

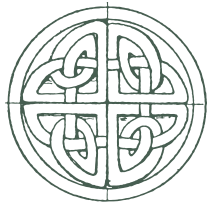


OHIO IRISH AMERICAN NEWS

MARCH 2019 • Volume 13 - Issue 3



Faith Fills the Pews:
St. Patrick's Day at St. Colman's



Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Another year of blessings. As we gather on the avenue, we see the evidence: all of the families, reunions and memorable moments from years past, refueled by new moments and memories crafted this year, are all around us throughout the day. Every year is a little busier, with all the events & personally meaningful activities; love of peeps and tradition still fuels my choices.

Mass at St. Colman's; Marching in the Parade ~ this year the OhioIANews will march in the Cleveland St. Patrick's Day Parade as an entity for the first time; Hanging with the Chambers, Cam-bells, Carrs, Gormans, Gills, Goggins, Mangans, Reikers ... ; a stop at The Harp on the way back to civilization; before ending the day as it began, with the root of my Irish faith, my folks, for a late dinner, good friends and a little love strengthening.

Sappy enough for you? Oh well, hard times fuel insight and understanding; what is really important settles through the dust of distraction.

For fifteen months now, we have been saying things like "largest issue ever,"



or, largest XX month ever." We get to say it again this month. This issue is the largest in our 147- issue history. Your support, advertiser support, meaningful and lasting support, has fueled our growth; Thank you.

Of course, all of the many and mighty events in March are featured within.

We've added and please welcome our 23rd monthly Columnist, Conor (CB) Makem, who writes about the Irish traveling Abroad, in "An Eejit Abroad." A few other highlights include: paying tribute to all of the St. Patrick's Day Honorees that were sent to us from throughout Ohio; profiles of Cleveland Hurling Legend Al O'Leary and Cleveland Browns Legend Brian Brennan, history, Irish language lessons, books & beer, recipes, sports, puzzles, jokes, Kids Craic, and of course, a bit of history too. It dies, if we don't discuss.

We also share all of these stories, and every issue, on our social media Twitter, Facebook and Instagram pages, and our massively growing website, which includes the OhioIANews Library and Archive.

The print is LARGER too, for easier reading than social media allows. The interactive issues mean if you click on an ad, you are taken to the advertiser's website, providing more bang for their buck - please let them know you found them in the OhioIANews.

You can read current and past stories, and find advertisers any time, if you no longer have a past issue. The archive is growing in leaps and bounds. We will keep building it until we have an extensive Irish Library and Archive covering stories that ran in the OhioIANews, and stories that arrived after the issue went to print, or were larger than we could print.

Pictures and extra text will be populated throughout the site. Our OhioIANews Library is being built to be the resource you need for the stories and the people you care most about.

Why? Because we can't thank those that deserve it once, and then let their story fade into a cloudy past. We have the resources; we're going to extend the reward.

Nuair a stadann an ceol, stadann an rinncé.

(When the music stops, so does the dance)

John



March 2019 Vol. 13 Issue 3

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About Our Cover:

Faith Fills the Pews:
St. Patrick's Day at
St. Colman's Church.

Photo by John O'Brien, Jr.



COLUMBUS IRISH

By Maureen Ginley
@MaureenGinley



A Night at Columbus Museum of Art

Back at the end of November, I was lucky enough to be invited to an art exhibit dedication and cocktail gathering at the Columbus Museum of Art. The Greater Columbus Irish Cultural Foundation awarded the museum a grant to bring Irish American Sculptor John Bernard Flannagan's Sitting Figure sculpture to the area, adding to the vast collection enjoyed by hundreds of visitors each month.

Having been in Columbus for over a year at this point, I jumped at the chance to attend this event. I had been wanting to visit the museum since moving to Central Ohio, and getting to share in the experience with so many members of the Columbus Irish community was the cherry on top of the unexpected - and very welcome - invitation.

I arrived to the museum and was shown to where the event was taking place. I sat down, chatted with fellow Shamrock Club members, and waited for the presentation to begin. While I was looking forward to hearing more about John Bernard Flannagan and his artistic process, I thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the people who I had been seeing at meetings/reading about in the Seanachai (the Shamrock Club's monthly newsletter). As with every

Columbus Irish event, I was made to feel as if I had known these people forever - they expressed genuine interest in my work, what brought me to Columbus, and my writing.

The presentation soon began, and I was hooked from the first few sentences and slides. I learned that John Bernard Flannagan attended the Minneapolis School of Art (now the Minneapolis College of Art and Design). He painted, dabbled in woodworking, and eventually turned to stone carving. In the early 1930s, he lived in Ireland, where he honed his stone carving technique; he practiced on rocks and material he found in the countryside, creating pieces that connected to - or resembled - those of 18th Century stone cutters.

Eventually, the museum curator giving the presentation clicked to a slide that listed Flannagan's credo: "A thing should never be finished - should rather always be in a state of 'becoming'... completed each according to his own psyche by whoever has eyes to see. Use the apparently accidental to avoid formal hardness, and the spontaneous to avoid emotional hardness."

What struck me about this quote was how easily this quote could be applied to our daily lives. The idea

of "becoming" and growth has always been fascinating to me. Every day, we're presented with opportunities to learn - from our work, our interactions, even the somewhat-quiet of our morning commutes. What Flannagan did with his work - he looked at each piece as constantly growing, malleable.

After the presentation and the unveiling of the Sitting Figure, I left the museum with a big smile on my face - and words I was ready to write. I am so grateful that the Columbus Irish included me in on this event, and I am looking forward to all the events (and opportunities to grow within this group of people) to come. ■



Columbus Museum of Art

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ILLUMINATIONS

By J. Michael Finn



Captain Robert Monteith, The Forgotten Man

Historical characters are sometimes placed on a shelf, and occasionally they have to be brought down and dusted off. One such character is Captain Robert Monteith.

Robert Monteith was born in the village of Newtownmountkennedy, Co. Wicklow, Ireland on March 1, 1879. His parents were Joseph Monteith and Mary Dillon, together they had nine children.

Robert joined the British Army in January 1895 when he was just 16. He gave his age as 18. In October 1896 he was assigned to the Royal Horse Artillery in India. He served three years

in India on the North-West frontier where he was awarded the India Medal. From India, Monteith was sent to South Africa in January 1900, to participate in the Boer War.

His military record in South Africa was significant, as he received battle clasps on his South Africa Medal for Tugela Heights in February 1900; the Relief of Ladysmith in March 1900; the Battle of Bergendal in August 1900; and Laing's Nek in June 1901.

When the Boer War ended, Monteith returned to Dublin in April 1903. He served in the Army Reserves in Dublin until he was discharged in January

1911. He obtained a civil service job working at the Ordinance Depot in Dublin. While in Dublin he met Mollie McEvoy, a widow with three children. Monteith married Molly in the autumn of 1909.

In August 1913, a general strike was called in Dublin by the Irish Transport and General Workers Union (ITGWU). Deaths and injuries resulted when the Dublin Metropolitan Police and Royal Irish Constabulary used excessive force against the strikers.

Monteith witnessed the savagery as the police ruthlessly attacked strikers and innocent bystanders. As a bystander, he was injured when an officer's baton struck him and knocked him to the ground.

In a similar incident, his 14-year-old daughter Florence returned home with a blood soaked head after being clubbed by a policeman. Monteith decided that he needed to get involved with the movement to end British rule in Ireland.

Monteith met with Tom Clarke, who was a member of the Irish Republican Brotherhood (IRB). Clarke recognized his potential as a former British soldier and suggested that Monteith join the newly formed Irish Volunteers. His abilities were quickly utilized as Monteith was elected Captain of "A" Company, 1st Battalion of the Dublin Brigade. He was recognized as having a particular aptitude for training men.

Following the outbreak of World War I in 1914, Monteith was approached by the British Army and asked to re-enlist. He refused on the basis that he would not betray the men he had been working with in the Volunteers. On November 12, 1914, the day following his meeting with the British Army, Monteith arrived at his job at the Ordinance Depot to discover he had been fired without explanation. Twelve hours later, he was served with a deportation order from Dublin in accordance with

the Defense of the Realm Act.

Monteith's written response to the British deportation order was, "I have done nothing which is illegal or contrary to your laws but in future I will; and for every shilling you have paid me a month I will make the British government pay sovereigns a day. Now you see how England can make rebels." On Tom



Captain Robert Monteith

Clarke's advice, Monteith relocated to Limerick and picked up on his role as captain and drill instructor for the Volunteers there.

By 1915, planning by the IRB for a rebellion against British rule had begun. Sir Roger Casement was sent to Germany to seek German assistance. There was a plan to recruit and outfit a brigade of Irish prisoners of war to serve as an attack force to assist in the rebellion.

Monteith was asked to undertake a secret mission to go to Berlin

to assist Casement in training the brigade. Monteith was secretly smuggled out of Ireland to the United States. Once in the US, John Devoy assisted in sending him to Germany to join Casement.

The plan to recruit Irish POWs did not work out well. Monteith had a handful of volunteers, enough to form the Berlin Irish Brigade. He was able to recruit additional men, but the German government had difficulty in feeding and supplying the small force. This lack of German support caused them to abandon the brigade idea.

In March 1916, a communication was received from the IRB stating that the Rising would begin on Easter Sunday, April 23, 1916. The dispatch also requested a shipment of arms to be delivered to the County Kerry coast on Easter Sunday.

Monteith took charge of planning the operation with the Germans. Their suggestion for transport was a cargo ship that had been disguised as a Norwegian trader ship called the *Aud*. The amount of arms offered was 20,000. Monteith

Continued on facing page



YOUNG & IRISH

By Mary Kate Campbell



Green on the Red Carpet

On February 24th, two Irish designers stood alongside the creations from fashion legends, such as Vera Wang, Chanel, Calvin Klein, and Givenchy,

and watched their own dresses grace the red carpet.

Dublin couturier Helen Cody, known for her romantic style and

Illuminations

Continued from facing page

argued that such a number was insufficient, but his argument proved futile.

The plan was for Monteith, Casement and Sergeant Daniel Bailey to travel to Ireland via submarine. The preparations were made and on April 11, 1916 they embarked on their journey aboard the submarine U-20. Mechanical problems forced them to transfer to the smaller U-19. The *Aud* also left Germany for Ireland. Unfortunately, unknown to the German navy, the British had broken the German military code and they were already waiting for their arrival.

The submarine arrived early off the southwest coast of County Kerry on Good Friday, and was supposed to rendezvous with the *Aud*. There was no sign or signal that anyone on shore was prepared for their arrival.

British destroyers were following the *Aud*. Monteith, Casement and Bailey were left with no choice but to go ashore in a small boat. Their attempt to land safely proved difficult as the Atlantic was rough and their boat capsize. After an hour of arduous work, they managed to reach the shores of Banna Strand near Tralee.

The *Aud* was chased by a British destroyer to Cork Harbor, where it was scuttled by the German Captain. The U-19 returned to Germany.

On the beach, their mission continued to unravel. The new plan was to hide Casement in a secure location and for Monteith and Bailey to locate the commandant of the Tralee Volun-

teers. A local farmer had notified the RIC of the landing and Casement was arrested near the beach.

Monteith and Baily arrived in Tralee only to learn of Casement's arrest. Bailey was soon captured. Monteith was able to avoid capture. With Casement captured, Monteith on the run and the German arms at the bottom of Cork harbor, the mission was over.

Monteith spent the next number of months in hiding in various locations throughout Ireland before escaping back to his family in New York in December 1916. In the 1920s he worked for Irish freedom, speaking often in Ohio and recruiting for the Friends of Irish Freedom. He then purchased a farm in Detroit, Michigan where he worked for the Ford Motor Company.

Monteith retired and in 1947 returned to Ireland, where he and Mollie lived for six years before returning to the US. Robert Monteith passed away on February 18, 1956. He is buried in Holy Sepulcher Cemetery in Detroit. His life story has been immortalized through his book *Casement's Last Adventures (1953)*, where he documents the tales of his time as an Irish Volunteer. ■

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.

ethereal craftsmanship, dressed Nuria González Blanco, producer of Oscar nominated short film, *Late Afternoon*. She wore a smoky grey and lavender silk taffeta creation that took over 300 hours to make. The dress was originally created for the Crafts Council of Ireland Portfolio, but Blanco fell in love with the piece and Cody agreed to let it be worn for such an important occasion.

Cody comments, "She knew about my work and emailed me. When she came to my studio and tried it on, I realized I could not top this ever. It is a master dress and it brings me joy to see someone so exquisite representing an Irish brand on the red carpet."

Blanco was accessorized with diamond and sapphire earrings by Yvonne Ross of Kilkenny.

Galway born, Alison Conneely designed for Louis Bagnall, writer and director of the same film, *Late Afternoon*. Bagnall was dressed in a full-length silk gown with a simple silhouette and a vibrant color.

"A director is not a glamor model and there is a different form of artis-

tic expression to an A-list celebrity. We tried a few different looks that are contemporary and modern and that express her personality rather than the dress wearing her," Conneely explains when asked about her creative process.

Bagnall's accessories were designed by Dublin-based jeweler Natasha Sterling.

Cody and Conneely are not the first Irish designers to make the red carpet. In 2010, Kildare designer Laura-Jayne Halton dressed Nora Twomey, director of *The Secret of Kells*, nominated for best animated feature film, and in 2013 dressed Fodhla Cronin O'Reilly, producer of *Head Over Heels*, which was nominated for best short film.

These two women are prime examples of how the Irish continue to succeed and push boundaries in the arts. They are forging a path for other designers to be recognized in the future by actors, writers, and directors. And maybe by the 2020 Academy Awards, the red carpet will be a little greener. ■

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- March 10-Irish American Club, Eastside, Pub
- March 12-Mayfield Hts., St Patrick's Day Luncheon
- March 15-Mentor Senior Center
- March 15-New Heights Grill, Cleveland Heights
- March 16-Mavis Winkle's, Twinsburg
- March 17-Black Forest Tavern, South Euclid
- March 25-St Patrick's Day Old Town Hall Fundraiser, Vermilion
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TOLEDO IRISH

By Maury Collins

@MauryCollins



Memories Re-visited

I came across this article, which I wrote in 2005 for one of my Toledo Hibernian newsletters. It was the first of what I called, "Irish Roots." There are so many unique Toledo Irish memories. Send me your memories maurycollins61@gmail.com. Maybe I will write a sequel to the original book.

In the original article, I asked for two things. I asked for your stories and I asked that you join one of the Toledo Irish organizations. I ask that of each of you again. Help me update the Toledo Irish memories. Below is the original article. God Bless and Happy St. Patrick's Day. March, 2005

My sister (Sister Peg) gave me the book, "The Irish in Toledo - History and

Memory" by Seamus Metress and Molly Schiever, on St. Patrick's Day. What a wonderful gift. Here are a few of my thoughts and the memories that came to me while reading the book.

"From Erin to America" by Mary Anne (McNulty) Buckley - A very moving, very beautiful chapter. Mary Anne has a gift for writing. Reading this chapter is like sitting and watching as she travels from Ireland to London and finally to America. She marvels at the kindness of others and yet she has been giving to others her whole life. She and Maurice were a joy to my parents.

My thought went back to Maurice Buckley's arrival in Toledo. Our house was full of excitement. Johnny Grady, my father's



Maurice & Mary Ann Buckley

friend, came over and added a bedroom to the huge home we had on West Woodruff.

"Memories of Growing Up Among Toledo's Irish" by Kate and Mike Cassidy. What memories! Mike mentioned Tommy Mackin, who was a good friend of his father. The back room at Coyle's funeral home (either the one on Broadway or the one on Collingwood) was like a stage for Tommy Mackin and my uncle, Pat Collins. Pat, with his pipe, and Tommy would be seated next to each other matching story for story and laugh for laugh. Suggestions that they quiet down in respect for the dead person were met with Irish logic, "the dead person was better off and in a better place. And the noise doesn't bother him or her a bit." Do you remember the seven minute rosaries led by my father, Maurice Collins?

Mike Cassidy and John Mackin both wrote of the Irish Benevolent Club bringing back memories. If you were out of work or had hospital bills or just down on your luck, the Irish Benevolent Club would find a way of helping. The benefit dances were held at the Catholic Club. I must admit, I was one of those rowdy kids running across the dance floor. What a wonderful group that was.

And who could forget the good times at Biddy Mulligans? Every weekend would find the place filled beyond capacity. There was a festival like attitude as the Irish music, the jokes and the stories went on and on.

There is so much more. The card games (a game of 25), the Irish picnics, Mary McManus's restaurant, the Knights of Equity, The St. Patrick's Day Mass (you

got there by 3 for the 4 o'clock Mass or you had to stand in the aisle).

There are stories that you could tell. Send them to me or call me and tell me. I'll put the story here in the OhioIANews for the enjoyment of all. Pass the heritage to your children and their children, Join one of the Irish groups: The Ancient Order of Hibernians, the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians or The Toledo Irish American Club. These are all fine organizations that honor our heritage and pass it along to the next generation. Get involved. You will have fun and learn more about the Toledo Irish and your own heritage.

One of my granddaughters asked me if she was Irish, because she thought that she was American. I told her that she was an American with an Irish heritage. I told her that her Great Grandmother and her Great Grandfather left their home when they were just eighteen years old, knowing that they would never see or talk to their mommy or daddy again. What a sacrifice. Despite the hardships and the sacrifices, the Irish found joy in music and dance. We honor their memory. Their sacrifices must never be forgotten. Tell me your stories!! ■

Maury Collins is a charter member and past president of the Toledo AOH division. He may be reached at maurycollins61@gmail.com.

Don't Forget, Send Maury maurycollins61@gmail.com) and John (jobrien@ohioianews.com) your Toledo Irish events news and pics so we can let everyone know. Deadline is 10th of the month, for the following month, so Jan 10 for February issue, etc.



AT HOME, ABROAD

By Regina Costello



Galway Girl in India Part 2

(See OhioIANews.com for last month's Part 1)

We sojourned at the Kumar household for the initial few days of our trip. The prospect of home-made paratha for breakfast abolished any thoughts of lingering in a warm bed on a chilly morning. These are a little like our Irish Boxty.

Flour is kneaded with water and rolled out into a circle where globs of softened spicy vegetables are placed in the center and then delicately infused throughout the dough. Tossed into a hot pan and fried lightly, the paratha then land on plates smothered in melting ghee. They are always quickly devoured.

THE AFTERNOON BROUGHT NEIGHBORS AND FAMILY FRIENDS FOR A VISIT. LIKE THE IRISH, HOT TEA IS ON HAND AROUND THE CLOCK; BUT NOTHING LIKE OUR BARRYS!

The fruit and vegetable carts saunter down the streets every morning to be met with neighbors selecting choice offerings amid friendly haggling with the merchants. The goods are freshly picked in the early hours of the morning and are effortlessly organic with wonderful aroma and distinct taste.

The cockeyed highly pigmented vegetables are a far cry from my typical purchases. No waxed apples or perfectly rounded oranges; no flawless potatoes or blemish free vegeta-

bles, lopsided tomatoes, burnt orange carrots, crooked parsnips or clay crusted potatoes - We made our purchase and returned home to prepare the lunch.

The afternoon brought neighbors and family friends for a visit. Like the Irish, hot tea is on hand around the clock; but nothing like our Barrys!

Tea leaves are simmered in a pan of milk and cardamon and sugar. "Rich Tea" style biscuits were served with the tea. Lucky for me, most people I encountered spoke English. I loved the company, conversation and the ensuing feeling of a new home in India.

In the evenings we visited a few of Deepak's childhood friends. Two of these people in particular are close to my heart - Dev and Lata Garg. When I met Dev's mother for the first time, she struggled to say in English "How do you know" and offered to shake hands, as I simultaneously struggled with my "Namaste" with my palms placed together. We all laughed heartily at our efforts to respect each others' cultures and we have talked about the encounter many times since.

We soon received word that Deepak's grandmother was en route to meet us. This involved a 6-hour bus trip for her. Travelling on bumpy roads in an uncomfortable seat on a crowded vehicle makes for a jarring journey.

Little seemed to faze this tiny 80-year-old woman. She arrived donning a simple sari bearing a modest suitcase. To me, she was the ultimate minimalist. To my dismay she did not speak English, but that did not curtail my excitement to meet her.

Everyone turned to Nanni (as she was lovingly called) for her stories, which clearly were much more entertaining than whatever was on the box. Squeals and giggles erupted from the young

grandkids. I plagued Deepak to translate every word. But I couldn't see the humor!

Apparently, she took delight in colorful language that he omitted in light of the young grandkids present who had a good command of English. Sitting in that living room viewing three generations present moved me unexpectedly. I suddenly felt a gush of loss for my own mother and was filled with wonder for my own grandmothers whom I had never met.

One evening there was a babble of music and bustle coming from outside. Leaning over the balcony I saw a "fair day" set up on the street. Both sides were lined with back to back tables selling a variety of wares and street food. Deepak wasn't pushed about going out. He told me they are just selling knick knacks.

With a little prodding together, we strolled down the street. An hour later we returned laden down with purchases. His Mom wanted to see what I had bought. Skinny rolling pins, wooden cutting board, colorful candles with iron holders, wooden spoons and a leather wallet. All hand crafted, beautifully decorated and painted.

They were surprised at my liking these kitchen gadgets, but I loved them!

After a few nights in the Delhi household, we were ready to travel further afield. Over bottles of Kingfisher beer and a few chats, we hashed out a plan and booked a driver and car for the following week. We packed our bags again that night and I looked forward to the road trip to be embarked upon after a plate of parathas in the morning. ■

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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AKRON IRISH

By Lisa O'Rourke



The Code

One of the benefits of winter is hibernation and its accompanying binge television. Our latest guilty pleasure has been watching "The Sopranos." I think that I could watch James Gandolfini's storm-sky of a face forever.

Another by-product of binging on this show is that you become so immersed in the structure of its honor-based culture, you anticipate consequences when the code is violated. It's no wonder they are Catholic.

We live in an age where societal rules are often looked down on or ignored. In the Mafia culture, rules may be broken, but ignorance of them could get you broken. There are rules my friend, and ignorance will get you a smacking. Discussing this with friends, the comment was made, yeah, some Italians, they

are really funny with their rules. She is married to an Irish-American. All I could do was shake my head and think that she must not know the Irish rules.

This is not to say that the Irish are exclusive in this; all cultures have their ways. When my son decided to bring his girlfriend to Ireland for the first time, I thought about preparing her for the trip.

After discussing the value of a good raincoat, other values really were clear to me too. Since this was to be her introduction to the family, I could not leave this to chance. I wanted her to make a good impression.

A good first impression is a shield that protects you from future minor infractions and a bad one is a weight that you may drag for a long time. I had to share the rules.



Briefly, and for the love of God, be nice, be hospitable, think of the comfort of others first. If someone enters the place that you are occupying, and it does not need to be your home, a timer should go off in your head. Within a few minutes, that visitor must have something in their hand; a cup of tea, a glass of whisky, a cookie, a sandwich, it matters not the thing but the act.

If a female is present, it is on her to make the gesture, but men are not exempt, sorry ladies, it is what it is. This is an important rule. If you ignore it, you will be thought mean and ignorant and raised by animals.

If it is tea that is called for, don't be seen just dumping a tea bag in a cup, that removes all doubt that you were raised by animals. Tea is a ritualistic drink.

After boiling water, you must scald the teapot by filling it to a fourth or so with hot water, swishing it around for a few minutes, dumping it and then placing tea bags in. The rule is one teabag per person and one for the pot.

The tea must steep for a few minutes and be stirred in the pot prior to serving. Being seen to do this right will remove some social pressure from you. Never serve tea without a "something," think

Continued on facing page

Akron Irish

Continued from facing page

Winnie the Pooh, a cake, a cookie, toast if need be. People always say no, ignore no's for the most part, but don't force feed anyone.

In the pub, if you have a drink with people around you, you are in a round. The time will come when you should stand a round, pay for everyone's drink. This rule is more important for men, but a woman honoring this will be given respect.

It matters not if you know everyone in a group, if you are talking to people socially, offer them a drink, pay for all. This used to be the custom for cigarettes too.

One night, I pulled out a pack and was expected to "flash," exposing the open pack, and I looked on in horror as the entire contents were removed by strange hands. Yet I did not want for a cigarette the entire evening.

The Irish don't use the word thrifty; they call it mean, and they mean it. If someone makes the comment that they don't know the color of your wallet, they are not talking about fashion, but what a tightwad you are.

Be ready for the wind-up. Yanks in particular are seen as a little dull, too literal. Someone will surely tell a story or make a comment to test you. If you jump at the bait and prove yourself thin-skinned or thick headed, it will be remembered.

Laugh, even if it is against every inclination you have, or they will laugh even harder at you. You have to prove that you have a sense of humor and do not take yourself or life over-seriously.

Do not act like you are better than the people around you. Work together when it is called for and don't be seen to put on airs. The stigma from this can last a lifetime. Do not whine or tell tales,

called being a "grass." Don't talk too much about money however much you have. Bragging about wealth is just crass. Share what you have.

Don't call on peoples' homes empty-handed. Bring something to share for the tea or something. Be kind and be especially kind and indulgent to children. Make sure that you have something nice to give them, sweets, a little money or something else they might like. If you are wondering, my son's girlfriend passed with flying colors. The comments that were made about her were that she was so natural and gracious. She is a very nice young lady in her own right, but the norms are a little different.

While people will forgive you for being foreign, they won't always welcome you with the same affection. Customs are like that to people, not strange at all until they are violated. It is an honor code.

There are those who don't believe in these, but I would have to counter that what is the harm? It teaches you to think of others first. The essence of the code is what constitutes the cliché of Irish hospitality. In our culture, nastiness has become something that people are no longer ashamed of, valuing their own comfort and state of mind over those of others. Kindness could be the cure. ■

Lisa O'Rourke is an educator from Akron. She has a BA in English and a Master's in Reading/Elementary Education. Lisa is a student of everything Irish, primarily Gaeilge. She runs a Gaeilge study group at the AOH/Mark Heffernan Division. She is married to Dónal and has two sons, Danny and Liam. Lisa enjoys art, reading, music, and travel. She enjoys spending time with her dog, cats and fish. Lisa can be contacted at olisa07@icloud.com.

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See all the shenanigans this month @Hooley on pages 42 & 43

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CLEVELAND COMHRA

By Bob Carney
@BobCarneyGTR



Lá Fhéile Pádraig le Al O'Leary

In the month of March, we celebrate the Feast of St. Patrick and all things Irish. There are many fine people and their families here in the Cleveland area that have made that celebration a part of their lives year round and life long. Al O'Leary is one of those people. Husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, veteran, musician, hurler, a member of the A.O.H. and the United Irish Societies and past Grand Marshall of Cleveland's St. Patrick's Day Parade, coming up on ninety-three years of age, Al has no intention of slowing down. An accomplished accordion player, he is a regular at the Plank Rd. Tavern's sessions on Thursday nights in Lakewood and is active in his parish and the organizations he belongs to.

Al O'Leary was born ninety-two years ago in Cleveland, Ohio, but moved shortly after to Connecticut. It was there that his mother heard that a farm was for sale in Ireland near

where she was from. It happened that the owner was in White Plains, New York, so the family travelled there and purchased the farm. Al enjoyed growing up in the northern part of Tipperary, going to school, working on the farm, playing sports and music and studying the Irish language. When I first met Al, I assumed he was a native speaker, but he told me, at that time English was used, and Irish only in the language classes he attended.

In 1944, Al, being a U.S. citizen was required to register for the draft, and in 1945, a letter from the U.S. embassy reached him informing him to report in England to be sworn in. The Government of Japan surrendered in August, the day Al was being sworn in. He figured he'd be heading back to Ireland. The Army had other plans and shipped him to France for four months of basic training. From there he was sent to Germany, where he witnessed the



aftermath of the events that took place at the Nazi concentration camp at Dachau. Dachau was the first camp the Nazi's opened; it operated for twelve years, and a reported 32,000 people were killed there. Al has a photo album containing black and white photographs he took when stationed there. They give a glimpse into the atrocities that occurred; those memories are very strong within him.

When his time in Germany was up, he was given a choice to go back to Ireland, or to New York. He was too young when he left the states as a child to remember anything of The United States, and decided to come here. He joined the Army Reserve and would later be called to serve during the Korean War. He landed in New York in 1947. His father was living in Connecticut, so Al went there. His mother came back from Ireland in June that same year, and the family was reunited.

"My father was a drinker, and I told

my mother after one of fits, we couldn't go on this way. I never drank, we came to Cleveland, I got a job and I've been here since." Al retired from the Ford Motor Co. In Brookpark after working there for forty-one years.

Growing up in Tipperary, hurling was a way of life for a young man, Al was no exception and carried his love of the game to Cleveland. "We had a team here in 1949; Chicago had a team and we played back and forth, pretty soon we started getting better!" Al was a founding member of that team, the Cleveland Kickhams Hurling Club. The spirit of those matches lives on with The Al O'Leary Tournament, hosted by The Akron Celtic Guards Hurling Club every fall. Nick Frank of the "Guards" told me Al shows up every year to lend his support and even got out on the field to play a couple of years ago! When I asked how his wife Mary feels about things like this, he said, "She's OK with what I do."

"Me and my mother lived on the Eastside. One Saturday night, I went to the Westside Irish American Club. I played music there. Anyway, a girl I knew was there, and Mary had gone to the dance with her. It was the first time I met my wife. The next day, I called my friend Rosemary and said 'Rosemary, I met my wife last night.' I never talked to her, never went on a date with her, but I knew. That's how it was! How do you figure that?" Al and Mary have been married sixty-four years.

Music is also an important part of Al's life, he began playing the melodeon at the age of thirteen, eventually moving on to the accordion. He plays every day and tries to make it to most of the sessions at the Plank Rd. Tavern. Maureen Conway Reich, of the Irish

Continued on facing page



OFF THE SHELF

By Terry Kenneally
@TerryKenneally



IN THE GALWAY SILENCE

By Ken Bruen

The Mysterious Press
ISBN 97-0-8021-2882-9 310 pp. 2018

This is hard-boiled, nonstop crime fiction at its best, by the critically acclaimed

novelist, Ken Bruen. The protagonist is Jack Taylor, an ex-cop turned private eye, who has been featured in fourteen of Bruen's books. Taylor, more antihero than the opposite, has a propensity for knocking back too much Jameson and popping uppers.

Following the tragedy and violence in his last book (The Ghosts of Galway), Taylor has found some contentment in his new life, new apartment, new woman, and everything appears peachy. Appearances can be deceiving however, when a wealthy Frenchman hires



Taylor to investigate the double-murder of his twin sons, a pair of morally bankrupt Menendez-like brothers who were found duct taped together

in a wheelchair and unceremoniously dumped into a river.

From that rather auspicious return to detective work, Taylor next takes a dip into the Claddah Basin to rescue a man bent on suicide. The man, Walter Tevis, feels that since Taylor saved his life, he will return the favor by becoming

Cleveland Comhra

Continued from facing page

folk band Ballinloch, said," Al is an amazing musician, he seems to know every tune called."

Al down played the comment when I shared it with him, replying, "I practice every day," Al supports numerous Irish American events and organizations and always has a kind word for those involved in them. He stopped in at P.J.McIntyre's one Tuesday evening a couple of years back to let us know he was happy we are learning Irish and keeping the language alive in Cleveland.

"I went to school in Ireland, we spoke English except for our Irish language class. I've kept up with the language, I think it's important. There's still plenty of opportunity to speak Irish here, my wife speaks Irish as well."

Supporting the language, music, sports, history and Irish heritage is very important to Al. He can be a bit reserved when speaking about

himself, but lights up when the topic changes to the things that are important to him: his family, his faith and his heritage.

Al and Mary love to travel and spend time with their family. An extended family reunion is scheduled later this year in Ireland and they plan on attending.

Mr. O'Leary is one of the kindest, most energetic people I know, I'm proud to call him my friend. ■

Slán go Fóill!

carneyspeakirish@gmail.com

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

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responsible for him. Taylor, however, hasn't excelled in responsibilities, especially towards the woman in his life including his ex-wife, Kiki; his late girlfriend, Emerald; or his current lover, Marion. While things have clicked with Marion, Jack strikes out with her son, Joffrey, who while babysitting him is targeted by a defrocked pedophile, Peter Boyle.

The plot of the story then becomes a big chess game, as Taylor finds himself up against a vigilante assassin, whose non de guerre is "Silence." The story moves briskly as all the pieces move at one dangerously mysterious pace, seemingly at the behest of "Silence."

Ken Bruen has been called "hard to resist with his aching Irish heart, silvery tongue, and bleak noir sensibility"(New York Times Book Review)". Bruen writes short, rat-a-tat sentences that will keep the reader turning the pages. I rate this a Top Shelf read ■

Terrence J. Kenneally is an attorney and owner of Terrence J. Kenneally & Assoc. in Rocky River, Ohio. He represents insureds and insurance companies in insurance defense through the state of Ohio. Mr. Kenneally received his Masters from John Carroll University in Irish Studies and teaches Irish Literature and History at Holy Name High School. Her is also the President of Holy Name for 2018-2019.

The Right Brain Project Proudly Presents



Written By Terry Boyle • Directed By Becca Holloway
Starring: Annabella De Meo, Liz Goodson, & Sylvie Sadarnac

It is the tenth anniversary since Paddy (husband to Grainne and father to Maeve and Deirdre) tragically passed away. His passing, and the circumstances of his death, created a rift in the family. In order to bridge this uncomfortable awkwardness, Grainne has organized a family trip to Ireland. On the eve of the journey, they prepare to reunite after a period of painful separation. While living in the same city, they have managed to drift apart, fearing the intimacy that threatens breaks open old wounds. As the evening passes and their impending journey gets closer, shadows of the past begin to haunt them. Caught between the people they once were and the people they have become, each one must decide what is true and what is false. While each of them struggles to be authentic, we begin to see the fallacies they have created in order to protect themselves from the truth.

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CELEBRATE THE 177th CLEVELAND ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

The United Irish Societies of Greater Cleveland are celebrating the 177th St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday, March 17, 2019 with a 2:04 p.m. step off on Superior Avenue, beginning at East 18th Street and going through Public Square.

United Irish Society Honorees



William "Bill" Homan
2019 Grand Marshal

Bill Homan was born to parents Hope & Charles Homan in Cleveland, both representing families from Cork and Mayo. He is a graduate of St. Ignatius High School and Cleveland State University. He married his wife Patricia, daughter of Irish born parents Nora and John Corcoran in 1977, and have three children: Heather, John and Erin.

Bill is a member of numerous Irish organizations in the Cleveland area. Most notably, he is active Charter Member #10 of the Irish American Club - East Side. As a founding member of the Irish American Club - East Side, he served as President (1980-1982); and organized a committee to acquire a permanent home for the club in 1981, which is still their home today. Throughout the years he served in several board positions and chaired numerous committees and events.

In 1988, he was honored as the Lake County Irishman of the Year; and in 1999 was honored as the Irish American Club - East Side

Member of the Year.

Bill is a long-time member of the West Side Irish American Club and the former Irish Heritage Club. He has served on the board of The Mayo Society and the Irish American Archives Society.

Along with his dedication to his Irish heritage, he is also a dedicated Catholic. Bill is not only a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians Bluestone Division (formerly the Western Reserve Division where he served as President); he is also a member of the Holy Name Society of his parish, St. Justin Martyr in Eastlake, where you can find him at Holy Hour every Wednesday evening and at Mass on Sundays. In 2000, he was named Man of the Year by St. Justin Martyr.

Bill has also been a long-time supporter of the United Irish Societies, the Padraic Pearse Center, the Irish National Caucus, the Cleveland Feis Society, and many of the Irish festivals.



Eileen Kilroy
2019 Irish Mother of the Year
Eileen Kilroy's life journey makes

her an excellent honoree as the 2019 Cleveland St. Patrick's Day Parade's Irish Mother of the Year. Eileen has always instilled the values of family, Irish heritage and Catholic faith into her children and grandchildren. Her upbringing and life experiences have been the source of the energy she shares with her family and the larger Cleveland Irish community.

Eileen was born in 1937 in Cleveland, Ohio. Her father was Patrick McGurk of County Tyrone and her mother was Teresa McGurk (nee O'Donnell). She and her two brothers were raised in the house where she continues to live today. Eileen attended Blessed Sacrament Elementary School and Lourdes Academy. She marched with the West Side Irish American Club Drill Team in the 1950s and 1960s and was the club Secretary for a time.

At a time when few women traveled alone, she took a one week boat trip across the Atlantic to Ireland in 1957, visited with her father's family in Tyrone, and stayed in the cottage where he grew up. While there, she became more aware of her father's experience in the 1920s fighting for Irish freedom, and has immersed herself in the history of that struggle ever since.

Eileen met Patrick Kilroy from County Mayo at a West Side Irish American Club dance. They married in 1965, and honeymooned and worked in London for a period of time. Eileen and Patrick had five sons and two daughters: Patrick, Dominic, Martin, Julia, Joseph, Stephen and Kathleen. She is very proud that all seven of her children attended Blessed Sacrament, went to Catholic high school, and all seven have college degrees.

Eileen encouraged her children to

participate in all activities, especially music, dance and history. They took Irish music lessons with Tom Hastings. They were also enrolled in dance lessons, and were inspired by Tom McCaffery, Tom Byrnes and Al O'Leary. From that persistent exposure, her children grew to love traditional Irish music and dance. Tom Hastings was instrumental in organizing and managing the effort of "The Kilroy Ceili Band". Eileen's energy and persistence have been instrumental in making "The Kilroy Ceili Band" an integral part of the Irish traditional music community in Cleveland. Additionally, three of her children danced with the Peggy Cannon School of Irish Dance. All of her children followed in Eileen's footsteps, and marched with the West Side Irish American Club growing up, and today several of her grandchildren do the same.

Eileen has volunteered for the Cleveland Irish Cultural Festival over the years. Today, she volunteers at the Franklin Plaza Nursing Home and Cleveland Food Bank. She is a member of St. Patrick's Parish (Bridge Avenue) since the closing of Blessed Sacrament in 2010. Eileen is also an avid seamstress and knitter; and continues to participate in ceili dance activities. She also teaches two of her grandchildren to play music and/or Irish dance. Her grandchildren are as influenced by her enthusiasm for their Irish heritage and music as her own children were - and continue to be.

Patti Maher Hanrahan
2019 Inside Co-Chair

Patti Maher Hanrahan is the daughter of Jack and Maggie (O'Boyle) Maher. She has two brothers, John (de-



Patti Maher Hanrahan

ceased) and Dennis (Cindy). Patti grew up in West Park, attending St. Patrick (West Park) Elementary School. She continued her education at St. Augustine Academy, Miami University and Cleveland State University, graduating with a Bachelor of Psychology degree. Patti has a very rewarding career as a Volunteer Service Manager at Ames Family Hospice House/Hospice of the Western Reserve.

Patti has been married to her wonderful husband Tim for 33 years. Tim is retired from the Boilermakers Local 744. He is currently a Trustee on the Board for the West Side Irish American Club (WSIAC). Patti and Tim have three adult children: Meghan, Patrick and Tim. All three of them have graduated from Ohio University, which makes their parents extremely proud. They have all participated in the Parade marching units of the WSIAC. Meghan and Tim were also active with the Leneghan Academy of Irish Dance.

Patti has been the Coach of the WSIAC Pom Pom unit for the last 38 years. Although she began to work with a small group, Patti can now say that she has touched the lives of hundreds of girls. She has helped to give them memories that she hopes they cherish. They also discuss Irish history and trivia at the beginning of each practice. In laying the groundwork for the future of this unit, daughter Meghan has eagerly joined her Mom as an Assistant Coach of the Pom Poms. In addition to coaching, Patti has been involved in many volunteer activities at the WSI-

AC, including bartending, working at boxy dinners, planning children's parties and helping to organize the Jr. Marching Units Exhibition. Patti was thrilled when she was honored as the WSIAC 2012 Woman of the Year.

Patti has been a delegate to the United Irish Societies since 2000, representing the West Side Irish American Club. In this role, she has been active in the planning and execution of the St. Patrick's Day Parade Banquet. In addition, she was a member of the Committee that drafted the guidelines for the UIS Honorees. She also participated on the original committee for the Cleveland Irish Cultural Festival, to which she has returned as a volunteer.

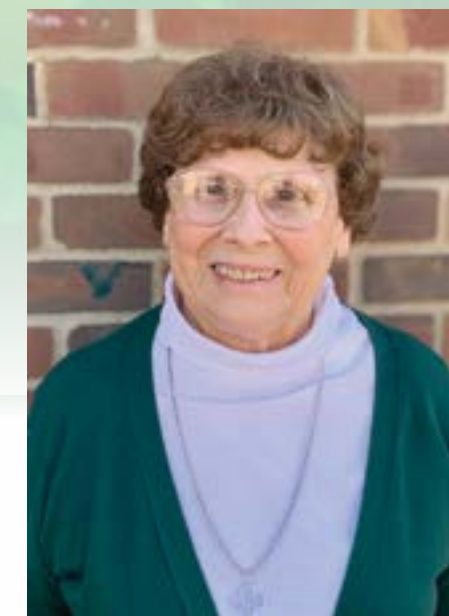
Community involvement is very important to Patti. She is a volunteer with the children at the House of Champions, which is affiliated with Urban Community School and Metro Catholic. She is also an ardent supporter of Malachi House. She has been active as an officer and committee chairperson of the many organizations of which her children have belonged.

Starting in childhood, Patti's parents instilled in her a love for all things Irish. Her Irish heritage is a very important aspect of her life, which she and Tim have proudly shared with their children. The Hanrahan family was thrilled to be able to travel to Ireland together in 2017. The entire family will be enjoying the events and activities that are associated with the honor of Patti being chosen as the 2019 UIS Co-Chair.

Sr. Corita Ambro, CSI
2019 Outside Co-Chair

Sr. Corita Ambro was born in Olmsted Falls. She attended St. Joseph Academy, St. John College and Kent State University. She also attended Canisius College in Buffalo, where she studied American Sign Language and obtained her Master's Degree.

Sr. Corita is a member of the Congregation of St. Joseph. She began her career by teaching in Catholic schools for 15 years. Then she was assigned to St. Augustine Church and Hunger Center in Tremont. She developed the Hunger Center to its current capacity of providing three meals per day, every day of the year, to anyone who is in need. She not only helped to prepare the



Sr. Corita Ambro, CSI

meals, but she served them too, with a hug, some encouragement and lots of hope. She directed patrons to detox and drug treatment, housing, clothing and other personal needs. In addition, over the years, she has helped to raise many children at the convent.

In her close work with the deaf community, Sr. Corita established a choir and a senior citizens group. She was also instrumental in establishing special liturgies for those parishioners who are blind.

In her few moments of free time, Sr. Corita is a devoted fan of both the Cleveland Indians and the Cleveland Browns. Although she recently retired after 45 years at the Hunger Center, Sr. Corita will continue to work with others by visiting the sick and the elderly. ■

* UIS Honoree Pics by Rasa Chambers

West Side Irish-American Club

2019 Woman of the Year
Nell Buckley



Nell Buckley

Nell (McCarthy) Buckley was born in Kenmare, County Kerry, to Peter F. and Margaret T. McCarthy (Harrington) and is the second youngest in a family

of six (Stephen, Clare, Florry, Anna, and Philomena). Nell attended the Poor Clare Convent School for primary and secondary education. Nell joined the Gaelic League when she was 10 years old and attended evening classes twice weekly to speak the Gaelic language, songs, and recitations. She played Camogie for County Kerry and later for County Waterford. After graduation from secondary school she went to Skerry's college in Cork City for a two-year business course.

Nell got her first job in Dungarvan, County Waterford. It was there that she met Frank Buckley who became her husband and lifelong partner.

In 1957 her brother Stephen sponsored

them to come to America. They arrived in Cleveland in November of 1957. Within days they became members of the West Side Irish-American Club at 9613 Madison Avenue. Nell joined the Cleveland Gaelic Society and the Pioneer Total Abstinence Association (PTAA) and were welcomed by wonderful people from both the East and West Side. Nell became treasurer of the PTAA in 1992 and held that position for 26 years.

In 1958 Nell proudly sang the Irish National Anthem in Gaelic and the American National Anthem at the beginning of the St. Patrick's Day parade and continued to do so for the next 16 years. She also enjoyed having a part in the Irish Players Association. Nell became President of the Cleveland Gaelic Society in 1958.

Nell worked as a secretary for General Electric for 24 years. She then started working at St. Rose School on the west side of Cleveland. Her last job was manager of Kirby Manor, a senior citizens apartment building. Frank and Nell were married in 1960 at St. Patrick's Church on Bridge Avenue. They were blessed with 2 children, Jim (Kathie) and Clare (Clint) and have 5 wonderful grandchildren, Frank, K.C., Erin, Diana, and Sean.

Continued on page 14

West Side Irish-American Club

In 1994, at the request of the late Terry Joyce, Nell joined Terry in Reciting the Apostle Creed in Gaelic and the St. Patrick's Day Mass at St. Colman Church and is still carrying on that tradition.

The West Side I-A became a home away from home for 61 years for Nell and Frank. They still enjoy playing "25" card game at the club.

It is truly a great honor for Nell to be chosen 2019 Woman of the Year. Many thanks to all the officers and members at the club for giving her this opportunity to represent the I-A.

2019 Man of the Year John William Lally



John was born on October 14, 1945, on the south-east side of Cleveland, to parents, William and Pauline Lally, as the middle child between 2 sisters, Katherine

Norman and Carol Troy. He attended Saint Timothy Grade School and Holy Name High School. John is proud that his Irish roots in Cleveland go back to 1850 when the Lally and Kane families lived in downtown Cleveland and were active members of Saint John's Cathedral. The Lally family came to Cleveland from County Sligo and the Kane family came from County Meath. John's great-great grandfather, Owen Kane, served in the 11th Ohio Volunteer Cavalry Unit during

the American Civil War.

The Lally Family has a long and proud history of law enforcement in Cleveland. John's grandfather John F. Lally, his father William E. Lally, and his cousin William E. (Bill) Lally served and retired from the Cleveland Police Department. John also has two cousins who are actively serving on the Cleveland Police Force, John T. Lally and James Lally. Four generations have now proudly worn Cleveland Police Officer, Badge Number 432. The family is in possession of the original nightstick issued in 1906 to John's grandfather as he walked his beat. The impression of his hand remains embedded in the wood.

John graduated from Holy Name High School in 1964, went on to attend Cleveland State University and has been in the corporate accounting field for 50 years. For 20 of those years, he worked for Gould, Inc. and traveled to Gould Company Divisions in England, France and Germany. For the last 20 years, he has been the Controller at Federal Hose in Painesville.

In 1967, John married his high school sweetheart Rita Drvenkar. They raised two beautiful daughters, Meegan (married to Scott Spicer) and Sarah (married to Michael Pap). John and Rita are the proud grandparents of 6 grandchildren, Maeve, Nolan and Brody Spicer, and Charlotte, Steven and Laura Pap.

John and his family have been members of the West Side Irish-American Club for almost 40 years. John served as the Chairman for the Saint Patrick's Day Dance (former UAW Dance) for 20 years and as the Chairman for the annual WSIA Club picnic for 20 years.

John is an avid fisherman and has

taught all his grandchildren to fish at the WSIA Club fishing pond. He spends much of his free time with his grandchildren at Irish dance competitions and at basketball, lacrosse and soccer games.

John's commitment to family, community, honor, integrity and hard work is indicative of all that makes the Irish great and, particularly successful in America. The Lally family is blessed to be a part of the West Side Irish-American Club. God bless all of the Board Members, present and past, who have dedicated their time and efforts to make this Club and tonight's celebration possible.

2019 Queen Bridget Mackin



Bridget's family has a long history in the foundation of the West Side Irish American Club. Her grandfather, Thomas Mackin,

hailed from Clonbur, County Galway while her grandmother Mary Coletta (Dever) Mackin's family hails from Achill, County Mayo. On her mother's side (McNamara), there are Irish roots that originate from County Clare. Bridget is the middle child of Tom and Bridget (McNamara) Mackin's seven children.

Bridget has risen through the ranks as a marcher for the West Side Irish American Club. Starting at the age of five, she became a majorette, then a flag girl, moved on to pop-poms, and, in late high school, she joined the Ladies Drill Team and remains a member of that unit today. Bridget attended grade school at St. Christopher in Rocky River. She is a proud graduate of Magnificat High School where she served many roles in Student Council and acted as senior class president. Her journey then led her to become a 'Buckeye For Life' by earning a Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene from The Ohio State University. Upon graduation, she was recognized by her professors and became

the recipient of the Astrid Langell Memorial Award, awarded by the Dental Hygiene Department within The Ohio State University's College of Dentistry "in recognition of (her) high professional ideals with enthusiasm for learning." Bridget started Irish dancing at a young age, and has many lifelong friends from those days. As a dancer for the Burke School of Irish Dance, Bridget's greatest memory was getting to compete on the World Stage in Belfast, Ireland with her ceili team. Bridget was a member of the Ohio State Irish Dance Team.

After college, she moved back to the West Side of Cleveland and worked as a registered dental hygienist. After a few years of working in private practice, she decided to expand her scope of practice and graduated from an accelerated nursing program. Life is full of opportunities and second chances; something she sees firsthand, every day by working as a registered nurse on the Heart and Lung Transplant floor at the Cleveland Clinic (main campus). Many summers were spent at Camp Christopher, working as a counselor for adults and children with disabilities. What once started as a high school sophomore service project, has progressed into a decade long activity leader position with Catholic Charities' Recreational Respite Program; which serves teens and adults with disabilities. Outside of work and Respite, Bridget is on the Associate Board at the West Side Catholic Center. As a member of the Board, she helps put together their annual fundraising event, Sips & Swigs, that raises money to support the WSCC's mission of being "grounded in faith, hope, love and respect for those we serve, the West Side Catholic Center assists all who come in need of food, clothing, shelter, advocacy and a path to self-sufficiency." Bridget has many superior role models that have exemplified what it is like to seek opportunities and serve others.

Bridget is grateful to have her sisters Caitlin, Colleen and Erin in her court and by her side during this St. Patrick's Day season. Bridget would like to thank the board of trustees and the membership for selecting her this honor. She hopes everyone has a happy and blessed St. Patrick's Day. ■

2019 VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR TOM AND KATHLEEN EGAN

Tom Egan was born and raised in Shrule, Co. Mayo. He left Ireland at age 18 yrs in 1956, and worked for two years in Birmingham, England before immigrating to the United States in 1957. He spent the next 37 years working for British Petroleum "BP", for 12 years in New York City, 2 years in Atlanta and the remainder of the time here in Cleveland. While in New York, Tom became very active in Irish circles, particularly the Fordham Irish American Club, and for two years wrote the "Fordham Notes" column for the Irish Echo newspaper. While in New York he met and married Kathleen Murphy from Co. Kerry. For the past 25 years he has been very active in the West Side Irish-American Club and served on the Board of Trustees for a three-year term, deciding not to run for re-election.



Tom was also the 1997 West Side Irish-American Club's Man of the Year. He has been a very active member of the Committee responsible for the Ohio Irish Festival, Vegas Night and "25" Card Games. In earlier years Tom also played a major part in developing and implementing controls over the Bar Inventory and receipts. Tom continues to play a big part in assisting Kathleen with the Tuesday cleaning teams. He has also volunteered for many other assignments over the years, including spraying for weeds and assisting Kathleen in maintaining the flower gardens

Kathleen Egan was born in Cordal, Castleisland Col Kerry. She immigrated to the United States in 1959, where she completed her education at "Bryant High School", and "Dorothy E. Kane" business school before being employed by "Empire Mutual Insurance Co." While in New York, Kathleen met and married Tom Egan. In 1969 with two small children, Kathleen moved to Atlanta with her husband Tom, an employee of "British Petroleum". After two years in Atlanta, Kathleen moved to Cleveland with Tom and their two children. For the past 25 years Kathleen has been active in the West Side Irish-American Club and was Vice Chairman of the committee responsible for the Ohio Irish Festival. She was also an active member of the Committees responsible for "Vegas Night" and "25" card games, and was selected as the 1998 West Side Irish-American Club's Woman of the Year. For several years she helped maintain the flower gardens around the Club. In 1998, at the request of the President, Kathleen organized cleaning teams to be responsible for the upkeep of the Club. She recruited 60 Volunteers, divided them into four teams, and arranged for each team to be responsible for Cleaning the Club one Tuesday evening each month. That continued for many years until, because of reduction in numbers, was forced to form one team to clean every Tuesday and that is still in effect.

Tom and Kathleen would like to Thank the Board of Trustees for selecting them as the 2019 West Side Irish-American Club's Volunteers of the Year, an honor that is very much appreciated. ■

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East Side Irish-American Club

2019 Member of the Year Mary Campbell-Stack

On Monday, January 14 the Executive Board announced to the membership their choice for Member of the Year 2019, Mary Campbell Stack. Mary has many times been a behind the scenes volunteer for the Irish American Club East Side, Inc.

Though still in high school when the IACES was formed, Mary quickly joined in the activities of the new club her father helped found. Mary enjoyed club dances, dinners, and shows with her family and friends, and even participated in the Rose of Tralee once. Never one to sit idle while others do all the work, Mary became a club volunteer.

Always willing to lend a hand and share her talents, Mary served the club in both official and unofficial roles. Officially, she served five terms as club Treasurer and one term as Member-at-large. Unofficially, Mary has volunteered in numerous roles. She has assisted other treasurers by preparing and counting money pouches, preparing and verifying deposits, entering data into the computer, assisting with reconciliations, preparing reports, researching information and completing documentation, and helping with various office duties. Mary also served on the St. Patrick's Day Raffle Committee.

She has also helped the club by preparing forms for obtaining liquor permits, assisted at reverse raffles, and served on nominating and election committees. Whether the job at hand is complex and demanding, or seemingly simple, Mary diligently and thoroughly completes each task she undertakes.

In the greater Irish-American community, Mary is a familiar face, helping marshal the St. Patrick's Day parade with the United Irish Societies, volunteering as a tabulator for the Greater Cleveland Feis Summerfest/Ohio Celtic Festival. She is also a member of Irish Northern Aid and the West Side Irish American Club.

Her volunteerism extends beyond the Irish community, as she serves on the Board of Directors for the Ohio First Class Credit Union, is active in her Democratic Ward Committee, and volunteers



for the Letter Carrier food drive. Mary was a union steward who devoted much of her personal time to assist coworkers.

Family is very important to Mary. She is one of ten children along with siblings, Kathleen Cooper, John, Kevin, Jimmy, Ann Campbell-Dunham, Noreen Halley, Patty, Sheila Kropf and Brigid. Mary was well prepared for her role as an enthusiastic and dedicated volunteer. Her parents, John and Patricia Campbell, demonstrated by example and Mary seamlessly attached to their efforts. She continues to share her time and talents and often recruits her husband Dave, her nine siblings, her cousins, extended family, and friends to join in her volunteer activities. One might say she is an all-inclusive volunteer recruiter!

Mary graduated from Villa Angela Academy and received her Bachelor's Degree in Economics from Cleveland State University. She worked at Made-Rite Auto Body Products, State Chemical, and has been a proud USPS Letter Carrier for almost 25 years.

Mary and her husband, David Stack, are enthusiastic lifelong Cleveland residents and attend mass at St. Colman and St. Vincent de Paul.

We congratulate Mary as our 2019 Member of the Year and we thank you, Mary, for all of your hard work and dedication to the Irish American Club East, Inc. Rest up so you can enjoy the next few months celebrating with your family and friends. ■

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2019 Greater Columbus Area Irish Honorees



Shamrock Club of Columbus

Irishman of the Year: Rich Finn
2019 Parade Marshal: Rick Ralston
Members of the Year: Dan & Penny Gieseemann
President Awards: Laurie Lapinskas & Anna Vollmer

Shamrock Club

L to R - Maureen Ginley, Penny Gieseemann Volunteer of the Year; Tony Hatem, President; Laurie Lapinskas, Anna Vollmer
2nd row L to R; Rich Finn, Irish Man of the Year; Nancy Murphy, Amy Fulton, Christine McConahy-Harris; Board members;
Backrow L to R; Jamie Porter, Board Member; Jay Fulton, Board Member; Andy Shuman, Secretary; George Doyle Gamber, Vice President; Dan Gieseemann, Volunteer of the Year.



Above: Past President Chris Konik; Commodore Berry Award, Chris Fulcher; Hibernian of the Year, Deacon Roger Minner; President Scott Partika.

Ancient Order of Hibernians, Patrick Pearse Division:

Commodore Barry Recipient: Chris Fulcher

Hibernian of the Year: Deacon Roger Minner

Ancient Order of Hibernians, Countess de Markievicz Division:

Member of the Year: Katie Sommers

Daughters of Erin



Irishwoman of the Year: Carolyn Collins
Member of the Year: Dawn Peterson
Clann Na nGael Honoree: Judge John A. Connor, who died December 2018, just after the award was announced.



Emerald Society

Member of the Year: Sara Cross



Above: Carolyn Collins Irish Woman of the Year, Sharon Selby President, and Dawn Peterson Member of the Year.



Photo by John O'Brien, Jr.

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Hibernian of the Year Mary Anne McIlwee

Mary Anne was born in Altoona, PA. She is the 4th of five children born to Margaret and Francis Skelly. Her family moved to Erie, PA and Mary Anne attended Mercyhurst Prep School. She is a proud Alumnus of Mercyhurst University.

After college, Mary Anne moved to Cleveland and joined St. Ignatius of Antioch parish. She began teaching in the CCD program at the parish and met her husband Jim McIlwee. Jim and Mary Anne married in 1960 and have five children: Patrick, Theresa, Maureen, Eileen and Katie.

Mary Anne is the proud Nana of ten and GG of three.

Mary Anne spent her career working as a Medical Technologist in various hospitals throughout Northeast Ohio and retired from the Microbiology Department of Kaiser Permanente in 2003. She became active in the Cleveland Irish Community when her children began taking Irish Dance lessons with Betty Scott-Kish. She has been a longtime member of the West Side Irish American Club and has enjoyed volunteering for various activities in the Irish community and enjoys knitting, quilting and sewing. She is well known for making and hand embroidering Irish dance dresses.



Mary Anne and Jim have been faithful members of St. Mark parish for nearly 50 years, where she has been involved in many activities through the parish and the school while all five her children attended. Her Catholic faith is very important to her and she tried to live her life in a manner that exemplifies that.

As a member of the Our Lady of the Rosary Division of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians she is proud to celebrate her heritage through the history and the strong friendships made with her Hibernian Sisters. Mary Anne is honored, proud and grateful to be selected as the Hibernian of the Year by her Brother and Sister Hibernians! ■

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BLOWIN' IN

By Susan Mangan
@SueMangan



A St. Patrick's Day Feast for the Heart

Sifting is the baker's secret to sponge cakes that float like air and perfectly balanced rustic Irish breads. Unsifted, the mixture can result in pockets of baking soda that leave behind a bitter taste on one's tongue, while the sweetness of port-soaked raisins vanishes like the sun in an early spring storm. The baker loves to feel the gentle yielding of the dough beneath her warm hands. Apron covered in flour and delicate beads of sweat forming on her brow, the baker knows the honesty behind bread wrought in tradition.

Last summer as young lambs mewed

in the morning light of her uncle's Irish field, my husband's cousin baked fresh scones. Using her hands to sift the delicate ingredients, she turned out dozens of perfectly crafted pastry. As I watched her bake, I brewed small cups of strong coffee for us on the stove. While the scones were fragrant and warm from the oven, we sipped coffee and ate the flaky biscuits, enjoying the peace of an Irish morning.

Truly, I am blessed to be part of a family who is Irish in word, deed, and tradition. Like my husband, his cousin is first generation Irish-American, but



her Irish roots ground her to the earth and extend across the seas.

Covered in flour and laughing her broad laugh, the cousin's large brown eyes shine with love as well as a touch of mischief. Somehow, the very essence of her Irish heritage radiates from her every gesture.

When I first met my husband, he was unlike anyone I had ever met before. Not only did he attempt to serenade me with a traditional Irish song, he also had the most amazing black hair. I could not separate his Irish heritage from his physical presence or the authenticity of his heart.

Last summer during our trip to Ireland, my husband and I traveled aboard a ferry to visit his cousin who lives on the island of Inishturk. As the ferry pulled away from the quay, my husband's still black hair blew in the wind and stood out against the rugged cliffs and the vast blue sky. Again, I felt my heart tug. It is impossible to separate the Irish from that which makes them complete: their laughter, the poetic lilt of their words, their music, the honesty of their food.

Although this was not our first journey to Ireland, the smell of the ocean and her fish, the anticipation of a warming bowl of seafood chowder followed by the tang of briny sharp oysters brought us back to our honeymoon, twenty-some years ago. We still can recount our most memorable meals, enjoying the novelty of one another,

while tucking in to bowls and bowls of fresh Irish seafood.

It is not surprising that my husband and I venture to great lengths to find fresh food worthy of consumption. We were "foodies" before this hobby became chic. One rainy day during our June honeymoon, we parked our rented red Ford Festiva in front of the Monk's Pub in County Clare.

Rain poured out of grey skies. Entering the pub, we were greeted with a blazing turf fire and sat with other guests who lived both near and far. We gathered around old oak trestle tables slurping mussels from lichen-covered shells, licking the rich buttery broth from our fingers. Whether it was the comfort of the Guinness or the heat of the fire, this meal was all we needed for sustenance.

When I wish to recreate a cozy Irish meal, my husband and I need travel no farther than Kate's Fish, located in Cleveland's historic West-Side Market, Stand #F-12, F-13. Having bought out Navillus - the previous owners of the seafood stand in 2001, Kate McIntyre knew that the success of a small business relies on the basic philosophy of knowledge, quality product, and engaging display.

For years, my husband and I have bought the highest quality seafood at Kate's and have never been disappointed. During one of our shopping trips, we were greeted by a tall young man in a Donegal knit hat. In his orange fishing waders, he cut a charming figure indeed.

Drawn to anyone with an Irish connection, my husband and the friendly fishmonger soon began to exchange stories about Gaelic football. Meanwhile, I was mentally crafting my Sunday fish stew replete with mussels, clams, pristine fillets of halibut, lobster tail, and shrimp. Oh, the culinary glory of it all. Who needs corned beef brisket on St. Patrick's Day when the rugged oceans of Ireland beckon?

During each of our weekly visits to Kate's, we purchased fresh Irish salmon and Scottish sea trout. Moreover, we got to know a bit about Tom McIntyre and his affinity for Ireland.

From the formative age of 14, Tom knew that the bounty of the Irish seas spoke to him. During a family trip

Continued on facing page

Blowin' In

Continued from facing page

to Donegal, Tom visited Downings Village across from Fanad's Peninsula. Known as a prime crabbing area, an uncle brought young Tom to view large bubbling vats filled with seawater and a multitude of crab.

Eyes wide with a touch of fear in his heart that if he should happen to fall into those vats, those crabs may eat him faster than he could devour them; Tom knew that that moment would always stay with him. The Irish may leave the land of their ancestors, but the indelible spirit of the place remains in their heart.

Partnering with his mother Kate in the family-owned seafood stand, Tom knows his product and ensures that a variety of fish, shellfish, and delicious prepared foods are available every business day. Customers can purchase whole fish as well as freshly caught shellfish and foraged oysters. Tom enjoys getting to know his diverse clientele and their seafood preferences.

Every Irish story is wrapped in poetry, serendipity, and a bit of romance. Each week, a lovely girl with long ash blond hair would stop by Kate's to purchase shrimp. Over time, Tom began to realize that the girl was interested in more than the shellfish.

Soon, the couple began to date, and love blossomed beyond the seafood case. Tom brought Madalyn back to Ireland to meet his family in Donegal.

As Madalyn stepped out of the car on the summit of a sweeping hill, she was met by the wary eyes of a man who appeared to be wielding a knife.

An American visitor new to Ireland, she didn't quite know what to say when he queried, "Do I know you?" Madalyn

simply said, "I'm with Tom." And indeed she was.

The curious man offered her a stale Kit-Kat and went on his way. Tom whisked Madalyn off south to Ashford Castle, where he proposed marriage, and they enjoyed a romantic meal featuring what else, but wild Irish seafood.

This St. Patrick's Day, do a little sifting, separate the shenanigans from the true spirit of the Irish, uncover a heartwarming story or two. And may I suggest, that you host a dinner for your nearest and dearest featuring fresh, organic Irish salmon from Kate's Fish. Please, do tell Tom that I sent you, and he may offer you a lovely lemon with your fish. ■

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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**AN EEJIT
ABROAD**
By CB Makem



Romanian Public Transit

Let's just assume you've never traveled via the Romanian public transit system. You might feel like you've missed out, that it's a fast-fleeting dream that seems eternally out of reach as the months and years roll on. Ho-ho! Fret not, dear reader, for I have experienced it firsthand and will heretofore attempt to encapsulate the adventure, so you'll feel like you're actually there.

We'll start with a bit of history... Do you see what I did there? I mentioned history which shook off all those scissorbills who are too lazy to learn anything and we're left with just the curious—and let's admit it—far more interesting readers. Con-

gratulations!

Now I have it on good authority that when the Bailey Building and Loan finally collapsed after Mr. Potter crushed them with \$8,000 worth of unanticipated revenue, Uncle Billy made his way to Romania looking for a new business opportunity. It turns out he started advising the locals on how to run public transportation.

You see, Libby and I schlepped our way to the Sibiu bus terminal on our first morning in Romania (note: rolling suitcases are not well suited to cobbled streets) and the first thing we noticed was that the scheduling information online didn't match anything we could find at the station.



Photo by CB Makem

Sibiu is well known for its houses that look like they're watching you. In reality, the windows help to vent the attics.

Then a strange man broke away from a group of ne'er-do-wells loitering around the parking lot and offered to take us wherever we wanted to go in his car. We thanked him, but explained that we didn't want to end up on a Romanian milk carton with three months in the country still ahead of us. With nervous smiles, we bid him adieu and pointed ourselves in the direction of the bus tickets, that didn't exist.

(This is where a crazy editing job of Uncle Billy discussing public transportation with some Romanian politicians would be hilarious.)

Well, we had to call the man back from his ne'er-do-well comrades and ask how much for the hour-long journey. He said he'd do it for 100 lei (about \$25). Well, kidnapping or no kidnapping, that was a ruddy fair price. We lugged our bags to his car, and stuffed ourselves inside, and with the heat punched up to 110 (required to keep the windows defrosted, he contended), we were

off, talking as best we could, he with broken English and we with no Romanian.

We couldn't have been more wrong to think ill of the man, and it upsets me to admit I had a prejudice based on ignorance. It turns out Jan had

OUR GRASP OF THE LOCAL LANGUAGE WAS CONFINED TO "PARDON ME," "RED WINE," THE NUMBERS ONE AND TWO, AND "NO MUSHROOMS."

fought in the country's 1989 revolution against the communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu and had been shot in the leg (he showed us the wound). The regime fell, but Jan went to jail for his part in the uprising. He still had the

criminal conviction inscribed on his license, which he showed us as well. He delivered us in good cheer to our temporary home and I left him with a tip, because, well, he deserved it.

Now, where was I? Ah, yes. Our home for three months in Romania was smack dab in the middle of a town called Sebeş. The first thing I noticed upon entering the town were the concrete telephone poles. Then I realized the houses were almost all walled in, their own individual gated communities. I could only assume it was a privacy issue leftover from communism, when people were really

only free to speak their minds fully in their own homes.

Now these were endearing traits for a westerner, but our new temporary home was sans television, which as most westerners would agree, is most certainly not an endearing trait. (FYI, being TV-less is not standard in Romanian households).

You know what? It's kind of easy to get used to life without a TV, and quite frankly, in some ways, it was more enjoyable. We still had internet, and it was zippier than our connection back in the States, so we were happy as clams.

Now keep in mind that you'll find plenty of people who can speak English in Romanian cities, but it's not quite as prevalent in the towns. To be sure, our grasp of the local language was confined to "pardon me," "red wine," the numbers one and two, and "no mushrooms." (Don't worry, we did manage to discern a few other important lessons along the way. For example, the speed limit is your age times 5; each of the four Romanian food groups—pizza, meat, hamburgers and cabbage—contains meat; crosswalks are taken so seriously that, no fooling, you could kidnap the Lindbergh baby and as long as you were between a zebra crossing, people would wonder if they could actually do anything. Also, you can rent vehicles without a credit card. We rented our cars from one of the mobile phone stores in town.

Fun fact: Every book in English sold in Romania mentions Romania within its pages. Pretty incredible, right? Is it true? I don't know, but it's a theory I'm working on.

How did I arrive at this conclusion? Well, I'll tell you. We lived off the English sections of bookstores while living in Transylvania. Now, of course we purchased a couple vampire novels, which mentioned Romania, Transylvania being in the heart of the country, but all of the other books contained the country as well, often just in passing.

And not just small-time books here. We bought *The Woman in Cabin 10* by Ruth Ware, *Time and Time Again* by Ben Elton and other fairly well-known titles. And each one had at



Photo by CB Makem

Sibiu at night is absolutely breathtaking, especially around its big square.

least one Romanian utterance.

That can't be right, says you. Why would that be? Does the country have an unwritten rule or a law that encourages book importers to only import books that mention Romania? Do western publishers have otherwise meaningless lines mentioning random places in popular novels that they interchange based on the country in which the book is being sold?

The sad thing is that I'm not devoted enough to actually grab another copy of any of these books now that we're back in the States to see if they still contain mentions of this particular eastern European country. And so, I leave it to you, dear reader. If you are in the midst of *The Woman in Cabin 10* or *Time and Time Again*, or any of the other books we read there that we can't recall the names of, please keep an eye out for Romania, and let me know what happens. ■

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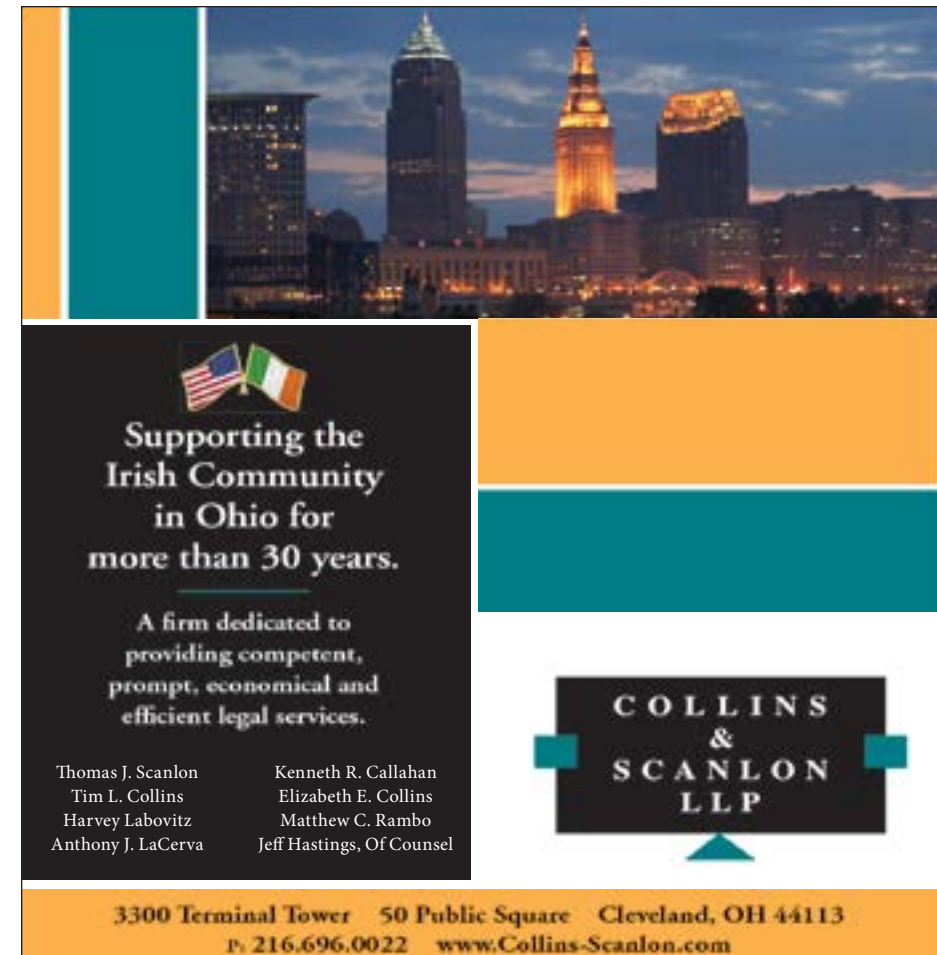


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**COOKING UP A
HOOLEY IN THE
KITCHEN**
By Katie Gagne



It's Almost Spring! A Twist on the Lenten Fish Fry with a Bit O' Green on the Side

Winter is almost over! This twist on the Lenten fish fry and the spring veggie infused side dish are just the things to help you greet springtime.

Potato Crusted Salmon with a Malt Vinegar Drizzle

Ingredients:

- 4 6oz pieces of Salmon Fillet (skin removed)
- ¼ Cup Fresh Chives chopped
- ¼ Cup Flour
- ½ Cup Melted Unsalted Butter
- 2 Tablespoons Garlic Salt
- 1 Tablespoon Black Pepper
- 2 Tablespoons Salt
- 4 Tablespoons Lime Juice
- 10 Small Yukon Gold Potatoes (or 4-5 larger ones)
- 3 Green Onions (Scallions) Chopped – green parts only
- 1 Bag Baby Spinach

Slice potatoes very thin with a knife or mandolin. Place in a bowl with water and set aside. (soaking the potatoes helps remove the starch and makes them crispier when cooked)

Salt and pepper both sides of the Salmon Fillets

Coat in a dusting of flour and then a bit of melted butter

Drain water from potato slices and dry completely. Put in a bowl and toss with garlic salt, chives and a little bit of melted butter.

Line a baking sheet with parchment paper and heat oven to 400*.

Press potato slices into each Salmon Fillet – both sides, and place on baking sheet.

Cook in over for approximately 35-40 minutes, depending on the thickness of the fish.

Once they are fully cooked, place under the broiler for 3 minutes to crisp the potatoes.

Sauté spinach in a pan with salt and pepper until wilted.



Malt Vinegar Drizzle

- ½ Cup Malt Vinegar
 - ¼ Olive Oil
 - ½ Cup Ketchup
 - 2 Tablespoons Sugar
 - 1 Tablespoon Black Pepper
 - 1 Tablespoon Garlic Salt
 - 1 Tablespoon Salt
- Whisk all ingredients together. Adjust sugar, salt and pepper to taste.

Spring Orzo Pasta

- 1 lb. Orzo Pasta
- ½ lb. Fresh Snap Peas
- ½ lb. Snow Peas
- 1 Bundle Green Asparagus
- ½ Cup Melted Unsalted Butter
- ¼ Cup Lime Juice
- 2 Tablespoons Garlic Salt
- 1 Tablespoon Black Pepper
- 3 Tablespoons Lime Zest

Cook Orzo according to package directions – generously salting the water. Wash and chop asparagus, snow peas and snap peas into ½ inch pieces. Boil in saucepan until tender.

Drain pasta and veggies and toss together in large bowl. Add garlic salt, pepper, melted butter, lime juice and lime zest. Mix until coated.

To Serve:

Place a bed of spinach on a plate and using spatula remove salmon from the baking sheet and put on top of spinach. Spoon Malt Vinegar Drizzle over the salmon.

Add side of Spring Orzo Pasta to the plate and garnish the plate with chopped scallions. ■

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TERRY FROM DERRY

By Terry Boyle



Lured: The Curse of Swans

Over the past year, I have been working on a new play. My interest has always been with the re-telling of myths. Initially, I began with the 14th Century Mystery plays. These plays were not medieval whodunnits in which you guess who the killer is, but rather religious plays that were used to teach the illiterate masses.

If you can imagine life before the printing press, when most people could not read or write, then you have some idea of why these plays were performed. The Catholic Church needed some way to educate their congregations on the mysteries of their faith.

Playwrights were enlisted to write dramas based on biblical stories. These early dramas later gave way to the morality plays. Dramas of these sort, the most famous being Everyman, were used to show people how to live a good, moral life.

So, while these works are heavily didactic, they can also be very entertaining. Their popularity continues and you can still find them performed somewhere in England.

My own attraction to this genre lies in their love of metaphysical to explain

human problems, and not with their emphasis on religious instruction. Plays of this sort should make us think about the human condition.

Reflection on our mortality, the possible existence of an afterlife, and the meaning of life can produce an existential crisis, especially for those of us are not sure of anything. For the modern person, the idea of a secure belief system appears erroneous and relies on too much wishful thinking that couches itself in the concept of faith.

A person who feels their 'faith' is under attacks resorts to, 'I believe it, therefore its true,' as if that is defense enough against their attacker. I am more comfortable with 'I am not sure. I would like it to be true, but I can never be completely confident it really is.'

My own take on creating contemporary versions of these classics was to reinterpret them in a modern context.

My death and resurrection of Christ happens in Derry in 1998 during the Good Friday Agreement; the Herod play takes place in a bar in New York; while Cain and Abel story is re-told as part of a drag act.

As you can tell, I like to add my own quirky spin to the stories. I have enjoyed my foray into the distant past as a way of exploring the present, but, as of yet, I have not touched Irish myths.

Those familiar with W.B Yeats will know how much of his work was influenced by his love of Irish myths and legends. He and Lady Gregory took to advocating Irish writers explore and renew these stories in a modern context in the late 19th Century.

While I might be a bit late to the game, I was particularly interested in the story of Lir and his swan children. There are a few versions of the same story around, so my summary may not fit the one you are acquainted with.

In this tale, the fusion of druidism and Christianity is beautifully inter-

AOIFE SOON BECOMES JEALOUS OF THE KING'S AFFECTION FOR HIS CHILDREN AND CONJURES UP A SPELL THAT CHANGES THE KING'S OFFSPRING INTO SWANS. FOR THE NEXT 900 YEARS, THE CHILDREN OF LIR ARE CONDEMNED LIVE OUT THEIR LIVES AS SWANS.

woven and syncretized. Beginning in ancient times, the idyllic lives of a king, a queen, and their four children are devastated when the queen unexpectedly dies. Distraught and forlorn, the king marries Aoife, his wife's sister.

Aoife soon becomes jealous of the king's affection for his children and conjures up a spell that changes the king's offspring into swans. For the next 900 years, the children of Lir are condemned live out their lives as swans. Since they retain their human abilities, they are able to relay their plight to the king, who quickly sentences Aoife to exile.

Unable to break the spell, the king devotes the rest of his days to listening to his children sing. It is during this first stage of their enchantment that their father dies.

After three hundred years of making the best of a bad lot, the children of Lir must spend the next three hundred years in turmoil. Far from their home, bereft of their father's protection, the storms raged against them, as they experience times of isolation from each other.

The hardship of their spellbound existence bears its toll. The pathos of the story climaxes during the third stage of the spell, when they must move to

another part of the island of Ireland.

On hearing the ringing of a bell, a Christian bell, they journey towards the unusual sound.

A Christian man offers them sanctuary and cares for them until a greedy king, desirous of their ability to sing and speak, tries to take them by force. His plan, to abduct the children of Lir, fails when a mist from the lake transforms the swans back to human form. Aging rapidly, the children, once duly christened, die in the faith, and their tale becomes legend.

My play is loosely set on the Lir myth, but set in present-day Chicago. Three women, a mother and two daughters, are about to embark on visit to Ireland. The proposed visit coincides with the tenth anniversary of the father/husband's suicide. All three women have had a decade to interrogate the circumstances of their tragic loss. Each of them has grown apart, allowing misperceptions of the tragedy to isolate them from each other.

On stage, they occupy three individual spaces. As much as they try to keep a distance, to avoid the painful reality of the suicide, they cannot remain apart. The impending trip poses itself as a time for unveiling the truth and breaking the spell of silence. While the



family struggles to be close, there is also a desire to remain separated. The human condition is contradictory.

The play attempts to present the urban experience of loneliness and isolation. Psychological ties to perpetuating the lies they tell themselves binds each character to a psychological vortex that threatens to drag them under. The illusion of self-sufficiency, independence etc. is dispelled throughout the duration of the play, when the presence of the bizarre, in this case a mentally unstable man dressed up as Jesus, is introduced. The enchantment

breaks when characters experience the presence of something greater; a mystery couched in grotesque form.

The title of the play, Lured: the curse of swans, is a play on the way Lir is pronounced, especially if, like me, you are Northern Irish. The hard 'r' sound makes Lir sound like lure, which I like, since the play itself explores the idea of appearances and how we seem to be one thing but really something else.

Right now, the play is in rehearsal and will be performed at Loyola University, Chicago in March and later at the Athenaeum, Chicago. ■

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WHEN IRISH EYES ARE SMILING; BE VERY AFRAID

By Maury Collins



A doctor examined a woman, took the husband aside, and said, "I don't like the looks of your wife at all," "Me neither doc," said the husband. "But she's a great cook and really good with the kids."

Two Mexican detectives were investigating the murder of Juan Gonzalez. "How was he killed?" asked one detective. "With a golf gun," the other detective replied.

A golf gun? What is a golf gun?" "I don't know. But it sure made a hole in Juan."

A little boy went up to his mother and asked, "Mom, where did all of my intelligence come from?" The mother replied, "Well son, you must have got it from your father, 'cause I still have mine."

I think I need to lose some weight. I tried to sit up earlier and ended up rocking myself to sleep.

A woman visited a fortune teller. In the dark and gloomy room, gazing at the Tarot cards laid out before her, the fortune teller delivered the bad news. "There is no easy way to tell

you this, so I'll just be blunt. Prepare yourself to be a widow. Your husband will die a violent and horrible death this year." Visibly shaken, the woman stared at the fortune teller's lined face, then at the single flickering candle, then down at her hands. She took a few deep breaths to compose herself. She simply had to know. She met the fortune tellers gaze, steadied her voice and asked, "Will I get away with it?"

Finnegan sells Michael a donkey, some weeks later they met in a pub in Killarney and Michael says, 'Hey, Finnegan, that donkey you sold me went and died.' Finnegan just sips his Guinness slowly and retorts, 'Be jabbers, Michael, it never done that on me.'

"Murphy, why don't you give up the drinking, smoking and carousing?" said Mrs. O'Leary? "It's too late," replied Murphy. "It's never too late," assured the virtuous Mrs. O'Leary. "Well, there's no rush then," smiled Murphy.

Pat went to town to see a movie. The ticket agent asked, "Sir, What's that on your shoulder?" Pat answered, "That's my pet rooster, Irish. Wherever I go, Irish goes."

"I'm sorry Sir," said the ticket agent, "We can't allow animals in the theater."

Old Pat went around the corner

and stuffed the bird down his overalls.

Then he returned, bought a ticket and entered the theater. He sat down next to two old widows named Katie and Maggie.

The movie started and the rooster began to squirm. Pat unbuttoned his fly so Irish could stick his head out and watch the movie.

Maggie whispered to Katie, "I think the guy next to me is a pervert. He undid his pants and has his thing out!" "Well, don't worry about it," said Maggie, "at our age, we seen it all."

"I thought so to," said Maggie, "but this one is eating my popcorn."

An artist has his work on display at the local gallery. He stops in to see how sales are going. The gallery owner says, "I have good news and bad news. A gentleman came in and asked if your art would be more valuable after your death." I told him, "Of course." He bought all of your works.

"That's great!!! But what is the bad news?" The gallery owner told him, "He was your doctor."

Oscar had a terrible mishap at the lumberyard as he pushed a tree through the buzz saw and accidentally sliced off all ten of his fingers. He rushed to the emergency room, where the doctor examined him and said, "No problem. With today's technology, I can reattach the fingers."

Oscar, in terrible pain, groaned "But I don't have them."

The shocked Doctor said, "Why not?" Oscar moaned, "I couldn't pick them up."

The young couple invited their elderly pastor for Sunday dinner. While they were in the kitchen preparing the meal, the minister asked their son what they were having. "Goat," the little boy replied.

"Goat?" replied the startled man of the cloth, "Are you sure about that?" "Yep," said the youngster. "I heard Dad say to Mom, 'Today is just as good as any to have the old goat for dinner.'"

CLEVELAND IRISH

By Francis McGarry



1810 and Then

If you leave the Irish American Historical Society and walk westerly through Central Park, you pass the Great Lawn. Then keep heading west for a couple of blocks and you will end up at 81st and Amsterdam. At that point you can stop at the corner and have a pint of Guinness and place a bet on the ponies. If you head north or south on Amsterdam, you will find plenty of Irish flags, Guinness and Jamo. Depending on the time of day, the southern route may allow you to cross paths with Michael from Cork.

He pours a fine pint and serves up corned beef croquettes. Michael, Thomas down Amsterdam and Nickla on 79th all spoke poorly of Jamo, "a tourist whiskey."

Nickla poured the best pint. They all agreed that Roscommon and Longford are in the middle of nowhere. Each had a plan for their time in New York, more or less. Michael planned to stay until he began to lose his accent. "You can't bartend in an Irish pub without one."

Each of the three navigated the Venn diagram of Irish and Irish American cultural identities. Each embraced the Irish immigrant identity and self-ascribed expertise in their professional setting, while demonstrating familiarity with their adopted context. This two-step is not a new dance; the Irish have been known to cut the rug. The Cleveland Irish were no different. Yet, the Cleveland Irish were different.

Church made them different. Clubs and organizations made them different. Language, then accent, made them different. Neighborhoods made them different. Where and what they drank made them different. History made them different.

Fellow Clevelanders attempted to make them feel different. That did not stop the Cleveland Irish from being successful.



In 1890 that success led a group of Irishmen on the Eastside at a Super Bowl party ... hold on getting my stories mixed up. On July 4th 1890 the first Irish American Club opened at 413 Superior, near the Cathedral.

The Irish-American club had the formal opening of the club rooms at No. 413 Superior street yesterday. The reception committee consisted of President Foran, First Vice President Gleason, Second Vice President Burke, Treasurer O'Rourke, Thomas Rodgers, Capt. James McMahon, Major W.R. Ryan, John Reeves, H.C. Quigley, J.F. Gallagher, J.E Farrell, Dr. Sullivan, the president of the board of directors, and J.C. Ryan, secretary of the board of directors, and it was a reception committee in fact-as well as in name, for everybody was made to feel at home through the cordial hospitality extended by the committee and other members of the club. The commodious house has been elegantly refurnished.

Down stairs are the parlors and reception rooms, upon the walls of which are the Irish and American flags and pictures of Parnell, Gladstone, Sheridan and other who stand high in the estimation of Irish-Americans. Upstairs are the billiard and card rooms.

The club house was open from early yesterday morning till late last night

and many visitors, including numerous ladies, called, enjoyed the hospitality and extended best wishes. The signing of appropriate songs, such as "America," "God Save Ireland" and "Annie Laurie" had a prominent place in the festivities of the auspicious opening. (PD 7/5/1890)

The Irish American Club was incorporated in May of 1890 with a capital of \$10,000. The Bureau of Labor Statistics says that is about \$270,000 in today's money. The mission of the club was to promote "social intercourse, physical culture, training and education."

A meeting of stockholders in the Irish-American club was held last night at the offices of Foran & Dawley. Stock in \$100 was subscribed by J.C. Ryan, M.A. Foran, E.W. Sullivan, John Garry, Thomas Malley, Owen Kane, Charles H. Gagen, J.C. Cooney, W.J. Lynch, Richard O'Rourke, Peter Byrne, J.T. Brady, J.F. Gallagher, W.R. Ryan. A board of directors was elected consisting of E.W. Sullivan, J.C. Ryan, Richard O'Rourke, J.T. Brady, Thomas Malley, J.F. Gallagher and W.R. Ryan. The site for the club house most favorably regarded by members is the building adjoining The Hollenden on the east on Superior street. Several others are being considered by the committee in charge. (PD 5/23/1890)

Foran was the Honorable Martin A. Foran. Earlier in the year he travelled to Philly as the keynote speaker for Clan na Gael's celebration of Robert Emmet's birthday. We have mentioned him before in this series. Martin was president of the Coopers International Union. He was prosecuting attorney for Cleveland in 1875 and a Democratic congressman from 1883 to 1889. Mr. Foran later was common pleas judge from 1911 to 1921. His vision for the club was straightforward.

There is no place in the city where I can take a friend to unless I take him home or to a restaurant. This club aims to have a permanent place for entertainment of people visiting the members. It will be equipped with a billiard room, gymnasium and dining apartments. The club will largely be composed of young business men. I do not suppose it will be confined exclusively to Irish-Americans. Ultimately, we will have a building of our own.

The affair was started only a day or two ago, but things are going with a rush. The secretary of state is a stockholder. (PD 5/22/1890)

That secretary of state was Daniel J. Ryan, a Republican from Columbus. He was born in Cincinnati to Irish parents, John and Honora. Daniel served on the board of trustees for the Ohio Historical Society for 34 years.

If you left the Irish American Club and went east or west there were plenty of Irish flags, Guinness and Jamo. T&P Malley had a saloon at 380 Superior and J. Current was at 339 Superior. Before you could reach the Cathedral you passed J.T. Curry's saloon at 442 Superior and Malley and Reidy at 446. Gallagher's Hall was on the northwest corner of Erie (E. 9th) across the street from the Cathedral and its hall held the National AOH Convention in 1884.

Water of life everywhere and not a drop to drink, at least for Marty Foran. The Irish saloon did not serve all of the needs of the affluent Irish in Cleveland. Affluent but not Euclid Ave, Millionaires Row, affluent.

These Irish had positions of power in the Irish community and in the Cleveland community. They needed a space that spoke to both, especially when out of town Irish visited. If they were even invited to WASP clubs or welcome in those social circles, they did not want to be there, at least not exclusively. That would have indicated that they had lost their accent. Michael can tell you about that. ■

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MADIGAN MUSES

By Marilyn Madigan



Irish American Heritage Month

March has been proclaimed Irish American Heritage Month. St. Patrick's Day Parades are held in many Irish American Communities throughout the United States. If you wanted to you could be a spectator or participant in Parades every weekend in March.

Of course, Irish American Heritage Month is more than Parades. During this month, our proud Irish and Irish American History should be promoted.

March 8 is International Women's Day. In this column, I would like to honor Irish American Women. This year the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians are celebrating their 125th Anniversary. This organization is the oldest Irish Catholic Women's organization in the country.

In 1894, at the Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) National Convention, held in Omaha Nebraska from May 8-13, the Ladies were organized as an Auxiliary. The Ancient Order of the Hibernians (AOH) was founded in 1836 to protect the Clergy and the Catholic Churches against the violence of the American Nativists and to assist Irish immigrants.

One of the first Divisions of the newly formed Ladies Auxiliary to the Ancient Order of Hibernians was established in Minnesota only two months after the Convention. The Auxiliary grew fast, spreading from coast to coast. Soon there were Divisions in all the main cities of Ohio.

Initially the Ladies were led by the National Officers of the AOH. In 1902, an Advisory Board of three Women worked with the National Board of the AOH and requested that the Auxiliary be granted the privileges and rights to govern their own Organization. At the



Adelia Christy

Saratoga Convention, the Auxiliary elected their own leaders. At the 1912 Convention, an Ohioan was elected National Secretary: Adelia Christy from Cleveland.

Adelia Christy served in many leadership roles. She served on the National level as Secretary, Vice President and President. The years she served on the National Board corresponded with a very important time in Irish History; the Easter Rising, the War of Independence and the Irish Civil War.

In 1918, three leaders of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Ancient Order of Hibernians addressed a Congressional Committee on the Irish question. On December 12, 1918 as Past President of the Ladies Auxiliary, Ellen Ryan Jolly, along with the President of the LAAOH, Mary McWhorter, and future President, Adelia Christy, addressed the Hearing of the Committee on Foreign Affairs on the Irish Question.

Many Irish Representatives spoke

before the Congressional Committee to encourage the passing of a Resolution 357 to present the Right of Ireland to freedom, independence and self-determination at the International Peace Conference. In the Opening statement, the group stated, "We ask, Mr. Chairman, only for a free Ireland. We ask that, in conjunction with all other small nations, Ireland may be allowed to work out her own development, to look after her own interest and to be governed and directed by a government of her own people." When addressing the Committee, Jolly stated, "for 700 years the Irish people have been subjected to grievous wrongs, but now we may entertain the hope that the day of their deliverance is not far distant.

The resolutions before you provide that self-determination shall be given to the people of Ireland; that they shall finally and for all time decide for themselves the system of government under which they shall live. I am confident that this honorable committee will report a resolution which the plenipotentiaries at the Peace Conference on the soil of France, representing the various nations of the

world, will be apprised of the widespread conviction in America that the doctrine of self-determination shall be applied to the settlement of the Irish Question."

Mary McWhorter, President of the LAAOH addressed the Congressional Committee, stating, "I am here to represent 75,000 Women - Women of Irish Blood."

In concluding her address, she stated, "You have heard about the wonderful contributions that Ireland has made to American greatness and to the world's greatness. Ireland bound in slavery making such a wonderful contribution to the greatness of this country and other countries where they have made a foothold. What, then, gentlemen of this Committee, would not Ireland free accomplish for the world's greatness?"

In addition to the LAAOH and the United Irish Societies, Adelia Christy also served as a National Delegate to the American Association for the Recognition of the Irish Republic. I would like to find more information on this remarkable woman. If there are any family members or others that have information on Adelia Christy,



Carol Sheyer and Kathie Linton.



BREXIT Protesters

please contact me at memadigan@gmail.com. More of her story needs to be shared.

In addition to Adelia Christy, Ohio is honored to have two other women elected to National President. Kathie Linton from the Akron area was elected in 1994 and Carol Sheyer from the Cincinnati area in 2018. During Kathie Linton's term as President, the 150th Anniversary of the Great Hunger was commemorated. The AOH and LAOH dedicated a monument in County Clare Ireland.

Anyone there that day remembers the wonderful speech that President Linton delivered. Unfortunately, the speech was not recorded. Also during her term, the AOH and LAOH started Project St. Patrick to assist those

studying for the Priesthood or Religious life.

Again, an Ohioan is serving during a historic time with the Celebration of our 125th Anniversary, Brexit and the possibility of a Referendum on Irish Reunification. President Sheyer and I will be traveling to Ireland on the Freedom for All Ireland Tour. Next month, I will write about the tour.

I am very proud to be a member of the oldest Irish Catholic Women's organization, that for the last 125 years has served our Church, country and heritage in many charitable endeavors.

For more information on the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, please visit our website www.ladiesaoh.com or email me at memadigan@gmail.com. ■

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TAKING THE FIELDS OF GLORY: GAA MONTHLY

By Vincent Beach



Cleveland GAA March Update

On the Pitch: As of this writing, our Men's and Coed soccer teams are finishing up their last two games in what turned out to be a very competitive league at Caps Fieldhouse in Independence. With a smile and a wink, we'll just say we were a bit fonder of Gaelic rules. The venture turned out to be a great way to meet some new people, play competitive ball, and get out for some good runs in the middle of the winter. The club hopes to compete again in the off-season next winter.


March 8 begins the real Gaelic season for the Men and Ladies' teams. St. Pat's - St. Jarlath's is hosting free workouts at Soccer Sportsplex in North Olmsted geared towards the new players and skill development. Sessions will be once a week: Friday nights (8-9PM) in March, and Thursday nights (7-8PM) in April.

By May, both teams will be outside. Anyone wanting to try out the sport and meet some new people are welcome to come to any of the sessions. Missing the first one will not preclude you from participating in the second one.

As for May ... 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, and volunteers are needed for this 501-3c event. Contact info@clevelandgaa.com.

Off the Pitch: Cleveland hosted the Gaelic Athletic Association's (GAA) Foundation Level Coaching Clinic on Sunday, February 10th at the Flat Iron Café with USGAA's Youth Chairman, Paul Mulcaire. Although open to all Midwest Clubs, attendees were local from Akron Celtic Guards Hurling Club and Cleveland St. Pat's - St. Jarlath's Gaelic Football Club. Ten members of the Cleveland Club were certified including Simon O'Doherty (Men's Coach), Daniel Murray (Ladies' Coach), Jim Coyne (Men's and Ladies' Coach), Rob Frank (Youth & Hurling Coach), John McGowan (Youth), Shawn Kerns (Youth), James Bannon (Youth), Tommy McGowan (Youth), and Aaron Kimbrell (Youth). Congratulations to all and thanks for



Meet the Cleveland GAA: Daniel Murray
Men's Player and Women's Head Coach

Fast Facts: Age: 30
Hometown: Knocknacarra, Galway
Home Club: Father Griffins / Éire Óg
Current Location: Shaker Heights, Ohio
Position: Midfield
Job: General Manager @ Anytime Fitness

A new member of Cleveland GAA in 2018, Galway native Daniel Murray quickly immersed himself in the club both on and off the field. Even with the strong rookie class of thirteen new players for the club, the 2018 season was a challenging one after losing a handful of players who moved away from Cleveland, and lost other key veteran contributors to early season injuries. Daniel was one of the few with solid Gaelic football experience from his playing days in Ireland and instantly became a team leader and key scorer from day one on the pitch. As soon as the 2018 season ended, Daniel had his eyes set on 2019, and will be a key member for what should become a very important part of the Cleveland GAA - a competitive women's team. The inaugural women's team will begin indoor training sessions with the men in early March, with Daniel serving as head coach. Prior experience is unnecessary, but a background with athletic experience is a plus. Anyone interested in trying Gaelic football (women's or men's) should fill out the interested player form found at www.ClevelandGAA.com/JoinUs.

taking the day to better our club, our players, and our kids.

In conjunction with the WSIA to benefit both Cleveland Gaelic Football and the WSIA Marching unit, the annual Night at the Races was again sold out. Thank you to all the supporters, donors, participants, and volunteers who make the event the most successful annual fundraiser for the club. 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.

Do you want to march in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Cleveland? Join the Club, youth-ladies-men, as we will step-off with the Ohio Irish American News vans. There will be good craic before, during, and after the parade on Sunday March 17.

Youth: The Youth program had a massive response from local families when over 40 kids took the field on the first Free Gaelic Football night in January. Of those 40, nearly 30 of them were new to the sport and had a blast. The Club is offering regular sessions in March and April at Soccer

Continued on page 30

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NEW MEN'S & WOMEN'S PLAYERS WANTED!

INDOOR GAELIC FOOTBALL

FRIDAY MARCH 8, 8 - 9 PM
FRIDAY MARCH 15, 8 - 9 PM
FRIDAY MARCH 22, 8 - 9 PM
FRIDAY MARCH 29, 8 - 9 PM
THURSDAY APRIL 4, 7 - 8 PM
WEDNESDAY APRIL 10, 7 - 8 PM
THURSDAY APRIL 18, 7 - 8 PM
THURSDAY APRIL 25, 7 - 8 PM

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WHAT IS GAELIC FOOTBALL?
 IRELAND'S NATIONAL SPORT. A REALLY
 REALLY FUN MIX OF SOCCER, BASKETBALL, &
 VOLLEYBALL

GAA Monthly

Continued from page 29

Sportplex in North Olmsted. For a nominal \$20, your youth player will receive a Club shirt and participate in five sessions.

The sessions are split into age groups; 5-8 and 9-12. Girls and boys play together. 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 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.

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael i gCleveland. Ar dtús caithfidh mé a rá gur fearr Gaeilge bhriste ná Béarla cliste. Maith dom é.

So, an mhí seo caite, thainig tríocha imreoirí nua chun traenála óg ag Soccer Sportplex i North Olmsted. Bhí sé fiánta fiánta maith. Dímir na paistí d'aois 5-8 i rith an chéad uaire agus ansin d'imir na paistí níos sine ar feadh an dara uaire. D'fhoghlaim siad go léir scilleanna agus bhí craic mhór acu. Liathróidí ag bocáil agus gach duine ag gháire!

Nuair a bheidh an t-alt seo tar éis teacht amach beidh an dara saor seisiún críochnaithe. Beidh traenail seachtainiúil i mí an Mhárta agus mí an Aibreáin againn. F'éach ar an fógra i gcomhair laethanta agus amanna.

Má tigeann tú na focail seo mar sin déan machnamh ar dul isteach linn.

Slán go foill. ■

SPEAK IRISH

By Bob Carney
 @BobCarneyGTR
 carneyspeakirish@gmail.com

Cé as Tú?

The purpose of conversation in any language is communication, gaining and sharing information with others. Last month we began our introduction to conversation in Irish with greeting others, inquiring about their well being, introducing ourselves and others and saying goodbye. Now we can start to get to know each other better by asking where someone is from, their background and where they live.

In our sample conversation last time, we learned how emphasis can be shown by altering the endings of some words (see OhioIANews Feb.2019). The following is a list of emphatic pronouns that can be used in sentences that use the verb "tá" in its various forms, a few of which we've already encountered.

PRONOUN	EMPHATIC FORM	ENGLISH
Mé (may)	Mise (mee-sha)	I / me
Tú (too)	Tusa (tuh-suh)	You
Sé (shay)	Seisean (shesh-in)	He
Sí (shee)	Sise (shih-shuh)	Her
Muid (mwidj)	Muide (mwidj-uh)	We
Sibh (shiv)	Sibhse (shiv-shuh)	Y'all
Siad (shee-ud)	Siadsan (shee-ud-sun)	They
Tá mé go maith.	(taw may guh mah)	I am good.
Tá mise go maith	(taw mee-sha guh mah)	I am good!

As we are being introduced to new words and some of the grammar used in Irish, it is very important to remember how we learned English. At a very young age, and long before we could understand what a pronoun or adjective is, we were able to converse, we could communicate our feelings and needs without understanding or even knowing what grammar was. So take things easy, there is plenty of time later for that part of Irish.

In our pronunciation guide in the January issue, we learned a little bit about changes that can be made to the beginnings of words as well. An urú, or eclipsis, changes the way a word sounds; a new letter goes in front of the first letter of some words in certain situations and that letter silences the original first letter.

For example, the Irish for Belfast is Béal Feirste (bell-fehrshta), but if I wanted to say, "in Belfast," I would say, i mBéal Feirste (ih mell-fehrshta). The Irish for in is i or in, i is used for words beginning with a consonant and causes an urú. An urú is only used on words beginning with the consonants b, c, d, f, g, p, and t with the simple preposition i. If the word begins with a vowel, in is used and an urú is not needed.

EXAMPLES:

B - mb Béal Feirste (bell-fehrshta)	i mBéal Feirste (ih mell-fehrshta)	Belfast
C - gc Corcaigh (kork-uh)	i gCorcaigh (ih-gork-uh)	Cork
D - nd Doire (derry)	i nDoire (ih nerry)	Derry
F - bhf Fear Manach (fare mahn-awk)	i bhFear Manach (ih air mahn-awk)	Fermanagh
G - ng Gaillimh (gahl-iv)	i nGaillimh (ih nahl-iv)	Galway
P - bp Port Láirge (port law-reh-geh)	i bPort Láirge (ih bort law-reh-geh)	Waterford
T - dt Trá Lí (traw-lee)	i dTrá Lí (ih dra-lee)	Tralee

PHRASES:

Cé as tú? (kay ahs too)	Where are you from? Connacht
Cé as tusa? (kay ahs tuh sa)	Where are you from? (with emphasis)
Cé as tú féin? (kay ahs too fayne)	Where are you from yourself?
Cád as tú? (kahd ahs too)	Where are you from? Munster
Is as gCleveland mé. (iss ahs gleevland may)	I'm from Cleveland.
Cá bhfuil tú i do chónaí? (kaw will ih duh coney)	Where do you live?

Tá mé i mo chónaí i gCleveland.
 (taw may ih muh coney ih gleevland)

I live in Cleveland

Tá mé i mo chónaí..

in the center of town

i lár an bhaile (ih lar ahn wahl-ya)
 taobh amuigh den bhaile (tay-uv ah-mah den wahl-ya)
 faoin tuath (fenn too-ah)

outside the town
 in the countryside

ar Bhóthar na Pearl (ahn vo-her na pearl)
 An Meiriceanach tú? (a mer ah kahn ach too)

on Pearl Road
 Are you American?

Tá, is Meiriceanach mé. (taw iss mer ah kahn ach may)

Yes, I'm American.

Ní hea, is Éireannach mé. (nee ha iss ayr ah nach may)

No, I'm Irish

NATIONALITIES:

Éireannach (ayr-ah nach)

Irish

Sasanach (sahs ah nach)

English

Albanach (all bah nach)

Scottish

Gearmánach (gerr mah nach)

German

All of the above refer to people only. For example, when referring to the English language, we would use the word béarla (bayr-la), for Irish language, Gaeilge. Many more nationalities can be found by using the on-line dictionary teaglann.ie.

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: Cé as tú?

Aoife: Is as Béal Feirste mé ach tá mé i mo chónaí i mBaile Átha Cliath. Agus tú fein?

An Meiriceánach thú?

Nóra: Is ea, tá mé i mo chónaí i gCleveland i lár an bhaile.

Aoife: Feicfidh mé thú.

Nóra: Tóg go bog é!

Don't forget past Speak Irish columns as well as past issues of the Ohio Irish American News are available on-line at www.ohioianews.com. All vocabulary used in our sample conversation as well as pronunciation has been covered in the past beginning in the January 2019 issue. New students in Speak Irish Cleveland Classes are encouraged to use a new word or phrase every day in their interactions with others, this helps us in building our vocabulary and promotes the Irish language at the same time. If you would like to attend a class to see what it's like, you can contact me at carneyspeakirish@gmail.com.

TOSACH MAITH LEATH NA HOIBRE!

A Good Start is Half the Battle! ■

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 Wolf-hounds 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

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 Facebook or through the Westside Irish American Club



Milestones & Sweet Snaps



1

2

3

Congratulations to Young & Irish Columnist Mary Kate Campbell, now a part of the Suffolk University Law School Class of 2022!

Congratulations to Hooley House Mentor, celebrating 10 years as Cleveland's Premier Irish Sport Pub.

Our thoughts and prayers are with our OhioIANews Graphic Designer Christine Hahn, whose mother passed away in January.



- 4**
1. Newly elected Court of Appeals Judge Michelle Sheehan is sworn in by Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Judge Brendan Sheehan (pic courtesy of Michelle Sheehan)
 2. Volunteers at the Akron Celtic Guards Hurling Club 7th Annual Chili Cook off Fundraiser, held at the AOH Hall on Brown Street in Akron, with 16 entries*
 3. Ohio Rose of Tralee Selection Ceremony Emcee Bridget Linton and Applicant Christine Smyth talk height during group interviews*
 4. The Power Ladies: Bridie Joyce, Kay Hough, Helen Malloy, Shannon Corcoran, Maureen Cavanaugh, Greta Forestal, Bridget McIntyre and Vera Casey *
 5. Ohio Rose of Tralee candidates tour the town in advance of the 2019 Selection Ceremony on February 16th*

* Pictures by John O'Brien, Jr. See many more pictures, stories and fun on our facebook page and website ~ www.ohioianews.com

Jameson Cleveland St. Patrick's Day Run Goes for World Record for Largest Kilt Run!

Cleveland is known for a lot of things - passionate sports fans, great food and craft beer, the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, and more. Soon it could be known as the city who holds the Guinness Book of World Records for the most people to run a race in a kilt at one time.

Hosted by Hermes Sports & Events, Jameson, Coors Light, Armada Risk Partners and the Warehouse District in Cleveland, the official attempt to break the record will be on St. Patrick's Day, Sunday, March 17th at 9a.m. on West 6th Street in downtown Cleveland.

The record for the largest kilt race is currently held by the Perth Running Goats Club at the Perth Kilt Run in Perth, Ontario, Canada, with 1,764 participants on June 23rd, 2012. Last year, at the first ever Cleveland St. Patrick's Day race, 1,532 runners participated without trying for the record attempt.

This year all participants will receive a custom Jameson Kilt, a long sleeve race

shirt, part 2 of a 3-part unique finisher medal, shot of Jameson or a Coors Light (21 & over) and many other perks. Representatives from the Guinness



World Records North America, Inc. will be onsite to witness and certify the accomplishment. The race benefits the Irish American Charitable Foundation. You can be a part of history by registering at ClevelandStPatricksDayRun.com. Hopefully Irish Eyes will be smiling on Cleveland! ■

ON THIS DAY IN IRISH HISTORY

MARCH

- 1 March 1665** - The remains of Sir Roger Casement, who was hung in Pentonville Prison, London for high treason, are buried with full military honors in the Republican plot in Glasnevin Cemetery after a state funeral.
- 4 March 1867** - The Fenian Rising takes place, with outbreaks in several counties, notably Tallaght, Co. Dublin. It ended in failure.
- 7 March 1967** - In Northern Ireland, Minister of Home Affairs William Craig bans commemorations to mark the centenary of the Fenian rising.
- 9 March 1932** - Eamon de Valera, leader of Fianna Fail, elected president of the executive council of the Irish Free State.
- 14 March 1991** - The Birmingham Six are released after serving sixteen years in prison on fabricated evidence of the bombing of two public houses in Birmingham by the IRA in November 1974.
- 19 March 1921** - The Crossbarry ambush occurs in southwest Cork, one of the biggest engagements of the War of Independence, in which over 100 IRA Volunteers escaped an attempt by British forces to encircle them.
- 24 March 1968** - An Aer Lingus Viscount St. Phelim, with 57 passengers and a crew of four and enroute from Cork to London, crashes into the seas off Tuscar Rock, Co. Wexford. There were no survivors.
- 28 March 1957** - Jack Butler Yeats (85) painter, and younger brother of W. B. Yeats, dies.

OhioIANews Employment Opportunities

Intern Opportunities: March 1, 2019

Are you interested in a career in marketing, journalism, digital or social media? Are you looking for a hands-on dynamic internship, in a self-driven, fast paced environment? The OhioIANews is seeking three interns for all academic semesters. Creative innovation in social media and online marketing, and excellent learning opportunities are both the skills we are seeking and the opportunity we are offering. Working familiarity with Word, Excel, social media platforms and email are essential.

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For either opportunity, please review the newsmagazine and website at www.ohioianews.com, where issues are also archived. If interested, please email resume and cover letter indicating interest, goals and qualifications, to:

John O'Brien, Publisher / Editor
Ohio Irish American News
jbrien@ohioianews.com





FIRM FOUNDATION
By Ken Callahan
@KennethRCallahanJr



Brian Brennan

It is a well-recognized truth that Irish Americans, once having been given the chance to breathe the rarified air of American freedom, flourished in it, making their marks in public life, in organized labor, as writers and in the trades. Less frequently recognized are the contributions made by Irish Americans to professional sports.

Few Greater Clevelanders, particularly of a certain age, will soon forget Brian Brennan, the Browns wide receiver who brought such hard-fought glory in his NFL career, particularly on the oft-frozen grounds of Cleveland Municipal Stadium.

Brian was born in Detroit, Michigan to Martin Aloysius Jr, and Eileen

Rogers Brennan, the second of six children: Martin Jr., Brian, James, Theresa, Bridget and Charlie. His Mom's dad, Charles Rogers, hailed from County Cavan, while his great grandfather, Martin Brennan, was born in Kilkenny. Brian's father ran his own company, Brennan Development, which specialized in excavation. He recalls that most summers he and his brothers worked as laborers for the company, an experience that left a lasting impression of what hard work means for the development of character.

The family ultimately moved to Bloomfield, Michigan, where the children attended St. Hugo of the Hills elementary school and were taught by



the sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The girls in the family went to near-by Marion High School, while he and his brothers attended Brother Rice High School, run by the Irish Christian Brothers. Brother Rice is perennially a

competitive sports school, analogous to St. Ignatius or St. Edward., attended by 1,100 boys. Brian competed in basketball, track (when asked he recalls running a 4.5 40) and, plausibly, football. Of his upbringing, he says that "Mom



and Dad were very faithful Catholics, and were proud of the fact that they could provide a faithful experience for us all during our formative years" His Dad died in 2014 but Eileen is still a daily communicant.

Because of his football exploits at Brother Rice, a several college programs came calling, both for his football and basketball talents. He ultimately chose Boston College, where he was named a senior All American, played with Doug Flutie, and still ranks as one of the top receivers in BC history. After the end of the season, he recalls "as if it was yesterday" getting a call in May of 1984 in his dorm room at BC: "Brian, this is Paul Warfield-welcome to the

Cleveland Browns. We drafted you in the 4th round." He then handed the phone to Sam Rutigliano.

At the end of his senior year, Brian received both the Scanlon award, the highest award for football, as well as the Eagle Award, which recognized his efforts in a number of sports. Notwithstanding his many accomplishments at Boston College, the most profound experience was meeting his future wife, Bethany in 1984, from Marblehead Massachusetts. Not every young professional athlete is prepared to commit to a permanent relationship with the celebrity that attends professional athletes, but Brian and Bethany were married the year after he was drafted, at her parish, Our Lady, Star of the Sea, in 1985. "She was the most engaging, and most beautiful, person I have ever met, and still is today." The couple have three children, Courtney, Brian Jr. and Grace, who have all attended Gilmour Academy along the way to accomplishment as young business professionals.

Brian went on to play nine seasons in the NFL and finished his career as the 4th all-time leading receiver in Cleveland Browns history.

Of his background, he has learned that "nobody does it alone—it takes faith (and good Catholic sports programs). The more I give, like to Boys Hope and Girls Hope, the more I benefit."

Brian Brennan is the National

Head at Fixed Income and Derivatives and Keybank National Market and has served as head football coach at Gilmore Academy and coached CYO basketball. He has served on the Boards of Notre Dame College and Gilmour.

Michigan has truly bestowed an Irish American gift on us. ■

Callahan is a retired Common Pleas Judge and a partner at Collins Scanlon, LLP.

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6th - 11th Anniversary Party with The New Barleycorn

21st- Marys Lane Easter Brunch @MusicBoxCLE

28th - 25 Card Game Spring Tournament, @West Side Irish American Club, Cleveland Ceili Club Dance workshop @PJ McIntyre's

A Conversation with Author Patrick Radden Keefe

By Sabina Clarke

Recently I met with Patrick Radden Keefe the amazingly gifted author, investigative journalist and staff writer for The New Yorker since 2012 and contributor since 2006. His latest book *Say Nothing* out now and getting rave reviews examines the horrific death of Jean McConville a mother of ten against the backdrop of the turbulent period in Irish history known as ‘The Troubles.’

“Ireland is a great country for story-telling. I wanted to write a book that could function as a rigorous history of this period and draw in new readers who are not familiar with ‘The Troubles’ and have never been to Belfast and those who have some familiarity but would like to know more.”

Radden Keefe who is of both Irish and Australian ancestry has always wanted to be a writer since childhood but “didn’t quite know how to do it and pay the rent.” He started writing in Law

School and published his first book at age 29 after he passed the New York Bar Exam.

In 2013 intrigued after reading The New York Times obituary of Irish Republican Army volunteer Dolours Price the former wife of Irish actor Stephen Rea, he made two trips to Belfast and spent two years researching Dolours Price’s life. He also spent time with McConville’s grown children documenting the huge toll felt by all of them by their mother’s sudden absence from their lives on the night she was forcibly abducted from her home at gunpoint never again to be seen alive.

Keefe’s mesmerizing account “Where the Bodies Are Buried” appeared in The New Yorker in 2015 and caused such a sensation that it prompted him to con-

sider writing a book with McConville’s murder as its starting point.

Almost simultaneously the unsolved McConville murder case was being resurrected with the exposure of a closely guarded secret—the existence of

The Boston College Belfast Project—the oral history archive of ‘The Troubles’ stored in the Burns Library at Boston College only to be subpoenaed and seized by the Police Service of Northern Ireland under the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty, MLAT, between the U.S. and the U.K. on the grounds that it was needed to investigate a murder—the forty year old unsolved murder of Jean McConville

whose remains had finally been found on a deserted beach.

The Boston College Belfast Project became an international story making headlines around the world. Appeals to deny the seizure of the archives by Boston College and author and journalist Ed Moloney Director of the Boston College Belfast Project and Dr. Anthony McIntyre who conducted the interviews with former IRA members in Ireland went on appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court and the High Court of Belfast. The target was Gerry Adams and the seizure of Dolours Price’s interview relating to the McConville murder.

On the heels of the overwhelming response to Radden Keefe’s 2015 New Yorker story “Where the Bodies Are Buried” he began researching his book *Say Nothing*—the title taken from a Seamus Heaney poem quoting an old Irish phrase “Whatever you say, say nothing” --“O land of password, hand-grip, wink and nod.” He made seven trips to Northern Ireland and conducted more than 100 interviews over four years.

In *Say Nothing* Keefe paints a masterful and historically accurate portrait of ‘The Troubles’ ascribing equal blame to both the loyalist and nationalist communities with a nod to the main antagonist and instigator --the British

State-for the bloodshed and horrific human toll extracted by the war.

But what is so gripping about this story is the style in which it is written. Keefe calls his work narrative non-fiction. It is reminiscent of the style invented by Truman Capote in his telling of the true crime story of the murder of the Clutter family in Kansas which was very innovative for that time—a story that gripped the nation and introduced a new literary genre—the non-fiction narrative.

But Keefe goes a step further by deftly and accurately weaving McConville’s murder into the larger canvas—the historical background of ‘The Troubles’ in a way that can be easily grasped by the novice reader with no prior knowledge of this period in history. He does this expertly without sacrificing any degree of scholarship in a telling that rivals the best crime novel.

In his riveting and perceptive portraits of IRA volunteers Brendan Hughes and Dolours Price and her sister Marian Price he brings home the huge personal toll the war took on each of their lives and their complete inability to cope when the war ended in a compromise rather than with their goal of the end of British rule in Ireland. For them, the Good Friday Agreement was a sell-out. But Keefe suggests a more painful reality—that perhaps there was no longer a role for them to play and “they were left behind by history” rather than being tossed aside and no longer needed by Gerry Adams—on whom they turned with bitterness and a surprising degree of revenge. To his credit Adams never reciprocated.

Of the three people who were with Jean McConville when she died, Keefe dons his hat as the superb investigative journalist and identifies without a trace of doubt that the triggerman was Marian Price—the sister of Dolours Price. Through her attorney Marian Price refused to speak with Radden Keefe and denied any involvement—which he thinks is telling.

Another pivotal iconic figure in the history of ‘The Troubles’—Bernadette Devlin McAliskey—also refused to be interviewed by Keefe who observed

that the past in Belfast is very much in the present adding “A culture of silence suppresses any real dialogue. It stretches back decades. People involved in the republican movement were very circumspect about talking about their experiences.”

And of course, Gerry Adams refused to give an interview to Keefe. But then why would he? And Keefe says as much. Nothing to be gained and much to lose. Despite this Keefe’s portrait of Adams may be one of the best I’ve read—“He is an endlessly fascinating guy—intriguing and a bit of a riddle. I have done my best to understand him but I don’t think anybody is able to totally get him.” Also insightful are his deft and perceptive portraits of both Dolours Price and Brendan Hughes—all three loom large in the book.

As to whether Jean McConville was an informer, Radden Keefe says “It would be heedless for me to say for sure that McConville was an informer. I lay out the evidence. Her children say she was not. The Ombudsman says she was not. Ed Moloney and Brendan Hughes say that definitely she was. I am not as certain.”

As for all of this talk about Adams’ purported membership in the Irish Republican Army, IRA, and his abandoning his comrades by his denial--- I find this reaction by former comrades to be puzzling since admitting to even a brief stint in the IRA would mean immediate imprisonment—and this for a man who delivered the peace and dedicated his life to the promise of a free and united Ireland. Yet, because of this his legacy will be more complicat-

ed. The Irish can be an unenlightened and ungrateful people.

In conclusion, Keefe makes a valid argument for a Truth and Reconciliation Process as established in South Africa with immunity granted. Then past crimes can be permanently put to rest and the present finally liberated. ■

About the Author: Patrick Radden Keefe grew up in Dorchester, Massachusetts and received his undergraduate degree from Columbia where he majored in Modern European History and wrote his thesis on World War I. He earned a law degree from Yale Law School, a Masters in Philosophy in International Relations from Cambridge University and a Masters in Science from the London School of Economics. He has received many fellowships including those from the Marshall Scholarship Foundation, Guggenheim Foundation, the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, and the Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers at the New York Public Library. He was a policy adviser in the Office of the Secretary of Defense between 2010 and 2011.



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- 3/15: Fox 8 Morning Show
- 3/15: Vosh Lakewood
- 3/16: Weymouth Country Club
- 3/17: PJ McIntyre's 1pm-8pm
- 3/18: Treehouse Bar Survivor Party

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14th - Druids
15th - New Barleycorn
17th - Loch Erie All Day
22nd - Other Brothers
23rd - Smug Saints 9pm
29th - Mossy Moran
30th - Skinny Moo

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Auld Pitch 8p, 13th- Chris & Tom 8p, 15th- The Kilroy's Session 8p, 16th- The Porter Sharks 10p, 17th-Join us in our heated tent! Opening at 8am. Andrew McManus 3p to 6p, O'Malley Dance Academy 5:30p, The Boys from The County Hell 8p, 20th- Lonesome Stars 8p, 22nd-Rachel Brown 8p, 23rdh- Kelly Wright 8p, 27th- Chris & Tom 8p, 29th- Chris Allen 8p, 30th Andrew McManus 8p. 4408 Detroit Road, 44113 www.the-harp.com

FLAT IRON CAFÉ

1st - No Strangers Here 7-10pm, 8th - Donegal Doggs 6:30-10pm, 15th - Donal O'Shaughnessy 7-11pm, 17th - Happy St. Patrick's Day- Open @7am for Kegs & Eggs, Donal O'Shaughnessy 11am-7pm, free shuttle service to parade for customers, firefighters Pipes & Drums after the parade, 22nd - Erin Neal & the Chill Factors 7-10pm

29th- Sean Benjamin 7-10pm. 1114 Center St. Cleveland 44113-2406 216.696.6968. www.flatironcafe.com

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Monthly Pub Quiz w Mike D 7pm; 8th - Rockin Ravers; 9th - Iced Cherry, 14th - The Narrowbacks, opening: Marys Lane; 15th - SHINDIG, 16th - St. Practice Day Party, Green Mile Beer Crawl during Day, Music by Craic Brothers @Night; 17TH - Happy St. Patrick's Day; open @7am: 1st 100 ppl get an authentic Collector's item T-Shirt: Voted best place to spend your Holiday, Music by Marys Lane w pipers, dancers, Irish Breakfast. 18th - Hair of the Dog Party w Shindig, FREE TRIP TO IRELAND DRAWING @7PM - MUST be present to win. 21st - Celebrity Bartending for St. Baldrick's thru St. Marks 6-10. 22nd - DJ Swingin Sandy, 23rd - Ace Molar, 30th - New Barleycorn.

Starting March 6th- LENTEN FISH FRY- Voted #1 in Cleveland! Don't forget T-Shirt Tues: wear any PJs T-Shirt get 15% off bill! Whiskey Wed: ½ off every whiskey in the house. Thurs - Craft Beer \$2.50. PJ McIntyre's is a Local 10 Union establishment. Home of the Celtic Supporter's Club and the GAA. Book Parties & Events in our Bridgie Ned's Irish Parlor Party Room. 17119 Lorain Road, 44111. www.pjmcintyres.com 216-941-9311.

MUSIC BOX SUPPER CLUB

2nd - Dublin City Ramblers, 3rd - Lunasa, 7th - High Kings, 9th - Boys from Co. Hell, 10th - Irish Brunch w The Kilroys, 13th - CLE Stories: To Kill An

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Ceili dancing lessons, March 7, 14, 28, West Side Irish American Club.

Looking ahead: Dance workshop, April 28, PJ McIntyre's; Spring Ceili, May 10, West Side Irish American Club.

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

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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.

Irishman, 16th - Shamrocks & Dreadlocks, 17th - Neil Diamond Paddy's Day Brunch, 17th - Van Morrison St. Paddy's Day Brunch. 1148 Main Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44113. <http://www.musicboxcle.com> Flannery's Pub Prospect, Cleveland 44115 216.781.7782 www.flannerys.com

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH ON BRIDGE

17th - Marks the 166th Anniversary of the Parish's founding in Ohio City. Feast Day Mass @9:30 a.m. After, Cleveland Firefighters Memorial Pipe & Drum Corps will lead the congregation to the Parish Hall where the anticipated 1,000+ will be served a complementary brunch, and a special raffle drawing will occur. Contact Nancy or Mike Engle at (216) 856-1357 for more information.

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IRISH AMERICAN CLUB EAST SIDE

1- Fish Fry with Ballinloch, 2 - Irish Trivia Night, 3 - Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner and West Awake after, 8 - Fish Fry w Mad Macs, 9 - Guinness & Harp Night w Dulahan, 10 - Family Day with Neal Jacobs and No Strangers Here afterward, 14 - Dreams of Freedom from Co. Kerry, Ireland \$15, 15 - Fish Fry w Craic Brothers (3), 16 - Irish Coffee Night w James Kilbane Band, 17 - Mass @9:00, Pancake Breakfast after Mass @Club, Neal Jacobs @2:00, Mad Macs @6:30, 22 - Fish Fry w Bog Trotters, 29 - Fish Fry w Julie Slattery & Tom Todd. PUB: 7:30 - 10:30. IACES 22770 Lake Shore Blvd. Euclid, 44123. 216.731.4003 www.eastsideirish.org

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OLMSTED TWP

WEST SIDE

IRISH AMERICAN CLUB

2 - Pre-St. Patrick's Day Dance 7pm-Midnight: Helen Malloy 216-251-4075, 8 - Fish Fries begin serving 5-7 pm, 9 - Claddagh Ball: Kathleen Chambers 440-427-0858, 16 - Boxy & Sausage Night serving 6-9pm, 17 - Mass, Parade, Food & Music after @the Club, 23 - Steak Shoot 7:30pm. Great live music & food in The Pub every Friday. WSIA

Club 8559 Jennings Rd. 44138 www.wsia-club.org. 440-235-5868.

ROCKY RIVER

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1st - Austin Walkin Cane, 7th - New Barleycorn, 9th - No Strangers Here, 10th - Sunday Irish Session with Francis Quinn & Co., 14th - Mossy Moran, 15th - KT and OC, 16th - Pompous Arse, 21st - West Awake, 22nd - Crosswinds, 23rd - Jeff Varga. 19500 Center Ridge Rd, Rocky River, OH 44116 (440) 990-7468 www.GormleysPub.com

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TOLEDO

16th - Toledo Hibernian Family Friendly St. Patrick's Celebration

Continued on page 40

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OUT & ABOUT OHIO

Continued from page 39



NO STRANGERS HERE 17th – Black Forest Tavern, South Euclid

Donnelly Center @Blessed Sacrament Church noon - 10pm. 17th - St. Patrick's Day Mass @Historic Church of St. Patrick, 130 Avondale, downtown Toledo - Irish sing a long @9:30, Mass at 10, w/ lunch to follow in the rectory. All Irish & Irish want to be are welcome.

TOLEDO IRISH CLUB

5th - Toledo Irish American Club & Earnest Brew Works Shenanigan's for St. Paddy's Season Event, 5pm-9m @ Earnest Brew Works, 4342 South Detroit Ave., Toledo, 43614. \$10 admission @ door or tickets through Eventbrite in advance. Members get 10% off by contacting toledoishclub@gmail.com. Pizza by Pizza Cat. Irish Themed Brews, performances by the Ardan Academy of Irish Dancers & Toledo Firefighters Pipes & Drums; 50/50 raffle, & a Kilt Contest: winner gets honorary trophy & bragging rights to being best dressed. 17th – TIAC & Wersell's Bike Shop St. Patrick's Day Parking Lot Party Event, 5pm-10pm @Wersell's Bike Shop 2860 Central Ave., Toledo, OH 43606, leaving @5:30pm begins bike ride playing Irish Music. After the ride stay to enjoy live traditional Irish Music, dancing by Ardan Academy of Irish Dance, Pizza, Non-alcoholic beverages and beer. There is no admission for this event, but will accept donations. Spots are limited; call the Bike shop at 419-474-7412, email the Toledo Irish American Club at toledoishclub@gmail.com.

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By Dottie Wenger

KIDS CRAIC

Who Was St. Patrick?

St. Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland, but he was born in Britain to a Roman family in the fourth century. His original name was Maewyn.

He was taken to Ireland as a slave when he was sixteen years old. In his early twenties, he escaped to France and began to studied for priesthood. Several years later, he returned to Ireland as a Christian missionary. He was renamed Patricius, which means "noble" in Latin. St. Patrick introduced the Roman alphabet to Ireland as well as Christianity. We now celebrate St. Patrick's Day on the day St. Patrick was thought to have died.

St. Patrick's Day Myths: Although St. Patrick was a real person, there are a couple myths that surround him and

the holiday named in his honor.

St. Patrick chased the snakes out of Ireland by beating a drum.

Actually, snakes never lived in Ireland. Many of the animals we are familiar with in North America and other parts of Europe aren't seen in Ireland. Since it's an island country, the ocean keeps many of the animals away.

Four-leaf clovers are symbolic of St. Patrick.

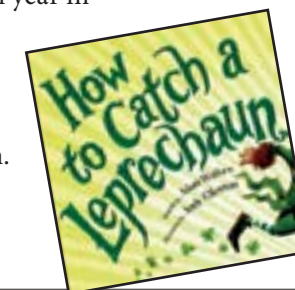
Four-leaf clovers are rare (which is why, if you find one, it's thought to symbolize good luck!) But it was the three-leaf clover, or shamrock, that St. Patrick used for his religious teachings. The shamrock's leaves symbolized Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

St. Patrick's Day Trivia:

The Chicago River in Illinois is dyed green each year in celebration of St. Patrick's Day!

Literature Highlight:

How to Catch a Leprechaun
by Adam Wallace, illustrated by Andy Elkerton.
A fun story, written in rhyme - a perfect St. Patrick's Day book for kids ages 4-10



Irish Phrase for Kids' Craic

Colors of the flag of Ireland:

Green glas (glahs)
White ban (bahn)
Orange oraiste (oh-rah-shta)





CROSSWORD PUZZLE

By Linda Fulton Burke



ACROSS

- 1 _____ Pilsner produced by Jack Cody
- 4 _____ ALE IRISH RED ALE by Galway Bay Brewery
- 6 _____ IPA by Blacks by Blacks
- 8 The White _____ Brewery in _____ Co. Sligo
- 9 _____ Golden Ale by Trouble Brewing
- 10 Franciscan Well Brewery in _____ City
- 13 Galway Bay Brewery in _____ City

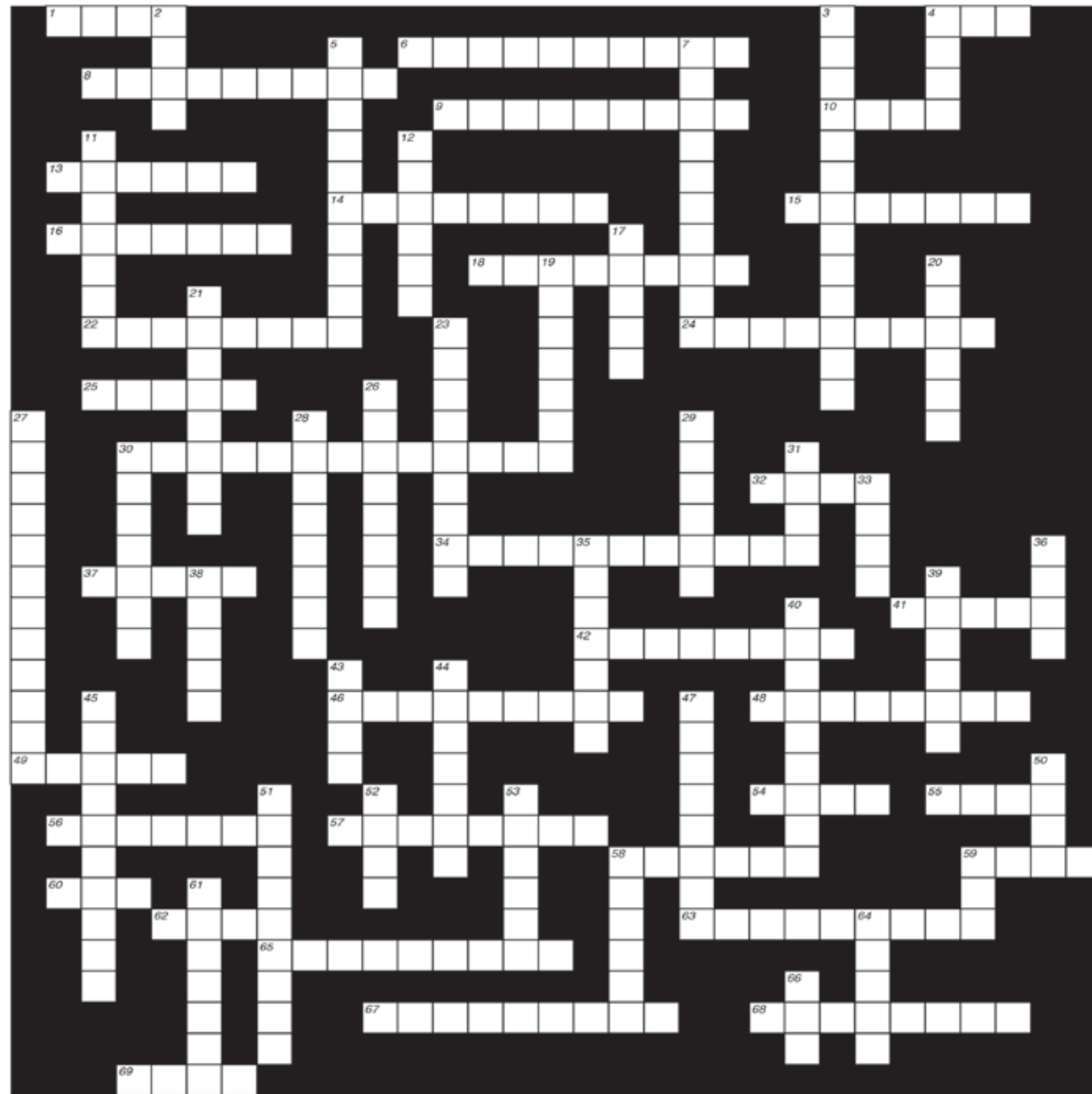
- 14 Bo Bristle's Brewing in _____ Co. Offaly
- 15 _____ Blonde by Franciscan Well Brewery
- 16 _____ Stout by Franciscan Well Brewery
- 18 _____ India Pale Ale. by Trouble Brewing
- 22 UP _____ STOUT by Rascals Brewing
- 24 Black Donkey Brewing in Ballinlough, Co. _____
- 25 1601 _____ by Blacks
- 30 _____ Irish Stout by Eight Degrees
- 32 The _____ Irish Single Malt Pale Ale by Eight Degrees
- 34 KINNEGAR BREWING in _____, Co. Donegal
- 37 Brown Paper Bag Project's _____ is a Grätzer style beer
- 41 _____ T Stout by Blacks
- 42 _____ Oatmeal Stout by White Hag
- 46 _____ IPA by Metalman Brewing
- 48 _____ Chilli Porter by Metalman Brewing
- 49 _____ Red by Franciscan Well Brewery
- 54 Blacks of Kinsale, Co. _____
- 55 FULL _____ IPA by Galway Bay Brewery
- 56 _____ IPA by Metalman Brewing
- 57 _____ WHITE IPA by Metalman Brewing
- 58 _____ AT SEA MILK CHOCOLATE STOUT by Galway Bay Brewery
- 59 WICKLOW WOLF BREWING CO. in _____, Co. Wicklow
- 60 _____ Hop Red Ale by Rascals Brewing
- 62 Black _____ stout by White Hag
- 63 Brown Paper Bag Project is a _____ Brewery
- 65 Rascals Brewing Company in _____, Dublin
- 67 _____ PALE ALE by Rascals Brewing
- 68 _____ Common brown ale by Wicklow Wolf
- 69 _____ Viz Double IPA by Blacks
- 4 _____ It Amber Ale by Black Donkey Brewing
- 5 _____ IPA by Metalman Brewing
- 7 _____ Amber IPA by Metalman Brewing
- 11 HUNDRED _____ IMPERIAL STOUT by Galway Bay Brewery
- 12 _____ DOODLE DOUBLE IPA by Rascals Brewing
- 17 51st _____ State IPA by Metalman Brewing
- 19 Dark _____ Porter by Trouble Brewing
- 20 _____ PORT IRISH PORTER by Galway Bay Brewery
- 21 _____ Bohemian Pilsner Lager by Eight Degrees Brewing
- 23 WESTCOAST _____ NITRO STOUT
- 26 _____ Pale Ale by Trouble Brewing
- 27 golden saison _____ Irish Farmhouse Ale by Black Donkey Brewing
- 28 _____ Amber ale by Wicklow Wolf
- 29 Black Perle _____ by Wicklow Wolf
- 30 _____ Pale Ale by Blacks
- 31 OF FOAM AND _____ DOUBLE IPA by Galway Bay Brewery
- 33 _____ Eye IPA produced by Jack Cody
- 35 _____ Wheat Lager by Metalman Brewing
- 36 _____ SCHMIDT PALE ALE by Rascals Brewing
- 38 _____ DEGREES BREWING in Dublin
- 39 VACUUM _____ IPA by Rascals Brewing
- 40 Metalman Brewery Company in _____
- 43 Kim _____ Lem-Un saison by Rascals Brewing
- 44 _____ Ale by White Hag
- 45 GOOD _____ - WEST COAST IPA by Rascals Brewing
- 47 _____ Irish Red Ale by Eight Degrees Brewing
- 50 Amber _____ American Amber Ale by Eight Degrees Brewing
- 51 _____ RED IPA by Metalman Brewing
- 52 _____ AREA LEMON THYME SAISON by Rascals Brewing
- 53 _____ Porter by Rascals Brewing
- 58 Locavore _____ Ale by Wicklow Wolf
- 59 Irish _____ Ale by White Hag
- 61 _____ Gale Irish Pale Ale by Eight Degrees Brewing
- 64 Jack Cody's Brewery in Drogheda, Co. _____
- 66 Bo Bristle's _____ Ale

DOWN

- 2 Trouble Brewing in _____, Co. Kildare
- 3 Eight Degrees Brewing in _____, Co. Cork

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WRUW FM 91.1 w/Christine Hahn

10am-11am: *Johnson Brothers Irish Hour*
WKTL-FM 90.7

RAIDÍO NA
HÉIREANN

SUNDAY

7am-9am: *Sweeney Astray*
WCSB-FM 89.3

10am-12pm: *Gerry Quinn's Irish Hours*
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
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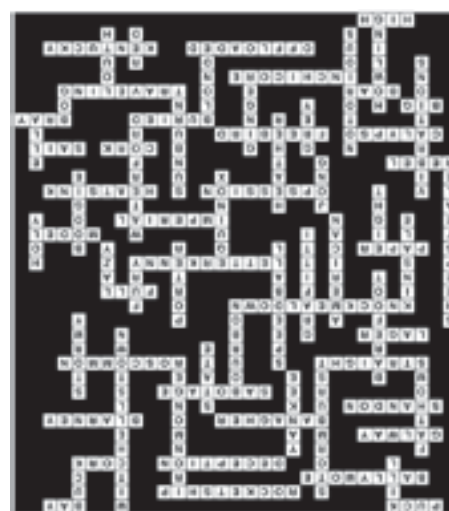


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