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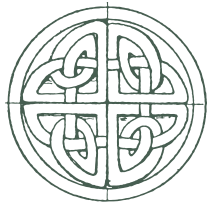
OHIO IRISH AMERICAN NEWS

FEBRUARY 2019 • Volume 13 - Issue 2



Rambling House

See Rambling House on March 2, 2019 at Medina Performing Arts Center



EDITOR'S CORNER

A Hallelujah Christmas?

God understands the weary. Two days after Christmas, I got a text from Brendan Gorman that George Dunne had passed away. I was so sure he was mistaken, George was only 52. I have known George Dunne, Jr. for all of our lives. Born six months apart, I have memories of George Jr. and I, John Jr., climbing over penalty boxes at Wintehurst and kicking a Gaelic football at Gunning, or just getting in trouble, while watching our dads, George Sr. and John Sr. play broomball or Gaelic football; I don't think we had entered grade school yet.

George got yelled at more often, or maybe I left the hearing aid at home. I remember how powerful George Sr. was, built like a mac truck, and Sara racing onto the field at Gunning, whacking a Chicago player over the head with her purse repeatedly as he stupidly tried to fight George Sr. Always a losing proposition, for with the Dunne's, loyalty trumps all, and taking on one, was taking on a whole army.

I remember George Sr. sitting in my house in Medina, talking about life, and that laugh popping out after the quick squint of the eyes, that were a clue he was teasing. George Jr. shared so many traits with his dad – but the loyalty is the one that I associate most.



John O'Brien, Jr. and George Dunne, Jr.

I never doubted he was just a call away. That loyalty manifested itself in his support of most everything Irish; Aislinn, The IRA, Gaelic football, freedom for Ireland, music, his friends and family, and luckily, me.

Fr. Pat called George a peacemaker at the funeral. That got a chuckle. I suppose he was, later in life. But the indomitable spirit that fired through him in life, didn't suffer fools or fake news. George was the brother I never had, a friend who never wavered, and a constant staunch supporter, who refused to be any less than that, ever.

He always greeted with me with, "Johnny, How the hell are ya?"

And said goodbye with a handshake and, "Keep the Faith."

As I held my place in the Honor Guard of former Saints Patrick's & Jarlath's players, and Georgie was carried out in the arms of his brothers, nephews and family, I thought of George Sr. waiting, sitting with legs stretched out and crossed, hands interlocked on his stomach, waiting to meet Georgie at The Gate. Jr. was going home, and waiting with a hug, and a few warm pats on the back was dad ...

"Ahh Georgie, you came too early Son. It's good to see you."

Safe Home my friend. Watch over us. For always George, you are just a thought away.

Nuair a stadann an ceol, stadann an rinncé.

(When the music stops, so does the dance)

John



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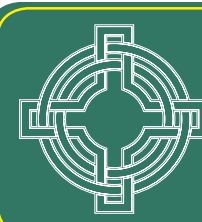
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About Our Cover:

Brian Bigley's Rambling House premiers at Medina

Performing Arts on March 2nd. www.ramblinghouseshow.com

Photos by Brooklyn Media, LLC.



AN EEJIT ABROAD

By CB Makem



A Bit of a Reach

I think there's one thing on which we can all agree, and that's that the Ohio Irish American News has been lacking a column on Transylvania for quite some time. I blame it on the Sports Department, but then again, you can pretty much always point the finger at them and most people would just agree and say, "Well, that's no surprise."

When our editor asked me why I wanted to focus on Transylvania for my premiere column, I asked, "Wasn't Dracula set in that region of Romania?" And he conceded the point. Then I further inquired, "And wasn't it written by Bram Stoker?" To which he replied, "It was."

And then I nimbly argued, "And wasn't Bram Stoker an Irish-American?" And he answered, "I'm pretty sure he was just Irish." And I concluded the discussion with, "Well that counts."

And so here we are. Ready to set things right. And no, I shan't be mentioning Bram Stoker again, so if that's what you're looking for, you're out of luck. You see, the other half and I jetted off for a three-month adventure to Romania, and though I have plenty to say about Ireland and America, it creates a bit of suspense, doesn't it, to save those places for a later column.

We flew into Sibiu, a beautiful and

historic city of just under 150,000, on our way to a town an hour west called Sebeş. Now Sebeş is the kind of place that when an immigration official asks how long you're staying and you say "90 days," and he asks where you're staying, and you say "Sebeş," he'll repeat the town name as if he'd just watched a contestant on the Price is Right bid on the dishwasher over the second and always better showcase.

To make matters worse, Libby was flying on an American passport, and I—following her directly—was on an Irish one. Now he's looking at the pair of us, purportedly from two different countries staying three months in a town that, for all I knew, was Romanian for stay away: botulism capital of the world. As you can guess, it didn't go well.

He called over a supervisor who proceeded to rummage through every nook and cranny of our luggage, taking his sweet time as the airport was swiftly closing all around us. "What's this?" the head cheese asked at one point. "That's a letter from an 84-year-old woman in Texas. I was going to write her back." I jest not, he proceeded to read the letter from stem to stern, a respectable feat, as it was exactly the kind of letter you'd expect from an 84-year



A couple poses for a selfie on the Bridge of Lies, arguably Sibiu's most photographed feature. One of the legends states that if a merchant was caught cheating his customers, he was thrown off the bridge.

old woman in Texas.

Then he ran across my notebook, which was emblazoned with a Star Fleet insignia and the words "Captain's Log." He was even more interested in this tidbit than the Lone Star State correspondence. "What's this?" he asked, as if he'd finally found the conspiratorial crown jewel. "It's a ... um ... notebook." "Pretty fancy notebook," said he condescendingly, as if I should be ashamed by my high fallutin' galactic novelty. I shrugged, and though I wanted to assure him I wasn't really a Star Fleet captain, I held my tongue, because he didn't seem like the kind of person who found anything funny unless someone got hurt.

And then he hit upon my American passport. Holy cow, I thought we were going to be turned away, left to stew like a couple of replaceable ensigns in an empty airport until ejected on the next flight out in the morning. I was pretty sure an Irish citizen could visit other European countries freely, but I'll be honest, I'm not an immigration attorney, and I don't think this man would have listened to one anyway.

By the end of our ordeal, the entire customs and immigration detachment of about a dozen was watching the en-

tainment, all seeming to want to get home (the airport had been shuttered for 40 minutes) and I got the feeling our supervisor friend pulled this kind of stunt a lot.

A neighbor in Sebeş later informed me that that kind of behavior was not uncommon among some people with power, but he was the only overzealous authority we met in our travels.

The first agent, who was a very nice fellow, called us a cab—an awfully nice thing as we didn't speak Romanian and the front of the airport had as much activity as a town at the end of a Clint Eastwood movie.

We stayed the night in Sibiu, which was named Europe's cultural capital in 2007. The old town section, where the hotel was located, was named by Forbes as Europe's 8th most idyllic place to live in 2008. Its cobbled, and pointedly Germanic, 600-year old large square was filled with energy, and not a single person asking for trouble, exactly what we'd been hoping for.

Our stomachs were growling the next morning, but most restaurants don't open before 9 or 10 a.m., so we loitered as best we could, stopping in to a charming basement book store with brick walled arches, an inviting coffee

Continued on page 4

THE IRISH IN ACTION

Are you running for an elective office? There are over 1.6 million people of Irish descent in Ohio; 475,000 in Greater Cleveland; 176,000 in Cuyahoga County: Want to reach them?

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SAFE HOME



GEORGE T. DUNNE
May 15, 1966 - December 27, 2018

GEORGE T. DUNNE (age 52), beloved husband of Aislinn (nee Martin); loving father of George, Kara and Daniel; son of Sarah (nee Sixsmith) and

the late George; brother of Annie (Bill Reading), John (Natalie), David (Erin) and Thomas (Mandy); beloved nephew, uncle and great-uncle of many; dear friend of Ray Kelly and many others. George was a longtime member of the St. Pat's/St. Jarlath's Gaelic Football Club. Passed away unexpectedly December 27, 2018.

Co. Mayo's Unique Transatlantic Connections Recognized By American Professors



Pictured at Mayo County Library with the Pennsylvania Cup, left to right; Councillor Henry Kenny, brother of former Taoiseach Enda Kenny T.D., their late father Henry was a member of Mayo's 1932 football panel, Professor Timothy McMahon, Caitriona Doyle, Professor Matthew O'Brien, Councillor Martin McLoughlin, Cathaoirleach (Mayor) of Castlebar Municipal District Council and Michael Larkin, grand nephew of Thomas Larkin.

Two leading academics in the field of Irish American studies made a very special visit to Co. Mayo to acknowledge the extraordinary contribution made by Thomas Larkin in the early 1900's, to the development of the telephone network in the American Mid - West.

Dr. Matthew O'Brien, Pittsburgh, Prof. of History at Steubenville University and Dr. Timothy McMahon, President of the American Conference for Irish Studies (A.C.I.S.), were both accorded a Civic Welcome by Castlebar Municipal District Council, on the occasion of their visit to the county.

Thomas Larkin, born in 1874, in the townland of Derrew, Ballyheane, Co. Mayo, was just one of the thousands of Irish immigrants, who hoped that the promised 'American Dream' would at least in part, become a reality, as he made his journey westwards to the 'New World'.

When he first stepped onto American soil, little did he realise that in time, his future career pathway with the Bell Telephone Company in Pennsylvania, would lead to him being acknowledged and recognised for his role in the delivery of the telephone network into the American Midwest.

Following the invention of the telephone by Alexander G. Bell in 1876, there was much scepticism and doubt regarding its practical everyday use. Even U.S. President at the time, Rutherford B. Hayes, was not impressed when he stated "That's an amazing invention Mr. Bell, but who would ever want to use it?"

Thankfully, some of the memorabilia

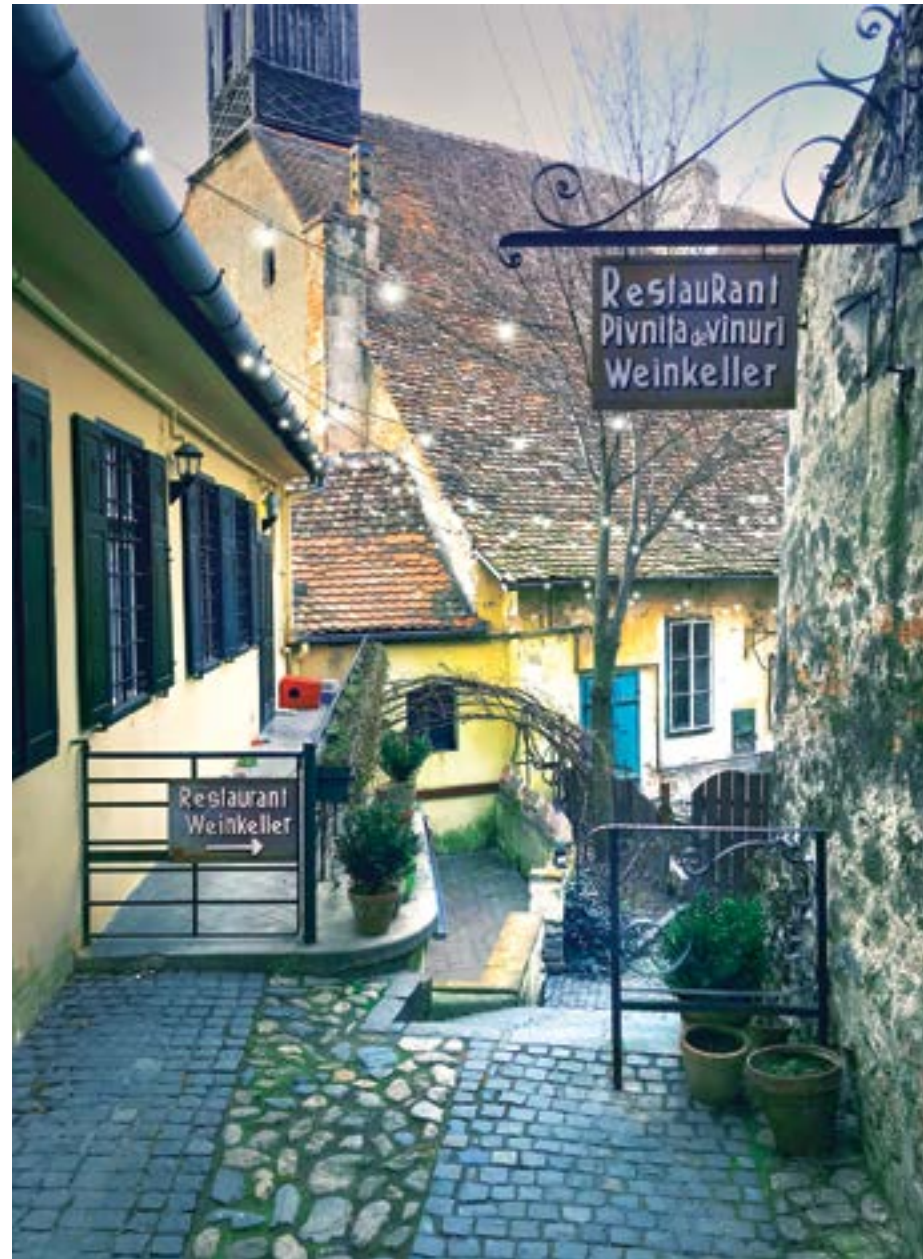
relating to Thomas Larkin's career with the Bell Telephone Company has survived, including the original certificate conferring life membership of the Telephone Pioneers of America, presented at the AT&T Headquarters in New York. The engraved copper cup, with the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania insignia, is another artifact bearing testament to a distinguished career.

During their short, yet very significant visit to Co. Mayo, professors McMahon and O'Brien visited some of the County's iconic landmarks, including the Foxford Woollen mills, Michael Davitt Museum, Martin Sheridan sculpture Bohola, Ballintubber Abbey and a very special visit to the ancestral homestead of Thomas Larkin.

A visit to Mayo County Library to view the the magnificent Pennsylvania Cup, which was presented to the captain of the Mayo Senior Football team on the occasion of their trip to the USA in 1932, was also significant.

Initially as a telephone lineman, and later in more senior management roles, Thomas Larkin ensured that many 'new connections' were created through the use of a device that was capable of transmitting the sound of a human voice over a wire.

As an example of transatlantic connectivity, his emigrant journey and career with the Bell Telephone Company, is symbolic of that unique and special connection that exists between Ireland and its diaspora throughout the world. ■



Sibiu is filled with side alleys, and around any corner you can find stunning beauty

An Eejit Abroad *Continued from page 3*

counter, a small English section and Sibiu postcards. We loaded up and strolled the cobbled streets and grand squares, awed by the beauty.

Wandering in to a place called Café Wien a little after 10, we seated ourselves in a cozy room and a kindly waiter brought us menus. I can tell you that you might as well ask for unicorn sausages as a full-Irish breakfast in Transylvania. You can choose omelets or cold meat and cheese, and if you'd like, they'll provide bread, which apparently no one in the country has thought of combining with butter. Libby ordered the eggs and coffee. I chose the meat and a cup of tea. "What flavor tea would you like?" the young

man asked in much better English than anyone on Keeping Up with the Kardashians. "I'll take tea flavor, thank you very much," I replied. "So ... black?" "If that's the color they're making it now."

He showed genuine concern and asked if I was feeling alright. I assured him that I was, and he went off to retrieve a perfectly acceptable cuppa. My neighbor in Sebeş (remember I mentioned him earlier) told me that people in Romania only drink black tea when they're ill.

Now John, the OhioIAnews editor, asked me to limit myself to 1,100 words, so I'm sure he'll be thrilled to see that I did a full page on Romania and didn't even get my first breakfast yet. ■



TOLEDO IRISH

By Maury Collins
@MauryCollins



The making of the 2019 AOH-LAOH State Convention

The Toledo Hibernian Divisions, the John P. Kelly AOH division and the Mother McAuley LAOH division, were formed in 1990. In the Hibernian spirit of helping a new division get established, the 1995 70th Biennial AOH-LAOH State Convention was awarded to Toledo.

That convention ran from July 13th through July 16th and was held at the Holiday Inn on Reynolds Road. The convention was chaired by Ann Dollman, Dr. Thomas McCabe and Sister Ann McManus.

At the 2005 State convention, Ann Dollman was installed as State L-AOH President and Dan O'Connell was installed as State AOH President. The convention was held in Youngstown, home of Dan O'Connell. The Toledo divisions made a presentation for the 2007 State Convention hoping to honor Ann Dollman at the end of her presidency. The presentation was given by Ann Dollman, myself and a lady from the Toledo Visitor Board. We carried the day.

At the end of the 2005 convention, Mike McKenzie asked me how Toledo could possibly top the Youngstown

convention. I said; "Eyes have not seen, ears have not heard." We both laughed, but the 2007 State Convention turned out to be very special.

It ran from July 13th through the 16th at the French Quarter Holiday Inn Perrysburg, Ohio. A few of the many highlights of the 76th Biennial Ohio State convention are: our beloved Jim Magee, R.I.P., was elected State President. The first State issued Commodore John Barry Award was presented to J. Michael Finn; a great honor well deserved by Mike for outstanding work in behalf of the Ohio Ancient Order of Hibernians.

The Keynote speaker was Sean Farrell, Consul General of Ireland, Chicago. Sean turned out to be not only a great speaker, but a genuine friendly man. We stood at the bar in the hospitality suite at midnight Saturday singing "That's Amore," or as I refer to it as, "That's A Maury." There was a proclamation presented by George Brown, representing Senator George Voinovich, and a letter from President George W. Bush. Bishop Robert Donnolly give the blessing before the dinner. The Ardan Academy Irish

MILESTONE

Congratulations to 2019 Walk of Life Award Winners Vera Casey, Charlene Crowley, Sean Hardy, Jim McMonagle and Chris Ronayne - our community is so indebted and grateful to you for all that you do.

Congratulations to OhioIAnews Columnist Marilyn Madigan, elected to the 2019 Class of the Cleveland International Hall of Fame!



2007 Hibernian State Convention: Sean Farrell, former Irish Consul; OhioIAnews Columnist J. Michael Finn; Jim Magee (RIP); former state AOH President; and Bill Byrne (RIP), former National Director.

dancers performed and John Connolly give one of his best performances ever, for the "Ice breaker". Ann Dollman, Matt Cassidy and Tricia Cassidy were the Co-chairs.

Two years ago, the Toledo Hibernian divisions decided to make a bid for the 2019 state convention. Ann Dollman, Sherri McNeill and myself were chosen to co-chair the event. We prepared a presentation for the 2017 Ohio State Convention, which was held in Pennsylvania!

The presentation was presented by Ann Dollman, with a video which I made. The video is available for you to see at <https://youtu.be/qkPYO7X-Wuyw>.

We took the theme from my cousin, Mike Collins, R.I.P., the former mayor of Toledo; "You'll Do Better in Toledo." The presentation won the day. The convention was set for June, 2019 at the French Quarter. The same lady, Gloria King, was in charge of events at the hotel. Gloria had all the records from the 2007 convention. Plans were pretty well set up when the announcement came that the French Quarter was closing its doors on April 1st.

We immediately went into panic mode. We visited four different hotels. There was only one that we felt would work, but the only available date was the 4th of July weekend. Danny O'Connell nixed that and asked State President Ron Hagan to look for a hotel in Columbus with

a June opening. We went back out again and came up with a wonderful alternative, The Radisson Hotel at the University of Toledo. (See film at: <https://bit.ly/2LYOdZF>). The dates of the 2019 convention are August 15 -18.

Since August 15th is the Feast of The Assumption of Mary, a holy of obligation for Catholics, we have made arrangements for a shuttle to the Historic St. Patrick's Church in Downtown Toledo. Mass will be followed by a 2-hour river cruise in the Sandpiper, which will include dinner and traditional Irish music. The convention is open to Hibernian members and guests, and we have plans for the whole family. There will be shuttles available for trips to the Toledo Museum of Art and the Toledo Zoo too.

Special room rates for Hibernians are: \$99 for a King room or \$109 for a Double room. Call 1.800.967.9033, ask for a Hibernian Room. I am in the process of setting up a web site for you to register for the convention. If you have considered becoming a Hibernian. Please join now and come to Toledo for the state convention. The Hibernians honor their Irish heritage.

We are always looking for more people to join up and help us with that celebration. If you would like more information or would like updates as they become available, e-mail me at maurycollins61@gmail.com. ■



CLEVELAND IRISH

By Francis McGarry



Business was a Boomin’

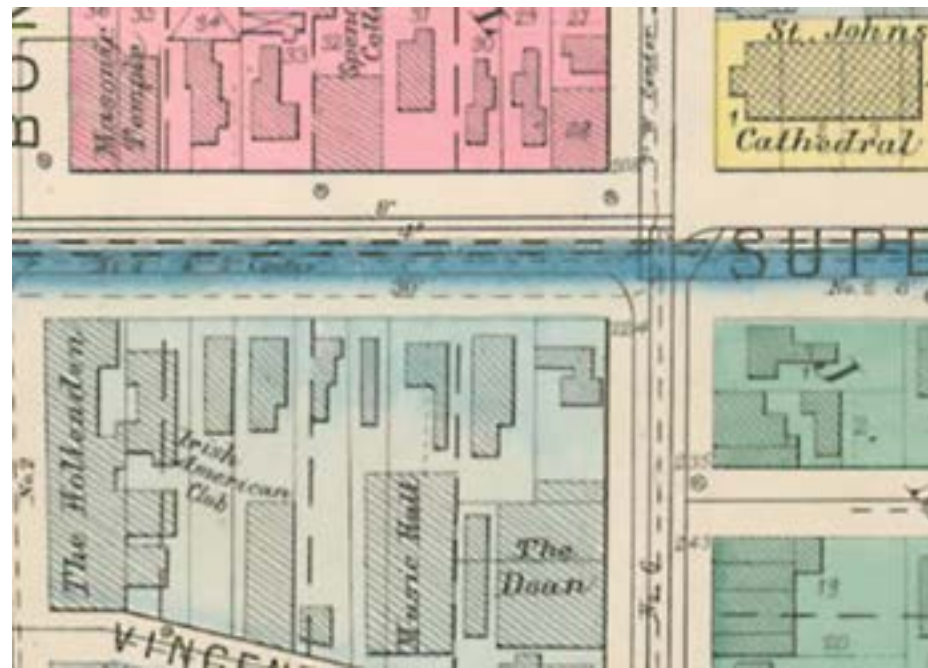
The 1880s illustrated the intersection of Irish geopolitics and Cleveland daily life. Irish American organizations and Irish American institutions became intertwined within the discussion of Irish independence. Clevelanders of Irish descent made decisions about whom and what to support in Ireland and remitted financial support as a result of that decision.

As the Irish in America grew in number during that decade, they also became more economically established as individuals. In 1893, a selection of prominent Cleveland business folk were recognized in a local publication. The Irish presence was not numerically dominant, but it was there. That presence, and lack of, convey another aspect of Irish American

life in Cleveland. Listed below are those recognized:

Temperance Billiard Parlor was established in 1884 by Mr. George P. O’Connor in the Perkins Block at the corner of Seneca and St. Clair streets. Mr. O’Connor was born in Ireland and immigrated in 1864. He was the proprietor of the Reed & Ellsworth Billiard Parlors in Erie, PA, and clerked at the Wadsworth House in Buffalo. George was known for the promotion of billiards in the “strictly scientific, healthful and moral sense.”

One of the oldest established and most reliable dealers of fresh, salt and smoked meats, poultry, fish and oysters (when in season) in South Cleveland was at 2632 Broadway. John Byrne immigrated in



1860 from Ireland. He was in business since 1871 on Harvard Street. “Mr. Byrne is prepared to furnish the most wholesome and best of everything in its line at the lowest prices. Neatness and cleanliness are strictly observed, the service is always polite and attentive; goods are delivered free of charge, and no pains or expense is spared to please

customers. Mr. Byrne is a highly popular and esteemed gentleman.” One of his grandsons is a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians.

P. H. Coughlin was a confectioner and dealer in fancy goods, cigars, tobaccos and smokers’ goods at 2546 Broadway. He was born in Ireland and immigrated

Continued on facing page

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YOUNG & IRISH

By Mary Kate Campbell



Piece of St. Valentine in Dublin

There are many myths that surround the origins of February 14th. One story says that Valentine was a priest in Rome during the 3rd Century under the rule of Emperor Claudius II. Claudius declared that young men must remain single, in order to be better soldiers who would not have a wife or family to worry about. Valentine believed this law was unjust and would secretly marry young couples. His defiance was exposed and the emperor ordered Valentine’s death.

Another story claims Valentine was killed for trying to help Christians escape the harsh Roman jails, where they were often tortured. According to another legend, while imprisoned, Valentine fell in love with the jail keeper’s daughter and sent her a love note signed, “From Your Valentine.” Marking his claim to writing the first “valentine.” It is also said that Valentine was executed on February 14, 270, because he would not renounce his Christian faith to the Roman emperor.

Cleveland Irish

Continued from facing page

in 1880. P.H. started his business in 1888 and built an impressive trade. His shop included “revolving seats and other conveniences for the comfort of his patrons.” Mr. Coughlin “has made a host of friends by his courteous manners and strict attention to business.”

P. H. Cozzens was in the grocery business for eighteen years at 2338 Broadway. He carried “kindred grocers’ sundries; also prime lard, hams, bacon, fish, provisions, fine creamery butter and cheese.” Mr. Cozzens was a native of County Wexford and in 1893 had lived in Cleveland for over forty years. He “always enjoyed an excellent reputation in business circles.”

“M. J. O’Brien established a well-known and responsible house in 1889 and has built a large trade in the Cleveland area.” Located at 2332 Broadway, specializing in pure teas and coffees, spices of all kinds, sugars, syrups and molasses, canned goods, dried fruit, condiments, pickles, preserves, jellies, jams, olive oil, sardines and table delicacies: fine dairy butter, cheese and eggs, choice hams, bacon, smoked meats and general provisions.

Mr. O’Brien was born in Ireland and lived in Cleveland since the early 1870s. “He is a young and enterprising business man and sustains an excellent reputation in commercial circles.”

John R. Collins was one of the best-known businessmen on South Woodland Avenue, dealer in imported and domestic wines and liquors. He established his business at 114 South Woodland in 1888 and “has made a host of friends.” Mr. Collins makes a “specialty of Bass ale and Guinness stout.” John immigrated to Cleveland in 1880 and was a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians. He “enjoys the esteem of all with whom he comes in contact, either in business or socially.”

P.F. Funican established his saloon at 1242 Central Avenue in 1891. He provided only the best and purest wines, liquors and malt beverages, and choice cigars, both imported and domestic. Mr. Funican was a native Clevelander and a molder by trade. “He is a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, and is deservedly popular with all who have dealings with him.”

Patrick Gavagan was born in Ireland in 1848 and immigrated to Cleveland in 1863. In 1881 he owned and operated his own brewery at 5 and 7 Briggs Street.

Father John Spratt, a priest at the Whitefriar Street Church in Dublin, Ireland, was widely known as a holy man. His work and dedication were even recognized by Pope Gregory XVI. In 1836, the pope gifted Father Spratt with a relic—a small golden casket holding the only earthly remains of Valentine. The remains were exhumed from the Roman cemetery of St. Hyppolytus and sent to Dublin, where it was enshrined in Father Spratt’s church.

Every year on February 14th, since 1836, the casket is carried in a sincere procession to the church’s altar for a special holiday mass dedicated to love. The Carmelite Church is located on Whitefriar, between Aungier Street and Wexford Street. The church is also known for



selling cards, claiming they are the only true Valentine’s Day cards. While St. Valentine’s story is often seen as mythical due to it not being well documented, there is other proof, besides his remains, that he did exist.

In the 19th Century, archaeologists uncovered an ancient Roman catacomb beneath a church that was marked as a dedication to Valentine, known as the Catacombs of San Valentino. Whichever tale you believe, the name St. Valentine is known around the world as a heroic, sympathetic figure of love. He is recognized by the Catholic Church as the patron saint of love, happy marriages, engaged couples, young people, and travelers. He forever rests at his home in the Whitefriar Street Church of Dublin. ■

Gavagan’s Cream Stock Ale and Porter were “celebrated throughout the whole of Northern Ohio.” Patrick utilized only the choicest carefully selected hops and malt. His ale and porter were “highly recommended by physicians.”

The best-known teamster and mover of household goods was T. Norris. His business was located at 65 Water street. He moved and hoisted safes, heavy machinery, boilers, and large blocks of marble and stone. Mr. Norris was born in Ireland and moved to Cleveland in 1849.

T.J. Paisley, a native of Belfast, established a similar grocery on the west side in 1891 at 72 West Madison. Mr. Paisley also supplied cigars, tobacco, baled hay, straw and feed. He apparently served a different clientele on the west side. T.J. moved to Cleveland in 1887 and was financial secretary of the Home and Benefit Union.

George H. Herron, a popular and skilled interior decorator and painter, was considered one of Cleveland’s best fresco artists. He employed ten to fifteen “hands”, all proficient in the trade. George also was known for polishing pianos and general house painting. Mr. Herron was born in Ireland and immigrated to Cleveland “many years

ago when a child.” He was a member of the Knights of Pythias, an organization whose founding was inspired by Irish poet John Banim, the “Scot of Ireland.” Louis Armstrong and Warren Harding were Knights of Pythias, if you believe the interweb.

The McMyler Manufacturing Company produced derricks and conveyors, coal buckets, ore buckets, dump cars and kindred mining, quarrying and shipping accessories. They employed 125 workers and in 1893 had begun to construct a second manufacturing plant. Mr. John McMyler was born in Ireland, “but was raised and educated in Cleveland.”

These epigrammatic simulacrum are not representative of the totality of the Cleveland Irish. This publication does demonstrate the transculturation of a somewhat random sample of Cleveland Irish fellows.

As Brendan Behan said, “All publicity is good, except an obituary notice.” These recognized businessmen augmented the sociocultural leaders of the Irish in Cleveland. Collectively, the mobility and success of the Irish in this city substantiated the movement to open the city’s first Irish American Club in 1890 at Superior and East 6th. ■



ILLUMINATIONS

By J. Michael Finn



The Spark that Lit the Fire Burntollet Bridge

“Resolved to march to Derry
We left old Belfast town,
Burntollet we will remember
Where they tried to club us down.”

One of the incidents in the north of Ireland that led to the so-called “Troubles” was the incident at Burntollet Bridge, which occurred in January 1969. This incident was seen as one of the sparks that began tensions in the north of Ireland and its aftermath helped fuel the next thirty years of events.

The late 1960s were a time of upheaval and protest, not only in Ireland, but around the world. Young people were standing up and marching for civil rights in the United States and elsewhere. Racial and ethnic barriers were falling. Inspired by the success of the civil rights movement in the U.S., many in Northern Ireland felt it was time to begin a civil rights movement for the Catholic community.

In September 1968, the Northern

Ireland Civil Rights Association (NICRA) and the Derry Housing Action Committee organized a march to be held in Derry on October 5, 1968. On October 1, 1968, the Protestant fraternal organization, the Apprentice Boys of Derry, announced their intention to march over the same route on the same day and time, in an attempt to get the civil rights march banned. William Craig, the Northern Ireland Home Affairs Minister, obliged and banned the civil rights march from the city center.

When the civil rights marchers attempted to defy the ban, they were charged by the Royal Irish Constabulary and beaten with batons. The Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC) was the police force of Northern Ireland. Many marchers were beaten by the police, including West Belfast Member of Parliament, Gerry Fitt.

Two days of rioting in nationalist areas of Derry followed. Students from Queen’s University, Belfast, were inspired by these events in Derry and on October 9, 1968, formed another civil rights organization called People’s Democracy.

They began planning a civil rights march from Belfast to Derry, in order to protest the RUC handling of the Derry protest. Although the People’s Democracy leaders, including Bernadette Devlin, were advised by the NICRA not to march, the organizers decided to go ahead. The People’s Democracy March left Belfast for Derry on January 1, 1969. The 75-mile march is now referred to as the Long March.

Loyalists in Northern Ireland viewed the People’s Democracy and the march as an attempt to undermine the Unionist government. A number of leading loyalists, including Ronald Bunting and



Ian Paisley, indicated in advance of the march that they would be calling on “the Loyal citizens of Ulster to harass and harry” the four-day march. The march began with about forty participants and soon grew to about 150 student protesters.

Each day of the march, groups of loyalists confronted and physically attacked those taking part in the march. The Royal Ulster Constabulary, who had been accompanying the march, did not make any effort to prevent these attacks nor to protect the safety of the marchers.

The most serious incident occurred January 4, 1968, the last day of the march, between the city of Claudy and Derry. The marchers were ambushed at Burntollet Bridge by approximately 300 loyalists, including 100 off-duty members of the “B-Specials.” The infamous “B-Specials” were members of the Ulster Special Constabulary, which was a quasi-military reserve special constable force in Northern Ireland.

Stones transported in bulk from a nearby quarry were used in the assault, as well as iron bars and sticks spiked with nails. Nearby members of the Royal Ulster Constabulary did little to prevent the violence.

Many of the marchers described their assailant’s lack of concern regarding the police presence. Bernadette Devlin described the attack as follows: “And then we came to Burntollet Bridge,

and from lanes at each side of the road a curtain of bricks and boulders and bottles brought the march to a halt. From the lanes burst hordes of screaming people wielding planks of wood, bottles, laths, iron bars, crowbars, cudgels studded with nails, and they waded into the march beating the heck of everybody.” Devlin later claimed that the RUC had deliberately led the

marchers into the ambush at the bridge. Fortunately, no one was killed during the encounter. Over thirteen marchers required hospital treatment. Burntollet Bridge demonstrated that loyalist violence against Catholics – even when carried out in front of police – could go unpunished. No police or loyalist attackers were injured.

Eventually, the loyalist mob dispersed and the marchers, some of them still bloody from the encounter, marched into Derry. The marchers struggled into Derry to a welcoming reception at the Guildhall. After a night’s rest some of the marchers painted one of the enduring symbols of the troubles on a gable end of a building in the nationalist Bogside area. It read, “You are now entering Free Derry.” That sign became a symbol of the civil rights struggle.

Later in the evening, members of the RUC and “B-Specials” attacked people and property in the Bogside area of Derry, sparking several days of serious rioting. The investigation conducted by the Cameron Commission found that the police “were guilty of misconduct which involved assault and battery, malicious damage to property ... and the use of provocative sectarian and political slogans.”

The way in which the police mishandled the People’s Democracy march confirmed the opinion of many Catholics that the RUC could not be trusted to provide impartial policing in Northern Ireland. The events of January 1969 further alienated many in the Catholic community. In addition, the march marked the point where concerns about civil rights were beginning to give way to questions related to national identity and the legitimacy of the Northern Ireland state. Paul Bew, a professor at Queen’s University, Belfast who as a student had participated in the march, described the events at Burntollet Bridge as “the spark that lit the prairie fire.” ■

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



AT HOME, ABROAD

By Regina Costello



Galway Girl in India Part 1

February twenty years ago found me making my way to India for the first time with Deepak for a three week holiday. Excitement for previous adventures did not hold a candle to that of my anticipation for this trip. February, Deepak suggested, is the best month to go - the wedding season is long over, competitive air fares are available and amicable weather shy of mosquito season is to be enjoyed.

Weariness from the delays and stress dampened my enthusiasm as I sank into my plane seat from Denmark to Delhi via Mumbai. I tried to avoid glancing at the journeys’ route on the screen in front of me. It was a torture device that prolonged an already seemingly endless trip.

Hours later, glancing out the window upon our approach to the southwest coast of the country, provided a stunning sight of the beautiful sandy beaches of Malabar. In contrast, nearing Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport of Mumbai, shanty towns came into view. Multicolored tin roofs of tightly packed makeshift homes meandered through higgledy-piggledy streets of this ancient city.

Such a vision was reminiscent of the Lenten Trócaire Box of my childhood in Ireland, but to view with my own eyes was further disturbing. Recognizing my angst, I remember Deepak saying to me ... “you will see the best of life and the worst of life here. Try and accept it without judgment and you will be ok.”

We finally touched down at New Delhi’s Indira Gandhi International Airport late in the evening. It was a hair-raising drive to the family home with Deepak’s brother. He, in similar fashion to the others on the road,

zigzagged in between the highway lanes and honked prior to overtaking. Doing so alerted the surrounding vehicles to expect movement from somewhere and to cast eyes in every direction.

Amid the fracas my eyes were glued to the historical metropolis outside. The streets were a sea of colorful vehicles. Trucks decorated with brightly colored symbols and slogans identifying their cargos, motorbikes transporting three people (usually parents and a young child) with Hindu deities or Christian statues to protect the riders; an occasional elephant donning a brightly painted trunk hauling freight strolling methodically; rickshaws pulling riders to work and elsewhere; Renault, Fiat and Suzuki cars whizzed by.

Dotted here and there was the odd thin cow rambling aimlessly without any bother. Coincidentally, cutting edge technology was apparent; so many people on cell phones; women dressed in beautiful traditional saris in rickshaws texting; men dressed in kurtas busy chatting on their mobiles; store fronts advertizing various electronic devices.

The needy were clearly visible and approached cars halted at red traffic lights asking for money; others roamed the streets hoping someone would provide a meal or help in some other capacity. Side-walks lined with rudimentary shacks gave way to private drive ways of magnificent homes with sprinklers misting manicured lawns.

Steeple from numerous temples, mosques and churches framed the skyline. So many aspects of humanity were present in this city, a fusion of the “lock, stock and barrel” of life.

In retrospect, Deepak did describe



At the Taj Mahal

it well - you see everything in this country. The peaceful atmosphere in this kaleidoscope of a society was remarkable. It seemed that space was carved out - limited though it was for everyone. And, it was done so in a relatively harmonious manner.

A reception of giant smiles and tight hugs from Deepak’s family assured me of a home abroad and set the tone for the holiday. Lounging after a welcoming dinner, family members talked earnestly about outings and exploits over mugs of hot chai and dessert bowls of chilled ras malai (cheese balls bathed in milk and flavored with cardamom). Talk of a trip to the Taj Mahal ensued; suggestions to visit The Pink City - Jaipur - were made; conversations about the Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary unfolded; sightseeing at The Red Ford was mentioned!

The next three weeks were going to be

interesting and I was chomping at the bit for the adventure to begin. Excursions in this Asian home abroad will be revealed next month. ■

Regina is a Graduate of History and Philosophy from the National University of Ireland, Galway and a Post Graduate of Library and Information Studies from the National University of Ireland, Dublin. She is the former Assistant Librarian of the Economic and Social Research Institute, Dublin; former Curator of the Irish American Archives at the Western Reserve Historical Society, former Executive Director of the Soldiers’ and Sailors’ Monument Commission and former Executive Coordinator of the Northern Ohio Rose Centre. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Mayo Society of Greater Cleveland. She can be reached at rcostello@ameritech.net

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BLOWIN' IN

By Susan Mangan
@SueMangan



Shop Small, Eat Local, Love Large

We all have that place where comfort surrounds and peace is silently written into the texture of the walls. Patrons may sit in well-worn chairs sipping coffee, seeing no one in particular, but observing everyone. Others may linger over cups of tea that have gone cold minutes ago, just to look into the eyes of the one sitting across a table that is a foot too long.

For some, it is the bustle of a shop filled with obscure French cheese and Catalan olives, or a variety store filled with bric-a-brac and wistful memories of familiar clutter. Whether

it is an hour spent with a loved one, old or new, or much needed time spent with oneself to reflect, indulge, relax, the shared commonality is indeed joy.

The first time my husband and I traveled to Montreal, we wandered aimlessly among the cobbled walks of the Old District. The streets are narrow and shop fronts meet the uneven streets marked with names that roll about like a creamy liqueur on your tongue: Rue Saint Paul and Avenue Papineau. We sampled crepes and smoked meat, purchased t-shirts, drank French beer in an Irish pub,

and settled into a window seat perched romantically on a bustling corner in Place Jacques-Cartier. We dined on pizza and house red wine, all while watching snow fall in early April.

Over the next few years, we traveled back and forth to Montreal for Irish Dance competitions with the family. Although we enjoyed warm summer afternoons eating poutine in open-air cafés, we always found our way back to the charmingly kitschy Italian restaurant and the same window seat, now set for five. This had become our place.

Part of the fun of travel or even exploring your own hometown is the quest for "that place." Wanderers are seekers who sniff out the best winter farmer's market or the quaint distilleries with Saturday afternoon whiskey tastings. Shoppers quiver over small batch olive oils in local Cleveland stores, and gather armfuls of fennel and blood oranges at the West-Side Market to recreate that bracing salad shared on a Tuscan honeymoon. Recently, I brushed elbows with holiday travelers from Philadelphia who were gathering up sopressata and cured

sun-dried tomatoes at Mediterranean Imported Foods for a little snack before embarking on an Ohio City pub crawl. Much like my husband and I found our spot in Montreal, Seekers are finding their way to the local treasures of Cleveland.

At times, that special place is right in front of your own fireplace on a snow swept Saturday night, or the kitchen table early on a Sunday morning where you are enjoying the late winter sunrise and a perfect cup of espresso. The spaniel never moves from your feet and the birds feasting on suet cakes are unaware of your presence.

Your home can be "that place." As long as I have my coffee in the morning and my herbal tea at night, I am content.

This past summer, my family traveled to Ireland and we were fortunate once again to spend time in a beautiful home belonging to my husband's uncle. The windows are large and look out onto pastures, hills, and Croagh Patrick Mountain. The light changes throughout the day and is particularly peaceful in the morning hours before

Continued on facing page

Blowin' In

Continued from facing page

the world awakes.

My husband understands that he has to share my love with my penchant for hot beverages, especially good coffee. A coffee a day improves my mood and makes me rather more bearable. As a surprise, my husband visited a variety store in Westport. After much searching, this was the only place he could find a small coffee pot. He shopped local and was rewarded with a shiny silver stovetop espresso maker. After our many years together, little treats are all we need.

Each morning, I would brew a small pot of strong coffee on the stove and watch out for Ruby, the blind, orphaned lamb who became a pet of sorts. I always heard her bleating before I saw the sightless toss of her sweet lamb head. I looked forward to my small, but mighty cup of coffee and the view, one I travel back to in my mind's eye when I want the comfort of that place.

The day came when I needed to wander, to stretch my legs and explore. Rather than walk the hillsides or embark on an arduous climb of Croagh Patrick, I wanted lunch in a little outdoor café and a walk among the quaint shops of Westport. At times, Seekers want the company of other patient wanderers, and so my daughter and cousin joined me on my journey.

After a delicious lunch of mussels, chowder, brown bread, and locally made black pudding at JW's Brasserie, we stumbled upon Market 57, a charming mercantile store. One wall was filled with jars of sweets, and a vintage cash till sat behind the counter in a place of honor.

As we touched the various souvenir trinkets and ogled over bottles of wine, I noticed a small silver espresso maker nestled on a shelf next to a tea cozy and an eclectic selection of ceramic mugs. During this epiphany, I realized that like myself, my husband might also be a Seeker and discovered my new coffee pot in this very store.

The manager enquired about our specific needs and I told him that he apparently has a monopoly on espresso makers across the West of Ireland. We laughed and he treated me to a complimentary refrigerator magnet



featuring a lamb, of course, and a Springer Spaniel.

As we left the shop, I saw a lovely older couple sitting outside on a bench. They were eating ice cream cones, while their liver and white Springer Spaniel remained by their side. His name was Jack and he bore the most unique tuft of auburn hair atop the crown of his head.

Knowing that it was a matter of seconds before I stopped to pet the dog, my daughter began pulling at my arm in embarrassment. I shrugged her off, of course, and began to chat with the couple. After all, I have my own black and white Springer at home named Lucy, who I missed dearly, and this encounter seemed rather serendipitous. Did I forget to mention that Seekers also tend to engage in random conversation with strangers?

This Valentine's Day, give in to the call for idle ramblings, near or far.

Search out that coffee shop you have been meaning to try, or the boutique with the beeswax candles. Time spent wasted can be invaluable. Your heart will thank you, and so will the kind folks who love large and are passionate about their small business ventures. ■

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

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OFF THE SHELF
By Terry Kenneally
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DEATH AND NIGHTINGALES

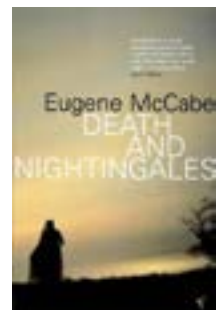
By Eugene McCabe
Bloomsbury Publisher ISBN 1-58234-237-7 229 pp. 1992

A new feature which this column will, from time to time, highlight is a review of older books which are favorites of mine. There is no filter applied to my selections just my gut feeling.

The first such selection is *Death and Nightingales* by Eugene McCabe. Interestingly, while this book was published in 1992, it was recently the subject of a three-part miniseries on the BBC.

The story which is set in Co. Fermanagh, Northern Ireland, is about a young woman, Beth Winters, who while growing up is caught between two warring parents: her Catholic mother who married her Protestant step-father when she was already pregnant by an unknown Catholic man. Her mother's passing, which occurs prior to the book's beginning, puts Beth into an uncomfortable, tension filled existence with her step-father who is not above touching her inappropriately.

On her twenty-third birthday, her mother long dead, Beth has planned to escape the claustrophobic grip of her



step-father and their closed community by running away with a charming, mysterious young man named Liam Ward (played in the mini-series by Jaime Dornan of *Fifty Shades of Gray*), who rents some property from her step-father. With the day of reckoning fast approaching, Beth's nerves begin to get the best of her, so she decides to confide in Mercy, a housekeeper, who she trusts. Mercy protests and explains it will break her heart and her step-fathers as well.

Nonetheless, Beth puts her plan into action; a suspicious and very drunk step-father questions Beth about her plan. Beth steals her step-father's gold and leaves when he falls asleep drunk. Enroute to run away with Liam, Beth meets up with another person, Denny, a deaf mute who works for her step-father and who issues Beth a dire warning about leaving.

The conclusion of the story is riveting. Who is out to hurt Beth and why? Will she have her vengeance? This is a deeply moving, powerful and unforgettable book, which I rate a TOP SHELF READ. ■



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THE ARTS AROUND US

Grace's McCarthy's Poems

What Flowers Do at Night

Those tiny potted plants do nothing all day
They don't walk, they don't fly, and they don't have anything to say.
Their beautiful, graceful petals with their colors so bright
Have you ever really wondered what they do at night?
When the moon is up, and the stars are out, with no people walking about;
The stars seem to align just so; they seem to shimmer, shine and glow.
Suddenly the flowers start to dance, putting on a show!
The owls watch, the raccoons stare, watching the flowers scatter in the air!
A young man starts walking through their path,
And they unleash their flowery wrath!
The morning comes, and the flowers are once again, potted plants.
But there is now a new rose in the garden, and near it,
A shirt and pants.

The Cherry Tree

The cherry blossom tree dances her graceful limbs with the hum of evening cicadas
The wind brushing through the verdant leaves
Sun rays kissing the tranquil buds
The shade of blushing cheeks
She bows to the clouds
Casting peaceful shadows
Wrapping, encasing, filling
My heart between each beat
The pounding rhythm thrives off the simple beauty
Throat filling with sweet fragrance
Frozen in perfect peace
Balanced life amidst pure spring

I'm a rose

I'm a rose
My petals are thin and fragile
I crumble at a simple grasp of a sharp hand
Vulnerable to the honey bee
Who lives by draining me of my sweet nectar
To be crushed in the palm of the one who plucked me
Who sought my beauty
Striking my thorns into hands that seek to crush me
I defy the path that is planted for me
The one that grips me by the roots
In attempts to bury me in the dirt

Head Full of Bees

A swarm of bees live inside me
Dreaming of the hive
Golden with sweet essence
and written in determination
With the honeycombs that breaths meaning into their lives
And thrives by pollinating my mind

ON THIS DAY IN IRISH HISTORY FEBRUARY

- 1 February 1315** - Edward Bruce of Scotland and his Irish allies win the Battle of Skerries in Kildare.
- 2 February 1881** - Birth of James Joyce, poet, novelist, playwright.
- 3 February 1862** - Thomas Francis Meager, Irish nationalist, is made Brigadier General in the Union Army during the American Civil War. When the war ended, he was appointed Secretary (acting- Governor) of the territory of Montana by President Johnson.
- 6 February 1685** - James II becomes King of England, Scotland and Ireland- the last Catholic monarch to be crowned.
- 8 February 1983** - The 1981 Derby winner, Shergar, is stolen from a stable in Ireland. A two million dollar ransom was demanded but not paid, and the horse was never seen again.
- 15 February 1966** - John McGahern's *The Dark* is banned by the Irish Board of Censorship. His trade union refused to help fight his case because he had married a Finnish theatre director.
- 18 February 1992** - In what became known as the 'X case', the attorney-general obtained an injunction preventing a fourteen-year-old rape victim from traveling to Britain for an abortion.
- 22 February 1892** - The first performance of Oscar Wilde's *Lady Windemere's Fan* at the St. James theatre was performed.
- 28 February 1884** - Sean MacDermada, revolutionary, is born in Leitrim. He was one of the seven signatories of the Proclamation of the Republic, was court martialed and executed on May 12, 1916.

The Arts Around Us

Tho' beauty may be in the eye of the beer holder, it is also found in the hands of artists with magnificent talent, who reside within our readership area.

If you would like your work featured, please send a paragraph about you and/or your work, plus a few pics to jobrien@OhioIANews.com.

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MildredAnneButler, "Oriental Poppies"

Introducing Your 2019 Ohio Rose of Tralee Applicants



Audrey Burns

AUDREY BURNS

Hello, I am from Kent, Ohio. I am 19 years old and currently in my second year at the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) in Rochester, New York, where I study Visual Media - a program focused on photography, graphic design, marketing, and management. When not busy with my studies, I work with a graphic design studio and a non-profit organization, where I create content to solve problems in the community. For example, I have made commercials for cancer research, branding for environmental sustainability, and illustrations for mission trips.

My mother's Irish heritage dates back to when my ancestors came to America from Belfast and my father's side hails from Armagh, Dublin and Kildare. I have always been curious about my Irish roots and getting involved with the Ohio Rose Centre has opened a door to connecting with my family on a whole new level.

Ms. Burns is sponsored by Casey's Irish Imports, Rocky River

CIARA DELAHUNTY

Hello, I am 26 years old from Columbia Station, Ohio. My Irish heritage is from Dublin, Ireland, where all my grandparents were born. My mother was also born in Dublin and moved to the United States in her early twenties. I graduated from Hiram College with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and a minor in Bio-Medical Humanities in 2015. I graduated from Kent State

University with a Master of Science focusing in Nursing Education in 2018. I have worked for two years as an Emergency Room nurse at University Hospitals in Westlake, Ohio. Currently, I am a travel Nurse and have worked in Pennsylvania and Arizona. In my spare time, I enjoy traveling and have had the opportunity to visit many cities throughout the world. I hold dual citizenship and go back to Ireland every six months, making it my second home.

Ms. Delahunty is sponsored by Stone Mad Pub & Restaurant, Cleveland.

SHANNON ENOCH

Hello, I am 22 years old, hailing from Garrettsville, Ohio. Currently I am a senior at Hiram College, where I study Communication, Creative Writing, and Public Leadership. Between classes I lead the Student Senate as the President of Hiram's student body, study international politics as a Garfield Scholar for Public Leadership, tutor American Sign Language, volunteer with the local Habitat for Humanity chapter, and connect with alumni as a Student Ambassador.

Outside of Hiram, I work as a bartender at Two Travelers Tavern in Garrettsville and volunteer at the Windham Renaissance Family Center.

I enjoy sculpting, writing, and hiking local Ohio trails. My great-grandmother, Margaret O'Hara, came to the United States from Foxford, Co. Mayo. From dancing in the kitchen to Gaelic folk jams to telling stories of Cu Chu-

liann and the Fianna, I am blessed to carry on my great-grandmothers legacy and heritage.

Ms. Enoch is sponsored by Sean's Pub & Eatery, Garrettsville.

MAUREEN GINLEY

Hi there! I am a 26-year-old content marketer living and working in our state's great capital - Columbus, Ohio! A proud alumna of Magnificat High School, John Carroll University, and the NEOMFA in Creative Writing Program, my education has taken me all around Northeast Ohio.

Following graduation with my MFA, I packed up my things, moved to the Arch City, and began my career at Postali, a marketing agency that helps attorneys build their brands, websites, and client bases through a number of creative techniques.

In my spare time, I enjoy writing for the Ohio Irish American News, taking spin and hot yoga classes, volunteering with A.D.O.P.T. Pet Rescue, and exploring one of Central Ohio's many hiking trails with my rescue dog Elvis. My Irish heritage traces back to Bunna-howna Co. Mayo, where both paternal grandmother's and grandfather's families resided.

Ms. Ginley is sponsored by the Shamrock Club of Columbus

DANIELLE GOEBEL

I am 27, and a single mother. My son, Landon, is the reason for everything I do. I love cooking, gardening, traveling

and trying new things. My constant aim for excellence has led me to be one of the top female sales representatives at GMS, where I have worked full time for the past five years.

My determination comes from being the youngest of six siblings. My paternal grandmother was from Co. Mayo, and it was always one of her wishes that one of her grandchildren become a Rose of Tralee. One of my life goals is to help children of single parents reach their full potential. I am so blessed to have a supportive family that inspires me to move forward, but not everyone has that motivation behind them. I want to focus on providing parents resources for childcare, healthcare, and education.

Ms. Goebel is sponsored by Rebecca Kaminski

GRAINNE HUTCHINSON

Dia dhuit! I am a 23-year-old Columbus native from Dublin, Ohio. I'm a proud Buckeye Alumni with a bachelor's in marketing with a Global Option and spent an amazing semester abroad at Trinity College Dublin. I currently work at Huntington National Bank as a Customer Insights Specialist, where I utilize research to be the Voice of the Customer.

In my spare time, I volunteer at the largest Ronald McDonald House in the world. My many hobbies include tennis, sailing, and anything crafty. Two of my biggest passions are traveling and Disney. I would love to combine the

two and travel to all six Disney parks one day. I have traveled to nine countries so far, including Ireland, where most of my family still lives. My family is from Portarlington, Offaly and I myself hold dual citizenship with Ireland.

Ms. Hutchinson is sponsored by Fado Pub & Kitchen, Columbus

KATHLEEN MALONE

Hi there. I am 27 years old, born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio. I have my Bachelor's Degree in Art from Bowling Green State University, and my Master's Degree in Counseling and Art Therapy from Ursuline College. For the past year, I've worked as an Intensive Trauma Therapist and love working with kids.

I recently spent six weeks touring the United States in 2017, visiting twenty-two states in forty-five days. I have been to Ireland many times to visit family all over the country and can't wait to return. Both my mother and father have Irish in their bloodline, and my father is a first-generation immigrant who arrived from Ireland when he was 25 years old. My heart is happiest when painting, singing, volunteering on mission trips, and listening to country music. I am honored to be a part of the Rose of Tralee Festival!

Ms. Malone is sponsored by The West Side Irish American Club

MORGAN MILLER

Hello. I am 22 years old. I am from Marietta, OH. My Irish roots trace back

to Co. Antrim, before my ancestors came to America in 1720. I am a recent graduate of Ashland University located in Ashland, OH. I double majored in Philosophy and Political Science, while also triple minoring in Ethics, History, and Religion.

While at Ashland University, I was a member of the Ashbrook Scholar Program, defended a forty page thesis on transcendental beauty and art, President of the 2nd Amendment Club, Office of Religious Life in Student Senate, facilitator for 1Girl, and an active member in Philosophy Club. My hobbies include sewing, traveling, and watching the Pittsburgh Steelers. My interests include art, philosophy, and Catholicism.

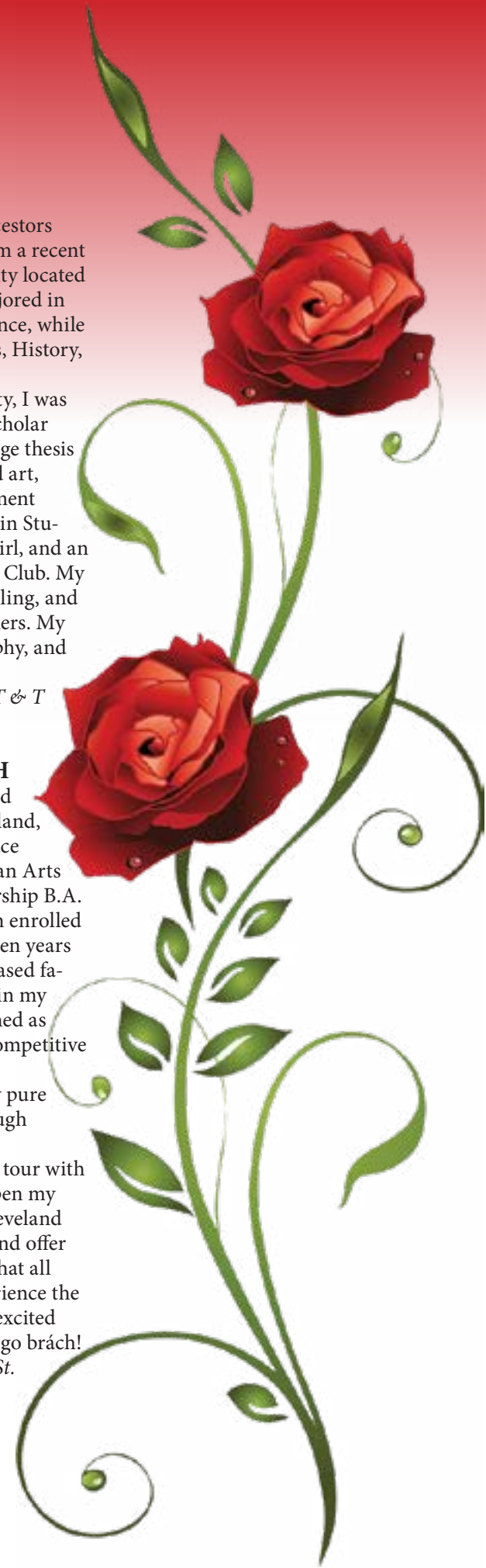
Ms. Miller is sponsored by T & T Creations

CHRISTINE SMYTH

Hello. I am 21 years old, and was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio. I attend Baldwin Wallace University and am pursuing an Arts Management & Entrepreneurship B.A. with a dance minor. My mom enrolled me in Irish dance classes fifteen years ago as a way to keep my deceased father's proud Irish roots alive in my life. My love of dance flourished as I worked hard to attain my competitive achievements at the world championships. However, my pure joy in dance shines best through show performances.

My future ambitions are to tour with a professional dance show, open my own Irish dance school in Cleveland named in honor of my dad, and offer free special needs classes so that all children may be able to experience the joy of Irish dancing. I am so excited and thankful to be here. Éire go brách!

Ms. Smyth is sponsored by St. Columbkille Parish



Ciara Delahunty



Shannon Enoch



Maureen Ginley



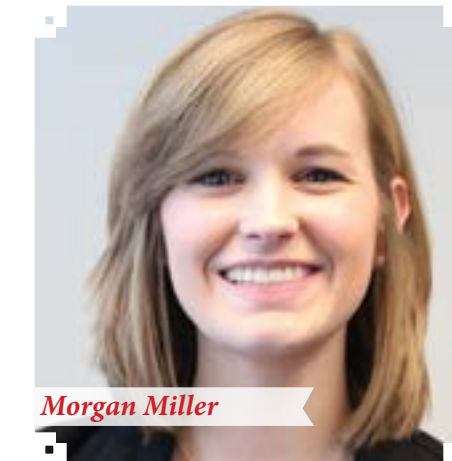
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COOKING UP A HOOLEY IN THE KITCHEN
By Katie Gagne

Surprise Your Love with this Irish-Inspired Breakfast for Valentine's Day Dinner

There are two schools of thought when it comes to the Irish. Some believe they have very little romantic tendencies, and others describe the Irish as having a poetic soul. Since the best way to someone's heart is often through the stomach, this flavorful and fun meal will appeal to everyone.

What's on the menu? Beer & Butter Braised Mushrooms, Eggs Benedict with a White Cheddar Whiskey Hollandaise Sauce, and Chocolate French Toast with a Chocolate Irish Crème Whipped Cream.

tablespoons of butter over med heat. Add beer and cook for 4-5 minutes until reduced a bit. Add mushrooms. Cook until mushrooms are caramelized. Add thyme and salt and pepper. These make a nice and tasty side for your breakfast.

Beer and Butter Braised Mushrooms

16 oz Button and Cremini Mushroom combination
½ Stick Unsalted Butter
2 Tablespoons Fresh Thyme
2 Crushed Garlic Cloves
6 oz Harp Lager
Salt and Pepper to taste
Sauté garlic cloves and 2

Eggs Benedict with White Cheddar Whiskey Hollandaise Sauce

4 English Muffin Halves
4 Tablespoons Unsalted Butter
4 ¼ inch Slices of Tomato
4 Tablespoons Parmesan Cheese
4 Poached Eggs
4-8 pieces of Irish Bacon



1 Tablespoon Brown Sugar
½ Cup Hollandaise Sauce
Sprinkle of Paprika

Toast Muffin Halves – Butter each one. Cook Bacon slices in pan until slightly crispy. Sprinkle with brown sugar after removing from pan. Slice tomatoes and sprinkle each side with Parmesan Cheese. Lightly sauté in pan with 1 tablespoon of butter and remove from pan and set aside.

Poach 4 eggs and set aside. Make Hollandaise Sauce.

Hollandaise Sauce

2 Egg Yolks
2 Tablespoons of Lemon Juice
1 Tablespoon of Cold Water
1 Tablespoon of Jameson's Irish Whiskey
1 Stick Unsalted Butter
½ Cup Shredded White

Cheddar Cheese

In a medium bowl, whisk egg yolks, lemon juice, whiskey and water until a light yellow/tan – set aside. In a saucepan over medium heat, melt butter. Add melted butter one tablespoon at a time to egg mixture and whisk until fully incorporated. Pour back into saucepan and heat until warmed through – whisking constantly. It will thicken and get bubbly. Add white cheddar cheese and whisk until blended.

Assemble the Eggs Benedict:
Place English muffin on plate and top with tomato slice, then bacon,

then poached egg and then spoon Hollandaise Sauce over the top and sprinkle with Paprika.

Chocolate French Toast

8 Slices of Thick White Bread (Challah or Brioche work well too)
6 Eggs
½ Cup Whole Milk
¼ Cup Heavy Whipping Cream
¼ Cup Brown Sugar
1/3 Cup White Granulated Sugar
1 Tablespoon Cinnamon
2 Tablespoons Dark Cocoa Powder (Sweetened)
Whisk last 7 ingredients together and chill for one hour or overnight.

Dip each slice of bread into custard mixture and let sit on tray or plate for 5 minutes. Heat griddle or pan to medium-high. Cook each slice until lightly browned on each side. Cut in half diagonally and arrange on plate with fruit garnish (if desired). Top with dollops of whipped cream and dust with powdered sugar and cocoa powder. Serve with syrup.

Chocolate Irish Cream Whipped Cream

4 oz Heavy Whipping Cream
2 Tablespoons of Bailey's Irish Cream
2/3 Cup Powdered Sugar
1 Tablespoon Dark Cocoa Powder
Using electric mixer – beat all

ingredients on high until medium peaks form. Use spoon or pastry bag with 1M tip to top French toast. Add a Mimosa or a Bloody Mary, and you have the perfect sweet and savory meal that can be served anytime – because who doesn't love breakfast for dinner. ■

Katie is an English teacher at Trinity High School by day and in her "spare" time runs her own at-home baking business, Sassy's Sweets and Oh So Much More, specializing in gourmet cakes, cookies, cupcakes, and pastries. She can be reached at mkbluebows@aol.com.

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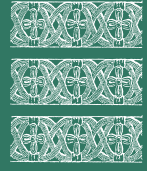
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TERRY FROM DERRY

By Terry Boyle



Lost Boy

2018 has been a strange year. For instance, my once a year trip to Derry multiplied by three. The first was in May, when I flew to Ireland and onto Spain with my mother, sister and brother-in-law. My mother's health had deteriorated a lot since I last saw her

For an eighty-three-year old woman, her spirit was indomitable, but it was

now at odds with her body. Stooped over, forced to use a walker, her bones creaked with a sound that reminded me of a wooden mast pummeled by the wind on a rough sea. The wheelchair was becoming less of an option and more of a necessity.

This woman, the master of malapropisms, was still as sharp as ever. Her keen mind was still as sharp as a knife. She could reduce you to your true greatness with little or no effort. Despite butchering the language with all sorts of added syllables and errant pronunciations, my mother made it perfectly clear what she meant.

Her repertoire of sayings; turning



Turk (Judas), feeding strawberries to an elephant (gluttonous), Throwing money around like a man with no arms (strange and somewhat insensitive analogy), live horse, and you'll eat oats (whatever) etc., continue in my head like a magical litany that evokes a host of memories.

The trip to Spain was followed up by

a less exotic but more poignant trip to Donegal. Burtonport, a small fishing village in Ireland's least populated county, was my late father's birthplace. For months, she had wanted to go there and visit with a friend but no one was free to take her.

When I suggested that I drive her, there was a moment when we knew this trip would be our last together. When there is such a sense of finality, every part of the journey becomes more significant and more profound than it normally would do if things were different.

We talked, laughed, and shared the family gossip; stopping occasionally to look at the beauty of the wild gorse, natural lakes, and bogs. We savoured each moment believing in its importance.

When, finally, we arrived at the 'Port', I assumed my mother knew where we were going; a big mistake with no idea of where to start, and no phone to call anyone, I started knocking on doors. It was a Sunday morning and most people were out. However, there was one house with a door open. I walked up to the house and called out my 'hello'.

Eventually, a very old man appeared. He looked in complete harmony with the rugged, unkempt, countryside around him. When I asked if he knew where my mother's friend lived, he pointed somewhere behind me and said 'Oh, they live down in the depths'. For some reason, I knew better than to ask him to clarify what he meant. I knew that any further communication would only end in yet more obscurity.

We finally did manage to find her friend, and they had a great time catching up. As we drove back, my mother struggled to stay awake. She wanted to treasure the experience, since I was leaving the next day.

My mother, over the years of my traveling back and forth to Chicago, always completed the visit with tears accompanied with the haunting statement; 'I may never see you again.' And, each time I would leave my sister to cajole her back to buoyancy by taking her to favourite pastime, bingo. 2018 proved to be different.

In October, she was admitted into hospital and I was faced with that awful decision as to whether I go back or wait until it became absolutely necessary. No one can ever fully know when it the time is right, and I am not sure I could

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explain how I knew. I just knew.

When I returned, she was in a lot of pain. For the last week of her life, we talked, when she was able, and when she was not able, I sat in vigil with my family. She died while I was at the airport awaiting my flight back to the U.S. I was not able to make her wake or funeral, but we had said what we needed to; I was satisfied.

In November, I was talking to fellow ex-pat and for some reason, I mentioned about my mother's passing. What I did not know, was this man was something of a medium and wanted to pass on some message from my dead mother. Now, I am not believer in such things, but equally, I would not be disparaging to someone who does believe, so I asked him what it was she wanted to communicate.

When he told me, I could have creased up with laughter. It was so my mother and so bloody Irish. He told me, your mother is at peace, but she's not happy.

His message summed up the Irish mindset so perfectly. We are never happy, even when we are at peace. I could see her lamenting the boredom of

eternal rest, itching to convert the heavenly home into a makeshift bingo hall. In such a biblical place of supplication and bliss, she would have a face on her enough to stop a clock.

When I returned to Derry for the third time in December, I went in search of her grave. Not wanting to be with anyone, I made the decision to go on my own. I was convinced that I knew where she and my father lay.

In my head, I could see the statue of Cuchulainn nearby. Walking from the entrance of the cemetery, I passed the graves of those who died at the Somme, those who died in the subsequent wars, and arrived before Ulster's mythical hero, Cuchulainn.

For the next hour and half, I wandered among the graves, working myself up to a great emotional climax, only have the moment robbed by another Boyle grave that was not hers. My mother's peace, I'm sure, was made happy watching me lost among the graves. There was no unruly farmer to tell me she was in the depths. No, she was in the heights, laughing no doubt, but lost to me. ■

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TAKING THE FIELDS OF GLORY: GAA MONTHLY
By Vincent Beach

Cleveland GAA February Update



On the Pitch: Cleveland St. Pat's – St. Jarlath's Gaelic Football Club is beginning the year by participating in indoor soccer leagues at the Caps Fieldhouse in Valley View. The Club has put forth two teams to compete in the Men's Open and the Coed Leagues. Not only are current players stretching their legs and honing some foot skills in the off-season, but the Club is using the leagues to recruit new players to Gaelic Football and the social aspects of the Association. The leagues run the months of January and February.

Following the indoor soccer, the Club will begin to transition to Gaelic Football at Soccer Sportsplex in North Olmsted. Coed indoor trainings and games are planned Fridays evenings (7-8pm) in March (8th, 15th, 22nd, 29)

and Thursday/Wednesday evenings (7-8pm) in April (4th, 10th, 18th, 25th).

According to Men's Coach Simon "Sizzler" O'Doherty and Ladies' Coach Daniel Murray, if the weather is nice enough outdoor trainings could also begin in April for the typical two-a-week sessions. The indoor sessions are formatted for the new player to try a few of the unique skills, get to know current club members, and have fun playing in at semi-competitive speed. Cleveland GAA is excited to announce that they will be hosting a Gaelic Football 7-A-Side Tournament on Saturday, May 11th, at the West Side Irish American Club. At least two fields will be live with Men's and Ladies teams from 10AM to 6PM, while the craic will be had in the

pavilion. Come out to see the action and join in the Gaelic fun. Corporate promotions are available for this 501-3c event. Contact info@clevelandgaa.com.

Off the Pitch: Cleveland is hosting the Gaelic Athletic Association's (GAA) Foundation Level Coaching Clinic on Sunday, February 10th, starting at 10:30AM at the Flat Iron Café. This full day of classroom and field learning will be presented by the USGAA's Youth Chairman, Paul Mulcaire.

The course is the first step in coaching Gaelic Football or Hurling at any age and is aimed at beginner coaches. The attendee will be introduced to the Games, taught skill development, learn movement skills, and instructed on the aspects of coaching children, youth and adults.

The course is FREE and lunch will be provided. Pre-registration is required for those seeking certification. Contact ClevelandYouthGAA@gmail.com.

On Saturday, February 16th, the Club will co-host the annual Night at the Races at the West Side Irish American Club. For the admission cost of \$25, the night offers a hot dinner, open bar of Guinness, Harp, Miller Lite, and wine, free onsite child care, race betting, 50/50 sideboards, silent auctions, and raffle baskets. Come join the fun and the Irish sporting community in the Club's largest fundraising event of the year. The night puts the club on solid financial ground.

The money raised goes into the continued care for the WSIA field, Páirc na Naomh, registration fees, the youth program, and travel costs. For tickets, horse sponsorship, race sponsorship, advertisement, or raffle donations contact ClevelandGAA@gmail.com. The evening is a great way to catch up with old GAA teammates and to meet the new players.

Youth. Cleveland St. Pat's – St. Jarlath's is once again offering FREE Gaelic Football nights at Soccer Sportsplex in North Olmsted on Saturday, January 26th, from 5-7PM; and Sunday February 24th from 6:30-8:30. The first hour is reserved for ages 5-8 and the second for ages 9-12. Following the free sessions,

Cleveland is continuing the indoor sessions for a nominal fee of \$20. All ages will receive a t-shirt. The younger ones, 5-8, will continue to learn the skills and play in scrimmages in the first hour while the 9-12 group will divide into teams for games in the second hour. Parents can register their players at ClevelandGAA.com/youth. The March sessions will be on the 9th from 5-7PM, the 23rd from 3-5PM, and the 30th from 5-7PM. The April sessions will be on the 6th from 5-7PM and the 20th from 3-5PM. If you or your company are interested in getting involved in Youth Gaelic Sports, contact ClevelandYouthGAA@gmail.com.

New Players Wanted: Cleveland

GAA is open to all who want to play competitive sports, meet new people, and join an athletic, fitness minded club. Go raibh míle maith agaibh (thanks y'all) to our readers and supporters. Consider getting involved at any level. Fáilte (welcome) to all.

The Gaelic Athletic Association is Ireland's largest sporting organization and a bit of home for the Irish abroad here in the US. Beyond sports, the Association also promotes Irish music, song and dance, and the Irish language as an integral part of its objectives.

Follow @ClevelandGaelic on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter for the 2019 activities for Men, Women, and Youth. Or, visit ClevelandGAA.com. ■

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The Clinics will be followed by a 7v7 league play for Ages 9-12, and continued skills & Scrimmages for Ages 5-8 on: **Mar 9 | Mar 23 | Mar 30 | Apr 6 | Apr 20**
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WCSB-FM 89.3

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WHK-AM 1420 w/ Colleen Corrigan Day & Eddie Fitzpatrick

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

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

9pm-10pm *Hooley Hour* WHK-AM 1420
w/Tara Quinn & Josh Vaughan



MADIGAN MUSES

By Marilyn Madigan



St. Brigid's Day in Cleveland

St. Brigid is one of the Patron Saints of Ireland and along with St. Patrick is one of the most revered of the Irish Saints. St. Brigid is often called Mary of the Gael and her Feast Day is celebrated on February 1.

St. Brigid Feast Day is the Patron Saint of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians. Her Feast Day is one of the official holy days of the Order and is celebrated throughout the United States. St. Brigid's Day has been celebrated in Cleveland by the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians for at least the past seventy-three years.

The Feast Day of St. Brigid (Lá Fhéile Bríde in Irish) is the first Festival of the Year. The Day is also the old Celtic festival of Imbolc traditionally the first day of spring in Ireland. In Cleveland, the Celebration of St. Brigid's Day is the beginning of our St. Patrick's Day Celebrations. This is the first time that the Parade Honorees and the Hibernian of the Year will be introduced to our Irish Community.

The Ladies of the Ancient Order of



Hibernians, Our Lady of the Rosary Division celebrated the Feast Day with Mass at St. Patrick Church West Park. Following the Mass, a Brunch and a short program was held. Congratulations to the Hibernian of the Year Mary Ann McIlwee and the

Continued on facing page

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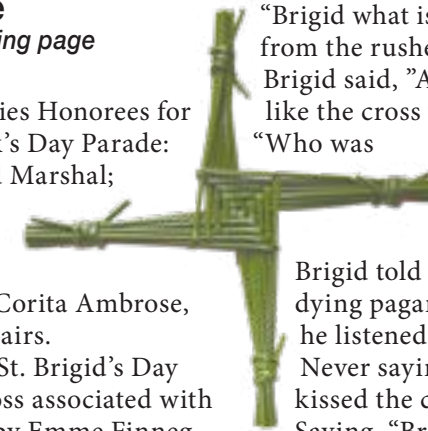
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United Irish Societies Honorees for the 2019 St. Patrick's Day Parade: Bill Homan, Grand Marshal; Eileen Kilroy, Irish Mother of the Year; Patti Maher Hanrahan and Sr. Corita Ambrose, CSJ, Parade Co-Chairs.

As we reflect on St. Brigid's Day and look at the Cross associated with her, consider this, by Emme Finnegan.

The Cross

Brigid wove a cross of rushes by a dying chieftain's bed.



"Brigid what is that you're making from the rushes there?" he said. Brigid said, "A cross I'm weaving, like the cross where Jesus died." "Who was this Jesus?" asked the chieftain, "Why was this man crucified?"

Brigid told the gospel story to a dying pagan King. Lying silently, he listened,

Never saying anything. Then he kissed the cross of rushes. Saying, "Brigid, thanks to you, I have come to love this Jesus, I will follow his way too!"

Remember the real reason why the Irish celebrate the Feast Days of St. Brigid and St. Patrick. ■

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OUT OF THE MAILBAG... COMES SONGS AND STORIES

By John O'Brien Jr.



Derek Warfield & The Young Wolfe Tones:
Last Man Standing
18 Tracks 70 minutes

There is no more recognized Rebel band than the Wolfe Tones. Former founding member Derek Warfield branched off, and head Derek Warfield and the Young Wolfe Tones, who just released Part II of the musical commemoration of Easter Rising of 1916 focused tribute CD's. The Last Man Standing is 18 tracks of iconic songs, and a few new to me tracks that were also a treasure. The Warfield written book that accompanies the CD is also a treasure, with background, insight to the times and the song, and of course, the lyrics for the songs on this CD. I won't spoil the history lesson for you, not matter how fascinating – get the CD and see your historical knowledge begin, or coalesce, and names, places, events and the long journey of Irish freedom, open before you.

Derek introduces it this way: "The Easter Rising would never have happened with American financial and moral support... The musical and historical CD is dedicated to the memory of Sam Reilly (1896-1989) the last man to leave the GPO and the last Volunteer of the 1916 Rebellion to pass away.

died in New York.

"Unlike our CD "The Call to Erin Part One", the ballads on this CD are not exclusive to the events of 1916. There are a mixture of personal and poignant ballads and music that are

representative of those who lived through the years of oppression before and after the event and of those who carried on the fight through the 20th century to have the aspirations of our 1916 proclamation realized."

Sean South from Garryowen – The rousing song is set to the music of "Roddy McCorley" and tells of the Sean South, who lost his life in an operation on Brookeborough, RUC/British Army Station on January 2, 1957. Derek

in tribute to Luke Kelly, this tune is ancient, the music borrowed, and lyrics written by, Thomas Moore. My favorite lines, are the last ones: "Thy songs were made for the pure and free. They shall never sound in slavery."

Courtin' in the Kitchen – A man who may be falling in love, instead lands in jail. The tune is made for dancing.

The Patriot Game – The first tune I ever learned – the often hauntingly sung song tells of the misery of a

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attended the funeral and the liner notes talk of that, and more. Typical of so many Irish tunes, the upbeat music belies the sad song within. I believe it is part of why those songs, whether 60, or 200 years old, are still alive and treasured.

The Irish Jaunting Car – A cabbie carries travelers of all stations and sees the history past and present in the people and the places the jaunting car picks up, drops off, and passes by.

Meet Me at the Pillar – A young man enters a dream, with the heroes of '16 calling him. "It's time to sing a freedom song," he calls, as the ghosts and guardians haunt him again.

The Spanish Lady – A woman out of his reach, yet still the balladeer pangs for her. Life marches on, ... old age had laid her hand on me ...

The Minstrel Boy – A tribute to "Bold Robert Emmett", as opposed to the more recent "Minstrel Boy" written

soldier of the IRA and he is burned by hatred, oppression and the British to a short life of rebellion for Ireland's freedom - w. O'Hanlon was also killed in the Brookeborough Army Barracks, alongside Sean South. "My name is O'Hanlon, I've just gone 16. My home is in Monaghan, it's there I was weaned. I've learned all my life, cruel England's to blame. That's so I'm a part of the patriot game."

Little Bridget Flynn – by renowned song writer/composer Percy French, the song tells of a single man, who has an eye on little Bridget, and his hope that she will notice him.

The Boys of Barr Na Sraide - Boyhood friends hunt for the wren together, and hunt for freedom later. They scatter through emigration; the singer recalls the heroes and wishes they could reunite as in their youth, as the Boys of Barra Na Sraide.

Continued on facing page

Irish Language at the Heart of New Broadcasting Authority Vision

Conradh na Gaeilge welcome the prominent presence of the Irish language in a new vision laid out by the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland, based on the outcomes of a series of consultations, which was published on the 28th of October 2018.

Conradh na Gaeilge met with the Broadcasting Authority earlier this year to discuss the issues surrounding current commitments to the Irish language from those licensed by the

BAI, on both television and radio. It was also recommended that an FM licence should be made available for a national chart radio station for young audiences.]

Julian de Spáinn, General Secretary of Conradh na Gaeilge: "We are glad that Irish has been included in the new vision of the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland, and that some of the key recommendations made by Conradh na Gaeilge have been take

on board. We look forward to seeing the Irish language represented on the radio and television better, with definite goals and due dates set down in the new BAI Irish language strategy which is to be put together as a consequence of the new vision of the BAI."

Conradh na Gaeilge argued also that a licence to provide a national Irish language youth radio station should be provided in the future by the BAI. Raidió Rí-Rá have also been calling for the provision of such a licence. According to the recent report detailing the new vision for the BAI, a new station could broadcast on a regional basis - this recommendation reflects Raidió Rí-Rá's development

plan for the station in the future.

Niamh Ní Chróinín, Manager, Raidió Rí-Rá: "At the moment, there is no Irish language station for young people broadcasting full-time on FM at a national level - there is a huge gap in the market. Raidió Rí-Rá have an incredible team and a schedule ready to be broadcast on FM across the country. Although it is stated in the report that there are currently no frequencies available for a new national radio service, we believe that Raidió Rí-Rá could be successfully broadcast on various frequencies across the country. We are seeking Government support to achieve this goal as soon as possible." ■

Out of the Mailbag

Continued from previous page

The Flag of England – The song tells of the British habit of decimating lands wherever it's marauders roamed across the world, not just in Ireland.

Four Green Fields – you know this one, Tommy Makem's anthem for Ireland. In the notes, Derek recounts two meetings with Tommy and their shared fear for others trying to tell, or reshape, Ireland's history: "They are trying to promote our heritage without the baggage of words," said Makem.

City of New Orleans – Derek has a long history with the railroad, and he laments the passing of it, which gave those in Ireland, and America, access to places otherwise out of reach. You know the song from Lee Greenwood's rendition, "Good Morning America, how are ya ..."

The Moving Cloud – Derek recognizes gifted bandmate Damaris Woods, a banjo player among the best in the world, in skill, contribution and the rare ability to teach and inspire others.

Down in the Mines – I love miner songs; their long connection to the Irish is well documented. My passion comes from the time I spent working at Jim Walter's Blue Creek Coal mines in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. There is danger in the dark, though the dark is rarely the danger. Miner's, and their families above, live with that danger every shift, 2,000 feet under the surface.

The little Hedge School – a light-hearted remembrance of the Hedge Schools – Ireland's solution to their thirst for education, despite it being outlawed by the British. Scholars met

behind bushes to teach, and avoid revenge thirsty eyes. That thirst is still ingrained in us to this day.

Cait ni Dhuibhir (Cate Maguire) – another tribute to the lady that is Ireland. Knowing Irish or not, have a listen for the rhythm of the language, and then join us on Tuesday nights at Pj McIntyre's to learn Irish.

The Wearing of the Green – You know this one to: They're hanging men and women for the wearing of the green ... even wearing green in Ireland, accidental or not, was punishable by death as Ireland entered the 1800s. The song used in bardic storytelling tradition was an alert warning to Irish men, women and yes, children. The form of protest carried on, despite the very real danger. Oh then Paddy dear of did you hear, the news that's going round? The Shamrock is forbid by law to grow on Irish ground ...

Ireland's Hurling Men – Ireland's National Sport, Hurling is near as ancient as Ireland. If you've not seen The Fastest Game on Grass, or as I like to call it, The Clash of the Ash, check out Youtube. Michael Cusack asked Poet Brian O'Higgins to write a tribute about hurling men and its place in the fabric of Irish nationalism. Here's to the land we love ...

This is a CD that belongs in any Irish historian's library. The liner notes elevate it to a historical document, with so much background and insight gathered in one place. Derek knows Ireland's history, he lived some of it, and discoursed with those who came out of 1916. It is highly recommended, and a Top Shelf Selection. ■

Michael P. O'Malley
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SPEAK IRISH

By Bob Carney
@BobCarneyGTR
carneyspeakirish@gmail.com

Dia Daoibh!

To begin our introduction to Irish, we'll cover some basic conversation, greetings and introducing ourselves, as well as asking how someone is. Last month we covered some things to aid us in pronunciation.

Along with the phonetic examples here, we can use that, and the audio portion of the on-line dictionary Teanglann.ie. When starting out learning Irish, phonetic transcriptions can be helpful, but learning how to pronounce a word using the keys Irish spelling provides us is the best approach.

GREETINGS:

Dia duit (jee-uh ghitch) Hello lit. God to you
Dia daoibh (jee-uh yeev) hello lit. God to you plural
Dia's Muire duit (jee-uhs mor-ah ghitch) reply to hello lit. God and Mary to you
Dia's Muire daoibh (jee-uhs mor-ah yeev) reply to hello lit. God and Mary to you plural

LESS FORMAL GREETINGS:

Conas atá tú? (kuhn-us ah-taw too) How are you? (Kerry dialect)
Cad é mar atá tú? (kah-jay mar ah-taw too) How are you? (Ulster dialect)
Cén chaoi a bhfuil tú? (kay hee will too) How are you? (Connacht dialect)
Notice in Cén chaoi a bhfuil tú?, the n in cén is not pronounced and the a before bhfuil is also silent. Referring back to our pronunciation guide we can see why bhfuil is pronounced will.
Tá mé go maith. (taw may guh mah) I am good or well.
Tá mé go breá. (taw may guh brow) I am fine.
Níl mé go dona. (neel may guh dun-ah) I'm not bad.

INTRODUCE YOURSELF:

Is mise Roibeárd. (iss mee-sha rih-bard) I am Robert
Roibeárd is ainm dom. (rih-bard iss an-im dom) Robert is the name on me.
Cén t-ainm atá ort? (ken tan-im ah-taw ort) What's your name? (Connacht)
Cad is ainm duit? (kahd iss an-im ghitch) What's your name? (Kerry)
C'ainm atá ort? (can-im ah-taw ort) What's your name? (Ulster)
You can see if your name has it's equivalent in Irish at, Behind the Name: Irish Names.
Tá sé go deas bualadh leat. (taw shay guh jess boola laht) It's nice to meet you.
Cén chaoi a bhfuil tú na laethanta seo? (kay hee will too na lenn-tuh shuh)

How are you these days?

Tá se go deas tú a fheiceáil arís. (taw shay guh jees too ah eh-kuhl ah-reesh) It's nice to see you again.

INTRODUCING OTHERS:

Cé seo? (kay shuh) Who's this?
Cé h-iad seo? (kay he-ud shuh) Who's this? Plural
Seo é Brian. (shuh ay Bree-un) This is Brian.
Seo í Bríd. (shuh ee Breedj) This is Bríd.
Seo iad Bríd agus Brian. (shuh ee-ad breedj ah-gus Bree-un) This is Bríd and Brian.

GOODBYE:

Goodbye can be complicated to someone beginning Irish, but only if we let it! If you remember that of all the examples below, there is one that works for all circumstances, so when in doubt, just say Slán (slawn).

Slán leat (slawn laht) Goodbye to someone going away
Slán libh (slawn liv) to many people going away
Slán agat (slawn ah-gut) to someone staying behind
Slán agaibh (slawn ah-giv) to many people staying behind
Slán abhaile (slawn uh-wall-yuh) Safe home
Slán go fóill (slawn guh foyl) Goodbye for now
Feicfidh mé thú. (fek-ay may who) I'll see you.
Feicfidh mé amárach tú. (fek-ay may ah-mah rach too) I'll see you tomorrow.
Tóg go bog é! (toeg guh bug ay) Take it easy!

PRONOUNS:

mé (may) I, me tú (too) you
sé (shay) he, it sí (shee) she, it
muid (mwidj) us, we sibh (shiv) you plural
siad (shee-ud) they
Conas atá Brian? (kun-us ah-taw bree-un) How is Brian?
Tá sé go maith. (taw shay guh mah) He is good.
Cén chaoi a bhfuil Brian agus Liam? (kay hee will bree-un ah-gus lee-um) how are Brian and William?
Tá siad go breá. (taw shee-ud guh brow) They are fine.

THANK YOU:

Go raibh maith agat. (guh rah mah ah-gut) May there be good at you. (thank you)
Go raibh maith agat arís. (guh rah mah ah-gut ah-reesh) Thanks again.
Go raibh míle maith agat (guh rah meela mah ah-gut) Many thanks.

CONVERSATION:

Nóra: Dia duit.
Aoife: Dia's Muire a duit. Conas atá tú?
Nóra: Tá mé go maith, go raibh maith agat, agus tú fein?
Aoife: Níl mé go dona. Is mise Aoife. Cén t-ainm atá ortsa?
Nóra: Mise Nóra, tá sé go deas bualadh leat.
Aoife: Tá sé go deas bualadh leatsa freisin!
Nóra: Slán!
Aoife: Slán go fóill!

In the conversation, you probably noticed a few new words and variations on words that we have already encountered. Nóra uses the phrase "agus tú fein?" (ah-gus too fayn) which means, "and yourself." When Aoife asked Nora her name, she added sa to the end of the word ort and when she replied back to Nora after Nora said it was nice to meet her, she added sa to the word leat. This is a way to show emphasis. She also used the word freisin (fresh-in). Here it means, it's nice to meet you too!

How many conversations can you construct, using these few phrases? Language comes to us a word or a phrase at a time, but only if you use it.

"Bíonn gach tosú lag" (bee-un gach tuh-soo lahg)

"Every beginning is weak"

Hope to see you at the next 10 week session of Speak Irish Cleveland that begins February 26th, to learn our mother tongue, and the influences that resonate with us still today.

Tóg go bog é! ■

Bob Carney is a student of Irish history and language and teaches the Speak Irish Cleveland class held every Tuesday @Pj McIntyre's. He is also active in the Irish Wolfhounds and Irish dogs organizations in and around Cleveland. He can be contacted at carneyspeakirish@gmail.com

Let the Light Shine



Kevin Dever 2x All Big 10 academic scholar athlete and 2x Big 10 champ, a Cotton Bowl Champ and now Rose Bowl Champion for the OSU Buckeyes.



Brady Campbell Adult Ceili Team,

The BC teams took 3rd, 4th and 7th in different competitions over the weekend

Front Row from left:

Brigid McNeely
Amy Gannon
Beckie Burke
Emily Trenka
Katie Coyne
Maureen Casey

Fiona Mangan
Catherine Staunton
Anne Hodge
Brigid Coyne
Julie Aylward
Laurie Scully

Back Row from left:

Christopher Boland
Maddie Coyne
Erin Lombardi
Therese Schwind
Katie Schneller
Jen Hooper

Shannon Kruger
Joe Lardie
Brian Power
Maria Holmes
Cara Loughlin
Katie Gerba



Brady Campbell 2018 U8 Girls Ceili Oireachtas Champions, Pic courtesy of Pat Campbell



All competitors for the Midwest Adult Ceili Competition, Pic courtesy of Pat Campbell

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- 4th - Wild Game Dinner @ Gandalf's Pub
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- 7th - High Kings @MusicBoxCLE
- 8th - Outside Track @CVNP (Cuyahoga Valley National Park)
- 9th - 15th Annual Claddagh Ball @WSIAClub
- 10th - Irish Brunch with The Kilroys @MusicBoxCLE
- 13th - CLE Stories To Kill An Irishman w author Rick Porello,
- 14th - Marys Lane & The Narrowbacks @PjMcIntyre's
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- 16th - Pre St. Patrick's Day Warm Up w Andrew McManus 10am-2pm
- 17th - Andy McManus @TheHarp
St. Patrick's Day Direct from Ireland - Shindig 9am-Noon @ 5 Points Coffee
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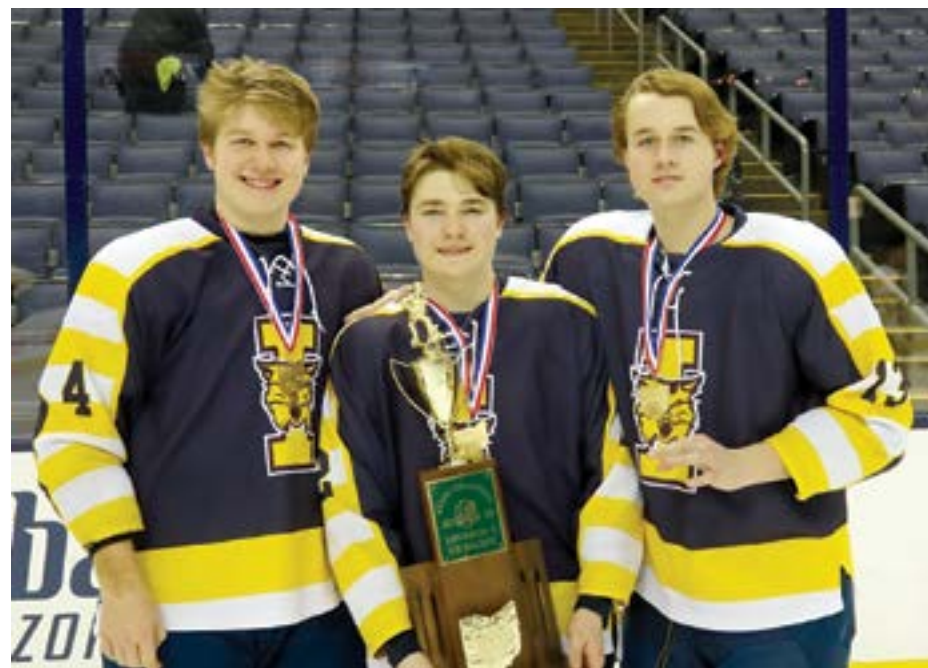
Three Cousins Vie for Another State Championship

by Barry Conway

What are the odds? Three kids, with the same first name, two with the same last name, cousins descended from a small village in Ireland, would meet and compete for consecutive titles for the St Ignatius Wildcats Ice Hockey team? That is exactly what happened to Aedan Conway, of North Royalton, Aidan Conway of Lakewood and Aidan Millett of Bay Village. All three were members of the 2018 St. Ignatius Wildcat Hockey State Championship Hockey team and all three are looking to repeat in 2019.

Aidan Conway of Lakewood is the son of Frank (St Ed's Class of 1987 and former football player) and Karin Conway. His grandparents Manus and Bridget "Bridgie Ned" Conway of Bridgie Ned's Party Room at PJ MacIntyre's Irish Pub are both from Ballycroy, Co. Mayo, with Manus is from Tallagh and Bridgie from Doona.

Aidan Conway attended Lakewood Catholic Academy in Lakewood, OH. In his younger years, he tried Irish dance but decided that being on the ice or the gridiron was a better fit. Pat O'Rourke, Head Coach of the St. Ignatius Wildcats had this to say: "Aidan is a big defenseman who also plays football at Saint Ignatius. I see him carrying the puck up the ice and asserting himself more on offense this year now that he is a veteran.



Aidan Conway, Aidan Millett and Aedan Conway with the 2018 Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) Ice Hockey State Championship Trophy. Photo by Joe Ginley.

I would be shocked if this talented young man isn't playing college sports, either on the ice or on the gridiron, in a few years."

Aidan Millett, a Junior forward for the Icecats, attended Our Lady of the Angels grade school before moving and attending Bay Village Middle School. In his younger years, Aidan played baseball, football, track and was on the swim team. At St Ignatius, Aidan plays lacrosse in addition to Ice hockey.

"Everyone loves Aidan," says

Coach Pat O'Rourke, "he is one of the nicest guys on the team and is a heckuva player, too. Has the kind of skill set where he can play with anyone, so he isn't picky about his line mates, which coaches love. Son of a fireman, he brings a certain toughness to our team and now that he has a successful year under his belt, I believe his confidence and therefore his production will soar to even bigger heights."

Aidan Millett is the son of Dave and Maureen and is related to the two Conway's through his great-grandmother, Nora Leneghan, who was from Ballycroy and immigrated to Cleveland, where she met and married Thomas Millett, Aidan's great-grandfather.

Aidan's father grew up in Willowick and attended Lake Catholic HS, where he was a star football player and wrestler. Aidan's uncle, Tim, played football at Lake Catholic with Aedan Conway's father, Barry, but they never realized they were cousins.

Aidan Conway and Aidan Millett have played together since they were young, starting with the Winterhurst Hockey Association and later the Cleveland Jr. Lumberjacks. When the

Aidan's dads met, they soon realized they were cousins.

Senior Defenseman and two-year letterman Aedan Conway never met the other Aidan's until attending St Ignatius, "I was once asked to lend my jersey to another Aidan Conway when I played for Strongsville (Youth Hockey) but, we never met until here."

Aedan attended North Royalton Middle School and played his youth hockey for the Strongsville, Cleveland Sharks and Cleveland Barons organizations before attending St Ignatius.

Aedan played football, baseball, soccer and lacrosse before deciding on ice hockey as his primary sport. An avid skier, Aedan recently scaled and skied down the East Wall at the Arapahoe Basin Ski Resort in Keystone, CO.

Aedan is the son of Barry and Kim Conway and the great-grandson of Neil and Bridget (Campbell) Conway, both from Doona, Ballycroy, Co. Mayo. Aedan was also a champion bagpiper in his younger years. Taught by his father, Aedan won the "Piper of the Day" awards at for the Ohio and Edinboro Scottish Games and won the "Champion Supreme" award in the Ohio Valley region.

Coach O'Rourke: "He has worked hard in the weight room all off-season and looks to be in great shape. He has gotten bigger and taller and will take some teams by storm, I predict. He can certainly carry the puck up ice all he wants, and he has the skills and shot to finish those rushes, too. My pick to make the biggest leap from last year to this year. Couldn't happen to a nicer kid, either."

What are the odds? Well, this did happen. As far as the odds of winning another state championship? I wouldn't bet against them.

(I'd like to thank Frank Conway, Dave Millett, Ann Millett, Pat O'Rourke, and Jack O'Rourke, who authored the St. Ignatius Media Guide, for their contributions to this article)

The State Championship Game will be held March 9th. ■

WHEN IRISH EYES ARE SMILING; BE VERY AFRAID
By Maury Collins



Smile and Be Happy

Father Murphy went into a pet store to buy a parrot. The owner said; "Father, I have just the bird for you. It doesn't scream, yell or swear. In fact it's a religious parrot. You see those strings on his leg? If you pull the one on the left, he recites the Lord's Prayer. When you pull the right one, he recites the 23rd Psalm." "Terrific" said Father Murphy. "And what happens if I pull both strings?" The parrot squawked; "I fall off my perch, you eejit."

Little Johnny's mother, in an attempt to get him to stop sucking his thumb, told him that if he continued to do so, his stomach would get bigger and bigger until it burst. Later that day, they went to a grocery store, where Johnny saw a very pregnant lady. Noticing that he was staring at her, the lady said; "You don't know me, you shouldn't be staring at me." Johnny replied; "I may not know you, but I know what you've been doing."

Mickey applied for a job at the super market and said that he had experience, having previously worked at another supermarket. When the interviewer asked why he had left, Mickey said, "I was fired for spending too much time with the meat slicer." The interviewer was baffled and said; "That doesn't sound like a serious offense to me." "Well they must have thought so," replied Mickey, "They fired her, too."

Sam and Moe were rocking on the porch of the retirement home. Having talked about everything under the sun, Sam was grasping for a new topic of conversation. "Tell me, Moe, have you read Marx?" "Yes" replied Moe. "And, you know, I think it's the wicker chairs."

A lawyer meeting with his client in jail says "I've got some good news and some bad news." The client says "Give me the bad news first." "Your DNA matches the blood found on the victim and the murder weapon." "What could the good

news possibly be?" asked the client. "Your cholesterol is down to 120."

Pat: A man knocked at my door today and asked for a small donation for the local swimming pool.
Mike: What did you give him?
Pat: a glass of water.

The Grumpy Pharmacist: Upon arriving home, a husband was met at the door by his sobbing wife. Tearfully she explained, "It's the pharmacist. He insulted me terribly this morning on the phone. I had to call multiple times before he would even answer the phone." Immediately, the husband drove down town to confront the pharmacist and demand an apology. Before he could say more than a word or two, the pharmacist told him; "Just a minute, listen to my side of it. This morning the alarm failed to go off, so I was late getting up. I went without breakfast and hurried out to the car, just to realize that I'd locked the house with both house and car keys inside and had to break a window to get my keys." "Then, driving a little too fast, I got a speeding ticket.

Later, when I was about three blocks from the store, I had a flat tire." "When I finally got to the store a bunch of people was waiting for me to open. I got the store opened and started waiting on these people, all the time the darn phone was ringing." He continued, "Then I had to break a roll of coins against the cash register drawer to make change, and they spilled all over the floor. I had to get down on my hands and knees to pick up the coins and the phone was still ringing. When I came up I cracked my head on the open cash drawer, which made me stagger back against a showcase with a bunch of perfume bottles on it. Half of them hit the floor and broke." "Meanwhile, the phone is still ringing with no let up, and I finally got back to answer it. It was your wife. She wanted to know how to use a rectal thermometer. Believe me mister, as God is my witness, all I did was tell her."



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AKRON IRISH

By Lisa O'Rourke



In the DNA

From a distance, the landscape was pretty unremarkable; a solid gray winter day on a small farm of thirty-five acres, a white bungalow and some utility sheds. It could have been in just about any hard scrabble rural area anywhere.

As the camera zooms in, that sense of the unremarkable swings in the other direction. It is chaos, the cell phone footage is shaky and when it zeroes in on the center of the action, you see a middle-aged man being wrestled to the ground by more middle aged men, although the second group is dressed for action and don't look like this is their first time at this type of thing.

The camera pivots to another man being pinned to the ground in the driveway. There is angry shouting. One man who is shouting, certainly one of the men filming the scene and clearly hoping to shame those other men out of their actions, says something to the effect of how they should be ashamed of themselves, that these men on the ground are their own people, and how could one Irishman put another out of his home and on the street right before Christmas?

One of those officers of the bank looks stonily at the cell phone camera and states that he is not Irish, he is British. It could have been a statement of pride or defiance. Maybe he meant

that he was proud of his heritage too, that he would not do this to one of his own, or that he was angry and not Irish, but that comment stopped the collective breath of the confrontation; it seemed to change the energy, and not for the better.

What that man did with those words and that attitude was summon the ghosts of 1847 more surely than any Ouija board could accomplish. For those words were said in Stroketown, Co. Roscommon, a few miles from the Irish Famine Museum. It is not a place that forgets much.

Stroketown is in the Midwest of

gay marriage, they are also people who cling ideas like helping each other, hospitality and treating your neighbors like family.

On December 11, 2018, black clad, quasi- military types descended on a house in Stroketown, Co. Roscommon with the sole purpose of removing the residents from their home and repossessing it for a Belgian bank, KBC. It couldn't have been much of a surprise, because there were plenty of bystanders wielding cell phone cameras in the yard. There is no question that the family, three middle-aged siblings, two brothers and a sister,

THE REPRISAL, WHILE NOT NICE OR LEGAL, WAS NOT CARRIED OUT BY HOOLIGANS LOOKING FOR A CAUSE. IT WAS DONE BY NEIGHBORS WHO TOOK IT PERSONALLY WHEN THEY SAW THE HARSH TREATMENT OF THEIR NEIGHBORS.

Ireland. It is a place that has been relatively untouched by prosperity or immigration. If you live there, it is because your people have lived there for generations. That is not just speculation but has been confirmed by some ancestry studies with geneticists finding some of the most unchanged DNA in Europe in that area.

Stroketown was not chosen to be the site of the Irish Famine Museum randomly. County Roscommon was hit hard by the Famine, and may have never fully recovered. Stroketown Park House was occupied during that time by the Mahon Family. Denis Mahon was a British landlord who distinguished himself by sending some of his tenant farmers to their deaths, making them emigrate on some of the most infamous coffin ships of their time.

He was repaid for his efforts by becoming the first landlord to be assassinated during a famine uprising. So, if you live there, odds are good that you are a product of generations that have lived there and have that history burned into your DNA.

People there have changed with the times, but still hold on to much of the rural traditional culture. While the area has been a lone holdout regarding some of the societal reforms like

owed the bank money. What has not been made clear is what the source of the difficulties was or what type of bank or loan was involved. What is clear is that what was captured on the phones was heartbreaking.

An elderly man was thrown to the ground and removed forcibly from his yard. Neighbors attempted to help him, but they were threatened and manhandled. The flinty looks of the men removing those hapless people forcibly and then that blunt comment on nationality, recalled the worst moments of famine, and the loss that still haunts residents, especially in these small rural areas that were so badly affected in the first place.

That comment also led immediately to the question, who are those guys? It turned out that they were former British military men, some stationed in the North. They came a hundred and fifty years later, to carry out evictions based on foreign orders, two weeks before Christmas. It was the handling of the thing that pushed so many buttons for local residents.

So much so, that less than a week after the well-publicized eviction, people acted. A band of people ranging from twenty to fifty in number, depending on reports, stormed the

Continued on facing page

Akron Irish

Continued from facing page

house now occupied by the men who carried out the eviction. The gang brought with them petrol bombs, bats and clubs. They burned out four transport vehicles, killed the two dogs that were set on them and carried out an eviction of their own.

The hired guns were run from the house and without the benefit of much on to keep them warm. They were warned not to return. There have also been pickets and boycotts of the bank, both in Roscommon and nationally, which seems fairly culpable in this event as well.

Recently there have been protests in other places, linked to the diminishing middle class. This one felt more authentic.

The reprisal, while not nice or legal, was not carried out by hooligans looking for a cause. It was done by neighbors who took it personally when they saw the harsh treatment of their neighbors. Someone said that they felt that if they allowed this to happen, "then who are we?"

This eviction was personal, small

and specific. In a city, if this had happened, it would have seemed different. At times, when we don't know our neighbors, we diminish their problems as acts of their own foolishness, as a way to manage our own anxiety. We want to think that we are cleverer than our faceless peers because it makes the world a less scary place for us. It is at the expense of who we are sometimes. The overarching lesson of this story, as illustrated by those former military men, is that those who don't remember history may be doomed to run the streets in their underpants. ■

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 Gaelic. She runs a Gaelic study group at the AOH/Mark Heffernan Division. She is married to Dónal and has two sons, Danny and Liam. Lisa enjoys art, reading, music, and travel. She enjoys spending time with her dog, cats and fish. Lisa can be contacted at olisa07@icloud.com. Please send any Akron events to my email!

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See all the shenanigans this month @Hooley on pages 34 & 35

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OUT & ABOUT OHIO

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THE HARP
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1114 Center St. Cleveland 44113-2406 216.696.6968. www.flatironcafe.com

TREEHOUSE
10th - Top Hat Black; 17th - Austin Walkin' Cane; 24th - Becky Boyd. 820 College Avenue, Cleveland, 44113 www.treehousecleveland.com

PJ MCINTYRE'S
2nd - Abby Normal, 3rd - Super Bowl Party- Cleveland Rovers, 6th - Monthly Pub Quiz- w Mike D 7pm, 9th - East Wind, 16th - Ace Molar, 20th - Old Time Music 6pm, 23rd - Marys Lane, 27th - Comedy Night in PJ's Speakeasy. Don't forget T-Shirt Tues: wear any Pjs



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IRISH AMERICAN CLUB EAST SIDE
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Photo: Mo Conway Reich

Ongoing Traditional Irish Sessiúns, bring your instruments and play along!

Unitarian Universalist Church of Fairlawn,
3300 Morewood Dr. 7:30 pm Wednesdays. All skill levels welcome.

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

Briquette's - 1st Saturday of the month, 2 -4 pm. Ashtabula on the Harbor

The Harp - 1st Friday of every month, 9pm. 4408 Detroit, Cleveland

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

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

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

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Winter Ceili, Friday, 2/8, @IAClub- East Side. 22770 Lakeshore Blvd, Euclid, Ohio. Traditional music by The Kilroys, \$10.00 at door, under 18 free

For more info: contact CeiliClubCleveland@gmail.com or find us on Facebook

hosted by Cleveland Gaelic Footballers/WSIA Marching Units - Vincent @ 216-209-5845. Great live music & food in The Pub every Friday. WSIA Club 8559 Jennings Rd. 44138 www.wsia-club.org. 440-235-5868.

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3rd - General Meeting, 9th - Clann na nGael Banquet, 10th - Blood Drive, 16th - Rice Bros., 17th - General Meeting, 23rd - Dogwood Road. Happy Hour every Friday from 5-7pm! 60 W. Castle Rd. Columbus 43207 614-491-4449 www.shamrockclubofcolumbus.com

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

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- 8th - Pub Quiz
- 8th - Winter Ceili
- 9th - Open Mic Nite
- 15 - Eric Fisher in Pub
- 16 - Reverse Raffle for/hosted by Cleveland Gaelic Footballers/WSIA Marching Units
- 3/2 - Pre St. Patrick's Day Honorees Dance w Marys Lane Helen for info/tiks: 216-251-4075
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By Dottie Wenger

KIDS CRAIC



Irish Phrase for Kids' Craic

Gra'

(pronounced "graw") = "love"

Valentine Riddle:

What did the squirrel say to his girlfriend on Valentine's Day?

"I'm NUTS about you!"

Book Highlight



Ireland for Kids
by Derek MacKenzie-Hook

This is a guide for those traveling to Ireland with children. It includes hundreds of kid-friendly places to stay, Irish eateries and must-see experiences for every age.



For this February/Valentine issue of Kid's Craic, we highlight the Claddagh (a most perfect Irish valentine gift!) and its significance.

The rings originated in the village of Claddagh in Galway back in the 18th century and were originally worn by fishermen as a means of identification. These days, the exchange of Claddagh rings is popular in both Ireland and the United States.

The ring's design is a heart held by two hands with a crown on top. Each element has its own meaning:

The Heart: symbolizes love. **The Hands:** symbolizes friendship. **Crown:** symbolizes loyalty.

Did you know: traditionally, the WAY in which a Claddagh ring is worn sends a message?

- ☺ If your heart has been "promised" to someone, it's worn with the tip of the heart pointing in towards the wrist.
- ☺ If you're still looking for your true love, wear the tip of the heart pointing out.
- ☺ If the Claddagh was given to you by a family member or good friend, it's worn on the right hand. If someone is in a serious relationship, then it's worn on the left.



CLEVELAND COMHRÁ

By Bob Carney
@BobCarneyGTR

Toirdhealbach O'Ceabhalláin

On the European Continent between 1600 and 1750 or so, the world of music was in one of its' most productive and prolific stages. The Baroque Period laid the way for the format of modern orchestras, with strings and compositions for stringed instruments taking a more prominent position. Harmony and melody took a lead role in the hands of the great composers of this era.

The works of Vivaldi, Corelli, Tartini, Pachelbel, Handel and of course Bach, are known to almost everyone, even to those who claim to dislike or not to listen to classical music. Bach's Prelude in G Major from The Cello Suites has been used in film, television and commercials and yet still manages to make me stop and listen whenever I hear it. Interestingly, The Cello Suites were an obscure study for solo cello until they were "discovered" by a young cellist with the name of Pablo Casals in a music shop in Spain in the late nineteenth century.

Today it is expected to be in the repertoire of any string player hoping to play professionally. If you would like an introduction to baroque music, The Cello Suites are worth a listen.

A century earlier in Ireland, Henry VIII, who had declared himself King

of Ireland, introduced a statute to ban the "rhymer, pipers and bards." He was correct in fearing the political power of the Irish musicians and poets. Later, Elizabeth I went even further, and decreed that harpers and bards were to be executed whenever found. However, in true Irish fashion, this solidified their position as the keepers of Ireland's cultural traditions.

The greatest of these poets and harpers was born in 1670 in Co. Meath. Toirdhealbach O'Ceabhalláin, or Turlough O'Carolan, moved with his family to Ballyfarnon when he was fourteen. His father John had taken work at the estate of the MacDermott Roes.

Turlough had shown an interest and had some ability in prose and music and the lady of the house took a liking to him, and provided him with a teacher. At the age of eighteen he was stricken with smallpox which cost him his sight. Mrs. MacDermott Roes arranged for him to study the harp, so that he would be able to provide for himself.

After three years of intense study, she supplied him with a horse, money and a harp to begin his career. Turlough spent the next forty-seven years travelling and making a living as a poet and harper.

His first patron after Mrs. MacDermott Roes, was a land owner named George Reynolds, who encouraged the young musician to compose his own works. Sheebag Sheemore (Sí beag Sí mhor) was the result of that encouragement, and just one of the two-hundred and twenty or so of Turlough's compositions that are performed regularly today.

Irish music is generally categorized into three groups: art music, folk music and harper tradition. The harper served as a bridge between folk and art music. O'Carolan was not a virtuoso by any means; what



made him stand out was his unique style of composition that blended the two styles of Irish music and the influences of his European contemporaries such as Vivaldi and Corelli.

Turlough admired Francesco Gemiani, the Italian violinist and composer, who had authored a number of works on performance techniques and harmony. Gemiani was a frequent visitor to Ireland, eventually dying in Dublin in 1762. It's believed O'Carolan met Gemiani in Dublin on one of those visits.

O'Carolan's music reflects his personality: cheerful, playful, pensive and temperamental. His music only survives as single line melodies, so we don't really know how he would have accompanied or harmonized them. Just like Bach's Cello Suites however, they stand on their own.

In 1720 at the age of fifty, he married Mary Maguire, and by the time of his death was survived by six daughters and a son. A harper's life was not an easy one, with constant travel from one great house to another or castle to castle, especially for a sightless person with a well known penchant for drink. By 1738, he was feeling ill and returned to the home of Mrs. MacDermott Roes. After a few days, he composed these lines to his very first benefactress:

"Mary Fitzgerald, dear heart,
Love of my breast and my friend.
Alas that I am parting from you,
Lady who succored me at every stage."

Turlough died shortly after. It is somehow fitting, with his reputation as a hard drinker, that his final musical composition was dedicated to the butler who brought him his last drink. His final words: "the drink and I have been friends for so long, it would be a pity for me to

leave without one last kiss."

W.B. Yeats wrote, "Carolan, the last of the Irish bards, slept on a rath, and ever after the fairy tunes ran in his head, and made him the great man he was." (from Fairy and Folk Tales of the Irish Peasantry)

Grainne Yeats summarized her biography of O'Carolan with this last tribute: "Carolan bridges the gap between continental art music on the one hand and folk music on the other. At his best he wrote music that is distinctively Irish, yet has an international flavor as well. It is this achievement that suggests that Turlough Carolan does indeed deserve the title of Ireland's National Composer."

As someone who enjoys classical music, I find O'Carolan's music as interesting as any of the other great composers of the baroque period. As a student of Irish language, his prose is full of humour and observations of the times that he lived. Dennis Doyle has translated some of O'Carolan's prose and performs a number of his compositions on the Celtic harp. You can check out Dennis at his webpage or see him at Cleveland Irish Cultural Festival.

Other resources include:

Dennis Doyle CD Celebration
Derek Bell (of the Chieftans) CD Carolan's Receipt

Lynn Saoirse CD The Seas Are Deep,
The Music Of Turlough O'Carolan
Pablo Casals CD The Cello Suites
Carolan: The Life and Times of an Irish Harper by Donal O'Sullivan

The Complete Works of O'Carolan:
Irish Harper and Composer 1670-1738

The Cello Suites, J.S.Bach, Pablo Casals,
and The Search For a Baroque Masterpiece Eric Siblin

Hope to see you at the next 10 week session of Speak Irish Cleveland that begins February 26th, to learn our mother tongue, and the influences that resonate with us still today.

Slán go Fóill! ■

Bob Carney is a student of Irish history and language and teaches the Speak Irish Cleveland class held every Tuesday @Pj McIntyre's. He is also active in the Irish Wolfhounds and Irish dogs organizations in and around Cleveland. Wife Mary and hounds Cian and Morrighan and terrier Doolin keep the house jumping. He can be contacted at carneyspeakirish@gmail.com.

ACROSS

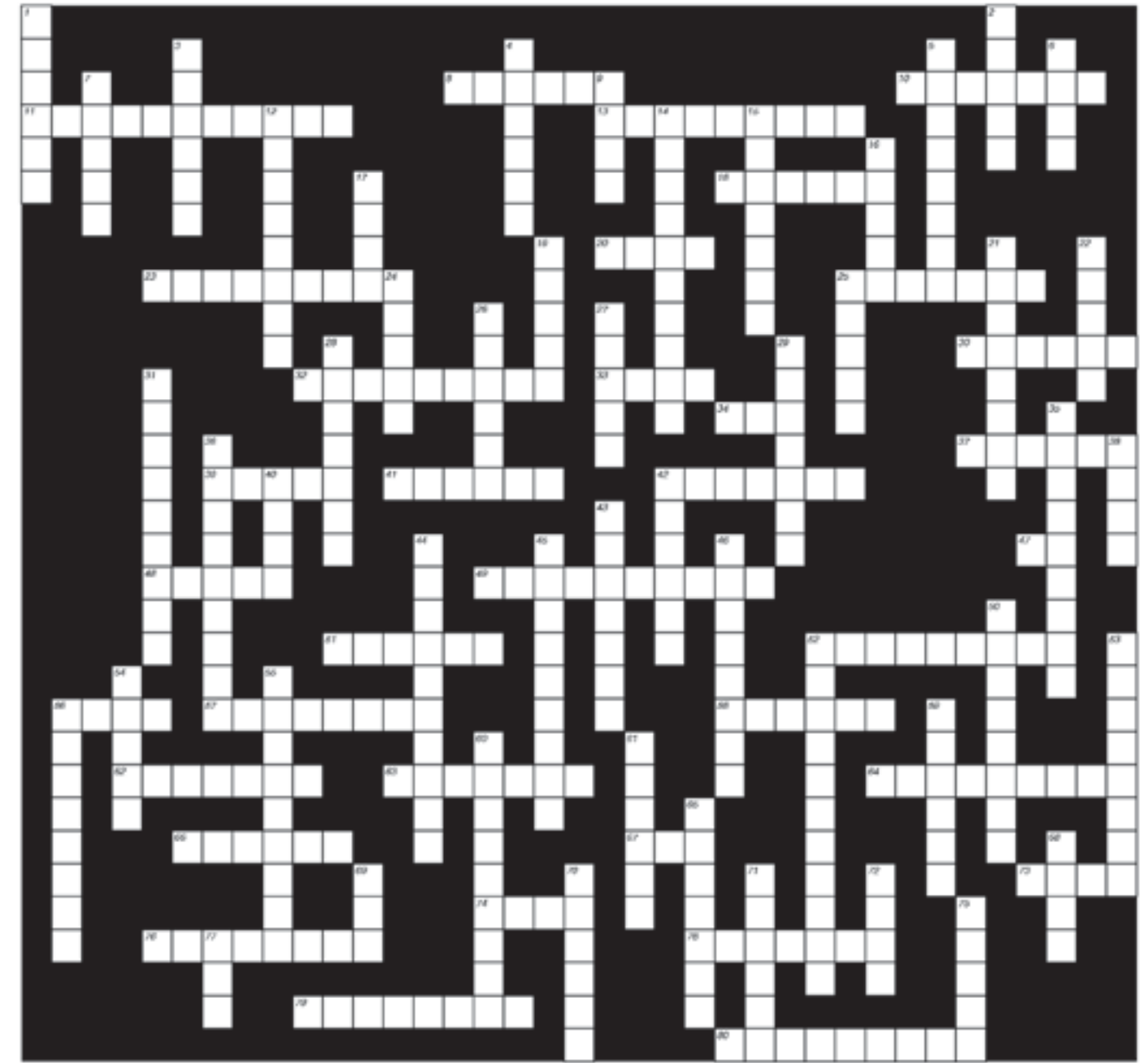
- 8 Dunville's Three _____ (historically a pot still, relaunched as a blend)
- 10 _____ Estates Irish Whiskey
- 11 West Cork _____ Peat Charred
- 13 St. _____ ' 7 Year Old
- 18 Old _____
- 20 A _____ of the Irish
- 23 Jameson _____
- 25 Tullamore _____
- 30 _____ Tumbler Irish Whiskey
- 32 _____ DEW
- 33 Erin's _____
- 34 Bushmills _____ Bush
- 37 _____ Gold Label
- 39 _____ Beg Turk Single Malt
- 41 _____ ' Single Malt made in Co. Louth
- 42 2 _____
- 47 Dunville's _____ (historically a pot still, relaunched as a single malt)
- 48 Jameson _____ made for Japan
- 49 _____ Irish Whiskey is aged in rye barrels
- 51 Old _____
- 52 1608 is printed on _____ label
- 56 Bushmills Single _____
- 57 John L. _____ Irish Whiskey
- 58 Brogan's _____ Irish Single Malt
- 62 Michael _____ Blended Irish Whiskey
- 63 _____ Collins Single Malt
- 64 _____ finished in Wine casks
- 66 _____ Napier 1945
- 67 Tullamore _____ 14 Year Single Malt
- 73 Powers John's _____
- 74 _____ No. 2 1916 Single Grain
- 76 Middleton Barry _____ Legacy
- 78 _____; Single Malt
- 79 Glendalough Irish Whiskey is aged in _____ oak barrels
- 80 _____ Castle Single Malt

DOWN

- 1 _____ Whiskey located at the start of Sleat Head Drive
- 2 Portmagee 9 Year Old Irish Whiskey - Origin _____
- 3 The Ballydoyle's Irish Whiskey is named after a _____ in Tipperary
- 4 The _____ named after an Irish band
- 5 Tipperary _____ Selection
- 6 _____ an Uisce Single Malt
- 7 Writers' _____

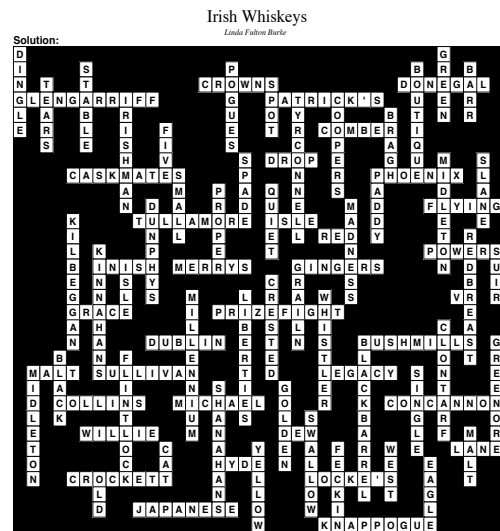
Irish Whiskeys

Linda Fulton Burke



www.CrosswordCheat.com

- 9 Green _____
- 12 The _____ Single Malt
- 14 The _____, a single malt whiskey, originally distilled by the Old Watts Distillery
- 15 Jameson _____ ' Croze
- 16 Erin Go _____
- 17 Finian's _____ Provinces
- 19 _____ and Bushel made by Connacht Whiskey
- 21 _____ Very Rare
- 22 _____ Castle
- 24 Teeling _____ Batch
- 25 _____ Irish Whiskey owned by Sazerac
- 26 _____ No. Twelve Irish Whiskey
- 27 The _____ Man
- 28 Finest Old _____ ' Irish Whiskey
- 29 Method & _____ Single Malt is aged in French oak barrels
- 31 _____ is made in Westmeath
- 35 _____ 12, 15, 21 year old single malt
- 36 _____ Single Malt
- 38 _____ Peated Malt
- 40 Strangford _____
- 42 Teeling Single _____
- 43 _____ Ten
- 44 Preston _____ Malt
- 45 Dublin _____ Copper Ally Single Malt
- 46 The _____ Single Malt
- 50 _____ 1014
- 52 Jameson _____
- 53 _____ made with corn alone and aged in
- Bourbon casks
- 54 Bushmills Black _____
- 55 JJ Corry The _____ Single Malt
- 56 _____ Very Rare Pot Still
- 59 Cadenhead's _____ Malt
- 60 _____ Single Malt made in Co. Louth
- 61 _____ Irish
- 65 Power's Three _____
- 68 Slaney _____
- 69 Hell _____ Maggie
- 70 _____ Spot
- 71 _____ Irish Whiskey
- 72 _____ Cork 10yr
- 75 Skibbereen _____ Single Cask
- 77 _____ Kilkenny



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