human Rights contributions made** by Nobel Peace laureate, Dr. Sean MacBride, and to recognize the efforts of others who make similar contributions in the cause of peace. justice and the economic well-being of the Irish people."

You are invited to participate in the 2023 AOH National President's Testimonial and the AOH Sean McBride Presentation Package: Price is \$215 for both day, Friday Reception is \$80, Saturday Dinner is \$165. Seats are limited, so please contact Laurie and Dan Brinker at:



**Congratulations to my friend Kathleen** M. Savage the LAOH Constance **Markievicz Award Honoree.** 

### AOH.MacBride@gmail.com.

The LAOH will be meeting in the Cleveland area on the weekend of November 9-12 for the Interim Board Meeting, LAOH President's Testimonial Dinner and the inaugural presentation of the **Constance Markievicz Award** 

### **Constance Markievicz**

The Constance Markievicz Award will be bestowed biennially at the **LAOH Interim Board Meeting** to a woman who is outstanding, passionate, and shows a deep commitment in her endeavors, either professionally or in volunteer works and conferred without regard to the nominee's race, creed, religion, color or National origin. The nominee must be a woman who, in the spirit of unity and cross Waves Women's Reflection on the community relationships, has made significant and committed contributions to peace and justice, and/or the social and economic wellbeing of her community and/ or the broader world in which we live. This includes, but is certainly not limited to, political activism, social justice, immigration and immigrant issues, political education, veteran affairs, and peace and reconciliation in Ireland.

The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians are proud to announce that Kathleen Savage of Massachusetts will be receiving the award. Kathleen has been a member of the LAOH since 1982. She has served in many offices on

the Division and County levels, with appointments on both State and National Boards. Kathleen is a longtime advocate for peace and social justice issues in the North of Ireland.

Kathleen is currently her division and state chairperson for Freedom for All Ireland (FFAI), formerly holding this position on the national level, consistently promoting this initiative. In 1985, she joined the local chapter of Irish Northern Aid, and began writing Christmas and birthday cards to prisoners, enlisting many of her LAOH sisters to join her.

She has made more than 20 trips to Northern Ireland, witnessing firsthand the discrimination of the British Government against Irish families, visiting prisoners in Long Kesh, Crumlin and Maghaberry, becoming pen pals with several of the prisoners and eventually befriending their families. Many of to present these prestigious these relationships continue to this awards to Bertie Ahern and day, and she is considered to be a member of their extended families.

Kathleen can count Gerry Adams, the late Martin McGuinness, Rita O'Hare, Damian McCafferty, the late Martin Ferris and countless others among her many friends. She is a great ambassador for the cause, working Nursing from St. John College and tirelessly for the Freedom for All Ireland Committee and peace and justice in the North of Ireland.

In April, Kathleen joined a group of LAOH sisters on a tour of Northern Ireland to distribute the FFAI funds and the release of A Trasna na nTonnta Across the Good Friday Agreement, the joint project of the LAOH and Relatives for Justice, to which Kathleen is a contributor.

The Interim board meeting is Saturday November 11 at 10:00AM at the West Side Irish American Club and is open to all members of the LAOH. The Testimonial dinners and the presentations of the awards are open to the public. The inaugural Constance Markievicz Award will be presented on November 11, at the LAOH Testimonial Dinner at 6:00pm at the West Side Irish American Club, 8559 Jennings Road, Olmsted Township, Ohio 44138. Information: www.

### ladiesaoh.com.

Rooms are available at the Hampton Inn, 24601 Country Club Boulevard, North Olmsted, Ohio,

Dinner: \$65.00 w/ cash bar: Shake Rattle-n-Roll to the music of Kennedy & Riley. Deadline is November 1. Checks Payable to LAOH, c/o Sharon Kelty, 4606 West 158th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44135 Forms on www.ladiesaoh. com. Looking forward to seeing all of you!

Note: only members of the **National Board and State** Presidents will have a voice and a

The weekend will conclude Saturday evening, November 11, beginning with the celebration of the Eucharist at 4:30PM.

As we commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement, it is an honor and privilege for the AOH and LAOH Kathleen Savage. •

Marilyn Madigan is the National President of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians and a Deputy Director of the United Irish Societies of Cleveland. She received a Bachelor of Science in retired from Nursing at University Hospitals of Cleveland.

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october 2023

october 2023



# **Phantoms**

Laugh, heart, again in the grey of the twilight.

Sigh, heart, again, in the dew of the morn . . .

Come, heart, where hill is heaped upon hill . . .

Of sun and moon and hollow and wood

> And river and stream work out their will.

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**GENERAL MEETING** 

3rd Thursday of every month

("Into the Twilight" by William Butler Yeats)



🔽 liza Foote - I have walked by her modest gravestone, a

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19th-General Meeting 7P

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stone's throw from the crashing waves of Lake Erie. for many years. Eliza walked this earth from 1764-1844. Each time I pass her grave I wonder at her life. I admire the solidity of her name: Foote, with an

William Butler Yeats once alluded to "the little stitches that join this world to the other." Often, I find myself looking for those phantoms, ever alert for signs from the past that do not lie complacently, forgotten. I do not look for the phantom that rises from the grave on a moon swept autumn night, but rather the phantom that peers through the old wood of a picket fence: heirloom daisies blooming from seeds that my mother once gave to me in a folded piece of parchment.

Phantoms are present in the energy that spark memory and ignite a new thought. Our pasts are indeed connected to our future paths, the choices that we make, the turn in our moods.

My father recently told me of a dream he had. The summer air was warm and the lake still. He had fallen asleep in his deck chair and

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immediately began to dream, more vision than dream, that my mother. grandmother, and he were sitting on a bench talking as they did of cards and history, books and travels.

He awoke from this dream to the real-life vision of a hummingbird floating above the lower branch of his sycamore tree, seemingly looking into his half-asleep eyes. Never one for signs, he believed for a moment that the delicate bird was my mom paying him a fleeting visit.

During this somnolent state, the mind enters a world of creative perception. This past summer I struggled with insomnia. When sleep evaded me, I would often succumb to the twilight world to write or think. Sipping chamomile tea to encourage my return to slumber, I would open the windows wide and listen for cricket serenades and the cry of night birds.

I watched a diminutive moth, no bigger than a petal, the color of a chamomile flower, flap blindly against the textured honeycomb of my ivory beeswax candle. Lonely, but present, the moth rose, seeking the pale luminescence of my kitchen light. Wondering if the moth knew that it would ultimately fly too close to the heat of the bulb, I thought of loneliness, resilience, and the need to seek light no matter the cost.

As a young man, William Butler Yeats became fascinated by phantoms and mysticism. He and his contemporaries, all part of the Irish Literary Revival of the late 19th and early 20th century, formed



societies and salons in which to address the mysteries which lie "'twixt night and day."

### Lady Gregory

Thinkers, writers, revolutionists, and artists would gather at the home of Lady Augusta Gregory in Coole Park, County Galway. Yeats knew that the past, the history, the folklore of the Irish people held the key to his art and his own selfunderstanding.

For Lady Gregory and Yeats, the invisible world became tangible through the fragrance of the natural world and the tales of her people. The phantoms that brushed against the coat sleeves and skirts of all who walked amid the meadow and wood of Coole Park were more real than

During our honeymoon, my husband and I walked the paths of Coole Park. We visited the copper beech tree where Yeats engraved his name. We listened for Yeats' spirit in the 15th-century Norman Tower, Thoor Ballylee, where he wrote his final and most contemplative poetry. At the time, I was awestruck at the communion of Yeats' history with my present life and my future reality.

Perhaps this is the lesson to be learned from the shadows; you and I are not strangers, but rather travelers alighting on the same journey. I have crossed paths with Eliza Foote and William Butler Yeats. I have touched the leaves of an ancient copper beech. I have watched a Daddy Long-Leg spider lumber across the grave of a woman.

How peculiar that one person's present can become the past, present, and future of another traveler in the invisible world? How wonderful that real time is filled with the evocative memory of a phantom's whisper? •

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.

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### **Friends Forever**

Two old girls met for the first time since school.

One asked the other: "You were always so organized in school; did you manage to live a well-planned life?"

"Oh ves." said her friend. "My first marriage was to a millionaire, my second to an actor, my third to a preacher; and now to an undertaker."

Her friend asked: "Well now, what do those marriages have to do with a well-planned life for ya?"

"One for the money, two for the show. Three to get ready and four to

### **Bloody Fluke**

All along the pier there were fishermen hauling in fish. Among them was a young schoolboy, fishing with a bent pin and a ball of string. Beside him was a fish weighing over 10 kilos.

His mate came down to the pier and asked him about his catch: "What kind of fish is it, Michael?"

"I don't know, but that fellow over there told me it was a bloody fluke.'

### A Little Help From My Friend Mick was feeling down. He felt

that nobody cared for him, so his friend Paddy tried to cheer him up. Paddy related the story of a bus

driver he knew who owed a bunch of money on his mortgage and about myth? to lose his home. He felt so hopeless that he drove right to the edge of the Cliffs of Moher, locked the doors, and wondered if he had the nerve to drive right off.

A group of total strangers realized his plight and took up a collection. In short order, they raised more than enough money to save his home. Mick was overcome at the thought of this kind gesture and felt inspired to carry on.

"Who were the people who would do so much to help that driver like thatm" asked Mick?

"The passengers on the bus," said Paddy.

### **Good start**

After being married for thirty vears, a wife asked her husband to describe her. He looked at her slowly, then said: "You're A. B. C. D. E, F, G, H... I, J, K."

She asks: "What does that mean?" He said: "Adorable, Beautiful, Cute, Delightful, Elegant, Fancy, Gorgeous, Honey."

She smiled happily and said: "Oh, that's so lovely. What about I, J, K?" He said: "I'm Just Kidding!"

His eye is still swollen... but it will get better.

### Miss Understanding

An Irishman sees two plus sized woman sitting at the bar.

"Where are you two lovely ladies from?" he asks.

"Wales" they respond.

"Ah I'm sorry, where are you two whales from?"

### McQuickies:

What do you call a man who suffers from the persistent delusion that he's a creature from Irish

A leprechaundriac.

What do you call an Irish Canadian? Mickey Moose.

What do you call a patient Irish sniper?

Éamon Furlong

How can you tell if an Irishman is having a good time?

He's Dublin over with laughter!

### Special Skills

Two Irish brothers are applying for Work Visas to Australia.

The first brother enters his interview, quickly walks out, gives a thumbs-up and says to his brother "I'm in!"

The second brother takes this as a sure sign that he will join him and walks confidently into his interview.

"So Mr... Patrick O'Malley," the interviewer begins. "What skills can you bring to Australia?"

Patrick explains: "Well, I'm a turf cutter. The best there is! My father was a turf cutter. His father was a turf cutter..."

"That's a shame," interrupts the interviewer. "They don't really need turf cutters in Australia. There's just not that much turf."

"But you let me brother in!"

"That's because your brother is a pilot. Pilots are high in demand." Patrick cries, "But if I don't cut it, he can't pile it!"

### One Born Every Minute

It was pouring heavily outside an Irish pub, and a large puddle had developed.

An elderly man stood alongside

the puddle, jiggling a stick with a string on the end in the water. An inquisitive gentleman inquired as to what he was doing.

"Fishing," the old man said.

"Poor old idiot," thought the gentleman, so he asked the old man to the pub for a drink.

The gentleman, feeling the need to strike up a conversation while they were sipping their whisky, inquired, "And how many have you caught?"

"You're the eighth," he replied.

### Choke

Mick and Paddy are lifting a few pints at the pub when a woman at a nearby table drops her sandwich onto her plate and begins to cough violently. After a few seconds, it becomes apparent that she is in real distress.

Paddy asks, "Can you swallow?" The woman shakes her head no, as she begins to turn blue.

Paddy then asks, "Can you breathe?" The woman shakes her head no. Paddy walks behind the woman and stands her up, lifts her dress, yanks down her drawers, and quickly gives her right butt cheek a lick with his tongue.

The woman is so shocked that she has a violent spasm, and the obstruction flies out of her mouth. As she begins to breathe again,

Paddy walks back to his table Mick says, "You know, I'd heard of that 'Hind Lick Maneuver,," 'but I ain't never seen anyone do it."

Submitted by Alice Green/North Olmsted •

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# **Where Did** 0-H-I-O Come From?

hio, as it became to be called, is a narrative of conflict and economics. It had been connected to global politics and economic forces

beginning in the mid-17<sup>th</sup> century. As Britain and France waged wars for the control of Colonial America, Ohio was a familiar battleground.

France's support of the American Revolution was critical for American victory.

It was thought to be the culmination of warfare for ownership of America, then the War of 1812 was fought. Some politicians had thought the Seven Years War was the last of the colonial wars.

The blood on Ohio soil predates the physical arrival of the Europeans. Native Americans in the region fought for beaver skins hegemony in the middle 17<sup>th</sup> century

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as a result international demand. This state of ours was beaver rich and prime hunting grounds for the skins trade.

The Beaver Wars were the catalyst for a change in the population and population density of present-day Ohio. The trade intensified historical rivalries and land claims amongst Native American groups, or Confederations. The **Iroquois Confederation** defeated the Hurons, Eric, Wendat, Wenro, Mohican, Susquehannock, Petun, Neutral Nation and Algonquins.

Those groups were either decimated or they fled west and joined other groups. The new French colony in Quebec supported the Hurons and the Dutch, then the British supported the Iroquois. Access to firearms was necessary for victory and that access increased the fatality rate for Native American conflicts.

### The Effect of Corn

Then there was corn, Central American in origin and dating back at least 7,000 years. It replaced the more diverse diet of the Great Lakes region and for a few hundreds of years was the monocrop of the region. The corn dense diet led to increased infant mortality, a shorter lifespan and greater susceptibility to disease. Some historians estimate that the corn monoculture and the introduction of Old World diseases reduced Great Lakes, and Ohio,

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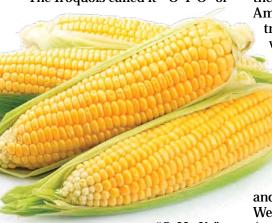
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populations by up to 80 percent. We Irish know about monocrops.

The Iroquois called it "O-Y-O" or



"O-He-Yo", meaning "Great River." That Ohio did not make it to the time of Moses Cleaveland, not even to the Peace of Montreal in 1701. Miami, Kickapoo, Mascouten, Ottawa and the Wyandot began to relocate to Ohio. Many of these immigrants in early 18th century Ohio were still in the middle of imperial battles for control of trade. That trade now included deer skins.

The Treaty of Paris in 1763 officially ended the Seven Years War and essentially the French presence in the American Great Lakes. That did not end the bloodshed in the Ohio region. Native American groups resisted, including the Ottawa's leader Pontiac's Rebellion and a widespread backlash against the British.

Then the colonists got into the act and the American Revolution was born. That too was concluded with a Treaty of Paris, in 1783.

When the new American Republic took claim to the Great Lakes region, it had little jurisdiction over the land or its inhabitants. Northern Ohio Native American confederations,

some of which formed following

open to settlers.

powers and mobilized the militias of Virginia, Kentucky and western PA to attack the Western Confederacy at Kekionga (present day Fort Wayne, IN). Vital intelligence on American troop movements was shared with Mishikinakwa ("Little Turtle") by

### **Establishing Fort Wayne**

Things did not end well for the American militias. It was General Anthony Wayne who violently defeated the Western Confederacy. His troops burned villages and crops for 50 miles on both side of the Maumee River and established Fort Wayne.

Some of this history has been broached in previous installments of this article. It is important to understand the world that early Clevelanders were joining. Native would not have been atypical in this history of trade and at times a set up shop across from the Flat

Trade was a mutually agreed upon transaction. Even if the benefits were unequal or genesis to Native

Americans supporting early settlers balance of power. Traders had been trading long before Lorenzo Carter



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the Revolution, did not agree that they were militarily defeated by the Americans and did not submit to treaties that they did not sign. It was not until the signing of the

American Constitution in 1789 and the resulting federal authority did Ohio start to

It was in 1790 that **President Washington first** utilized the new federal

the British, who still occupied Fort Detroit.

global conflict in *Irish Atlantic* Trade in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries. While Irish trade was not significant with America until after the Revolution, trade with France, French colonies and the Caribbean constituted 85%

American demise, it was a joint

endeavor. Trade and bloodshed,

which dominated the narrative

for early Ohio, is connected to

economy.

of Irish trade.

Irish trade and the Atlantic World

Historian R.C. Nash discusses

the relationship of Irish trade and

When Barbados in 1650 and then Jamaica and the Leeward Islands embraced sugar as a monocrop. Irish beef, pork, butter and fish were shipped to those markets. During the colonial period, every conflict increased Irish exports to America. Conflict in Europe,

particularly those that included British embargos of France, was not always good for Irish trade. Historical analysis indicates a

direct relationship with price and demand for Irish goods. That is true until continental America replaced Irish goods at a better price, after 1780. It was in that year that the remaining restrictions on colonial trade were lifted, for the first time since 1685, and Ireland tripled its imports from the Caribbean, including sugar.

### Irish Trade in Ohio

Ohio was a part of a global economy that included Irish trade. It was also the battleground for imperial control, then continental



control of the lands and its inhabitants. Those battles do not bear the name of Ireland and most sources do not mention the roles of the Irish in those battles.

Peter Karsten's Irish Soldiers in the British Army, 1792-1922: Suborned or Subordinate? discusses the presence of the Irish not only in the British Army, but also those who fought for France, Spain and Austria. As many as five hundred thousand Irish were serving in European armies by 1792.

Those numbers, by supposition would have included Irish who fought for France or Britain in colonial America. More research is

needed to fully understand those political and social dynamics. It is clear that Ohio was an intersection of global, national and local influences.

It was Thomas Jefferson who authored one of the first plans to settle the western states. He named some of those states Assenisippia, Cherroneaus, Illinoia, Michigania, Polypotamia and Sylania. Ohio would have been part of Metropotamia, Saratoga and Pelispia. Gratefully, the Iroquois name of "O-He-Yo" won that battle, with the slight modification, so that you can spell it with just your arms. • Francis McGarry holds

undergraduate degrees from Indiana University in Anthropology, Education and History and a Masters in Social Science from the University of *Chicago. He is the Executive* Director of Bluestone Hibernian Charities and proprietor of McGarry Consulting. Francis is a past president of the Irish American Club East Side. He is the founder and past president of the Bluestone Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians.

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IRISH'S Shamrock Squares Taking turns, connect a line from one shamrock to another Whoever makes a line that completes a square, writes their initials in that box. The one with the most squares at the end of the game wins!









# kids craic

had a negative effect. The way the

literally cut through neighborhoods

Transportation, it is estimated that

interstate system was designed

to make room for the new roads.

According to the Department of

475,000 homes were destroyed

and over one million people were

displaced in the 1950s and 1960s. Many of the people that were

forced to move were from poor,

Movement felt that this was done

to further segregate the African

still happening today when new

minority families. Some of

the leaders of the Civil Rights

American community. This is

sections of roads are built but

people who are being affected

and have come up with ways to

help the people being forced to

community leaders are more

aware of the impacts on the

# Life is a Highway!

# Part 2

S eptember's column was about the interstate highway system in the United States. Dwight D. Eisenhower had the idea of an interstate system after his time in the Army.

While in the Army, he traveled across the US, and it took him 62 days! He then spent some time in Germany, where he saw the beginnings of the Autobahn and began to see the need for a highway system in the United States. Some of his reasons were for military defense, others were to increase the economy and for future growth of the country. All these ideas sounded great on paper, but the interstate system was not seen as a great idea by everyone.

The movie *Cars* (Pixar 2006) is a great example of the negative effect the interstate system had on several

moving?

A. The highway!

small towns. Before the interstate system, people traveled on roads such as Route 66, which was the first "highway." It stretched from Chicago, Illinois to Santa Monica, California.

When it was completed in 1938, it was just a two-lane road and the speed limit ranged from 25-45 miles per hour. Back then, people took their time getting to their destination.

As a result, several small towns, like Radiator Springs, became tourist stops along the way. There were small, unique shops, restaurants, motels, and gas stations all along the route. When the new interstate system was built, it went around these small towns and, as a result, many of these businesses were forced to close.

In large cities, the interstate also

Q. What travels from coast to coast without ever

gab in gaelic

May the road rise with you.

Go n-éirí on bóthar leat

(pron: go nigh-ree on boat-or lat)

# kıds ın the kıtchen



### Ingredients:

- 4 McIntosh apples (cored and sliced 1/8 to 1/4 inch thick)
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
  1 teaspoon granulated sugar (can be omitted)
- cooking spray

### Directions:

Preheat oven to 200 degrees Fahrenheit.

Add the sliced apples to a large bowl; then coat the apples with the cinnamon and/or sugar.

Spray a baking sheet with cooking spray or line one with parchment paper; then line the apples flat on the pan. (You may need to use two pans so that they do not overlap).

Bake 2-3 hours until the chips are dry yet still a bit soft. Allow them to cool completely before placing them in an airtight container for up to 4 days.

Overall, the interstate system in the United States is an amazing design. It is a way to easily move our military, if ever needed. It has helped our economy grow by making goods

ever needed. It has helped our
economy grow by making goods
and supplies easier to get.
But with all massive projects,
there are always positive effects and

there are always positive effects and negative effects. The full impact of
the interstate system will not be
clear for many decades. What do you think travel will look like in 50 years? 100 years? •

Megan is a Reading Intervention Educator for the Cleveland Metropolitan
 School District. She holds a BA from Hiram College and a BA+ from Ashland University. She resides in Avon Lake with her husband, Joe, and their five children. She may be reached at meganlardie126@outlook.com.

# MILESTONE & SWEET SNAPS

Kid's Craic Columnist, MEGAN LARDIE is starting a new position as Intervention Specialist with Middle School at Cleveland Metropolitan School District!

Our Teachers are our success. Good Luck Megan!







LOOKING FOR IRISH NEWS
& EVENTS?

In Columbus?
In Cincinnati?
In Youngstown?
In Detroit?
In Pittsburgh?
In Toledo?

# Beyond the Pale? In Your Town?

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# The Irish in Action Are you running for an ELECTIVE OFFICE? Are you running for an elective office? There are more than 2.1 million people of Irish descent in our Cleveland, Columbus and Pittsburgh readership. WANT TO REACH THEM? Advertise in ilrish: jobrien@ilrish.us

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CONGRATULATIONS
to the Midwest GAA on their fantastic
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**Jr B Camogie** 









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# WHAT a Fantastic U.S. National Championship weekend! Three Cleveland and three Pittsburgh teams of our Midwest GAA division qualified

for the USGAA National Championships



ach city went to and won TWO of the three U.S. National Championships they qualified for, after winning Friday quarter final and Saturday semi-final games. The losses ALL came in Sunday's National Championship games.

Jr A Ladies Football Pittsburgh Banshees 2-10 (16) over Philadelphia Notre Dame 2-8 (14)

Jr B Camogie Pittsburgh Na Laochra 4-2 (14) over **Cleveland Saints 1-3 (6)** 

Jr C Men's Football Cleveland Saints 2-11 (17) over Delco Gaels 0-5 (5)

Jr D Hurling Cleveland Saints 2-16 (22) over Raleigh 3-9 (18)

### **USGAA 2023 National Champions:**

- Jr A Ladies Football: Pittsburgh Banshees
- Jr B Camogie: Pittsburgh Na Laochra (warrior, hero, layman (for the people)
- Jr C Men's Football: Cleveland Saints
- Jr D Hurling: Cleveland Saints

34 We've always been green



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Patrick Cooney for Mayor • Drusky Entertainment Lord of the Dance in Starnahan, Toledo, Oh.; Packard Theatre in Warren, OH.; Palace Theatre in Greensberg, PA. Michael Hardy for City Councilman Karen Kelly Kraus for Judge • Akron Hurling Club



# **Savory Turned Sweet**

y mom and dad loved Halloween. We had so many unique and fun costumes made

by my mom when we were kids. My dad was 4 YEARS like a big kid every year. He loved taking us out in the neighborhood and then stealing all our Snickers from our

candy bags.

As we got older and didn't need costumes or have an abundance of candy for Dad, Mom started making some really fun meals or dishes we had on Halloween and the days leading up to it. She made the best chili and pepperoni bread.

One of her most memorable recipes was simple but so good. She would take rolls and fill them with meat and top them with cheese, adding some ketchup or BBQ sauce, making what looked like coffins. This is a fun and easy recipe to try and one kids can help you make.

*Ingredients Makes 6-8 Servings* 

1 ½ lbs. ground beef. I use 85/15 Hard Rolls/Sub Rolls They can be ones already baked or ones that need to be baked.

American cheese Slices. 6-8 Black pepper Garlic/Kosher Salt Onion Soup Mix 1 dry packet

### Directions:

In a skillet over medium heat, brown the beef. Season the beef with pepper and salt or garlic salt or use the onion soup mix if you prefer. Take each roll and slice a thin

portion of the top off.

and on the bottom.

hollowed out coffin.

This is supposed to resemble a

medium bowl and crumble it.

Place the bread vou removed in a

With a sharp knife, cut around the insides and scoop out the bread leaving ¼ inch around the sides



the package directions. Drain the

cooked meat and place in the bowl and mix together with the crumbled bread.

Stuff each coffin with the meat/bread mixture.

Bake in the oven for 5-6 minutes or golden brown. Remove from the

Top each on with a slice of American cheese, cut diagonally.

Place the hollowed out rolls on Place tops you removed earlier on a baking sheet. Preheat the oven the coffin on top of the cheese and to 350\* or to the temperature on return to the oven until the cheese

is melted.

Cut in half and serve with ketchup or BBQ sauce for a bloody affect.

Serve with potato chips. •

Katie Gagne teaches English at Trinity High School in Garfield Heights. She is also the owner of her in-home bakery Sassy's Sweets and Oh So Much More. You can contact her at (440) 773-4459 or at mkbluebows@aol com, or find her on Facebook at @ sassyssweetsandmore.

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# Sassy's Sweets

... and Oh So Much More Katie Gagne 440-773-4459







# A Terrible **Beauty is Born**

T n W.B. Yeats' most famous poem, "Easter 1916," he unstintingly praises the heroes of the uprising —MacDonagh, MacBride, Connolly and Pearse – even as he fears that a "terrible beauty is born." The terrible beauty is oxymoronic: terrible, terrifying, perhaps catastrophic, yet also beautifully daring, heroically claiming independence through political



martyrdom. For Yeats, the rebels' sacrifice transformed even his own romantic rival, that "vainglorious lout." John MacBride, who had won the hand of Maud Gonne.

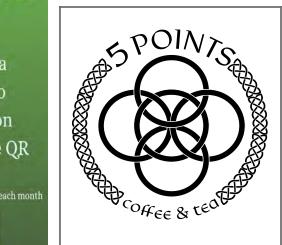
The Easter Uprising is one of the landmark events that birthed the Irish nation, and it is one of the hundred-year-old events celebrated in Ireland during the *Decade of* Centenaries 2012-2023. These celebrations are coming to a close at the end of this year. Arguably, the word "celebrations," though there were many in Ireland, New York, London, and Gallipoli, is not the right word given the turbulence and violence of the historic events. Consider the whiplash events of a hundred years ago:

- The introduction of the Third Home Rule Bill in Westminster in April 1912
- The signing of the Ulster Covenant in September 1912
- The Dublin Lockout (1913-1914)
- The foundation of the Irish Volunteers in 1913
- mBan in 1914 The First World War (1914-

1918)

The foundation of Cumann na

- The Easter Rising (April 1916)
- The formation of the First Dáil (January 1919)
- The War of Independence (1919-1921)
- The signing of the Anglo-Irish Treaty (December 1921)



"Bringing a bit of Ireland to the 5 points" 3600 west park rd, cleveland, ohio 5pointscafe.com

- The partition of Ireland (May 1921)
- The women's suffrage movement in Ireland and Britain (1912-1922)
- The foundation of the Free State (December 1922)

(Department of Foreign Affairs: https://www.dfa.ie/commemorations/ decade-of-centenaries).

In this column, I want to reflect on what the commemorative programs mean for the Irish nation, the Irish diaspora, and for Irish Americans. Specifically, the program was conceptualized to emphasize collaboration, to affirm differences in historical memory, and to expand the historical record. As a State-sponsored activity, guided by an august group of advisors, the remembrance is a hybrid of celebrating the freedom and democracy achieved for the Republic of Ireland while also critically reviewing how the events affected various sectors of Irish society differently. It does not want to evade the suffering and loss of life during the Civil War nor the difficult compromises of the partition of North and South.

### The Decades of Centenaries as a **Commemorative National Event**

Clearly, everyone involved in the planning process knew the challenges of engaging with the period that began with a fervent desire to break from the colonial strictures, but which ended with a divided island. Secondly, each of the events involved conflicts from within sectors of Irish society (landowners and landless; church and laity; women and men, etc.), and thirdly, while these conflicts predicated the formation of modern Ireland, some remain unsettled.

The commemoration could not be simplified into "preserving Irish culture" as part of the heroic struggle of Irish independence. Led by Maurice Manning, who served as Chancellor of the National University of Ireland, President of the Human Rights Commission, and a member for over twenty years of the Oireachtas, the Advisory Group issued three statements, all of which establish, assess, and re-affirm the objectives of the commemoration. (https://www.decadeofcentenaries

com/about/) For all students of Irish history, these documents are key

to understanding the foundational events of the modern Irish state. For those interested in how any inclusive and respectful national conversation can take place about deeply divisive issues, the documents are equally

essential.

The American bicentennial celebration was framed as a celebration of the virtues of American democracy that led to independence from England. Imagine if the scope of the bicentennial was broadened to include the American Civil War and the Civil Rights Movement? There could be no such simple. self-affirming message. Some of the current arguments about what can be taught in schools signal a resistance to re-exploring events that might disrupt or complicate our "great' or "heroic" national stories.

In comparison, the Irish commemoration based itself on objectives founded on a vigilant premise that the past continues to unspool, affecting present society, government, and culture. The Irish government's goals were:

To focus on themes of reconciliation and on remembrance of all of those who lost their lives during this period;

To promote a deeper understanding of the significant historical events of this period, recognizing that the shared historical experiences of those years gave rise to very different narratives and memories:

To encourage reflection about the multiple identities, traditions and perspectives that are part of the overall Irish historical experience; and

To respond with sensitivity to the local historical context, acknowledging that there was no uniform experience within counties or across the island."

The commemoration's purpose was not to achieve final consensus about how to interpret the historical events nor to promote a false and exclusionary version of the path to nationhood. Much more important was the promotion of respect, reconciliation, and peace. Note that commemorative activities took place in Belfast and Derry as well as other sites in Northern Ireland.

### **Decade of Centenaries Themes**

To give order to the diverse activities of the commemoration, the government/advisory group suggested four thematic strands. The State Ceremonial Strand focused on a limited number of national activities around the most consequential events. For example, in September 2022, President Michael D. Higgins, then Taoiseach Micheál Martin T.D., and then Tánaiste Leo Varadkar T.D., came together to remember all those who died in the Civil War during an evening which included traditional Irish and classical music, poetry and

Further occasions to reflect on the costs of the Civil War (or other events) were encouraged through the Community Strand. The Creative Imagination Strand prompted traditional, recovered, and new artistic renderings of key events and dynamics in the founding years. The Historical Strand reminded participants of diverse interpretations of the same event, the value of local histories (as opposed to "official" histories), the discovery of new historical artefacts, and a reexamination of primary sources.

Taken together, the four themes encouraged nation-wide observances from large State sponsored events to occasions in every town and village. It produced an extraordinarily rich set of new resources from primary sources to new historical

interpretations.

These deeply illuminating accounts can be accessed through the Decade of Centenaries website (https://www.decadeofcentenaries. com/publications/), through the National Archives (www. nationalarchives.ie), and through *Comoradh*, the newsletter for the Irish abroad (https://www.dfa. ie/media/dfa/alldfawebsitemedia/ ourrolesandpolicies/northernireland/ Comoradh-Issue-3.pdf). Additionally, there are many websites devoted to local commemorations, such as the ones in Monaghan and Louth. Programs developed by RTE and the National Museum of Ireland are available

It is an extraordinary achievement to bring an entire nation together to share in intense reflection, openness to new understandings, and a communal production of archives and art. It is not possible to overstate the immense value of these new frameworks and new resources.

### Druid O'Casey again

Sean O'Casey's Dublin Trilogy, comprising his three plays that span the Easter Rising, the War of Independence, and the Civil War, is the only set of plays written and staged during these violent but foundational times. Druid O'Casey, the famous Galway Theater, stages all three plays in a single day (or across three days), the first company to do so.

Tickets are now available for the

The Old Angle

Johnny

Kilbane

Featherweight

99 years ago, on February 22, 1912,

Johnny Kilbane, a son of Cleveland's "Angle" neighborhood, in a 20 round

bont, became The Featherweight Champion of the World. A title held

longer than any other featherweigh

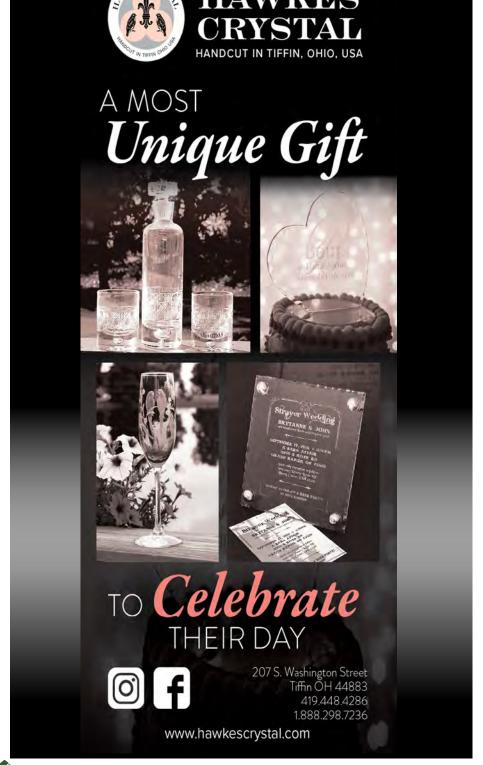
in the history of boxing.

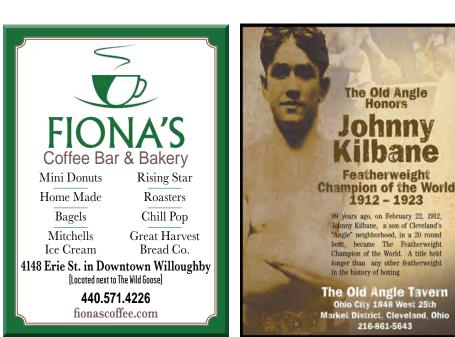
production in New York City (https:// nyuskirball.org/events/druidocasey/) or in Ann Arbor, Michigan (https:// ums.org/season/2023-24-season/ <u>druidocasey/</u>). The plays are witty and fast-paced, marked by O'Casey's constant concern about how large events arrive at their destination on the backs by those most adversely

affected. Highly recommended and deeply enriching when seen while examining new documents from the Decade of Centenaries. •

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# **Dobhar Chú**

The Iroquois were one of the First Nation Tribes to make the area surrounding Lake



Erie their home, long before the arrival of the Europeans. In stories they have passed down, they told of a creature they called Oniare (own-yar-eh).

Oniare is the Mohawk word for snake, and the Iroquois thought it described the serpent-like creature that lived in Lake Erie and the other Great Lakes. It's head resembled a dog and it was supposed to breathe fire and poison. It was large enough to



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capsize canoes and devour those aboard.

### **Bessie**

Today the legend lives on in the form of "Bessie." She is often refered to as the American cousin to "Nessie" of Loch Ness. "Bessie" has been described differently over the years by those who have seen her, but most agree she has a dog-like head and large fins, a cross between a hound and a very large otter.

Cryptozoologists believe she is a decendant of the Plesiosaur, a massive marine reptile with a long neck that died out with the dinosaurs. The last reported sighting of "Bessie" was in the 1980s, when a couple of women from Akron were visiting the islands in the south bay area.

Irish mythology is full of serpent or dragon-like creatures that make their home in the lakes, rivers and streams of Ireland. The Dobhar Chú (do-war coo) translates to

water hound. It has a dog-like head and also is thought to be a cross between a hound and an

It prefers the deepest parts of a lake, river or even the sea, but it can also travel on land. The Dobhar Chú is very aggressive and feeds on human flesh. Recorded sightings date back to 1684, with Achill Island and Co. Mayo boasting the largest (albeit unconfirmed) sightings in modern

Cryptozoologists also believe the Dobhar Chú is a migratory beast, easily capable of travel to a lake in Scotland as well as a Lake Erie vacation mecca. Some think the Dobhar Chú was merely following other Irish emigrants.

The word dobhar has a couple of meanings, water is the most common, but it can also mean dark or darkness. Cú (koo) is hound and cú dobhráin (koo dorawn) is one name for an otter, but dobharchú is also used.

Madra (mah-dra) is a word

meaning dog and uisce (ish-ka) is another word for water, so madra uisce would be a water dog, also an otter. Getting back to dobhar, dobhar each (do-war ahk) or water horse or steed is a hippopotamas.

### It's a dog's world!

Madra is used to give descriptive names to a number of animals. Madra crainn, (mah-dra krann) is a tree dog or squirrel. Crann (krann) is tree. Cat crainn (kaht *krann*) or tree cat is the Irish name for a pine marten.

If you've been lucky enough to have laid eyes on one ,you would agree that they resemble a cat. Madra rua (mah-dra roo-ah) is red dog, a fox. Dearg (jer-ug) is the color red and rua is usually reserved for red hair or red color that is more brownish-red so a fox would never be called a madra dearg.

The wolf has a few different names, madra-allta (mah-dra all-ta) is wild dog and faolchú (fwaoll-koo) or wild hound is used as well. My favorite refers to the wolf as Mac Tire (mahk tcheer-ih), son of the land, possibly because of the stories of the Osraí (see Speak Irish April 2023). Wolves had supernatural abilities in many tales in Irish mythology.

Madraí bána (mah-dree bahnah) uses the plural for dogs and a form of bán, the color white to give us white dogs or bee larvae. Madra mara (mah-dra mahr-ah) sea dog is one name for a seal. Rón (*roon*) is another, rón mór (roon mohr) would describe a sea lion. Bainirseach (bwin-er-shuck) would be a female seal.

Speaking of seals, sumugairle róin (*smug-er-leh row-in*) directly translates as seal snot, an apt descripition of a jellyfish I think! A very strong tide is refered to as madra taoide (mah-dra tee-deh) or tide dog. The Irish word for a pug is smutmhadra (smut-wah-dra). smut meaning a stump or short piece or portion. No offense to the little snorters!

In keeping with the season, sciathán leathair (shki-hawn law-

er) is leather wing, a bat, although consumed it, and the wine allowed Dearg is the Irish word for red and long ago they were called bas dorcha (bahs dor-kuh) dark death. Damhán alla (doo-wahn oll-eh) a little wild ox, a name that was given to the spider nearly 1,200 years ago and stuck.

A daddy long legs is a snáthaid an phúca (snaw-hud uhn foo-ka) a pooka's needle. Sometimes they are called snáthaid an diabhail (snaw-hud uhn dee-il) the devils needle and that can also be used for a dragonfly.

### Samhain

The first of November is the feast of Samhain, a celebration marking the end of summer and the beginning of winter, a very important holiday for the ancient celts. It was more than just a feast day, every member of the community that was able was obligated to attend so matters of importance could be discussed and settled upon.

Great feasting did occur, with a heavy emphasis on pork and wine. Pork was thought to give immortality to those that

a person to transcend reality (been there! and gain access to the world of the supernatural on the day when the living and the dead shared the same realm. All Saints Day, the Christian legacy of with the Communion of Saints.

Oíche Shamhna (ee-ha howna) or Samhain Eve (sow-in) has evolved into Halloween for many of us in modern times. To wish someone Happy Halloween you would say "Oíche Shamhna Shona duit!" (ee-ha how-na hun*uh gwit*). If you were wishing it more than one person, you would change the ending and say, "Oíche Shamhna Shona daoibh!" (ee-ha how-na hun-uh yeev).

This Halloween, instead of the classic tales you're familiar with, search out some of the great stories and tales from Ireland's rich mythology. The story of the "Dearg Der" (jer-ug der) from Waterford City is one of my favorites and has inspired many modern tales of a female vampire.

der implies thirst. Dacre Stoker based one of the main characters in his novel "Dracul" after her. A great story about the origins of Bram Stoker's classic.

Tabhair féirin dom, nó buailfidh Samhain, has retained that aspect mé bob ort! (toh-er fayr-een dom no bub ort) Give me a gift or I'll play a trick on you. Trick or Treat!

> Oiche Shamhna Shona Daoibh! •

Bob Carney is a student of Irish history and language and teaches the Speak Irish Cleveland class held every Tuesday at PJ McIntyre's. He is also active in the Irish Wolfhound and Irish dogs organizations in and around Cleveland. Wife Mary, and hounds Rían, Aisling and Draoi and terrier Doolin keep the house jumping. He can be reached at carneyspeakirish@gmail.com

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# **Exercise Is the Most Important Medicine for COVID 19**

Tt's that time of year again... The news is filled with stories about a "triple-demic" and "highly mutated strains." Boosters? Masks? Wait... which arm? When? It's enough to make you go crazy!

**COVID-19** infection (and long COVID) affects multiple organ systems, including the respiratory, cardiovascular,



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renal, digestive, neuroendocrine, musculoskeletal systems, and sensory organs. So, what should you do? Drum roll......EXERCISE!

Research suggests that exercise should be considered a first-line strategy in the prevention and treatment of COVID-19 infection and long COVID disease. Exerkines, released during exercise, have a potent crosstalk effect between multiple body systems. Exerkines can mitigate the effects of COVID-19 in each organ system that the virus

"Long COVID" has been identified as a post COVID-19 infection condition that affects at least 65 million individuals worldwide. This chronic disease impacts the heart, lung, pancreas, kidney, spleen, liver, blood vessels, and the neurological, gastrointestinal, immune, and reproductive systems with a wide variety of pathology.

Furthermore, COVID-19 infection (and long COVID) increases the risk of medical conditions, including cardiac arrest, heart failure, stroke, pulmonary embolism, diabetes, myalgic encephalomyelitis, and dysautonomia with breakthrough afflictions of coagulation, hematological, pulmonary, and neurological conditions. There are currently no validated effective treatments for long COVID.

Consistently meeting physical activity guidelines has been associated with reduced risk of severe COVID-19 infection outcomes, i.e., hospitalization (22% to 42% reduction), ICU admission (34% to 38% reduction), deterioration, and death (43% to 83% reduction) (4–7), across demographic and clinical characteristics. Furthermore, those engaged in regular physical activity have an 11% to 22% lower risk of infection.

The greatest benefit is provided by achieving at least 500 metabolic equivalent of task (MET)-minutes per week of physical activity, which is equivalent to 150 minutes of moderate-intensity or 75 minutes of vigorous-intensity physical activity per week. Studies also have found that cardiorespiratory fitness (CRF) is a predictor of COVID-19 disease progression and mortality.

### **Cardiovascular Effects**

Exercise has an anti-inflammatory

effect, which also may oppose the systemic inflammation that occurs with COVID-19 and injures heart tissue. In addition, the release of muscle-derived mesenchymal stem cells during exercise has been purported to repair cardiomyocytes. This mechanism may be important when heart tissue has been damaged with COVID-19 infection, or long COVID.

### **Immune System Effects**

The mucosal immune system, in the upper respiratory tract, plays an important role in defending against viral infections like COVID-19. Increasing aerobic capacity can enhance immunity through immune cells and immunoglobulins advancement and regulating CRP levels. It could act as an antibiotic and antioxidant, restoring normal lung tissue elasticity and strength.

Exercise has been shown to increase the levels and function of immune cells like T-lymphocytes, neutrophils, macrophages, and monocytes, as well as increase the levels of immunoglobulins like IgA, which play a vital role in fighting lung infections. Secretory IgA, in particular, is an antibody that helps to neutralize viruses and prevent them from entering cells.

### **Respiratory Effects**

Further, exercise can potentially enhance the production of secretory IgA in the respiratory tract. Exercise duration may play a protective role in the respiratory tract through discriminatory change in mucosal immunity through the cellularity, antiviral activity, and gene expression.

A study that assessed whether exercise-induced myokines would mitigate the COVID-19 infectivity of the bronchial epithelium through angiotensin-converting enzyme 2 -ACE2 intonation demonstrated evidence suggesting exercise has a protective effect against COVID-19.

### **Cognitive Effects**

A recent review on neuroendocrine symptoms of COVID-19 hypothesized that exercise attenuates  $\beta$ -cell dysfunction and the long-term neuroendocrine effects of COVID-19 by moderating the inflammatory response, supporting brain homeostasis, and promoting insulin sensitivity. Long COVID also has been associated with increased

stress levels, anxiety, and depression.

Regular exercise has been shown to alleviate stress and anxiety and has been associated with lower odds of incident depression or an increase in subclinical symptoms. The evidence indicates that exercise is an important medicine for treating these symptoms of long COVID.

### Recovery

It also is important for damaged/ nonfunctioning cells/organelles (as can occur with COVID-19 infection) to be removed so that body systems may function optimally. Exercise may help this process since autophagy occurs with every exercise session. within the heart, pancreas, liver, adipose tissue, brain, and skeletal muscle.

Noteworthy for COVID-19 rehabilitation is that research has identified that mitochondria are damaged with COVID-19 infection and are involved in symptoms (such as fatigue) of long COVID. Exercise has been found to "cleanup" nonfunctioning, damaged mitochondria, and thus ensure that energy production is optimized, and skeletal muscle health is maintained.

### **Vaccine Efficacy**

Interest in the potential impact of physical activity on vaccine effectiveness also was piqued by the COVID-19 epidemic, as it became apparent that vaccines were a powerful tool in lowering morbidity and mortality. Previous crosssectional studies and randomized controlled trials have demonstrated increased postvaccination antibody titer levels in adults who engage in regular physical activity. This effect appears to be particularly beneficial in the elderly.

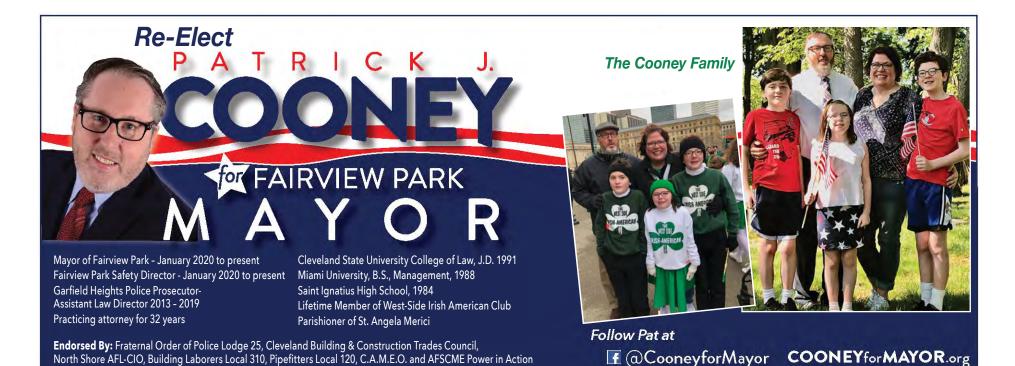
What did you think I was going to say? Eat Doughnuts? •

Dr. Peters is the founder of "The Fitness Doctor" (www. thefitnessdoctors.com) and a professor of Health & Human Performance. He has a Ph.D. in Physiology from Kent State University and is a certified member of the American College of Sports

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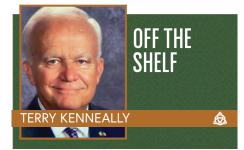


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### A Thread of Violence

By Mark O'Connell Doubleday-New York ISBN 978-0-385-547628 Pub. 2023 288 pp.

This months Off the Shelf book review is a departure from my usual selection of a recent novel about Ireland or one written



by an Irish writer. The subject of the book is Malcolm

STORY OF TRUTH

Macarthy, a man born into a privileged family from County Meath, who inherited enough of his family's estate without the burden of daily work.

He was a handsome. well-spoken man who became a denizen of Dublin's bohemian bars in the 60s and 70s. Despite his high-born background, Macarthy committed two of the most heinous crimes in Irish history. Over the course of a weekend in July 1982 he took the life of Bridie Dargan, a nurse whom he bludgeoned to death with a hammer in Phoenix Park when

stealing her car. Three days later, he shot to death a farmer named Donal Dunne, who was shot in the face with a shotgun Both victims were innocent and 27 years old. Macarthy had run into some financial trouble as a result of his spendthrift ways and was aghast at the prospect of losing his independent lifestyle. He conjured up a bank heist that never made it to the bank. The end result was a crime spree both tragic and brutal.

Macarthy became the loose inspiration for Freddie Montgomery the protagonist in John Banville's 1989 novel, The Book of Evidence. Both men experienced financial problems, which led to horrific

Sentenced to life in prison (there

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is no death penalty in Ireland), following a trial in which Macarthy confessed to his crimes, he was let out of prison on license. Being released 'on license' means that for the rest of their sentence the released prisoner must stick to certain conditions.

In 2012, having served thirty years, O'Connell begins by describing his hunt for Macarthy after learning he was released. He learned that Macarthy had shown up at book launches and seminars in Dublin, like Baggot Street Banquo and Trinity College, which had been a favored spot, a place where O'Connell himself studied, writing his PHD on the works of Banville.

The lead that allowed O'Connell to locate Macarthy was an article

in the Irish Sun with the headline, "Masking a Murderer: Double killer Malcolm Macarthy backs Covid locked down restrictions- labeling them "necessary precautions." To make Macarthy's story even more remarkable, Charles Haughey, the Irish prime minister, famously used the words, 'Grotesque, Unbelievable,

Bizarre, Unprecedented" at a news conference in the summer of 1982 to describe what was going on in Ireland.

While Macarthy was on the lamb following the double murders, he was found to be staying as a guest in the seaside penthouse of the attorney general, Patrick Connolly. The most wanted criminal in Ireland was occasionally chauffeured around in the state car provided to the government's chief legal advisor, complete with a garda driver. Conor O'Brien shortened the words of Hughey into an acronym that was to define an era: GUBU. Grotesque, Unbelievable, Bizarre, and Unprecedented. For those interested in crime noir books this writer recommends <u>A Thread of Violence</u>. •

Terrence J. Kenneally is an attorney and owner of Terrence J. Kenneally & Associates in Rocky River Ohio.

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# The Poems of William Butler Yeats

**By Linda Fulton Burke** 

|    |    |    | 1   |     |    |    | 2   |                 |    |    | 3 |    |    |     |    | 4  |    |    | 5  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 6  |    |    | 7  |
|----|----|----|-----|-----|----|----|-----|-----------------|----|----|---|----|----|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    | 8  |    |     |     |    | 9  |     |                 |    |    |   |    |    |     | 10 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 11 |    |    |    |    |    |
|    |    |    |     |     |    |    |     |                 |    |    |   |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |    |    | 12 |    |    |    |    |    |    | 13 |    |    |
|    | 14 |    |     |     |    |    |     |                 | 15 |    |   |    | 16 |     |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 17 |    |    |    |
|    |    |    |     |     | 18 |    |     |                 |    |    |   | 19 |    |     |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|    |    |    |     |     |    |    |     |                 |    |    |   |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 20 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|    | 21 |    |     |     |    |    |     | 22              | 23 |    |   |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |    |    | 24 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|    |    |    |     |     |    |    |     |                 |    |    |   |    |    |     |    |    |    | 25 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|    |    |    | 26  |     |    | 27 |     | 28              |    |    |   |    |    |     | 29 |    |    | 30 |    | 31 |    | 32 |    |    |    | 33 |    |    |    |    |
|    | 34 |    |     |     |    |    |     |                 |    |    |   |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 35 |    |    |    | 36 |    |    |
|    |    |    |     | 37  |    |    |     |                 |    |    |   |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|    | 38 |    |     |     |    |    |     |                 |    |    |   |    |    |     |    |    |    | 39 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|    |    |    |     |     |    |    |     |                 |    |    |   | 40 |    |     |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 41 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|    |    |    |     |     |    |    |     | 42              |    | 43 |   |    | 45 |     |    |    |    |    |    | 47 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 10 |
| 44 |    |    |     |     |    |    | 10  |                 |    |    |   |    | 45 |     |    |    |    | 46 |    | 47 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 48 |
|    |    | 50 |     |     |    | 54 | 49  |                 |    |    |   |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|    |    | 50 |     | F0. |    | 51 | 5.4 |                 |    |    |   |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 50 |    |    |
|    | 52 |    |     | 53  |    |    | 54  |                 |    |    |   |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 55 |    |    |    |    |    | 56 |    |    |
| 57 |    |    |     |     |    | 58 |     | 59              |    |    |   |    |    |     |    | 60 |    |    |    |    | 61 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 62 |    |    |     |     |    |    |     | 33              |    |    |   |    |    |     |    | 60 |    |    |    |    | 61 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 62 |    |    |     |     |    |    |     |                 | 63 |    |   |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |    |    | 64 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|    |    |    |     |     |    | 65 | 66  |                 | 63 |    |   |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |    | 67 | 64 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|    |    |    |     | 68  |    |    | 00  |                 |    | 69 |   |    |    |     | 70 |    | 71 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|    |    |    | 72  |     |    | _  |     | _               |    |    |   |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 73 |    |    | 74 |    |    |    |    |
|    |    |    | , _ |     |    |    |     |                 |    |    |   |    |    | 75  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 76 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|    |    |    |     |     |    | _  | 77  | _               |    |    |   |    |    | , , |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 78 |    |
| 79 |    |    |     |     |    |    |     |                 |    |    |   | 80 |    |     |    |    |    |    | 81 |    |    |    |    |    |    | 82 |    |    | -  |    |
|    |    |    |     |     |    |    |     |                 |    |    |   | 83 |    |     |    |    |    |    | 01 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|    |    |    |     |     |    |    |     | 84              |    |    |   |    |    |     |    | 85 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|    |    |    |     |     |    |    |     | 5. <del>.</del> |    |    |   |    |    |     |    | 55 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|    |    |    |     |     |    |    |     |                 | 86 |    |   |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 87 |    |    |    |    |    |
|    |    |    |     |     |    |    |     |                 | Ĺ  |    |   |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |





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