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OHIO IRISH AMERICAN NEWS

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**Beyond the Wave
at the Cliffs of Moher**



The Paragon of Peace

Across the wide Irish world, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate John Hume, who passed away on August 3rd, at the age of 83, was recognized, honored, and memorialized, by the common man and by leaders the world over. Archbishop Eamon Martin of Armagh called Hume the Paragon of Peace.

Hume and Ulster Unionist Party Lead David Trimble were awarded the 1998 Nobel Peace Prize for their work in designing, developing and fine-tuning the Good Friday Agreement, the historic document that brokered a lasting peace between divisive parties in the North and the south of Ireland.

Hume is credited with convincing the

Provisional IRA to declare a cease-fire with the British in 1994. I remember walking up the midway at Cleveland Irish Cultural Festival and hearing the news. My dad, Festival Founder and Director John Sr., was walking the other way. I told him, and his reaction will always stay with me. We passed the news on to the MC's at every stage, and shared the great news with festival goers across the fairgrounds.

Hume's game-changing impact on our communities cannot be given due justice, well-articulated, nor ever forgotten. The Good Friday agreement is Hume's lasting, living legacy to peace, hope and the perseverance of that faith, love and hope for a brighter world, a world, until that agreement was reached, Ireland had never known.

I cannot do justice in my commentary, compared to those that worked with him, like our Senator George Mitchell, John Major, President Bill Clinton, and space cannot fit them all here. Please check out the tributes online, for insight from those who had boots on the ground, with Mr. Hume.

The German theologian and Lutheran Pastor Emil Gustav Friedrich Martin Niemöller (14 January 1892 in Wimpfen; † 6. March 1984 in Wies-

baden), was best known for his opposition to the Nazi regime during the late 1930s, his thirst for peace, and for this poem:

Many versions have since been written or adapted; this is the one most well-known, to me

First They Came

First they came for the Jews and I did not speak out because I was not a Jew.

Then they came for the Communists and I did not speak out because I was not a Communist.

Then they came for the trade unionists and I did not speak out because I was not a trade unionist.

Then they came for me and there was no one left, to speak out.

*Nuair a stadann an ceol, stadann an rince
(When the music stops, so does the dance)*
John



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About Our Cover:
Elaine Farrell is a landscape photographer based in Doolin, Co. Clare. She spends winter travelling the Wild Atlantic Way coastline for big seascapes, like this one taken during Storm Dennis 2020 at the Cliffs of Moher. Prints are available to purchase via her website www.elainefarrellphotography.com or call into her prints gallery, An Seomra Dorcha, Doolin. She has a wide portfolio of work which can be seen across social media sites, including FB, Instagram and Twitter.



Black Donkey

The next time that you go to the grocery store, head to the beer aisle and take a look at the choices. On any day there are brews that are made from vampire blood, the sweat of Eliot Ness, Australian jailbirds, Christmas, nuts, bees, water from the Ohio River, and anything else that you can imagine.

These are hoppy days for beer nerds, but there is also sacrifice. In exchange for all this variety, some old favorites are next to impossible to find. Like so many other things, this variety can be numbing and overwhelming; all in an attempt to satisfy a simple quest for the beverage that Ben Franklin said was proof that God wanted us to be happy.

Happily, we were driving the narrow roads that twist through the farmlands on a visit to Roscommon when I noticed something. A perky donkey head was smirking back at me from a realtor size sign stuck in a field. My disinterest turned into a "Who are those guys?" as a I saw more of the signs and they were still there the next trip.

The "who" is Black Donkey Brewery, located in Ballinlough, South Roscommon. It was then that it struck me even more, "Who are those guys?" Because as I processed, this is some new local artisanal brewery, I remembered where I was, and that this kind of thing was not going on in the Irish beer world.

It was and is going on with spirits. There are gins and whiskeys that you have never heard of being put into bottles in Ireland as we speak. Beer has lagged behind. After all, this is the home of the black stuff.

A pint of plain in its country of origin is hard to beat. Yet, it has been beat. For example, loads of Irish are surprisingly fond of Budweiser. It came into the country on the back of an export-distribution deal with Guinness and found that some Irish citizens had a taste for a lighter brew.



Richard Siberry

What kind of brews were to be had at Black Donkey? I contacted them and luck was with me, because the owner/operator Richard Siberry agreed to a Zoom chat. Richard and his wife, Michaela Dillion, had immigrated to the States, settling in New York some thirty years ago, with the idea that they would return to Ireland someday.

Richard was watching the craft brew movement here and the idea to start one in Roscommon was born. So, armed with some Yank ideas of innovating and adding choice to the good but stagnate Irish brew market, Richard and his wife Michaela returned to Roscommon. They chose their mascot, the iconic and beloved farm animal, the donkey, and Black Donkey Brewery was born.

Another reason for the donkey symbol was their notorious stubbornness, a trait which they knew that they would need to start a business. The brewery mission statement was to create something unique, high quality, natural, sustainable, all the best of high ideals for a business.

High ideals pair with passion and Richard is an impassioned beer lover, as you would expect. His favorite tippie is one that I had heard of but never sampled, Saison beer. This problem demanded research and since I am a dedicated journalist, I went in search of one of these beers.

I was not able to try the Black Donkey Farmhouse version, Sheep Stealer, since it is yet to be imported here. I found a suitable proxy. Saison is a blond, hyper-carbonated, ale-like drink that does quench the thirst. This type of beer

originated in Belgium and is just thing that you would reach for after a hard day in the fields, which is why it is often prefixed with farmhouse.

Part of the Black Donkey mission was to use as much local talent as possible, from marketing and packaging through to the actual ingredients themselves. Their beers are as "all Irish" as they can be, barring some imported barley and Belgian hops.

The singular and unique trait of the beer, the one that they are internationally known for, came about in an unexpected way. Richard wanted to find a source for local wild yeast, to give his product a truly authentic twist. He had let that idea ruminate and the lightning strike happened when he was attending a meeting, a place where ideas usually go to die.

He was at a local town booster meeting held in the Rathcroghan Center in Tusk, Co. Roscommon. The director asked if the group would like a tour of Olwenygart, the mythic "Cave of the Cats," entrance to the underworld, an all-around cool place.

To enter the Cave's narrow passage, it is recommended that you slither in on your back. Lo and behold, during the slithering, Richard saw a berry. After some testing by a local tech school, he was able to get the yeast started from that local botanical. He had a public harvest/product launch on Halloween of 2017. The result is Underworld Savage Ale, the first beer made from a wild Irish yeast.

Things were going great, a brand, a market and a product. So, what could go wrong? Well, it turns out that one of the very things that many a tourist goes to Ireland in search of, Guinness. While Ireland does not have the kind of free house or franchise system that many UK pubs do, Guinness has an essential stranglehold on the Irish market, and it turns out, they don't care for competition. Think McDonald's versus the local burger joint to get a good idea

of the dilemma, size and distribution allow the Goliath advantages over the David.

Another issue is Irish beer consumption itself. The Irish are social about everything, including beer drinking. Home drinking was stigmatized in the old days, a slur whispered about a neighbor. That is changing with the onset of strict drink driving laws and no other way home from the pub in most of the country.

The numbers are changing, but 57% of the beer consumed in Ireland is done in the pubs. The other issue is that beer and brand loyalty just don't mean what they used to, even in Ireland. Calorie counts and wine culture have played a part in lessening beer drinking there.

Does it have to be this complicated and was it meant to be? No. Beer was historically a native elixir, meant to ease the thirst and a long day. While too much variety can be overwhelming, no variety is stifling.

I am a supporter of underdogs; I can't help it. I also believe that areas should have their own local beer, local everything for that matter, it is just good in every way for a community. In this world of choice and export, something unique and authentic presents just what a tourist is looking for.

It is also what the Irish should be looking for, something made for them by their neighbors. Look next time you are there. Black Donkey tours are arranged by prior notice. You can always get a Guinness at the supermarket. <https://blackdonkeybeer.com> ■

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 Gaelic study group at the AOH/Mark Heffernan Division. She is married to Dónal and has two sons, Danny and Liam. Lisa enjoys art, reading, music, and travel. She likes spending time with her dog, cats and fish. Lisa can be contacted at olisa07@icloud.com.

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ILLUMINATIONS

By J. Michael Finn

Illegal Distilling in Ireland

Back in the 1930s, my father worked as a traveling salesman. He found himself in a small town in West Virginia, trying to sell dry goods to the local general store. He was spending the night in a local boarding house and thought it would be a nice night to take a stroll.

As he was leaving, the owner of the house asked him where he was going. He replied, "It's a nice night, I thought I would take a walk." The owner replied, "You'd better not go outside. Some moonshiner might take you for a liquor revenuer and blow your head off." He quickly changed his mind about taking a walk in West Virginia.

Illegal distilling has been going on for several hundred years in this country. The primary reason for the production of illegal liquor was the avoidance of taxes. As long as there has been distilled spirits, governments have wanted to tax it. Prior to Prohibition, almost the entire federal government



was paid for by the income raised by alcoholic beverage taxes.

There was even a small U.S. rebellion of farmers and distillers in western Pennsylvania, known as the Whiskey Rebellion. It occurred between 1791 and 1794 in protest of a whiskey tax enacted by the federal government. Following years of aggression with tax collectors, the region finally exploded in a confrontation that resulted in President George Washington sending in troops to quell what some feared would become a full-blown revolution.

POITIN THE WATER OF LIFE AND THE RARE OLD MOUNTAIN DEW

Like the U.S., Ireland also has a long history of illegal distilling. It is believed that Irish monks brought the technique

of distilling perfumes back to Ireland from their travels to the Mediterranean countries around 1000 AD. The Irish then modified this technique to obtain a drinkable spirit. Another less factual tale is that distilled spirits were invented by St. Patrick, when he had run out of wine.

Illegally distilled liquor in Ireland is known as poitín (pron: *po-cheen*). It comes from the Irish word 'pota' which means "pot." Poitín translates as "small pot." It is so called because it was traditionally distilled in a pot still. It was made from malted barley, grain, treacle (a kind of molasses), sugar beets, or potatoes. People would make poitín out of whatever they had to spare, which was usually potatoes or apples.

The quality and alcohol content of the drink varied from one maker to the next. Poitín was most often produced in the rural areas of Ireland. Some traditional Irish folk songs, such as *The Hills of Connemara* and *The Rare Old Mountain Dew*, deal with the subject of the making poitín and avoiding getting caught.

Of course, the downside to drinking illegally distilled spirits is that it can be hazardous to your health. Incorrect distilling can create methyl alcohol (methanol). Pure methanol is very dangerous, and it was known to cause blindness and even kill people.

As little as 10 ml of pure methanol can blind someone, and as little as 30 ml can cause death. There is also a potential for lead poisoning due to the lead content of the pots and pipes used in the distilling process.

THE EXCISE MAN

In 1661, the first excise tax on distilled liquor was levied by the government of King Charles II; however, collection of the tax in Ireland was largely ignored. It wasn't until 1760 that the British government began a more determined crack down, introducing a law forbidding private, unlicensed production of distilled liquor.

Whiskey distilled under this new license, and which the excise duty was paid, became known as "Parliament Whiskey." With these additional taxes, licenses, quotas and new regulations, the quality of "Parliament Whiskey" declined, while the cost of it increased, making poitín more profitable for the rural home distiller.

In the early 1800s, revenue commissioners began to make an impact on the illegal distilling trade when they were given the power to impose fines up to £60 on a townland where poitín was being illegally distilled, a fine that would ruin a small farmer. However, with no organized police force in many parts of rural Ireland at the time, revenue men looked for British military support in finding and arresting violators. This was something the military was not happy to do, as they knew many poitín distillers often worked in armed gangs.

How large was the illegal spirits market? Consider these statistics: "In 1806, out of 11,400,000 gallons of spirits made in Ireland, 3,800,000 gallons, or 33%, were produced by illegal manufacturers. In the years 1811 to 1813 almost 20,000 illegal stills were destroyed by the revenue authorities and the military."

THE REVENUE POLICE

Along with the revenue men, there were also private bounty hunters who would uncover illegal distillery's and collect a reward. The Board of Excise in London soon realized the success these privateers were having, and in 1818, the different bands of bounty hunters were amalgamated into the Revenue Police.

These men received regular pay and had permanent stations in Mayo and Sligo, the centers of illegal distilling. The force had far reaching powers to raid lands without a warrant, arrest violators and destroy any distilling equipment found. In the event any civilians died during a raid, which often happened, the policemen would have automatic bail and were rarely ever

Continued on facing page

Distilling

Continued from previous page

reprimanded. The heavy-handed methods used by the Revenue Police failed to curtail the

production of poitín as the 1820s saw a boom in production of the spirit. In 1836, the force was reorganized by Colonel William Brereton, an army officer. Brereton took control of the force and overhauled it by firing two thirds of its

men, replacing them with single men, under the age of 25 who were able to read and write. The Revenue Police were given military training and taught the care and use of arms.

Brereton also introduced the use of the steamship 'Warrior' to replace the slower revenue sailboats, allowing the Revenue Police to reach offshore islands quickly, before the poitín makers could escape.

Despite these modernization efforts, illegal poitín production remained relatively healthy. So, in 1857, the government disbanded the Revenue Police and the enforcement duty passed to the Royal Irish Constabulary, Ireland's main police force.

Poitín was not legally produced and licensed in Ireland until 1987; however, the Irish Revenue Commissioners allowed it to be exported only and not sold in Ireland. In 1997, the Revenue Commissioners changed their ruling and poitín sales were permitted in Ireland.

In 2008, poitín was granted Geographical Indicative Status by the EU. This means that from 2008, real poitín

can only come from Ireland. Illegal distilling to avoid paying taxes remains illegal both in the Irish Republic and in Northern Ireland.

Despite the legality of commercially made poitín, arrests for the illegal manufacture of the drink continue in Ireland today. In November 2013, officers from the Irish Revenue Commissioners uncovered a poitín-making facility in County Cavan. In September 2019, the Gardaí reported that a large quantity of illegal, high potency poitín had been seized following a raid at an apartment in Cork city. ■

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

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Medina County AOH Annual Charity Beer Run Co-chairs Dave Manley and Ray Schulte present a check from the event to Ms. Colleen Corrigan Day of Regia Health Center for the continued care for retired and disabled priests and nuns. Additional donations from the event were made to BirthCare Medina County and to veteran's groups for vets in need. ■

TUESDAY

6pm-8pm: *All Things Irish*
WOBC-FM 91.5 w/Anita Lock

SATURDAY

9am-11am: *stonecoldbikini*,
WRUF-FM 91.1 w/Christine Hahn

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

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



SATURDAY & SUNDAY

12-6pm ET/9am-3pm PT on SiriusXM
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David Shanahan is a Gaelic football player from Castleisland, in Kerry. He is 19 years old, and about to begin the adventure of a lifetime, moving from Castleisland to Australia, and then to the U.S., to Georgia, on a full-ride four-year scholarship to play American football, at Georgia Tech.

The interview was done on Zoom, from his home in Castleisland, and the video of the interview to accompany this printed piece, will be on our YouTube channel later this month.

OhioIANews: Were you really expecting this much attention from across the water?

No not at all really. So I knew when you announce your commitment, the culture around American Football, on social media, it's just not present in Gaelic football or rugby as much. I knew I was going to have to announce my offer, but definitely wasn't expecting to get to get this much coverage at all.

Did you play a lot of sports growing up?

Yes, growing up I played pretty much all the sports, Gaelic Football and rugby, basketball as well, but Gaelic Football was probably my main sport growing up.

What first caught you, that shifted somewhere/somewhat to American Football?

Growing up I played for Kerry underage squad, Under 17, really. Gaelic Football is a really big deal in Kerry, by far the biggest sport.

I grew up watching the NFL; that's where I learned it. I always had an interest in watching it, but I never knew any of the rules or things like that. I enjoyed watching it. When I was about 15 or 16, I started watching college football. I thought it was insane, I loved it. The culture around it.

I couldn't get over how big of a deal it was. I really kind of preferred it to the NFL. I figured I wanted to try something new. I wanted to try my hand at college football. The best way to go about it was



to become a punter.

I grew up kicking a ball because of Gaelic Football. I was 16 when I started, everyone else had a big head start, so I figured punting would probably be the most realistic route.

What attracted you to Georgia Tech?

I moved down to Prokick Australia when I was 18. I trained with them. So, what happened there was Georgia Tech called Prokick and they basically said oh we're looking for someone for 2021, who do you have? And then Prokick put my name forward.

I said absolutely, I'll go there. We sent off some film of me kicking to Georgia Tech. Georgia Tech liked what they saw, and they offered me.

What is Prokick, from your viewpoint?

Prokick is this organization that's in Melbourne, Australia, run by these two guys, Nathan Chapman and John Smith. It is a punting and kicking academy. Prokick is an organization that trains, usually Australian guys, to earn kicking or punting scholarships to college football teams.

The schools provide the scholarships. Even this year alone, Texas has one,

and Ohio State actually took a guy from Prokick this year, Justin Mirco. There are a heap of Big10 schools. They've been doing it for 10 years now, a couple guys in the NFL now.

You go down there, train with them for 6 to 12 months and then, if you're good enough, you will get a scholarship.

Prokick's successes: 75 Prokick scholarships or contracts in USA; 5 Ray Guy Awards; 17 All-Americans; 40 bowl victories; 1 National Championship.

You are finding their own way through that, is it expensive?

Not really, probably about as expensive as a year in college.

You are a lefty? You kick lefty?

I kick field goals and kickoffs with my right leg, but punting I do off my left leg. I couldn't tell you why. My legs were just confused. In Gaelic football you have to develop both legs anyway, so that definitely helps.

Take me through training at Prokick

Training is divided between gym sessions and field sessions, so a typical day would be a gym session at 5:30 AM. We get up around 5 and drive there. Training is about 2 hours.

We had a strength and conditioning

coach there; he tried the best he could to follow a college type 2 program. So we worked on everything, upper body, lower body, fitness, whatever, and then about 3:00 PM we'd have a field session. That would be about 2 hours, so we just got to work on technique and kicking it and all sorts of stuff.

Is distance the main measurement or how do you measure your improvement?

So it's distance and hang time, so how high you kick it and how far are you kick it, really, for punting.

How far do you think you have come?

I have definitely improved a lot. I suppose when I started, I had a lot of Gaelic football habits, kicking it like a Gaelic football. I had to learn new muscle memory to kick it more like an American football, a lot straight away, but definitely I've come along way, just because the coaching down there is superb; its top class, and just putting in the hours. I've definitely come a long way since I first started.

You are judging your success based upon 5-yard increments?

I guess, it was always a matter of hang time and how quick you can get it off.

You've only got 1.2 seconds to kick it, or else you get you get blocked or tackled. 1.2 seconds is generally what you have in college football, so it's not just a matter of being able to kick it. It's to be able to kick it quickly.

I could always hit it 40 yards, 45, by the standard, so 45 yards, I could always get that with 4 ½ seconds hang time, but it was just a matter of doing it within the 1.2 seconds, and doing it consistently throughout. Consistency is really the name of the game in punting.

Do you set goals for yourself going forward?

Definitely, obviously it's a bit different now because I'm training by myself. I'm not in a team environment. So, it's a little bit harder to challenge yourself, because when you're in Prokick, it's really easy to compete with guys, compete with each other at training. So, it's fun, but I'm setting my own goals, I try to imagine game scenarios and focus on training, things like that.

How much better do you think you can get? What are you striving for?

I've plenty of room for improvement. I guess I'm just always trying to get more consistent. My technique - there's a lot of lot of improvements to make; I'm far from perfect.

It is probably most comparable to a golfer, a golfer's swing - muscle memory - there's always room for improvement.

You're never going to hit 100 out of 100 and you never going to make every shot in basketball, so there's always room to be more consistent. You're going to strive to be more consistent, trying to align your legs and everything. It's very similar to that. Very small details can make a big difference.

Are you able to train at home now? If you punted in Cleveland there is going to be some snow



In Melbourne, Australia, it's actually really cold during the winter. When people think of Australia, they think it's really hot. Melbourne is in the southeast corner, near the middle. It's actually very cold during the winter, and obviously, growing up in Ireland, we have cold weather, windy out there.

I don't think Atlanta will be too cold, but I'll be playing Notre Dame away; I'll probably be freezing, so I think we will have some cold games.

What are you doing now in Castleisland?

Training myself, really I'm looking at, I'm out in the countryside; I've access to fields to kick in. I have my own gym set up in the the shed as well. I am trying to keep fit, I'm trying to stay sharp, sending film and stuff to my coaches in Prokick, so I they can tell me what I'm doing wrong or whatever. I'm keeping in touch with them always.

Where is Castle island, in Kerry?
It's in North Kerry, close to Limerick.

So what are you doing with training?

I am not training these days, I've actually gotta take the SAT as well. I've been studying for that.

It's been good to be back in Ireland, catch up with friends. I was in Australia for nine months, I didn't really get to see them much. It's been good, seeing everyone I grew up with again, and then hang around with them has been great. I've been home about three months now.

You will go to Georgia in January?

Yes, so, obviously I'm training on myself right now. I'm hoping to get back to Australia at some point before I go. I'd like to get back for maybe two months or three months, just to kind of sharpen up a bit, and see everyone. Train a little bit more.

Obviously, the Australian border is shut, so that's kind of, I don't know what's gonna happen there. It's just a matter of waiting and seeing. Hopefully ... yeah.

The Australian border is completely shut to the outside world. I think I should

be alright for going to Georgia Tech, I know guys that are in Australia right now they're getting things in order, they are going in July, so if they're able to go in July, I'm sure I'm hopeful, assuming everything goes well.

So Georgia Tech for four years is your plan?

Yes, I guess nobody really knows how things are going to bounce in an actual game. I know the guys that even make it, the pro guys have been back to train with Prokick, so seeing a couple of them, what it takes is really cool. Those guys are monsters, those guys are insane, so consistent. That is kind of the thing I would say that differentiates them; everyone can kick the ball far, but they just do it a lot more often, muscle memory.

Jaime Gillen, the Cleveland Browns pro football punter, is from Scotland.

Yeah, I've seen him. He's something too; he's unreal, huge like; he's like a linebacker.

What are things you are looking forward to in Georgia?

In Georgia I'm looking forward to actually going to football game; I've never been to one; that'll be good. Being part of our program, living there, that Division 1 lifestyle, training and meeting new people; the sense of adventure around it.

I didn't think people would be as fascinated with the story; I really didn't, I guess people were shocked like, oh why did you move to Australia to go to America?

It's just four months away. I'm gonna have to pace myself a little bit, try not to get too excited just yet. I'm sure it will fly.

David would love to hear from you on twitter: @DavidShanahan ■

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Out of the Mailbag, Comes Songs & Stories

Mr. Whipple's Woodchucks and the Lost Pocket Watch, 2020. 33 Pages
 Story by M. E. Betsy McMillan. Illustration by Ro Clarkin

This is the first in a proposed series of children's books under the title of *Mr. Whipple's Woodchucks*. The one is titled *The Lost Pocket Watch*.

The story centers around a family farm where the woodchucks and the Whipple family lives, and the hard work the woodchucks put in to help find Mr. Whipple's lost pocket watch. They search throughout the farmyard and buildings. It has a nice rhythm

and teaches kids about kindness, living in harmony, helping others out and working together to achieve a goal for the betterment of all, no matter your abilities.

A mix of humor, cooperation and making a place for everyone makes the story go quickly and is fast paced without rushing the characters unnaturally. Illustrations are cute and add to the story but aren't required to get the sto-

ry. A young reader could read it themselves, but it can also be read to the younger child and discussed with them about the values mentioned above.

Mr. Whipple's Woodchucks and the Lost Pocket Watch is a recommended work for pre-kindergarten thru nine or ten years old. ■

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ON THIS DAY IN IRISH HISTORY - SEPTEMBER

- 2 September 1752** - The Gregorian calendar is adopted in Ireland and Britain, 70 years after mainland Europe: 2 September is followed by 14 September. There are protests and riots by people convinced they have lost twelve days out of their lives.
- 5 September 1724** - Jonathan Swift's *Drapier Letter III* is published.
- 9 September 1845** - The arrival of the potato blight is reported in the Dublin Evening Post.
- 11 September 1649** - The Massacre at Drogheda, in which Cromwell captures the town and slaughters nearly 4,000 people.
- 14 September 1814** - Thomas Davis, poet, cultural nationalist, and unofficial leader of the Young Ireland movement, is born in Mallow Co. Cork.

- 19 September 1881** - Charles Stewart Parnell delivers his famous speech at Ennis in which he introduces the concept of "Moral Coventry" (or "boycotting") in place of violent protests.
- 20 September 1803** - Robert Emmett, a United Irishman, is hanged.
- 24 September 1880** - Mayo landlord Captain Charles Boycott attempts to exploit the workers on land he manages and is sent to "Moral Coventry" by the local rural community.
- 29 September 1984** - The trawler *Marita Anne* was intercepted by the Irish navy off Fenit, Co. Kerry. It was found to be carrying over seven tons of arms and ammunition from the USA.

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Love

By Roddy Doyle
 Viking Publishing
 ISBN 9781984880451 327 pp 2020.

For any of this columns readers who have read other books by Roddy Doyle (seventeen other books of fiction) this is Doyle in his element. A book set in a pub(s) in the city where he lives and has written about countless times: Dublin.

Love is about pub crawling at its best-and worst. This writer quickly lost count of how many pints of Guinness were consumed or for that matter how many times the F- word was spoken.

The book is about the friendship of the narrator, Davey, and his life-long drinking buddy, Joe. Davey has returned to Dublin to visit his dying father, leaving his wife, Faye, behind in England. Joe has recently left his wife, Trish, for Jessica, whom both men coveted when they were young.

The book contains both hilarity and seriousness as the two bar hop for ten hours in a single day. They reminisce about the paths their lives have taken and question each other about choices they have made.

Davey is surprised to learn that Joe has left Trish for Jessica, a woman he had not seen for about thirty years. Was he going through a mid-life crisis? Davey opens up about his father, who is dying in a nursing home in Dublin. He talks about his relationship with Faye, who his father did not want him to marry.

The two men go from being drunk to sobering up, to getting drunk again. Among or within their many words, the question is, do these two guys love each other? "Love" is in the very title.

At one-point Davey speculates that the two men don't even like each other,

that their companionship is the stuff of pub crawling and too many pints. In the end however, as Davey takes a taxi to see his father, who is in hospice, Joe accompanies him and offers words to console him in his grief.

Written almost entirely in dialogue, the very bawdy banter between the two men keeps the reader engaged even as they become more inebriated and incoherent.

It would be interesting to see Doyle utilize his other talent, as a playwright and turn the book into a play. This is a TOP SHELF read. ■

Terrence Kenneally is an attorney and owner of Terrence J Kenneally and Associates law firm in Rocky River, Ohio. He earned his Masters Degree in Irish Studies at John Carroll University.

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SPEAK IRISH

By Bob Carney

@BobCarneyGTR

Tús Maith Part II

Tá suil agam, go bhfuil sibh go maith. I hope you had the opportunity to use some of the greetings and introductions we covered last month as we begin our introduction to Gaeilge. It's easier to learn a language if you use it on a daily basis.

There is no need to wait, you can use everything we learn in our daily interactions with others. Think of how many times a day you say thank you, hello or goodbye. Why not use Irish instead? It also gives you the chance to share your heritage with others.

This month we'll continue with

our basic conversational skills with some new vocabulary, a tiny bit of grammar and some example conversations. This builds on what was covered in last month's column, available online www.OhioIANews.com.

VOCABULARY

The Verb Tá Present Tense

Tá (taw) is - am - are

An bhfuil? (un will) question form is? - am? -are?

Níl (neel) negative form is not - am not - are not

Nach bhfuil? (noch will) negative question form isn't - am not? - aren't?

To answer questions posed with the verb tá in the present tense, you respond with Tá (yes) or níl (no)

Past Tense of Tá

Bhí (vee) was

An raibh? (un rev) was?

Ní raibh (nee rev) wasn't

Nach raibh? (noch rev) wasn't

To answer past questions, Bhí (yes) ní raibh (no)

Future Tense of Tá

Beidh (bay) will be

An mbeidh? (un may) will be?

Ní bheidh (nee vay) won't be

Nach mbeidh? (noch may) won't be?

To answer future questions beidh (yes) ní bheidh (no)

There is no direct word for yes or no to cover all questions, they are responded to using the appropriate version of the verb used in posing the question. If you would like to respond in Irish to a question posed in English, I use sea (shah) for yes and ní hea (nee hah) for no. This is so common in our home our grandchildren use it as well.

You may have noticed spelling and pronunciation differences in some of the vocabulary with the same meaning. Words are changed due to grammatical rules that we don't need to get into at this time, just be aware that they exist.

ADJECTIVES

Go maith (guh mah) good

Go breá (guh braw) fine

Go h-iontach (guh hee-un tahk) wonderful

Go dona (guh dun-uh) bad or not well

Ceart go leor (kyart guh lore) right enough or ok

PRONOUNS

Mé (may) I

Tú (too) you

Sé (shay) he or it

Sí (shee) she or it

Muid (mwidj) we

Sibh (shiv) y'all

Siad (she-ud) they

Examples

Basic Irish sentence structure has the verb first followed by the noun or pronoun then the adjective. Tá mé go maith. (I am good) Nach bhfuil go h-iontach? (Aren't we wonderful?) look at all the possibilities with our vocabulary already! Try to build a few sentences yourself, pick a verb, a form of Tá, a pronoun, then the adjective.

ADDITIONAL VOCABULARY

Le do thoil (ley duh hoyle) please

Go raibh maith agat (gorra mah ah-gut) thank you lit. may there be good at you

Tá fáilte romhat (taw fahl-cha roe-it) you're welcome

Gabh mo leithscéal (guh muh lesh-skale) excuse me

An mhaith (ahn wah) very good

Maith thú (mah who) good job or fair play to you

Maidin mhaith (mo-jin wah) good morning

Oíche mhaith (ee-ha wah) good night

Tráthnóna maith (tra-no-na mah) good afternoon or evening

Maith go leor (mah guh lore) good enough

Tá bron orm (taw brawn or-um) I'm sorry

An bhfuil sé ceart go leor? (ahn will shay kyart guh lore) Is it ok?

Tá sé sin go maith. (taw shay shin guh mah) It's good

Is maith liom é (iss mah lum ay) I like it

Tuigim (tigg-um) I understand

Ní thuigim (nee higg-um) I don't understand

An dtuigeann tú mé? (ahn digg-uhn too may) Do you understand me?

Tá an ceart agat (taw ahn kyart ah-gut) that's right

Níl a fhios agam (neel iss ah-gum) I don't know

Tá an lá go breá (taw ahn law guh braw) It's a fine day

An bhfuil Gaeilge agat? (un will gway-lag-ga ah-gut) Do you speak Irish?

Tá beagáinín Gaeilge agam (taw bee-uh-gon-ing gway-la-ga ah-gum) I speak a little Irish

Cén fáth? (ken fah) why?

Cén scéal agat? (ken shkayle ah-gut) What's up?

Feicfidh mé thú (fek-ee may who) I'll see you

Tá sé deas bualadh leat (taw shay jass boola lyat) It's nice to meet you

Tá sé deas tú a fheiceáil (taw shay jass too eck-awl) it's nice to see you

Tóg go bog é (toeg guh bog ay) take it easy

CONVERSATION

Liam: Dia duit. (dee-uh gwit) God to you (hello)

Nora: Dia's Muire duit (dee-us morra gwit) God and Mary to you

Liam: Is mise Liam. (iss mee-shuh lee-um) I'm Liam Cén t-ainm atá ort? (kayn tan-um ah taw ort) What is your name?

Nora: Is mise Nora. Tá sé deas bualadh leat. (iss meesha nora taw shay jass boola lyat) I'm Nora. It's nice to meet you. Conas atá tú? (kun-us ah taw too) How are you?

Liam: Tá mé go maith, go raibh maith agat. Agus tú féin? (taw may guh mah, gorra mah ah-gut ah-gus too fayne) I'm good, thank you and yourself?

Nora: Mise freisin! (meesha fresh-in) Me too! Go raibh maith agat. Bhí sé deas tú a fheiceáil. (vee shay jass too eck-awl) It was nice to see you. Slán (slawn) Goodbye

Liam: Slán, tóg go bog é! (slawn toeg guh bog ay) Goodbye, take it easy!

There is a wealth of information here, but take it a step at a time learn a phrase or even a single word and incorporate into your daily use, next day add another and so on.

"I ndiaidh a chéile a thógtar na caisleáin!"

"Stone by Stone Builds the Castle"

Slán go Fóill! ■

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

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MADIGAN MUSES

By Marilyn Madigan

Ohio, The Heart of it All

One of the slogans for the State of Ohio was, "Ohio, the Heart of it All." On Saturday July 25, Ohio truly was the heart of it all for the Ancient Order of Hibernians and Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians.

Due to COVID19, the 100th Convention of the Hibernians needed to go to a virtual format. The headquarters or the pulse of the virtual convention were in Ohio. The headquarters for the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians was in Cleveland, with the help of Kathleen Colan of KC Media. The Ancient Order of Hibernians held their virtual con-

vention at Youngstown University.

Ohio has been the site of National Conventions in the past. Ohio made Hibernian history with the first virtual convention.

This virtual convention had wonderful participation for both organizations. Although Ancient is in the title of the Orders, there is nothing Ancient about these forward-thinking organizations. With membership between the two Organizations of 60,000, they are the movers and shakers of Irish America.

For the past two years, Carol Sheyer of Hamilton, Ohio, was the National President. Her term was historic with the Celebration of 125 Years of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians. She worked hard with two other Ohio Hibernians to plan the virtual convention. The convention committee consisted of National Vice President Karen Keane of New York, National Secretary Marilyn Madigan of Ohio, National Treasurer Mary Ann Lubinsky of Pennsylvania and Past National President and Convention Chair Kathie Linton of Ohio.

The Hibernians convention was successful due to the work of National Vice President Danny O'Connell



Mary Jo Rawlins; Fr. Ryan Dunns, SJ.; Marilyn Madigan; Maire Leffel; Patricia Lavelle.

of Youngstown. Danny was elected National President and was Installed in his hometown.

The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians elected their new leaders. Karen Keane of Albany New York was Installed; Marilyn Madigan of Cleveland was elected as the National Vice President; President Keane selected others from Ohio to serve on the National Board for the next two years. Ryan Duns S.J. from North Olmsted will

serve as the National Chaplain. Maire Leffel will continue as the National Fundraiser. Mary Jo Rawlins will serve as the National Supplies Chair. Cleveland is very proud that members of the Our Lady of the Rosary Division have been recognized and appointed to serve our organization nationally. ■

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AT HOME, ABROAD

By Regina Costello

Discrimination – No One is Exempt

Discrimination can be defined as “treating a person or particular group of people differently, especially in a worse way from the way in which you treat other people, because of their skin color, sex, sexuality, etc.”.

Racism is one form of discrimination. This topic makes the headlines these days as more incidents come to light involving racial discrimination against the Black community in the U.S. and

beyond.

Come to think of it, the Irish are no strangers to discrimination. We fought for centuries on our own soil for the right to govern our own country and to live according to our beloved Irish traditions. We were deprived of our land, homes, income, language and religion.

This racial discrimination dominated Irish life from 1541 (when Great Britain asserted its’ rule over the entire country) until well after 1926, when Ireland was declared The Irish Republic Free State. Not only were we discriminated against racially in our country, it occurred well beyond Irish shores.

During the nineteenth century in particular, when mass immigration from Ireland to the U.S. occurred in the Great Famine years, it was not uncommon to see signs in American cities that read “No Irish Need Apply.” During that time, one could see signs posted in Great Britain of “No Irish No Blacks No Dogs.”

The colonial era saw many Irish making their way to Australia, where disingenuous stereotypes and myths came to be, contributing to prejudice based on racism and sectarianism. So, perhaps it’s no surprise that the murder of George Floyd and related news can strike a nerve with an Irish person, making it difficult to shake the headlines from the mind. To be really honest, this topic can strike a nerve with anyone, regardless of ethnicity, because no one is exempt from discrimination.

“RACISM AFFECTS HEALTH IN PROFOUND WAYS THAT ARE OVER AND BEYOND ANY OF THE MEASURES, THROUGH SYSTEMS THAT HAVE BEEN BUILT UP OVER THE YEARS AND ARE NOW LOCKED IN PLACE, REPLICATING SOCIAL INEQUALITY.”

—DR. DAVID R. WILLIAMS
AFRICAN AND AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES AND SOCIOLOGY, HARVARD

Top of the list is the Jewish community, who suffered the Holocaust – one of the most horrifying times in human history. The Nazis decided whose lives were unimportant, or who should be killed outright:

Lebensunwertes Leben, or “life unworthy of life”; the phrase was applied to those the Nazis deemed to be racially inferior, or sexually deviant. In 1945, the Allied Forces found evidence of these policies when they discovered hundreds of thousands of starving and sick prisoners locked inside concentration camps with thousands of dead bodies. Gas chambers and numerous crematoriums, mass graves and documentation of medical experiments were a further testament of the Nazis killing more than ten million people, including six million Jews.

The Italians in America faced labor struggles, prejudice, and nativist hostility over the years. The largest single mass lynching in U.S history occurred when eleven Sicilians were

dragged from jail cells and lynched after being found not guilty through lack of evidence of the murder of the New Orleans Chief of Police in 1891. In more recent years, Hispanics and Asian American groups in general can and have experienced discrimination with regard to many issues, including immigration.

A group, perhaps Blacks have suffered the most and for the longest period. The hallmarks of American democracy – opportunity, freedom, and prosperity – have always been more difficult for Blacks to attain due to deep racial and ethnic inequities that have been in existence for the longest time.

The historical and contemporary policies, practices and norms have always existed and favor whites versus the Black community or other people of color. This truth, simmering on the back boiler, is now rising to a boil. Recent unnecessary and cruel deaths of many Blacks, including George Floyd, have been particularly jarring for all of us. Looking the other way is not an option for anyone anymore.

I listened to a recent interview of Dr. David R. Williams, who is the Florence Sprague Norman and Laura Smart Norman Professor of Public Health and chair of the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

He is also a Professor of African and African American Studies and Sociology at Harvard University. Dr. Williams developed the *Every Day Discrimination Scale* to establish the impact of racism upon an individual’s health and outlook on life. “Racism affects health in profound ways that are over and beyond any of the measures, through systems that have been built up over

the years and are now locked in place, replicating social inequality.” His conclusions are echoed by many other physicians and scientists who allude that exposure to such adverse behavior results in chronic mental and physical problems, including severe stress, anxiety disorders, high blood pressure, premature and low birthweight infants.

It is sad that aspects of life that many of us take for granted are simply not the same for many Blacks. No one should have to take their pigment into account when considering a neighborhood when purchasing a property, choosing a school or applying to a university. No one should be exposed to unwelcome glances when out in public because of melanin. No one should be treated subtly differently when entering a restaurant, or expect a lower standard of service in any aspect of daily life based on color.

I am now aware that these are examples of discrimination experienced by Blacks time and again. I recall one African-American friend who shared her experience of “slights, outright bigotry and racism” as “exhausting – overt or subtle” in her daily life.

But all is not lost, and we must not give up. We can individually make a difference, starting with our children, by encouraging habits of acceptance and compassion; by being mindful that our behavior and conversation is mirrored in that of our children.

The College of Education at the University of Texas gives three suggestions to nurture that mindset:

1. Teach children to notice and value differences in race and culture, and to see these differences as normal and wonderful.
2. Share stories highlighting people of color that stress the characteristics they want their children to have, such as kindness, generosity, and ingenuity.
3. Dive into difficult and challenging conversations about race and inequities their children may observe.

Perhaps the village it takes to raise a child can also play a role. The history teacher covering the Holocaust could offer a moment of silence in class in remembrance of those brutally killed; a professor lecturing on the topic of slavery in the U.S. could do so perhaps with a compassionate style. Religious organizations and community programs perhaps could promote global thinking and acceptance of all, regardless of beliefs and place of origin.

Perhaps on our own home turf here in Cleveland, integrated festivals and events may be an idea, along the lines of the already existing One World Day at the Cleveland Cultural Gardens in University Circle. The entity Global Cleveland can continue its’ rich mission of enticing and welcoming immigrants from across the globe, to a host of opportunities in Cuyahoga County. We can be proud of our culture and simultaneously celebrate our differences and start a new generation unscathed by discrimination. There is hope at home abroad. ■

Regina is a Graduate from the National University of Ireland, Galway and a Post Graduate from the National University of Ireland, Dublin. She is the 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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CLEVELAND IRISH

By Francis McGarry

The Irish and the Law

In the most recent publication of this column, we discussed the history of the plea bargain as a peculiar American invention and how that effected the legal landscape in Cleveland: the intersections of industrial capitalism, social control and the Irish. My students are accustomed to my ability to intersect the Irish with almost every historical topic.

In the case of the plea bargain, it was more than historical happenstance that the Irish were one of the interlocutors. The Irish in Cleveland were a product of Ireland and the plea bargain was not our first tussle with the law.

The earliest recorded Irish laws were known as the Brehon Code, or the *Fenechas*. It is hard to even pin down the inception of Brehon Code, since it was originally created and passed down orally. A document called *Seanchus Mor*, the mother of Brehon law, was originally published in 438 A.D., well before the plea bargain in the 1830s. This was done at the request of St. Patrick and the king of Ireland.

The Code was edited for three years and all tenants of the Code that contradicted Christian doctrine were excluded. These laws were written in the oldest dialect of the Irish language, *Berla Feini*, which brehons were instructed in as part of training.

When English law overwhelmed Ireland, original documents of the Code were not assembled. Three Irishmen, Duaid MacFirbis, Eugene O'Curry and John O'Donovan are responsible for translating and piecing together the Code in the 1800s.

In those early days, the Irish tribe had no machinery of legislation, no Tammany Hall. The king, Pádraic MacNeill, did not have the authority to make or change the law. He could make temporary ordinances.

BREHON LAW

Certain mythological kings, like Cormac mac Ait, are credited in legend with legislative reforms and wise judgements, but the real custodians of the law were the "brehons," a privileged caste ultimately descended from the druids and responsible for the codification over time of judge-made law which became known as the Brehon Code. While the Brehon administered the law, the law could only be made or eradicated by a committee composed of a poet, a historian, a landowner, a bishop, a teacher of literature, a teacher of law, a noble, a lay vicar and the chief or king. It was an early example of the division of powers.

One example of the Brehon code is a copyright case between two monks in 561 A.D. The first monk Finnen claimed the second monk Colmcille had copied from his illustrated Bible. As my college roommate explained his A in calculus, "when in doubt look about." The Brehon who ruled on the case wrote down the decision as brehons had begun to do in the sixth century. "To every cow her young cow, that is, her calf, and to every book its

transcript. To Finnen belongeth the book thou hast written, Colmcille."

According to the Brehon Code, a king was bound by law to be just to his subjects. A man who stole an embroidery needle from a poor woman paid a higher fine than if he had stolen a needle from the queen. A member of the clergy would be fined twice as much as a lay person for the same offense. Teachers were held in the highest respect; those were the days.

Women were considered equal to men and eligible to be warriors, priestesses and judges, such as Bridget Bretha. She was a goddess of the Tuatha De Danann, daughter of the chief of the gods. Bridget was the goddess of healers, poets, smiths, childbirth and inspiration. She is not the only example of gender equality. Wives were considered the partners, not the property, of their husbands.

However, not everyone was a fan of Brehon Code. English born Sir John Davies, a member of the House of Commons, arrived in Ireland following the Nine Years War. Also known as Tyrone's Rebellion, it pitted Hugh O'Neil of Tyrone and Hugh Roe O'Donnell of Tyrconnell against the



Tudor advances in Ireland, or, as Jay says, "Tyroneconnell."

Davies, who eventually would become the Attorney General of Ireland, regarded the Brehon Code as antithetical to social and economic progress in Ireland. He considered it "soft." He wrote, "For whereas by the just and honorable law of England, and by the laws of all other well-governed kingdoms and commonwealths, murder, manslaughter, rape, robbery and theft are punished by death, by the Irish custom, or Brehon Code, the highest of these offenses was punished only by fine, which they call *erick*." Davies died of apoplexy after a dinner party in 1626.

The Brehon Code had been technically outlawed some 300 years earlier by the English invaders of Ireland. The English believed it did not deserve to be called law but rather an example of bad custom.

To obey it henceforward would be considered treason. As you can deduce, the Irish did not fear to be called treasonous by the English invaders. It was a criminal offense to be found in possession of a document written

in the Irish language. The Irish concocted all sorts of devices to conceal these Irish language documents. The vast majority were discovered by the English soldiers and burnt or destroyed.

THE STATUTE OF KILKENNY

The English installed the Statute of Kilkenny, shockingly written in English, a creation of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland at the time, Lionel of Antwerp, the 1st Duke of Clarence, the third son of Edward III and Philippa on Hainault. He was born in Antwerp, not Ireland. Chaucer worked for him.

It was passed at a meeting of the Irish Parliament in Kilkenny. The Statute of Kilkenny was largely ignored by the Irish and was primarily a response to English immigrants adopting Irish culture and worldview. The 1st Duke of Clarence returned to England soon thereafter. He died in Italy, reportedly after being poisoned. The Statute of Kilkenny was an initial indicator that the Brehon Code would be replaced by British

common law.

It was the Brehon Code that established the importance of social connections, including the importance of the relationship between a chief and his tenants and the church and its parishioners. As the American legal system was reformed in the 1830s, we again see the importance of social relationship. Another chapter in the history of the Irish and the law. ■

Francis McGarry holds undergraduate degrees from Indiana University in Anthropology, Education and History and a Masters in Social Science from the University of Chicago. He is an assistant principal and history teacher. Francis is a past president of the Irish American Club East Side. He is the founder and past president of the Bluestone Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians.

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MASK UP & DANCE

by Catherine Leneghan, TCRG, ADCRG, BG

Cancelled: After a long winter, the community looks forward to the "Green Season". Joyful Irish folk music and lively dancing ushers in St. Patrick's Day and the arrival of spring.

However, revelers were not be treated to jigs and reels during the spring of 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic hit the world at large. Irish celebrations large

and small were cancelled throughout the Northeast Ohio region, culminating in the cancellation of the beloved Cleveland St. Patrick's Day Parade. Irish Dance competitions from the Worlds to the Nationals to the little local feiseanna were cancelled due to COVID restrictions.

The first to start up again were held the first weekend of August, in Utah and Oklahoma City - both were very small and strictly policed; that's not easy to

do with dancers who can't stand still!

Fearful, but hopeful, the community quarantined and looked toward the future. As dance studios and other businesses were closed, Irish dancers continued to practice through on-line classes. They remained hopeful that local feiseanna (competitions) would continue. The world of the Irish dancer would come to a halt as all com-

petitions, including the 50th World Championships to be held in Dublin, Ireland, would be cancelled due to COVID-19.

The near future seemed bleak as the North American Irish Dance Championships to be held in Nashville, Tennessee in July were the next casualty of the worldwide pandemic. Despite disappointment, Irish dance teachers worked overtime to engage their students on-line, offering virtual classes, puzzles, challenges and fitness routines that would keep them fit and active.

Some Irish dancers choose to take their talent beyond the stage and spend many years studying to become *An Coimisiun le Rin ci Gaelacha* (CLRG) certified Irish Dancing Commission instructors. The certified instructors are affiliated with the CLRG and are known as TCRGs, the abbreviated form of *Teagascoir Choimisiuin le Rinci Gaelacha*.

To become a certified instructor, students prepare and sit for grade exams. Grade Exams are a 12-level series of increasingly difficult requirements that are scored individually by a certified examiner. A set of criteria are used to evaluate fundamental Irish dancing

Continued on facing page



Dance Continued from facing page

skills, including timing, rhythm, carriage, and execution. The exams increase from basic skills and dances to increasingly more complex material, including a knowledge of traditional sets and ceili dancing. Results from each Grade exam are sent to the Examination Authority of CLRG in Ireland.

Grade Exams are not a competition, and no awards are given. It is simply offering dancers who wish to improve constructive comments, score sheets and certificates, to see where they are at that point in time, and what to work on going forward.

Successful candidates receive a certificate from CLRG, and with a passing grade in all twelve exams, they have reached the pre-requisite for application to take the final TCRG exam. While not all who take the Grade Exams go on to become a TCRG, they receive the satisfaction of completing all twelve levels.

As dancers were permitted to return to their studios, Cleveland area Irish dance instructor and founder of the Leneghan Academy of Irish Dance, Catherine Leneghan Fox TCRG, ADCRG, applied to the CLRG in Dublin to hold grade exams in Cleveland on the weekend of July 18-19, 2020. The

application was successful; Muireann ni Chiara, a resident of Granville, Ohio and native of Tipperary, Ireland, was appointed as the examiner.

The exams were run over the course of two days. Dancers from twelve different dancing schools and four states registered to sit for the exams to be held at Leneghan Academy, in Westlake, Ohio.

Dancers travelled from Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. Students from Bell, Brady-Campbell, Burke (Cleveland and Youngstown), Celtic Academy, Egan, Irwin, Leneghan, MacConmara, MilwaukeeID, O'Hare (Michigan), O'Malley, and The Academy schools tested their skills during this examination: Overall, fifty-eight dancers, aged 6 to over 21, were scheduled to take a range of 140 different exams during the two-day event.

Due to COVID-19, precautionary measures were strictly enforced in an effort to keep dancers safe during the exams. Three large tents were erected in the parking lot to aid in social distancing. Masks were worn when dancers and volunteers were entering and exiting the facilities and when the dancers were not engaged in evaluations.

Dancers were scheduled in small groups of six to eight. Parents and other non-dancers were not permitted in the studio during the 60-90 minutes of individual exams. Hand sanitizer and wipes were readily available, and surfaces were cleaned at regular intervals.

Volunteer parents and dancers from the Leneghan Academy made the weekend an efficient, enjoyable, and successful event. Looking ahead to the future, the CLRG rules state that dancers must wait three months before sitting for another round of exams. If feiseanna are not up and running in the fall, efforts will be made to host another round of dance exams, in October 2020. ■

[Editor's Note: Catherine is a certified teacher and adjudicator of Irish Dance. She is the founder and director of the Leneghan Academy of Irish Dance in Westlake, Ohio, a suburb of Cleveland. You can learn more about her dance academy at www.leneghanacademy.com]

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Shamrock Club Meets Again!

July 12th marked the first General Membership Meeting for the Shamrock Club of Columbus since the state shutdown before St. Patrick's Day. President Shuman greeted everyone in person (and live feed) warmly and was met with great response. Social distancing guidelines were followed per the CDC and the Ohio Board of Health regulations and masks of all design were on the much-missed faces. Further meetings and events were discussed as well as how everyone's safety was of the utmost importance with the reopening of events.

With elections postponed until August, the procedures for casting votes was discussed as well as a new fundraising campaign called "Paint our Community Green". Teams of members will travel around the Greater Columbus area painting shamrocks on driveways and front porches of those that would like to donate \$25 (or more, it is a fundraiser). This is a way for us to honor our heritage



Karen Finn and Janell Brown selling raffle tickets for baskets.

and bring back some of the fun of Proclamation Day and St. Patrick's Day, since it was squashed by the pandemic this year.

If you live in the greater Columbus area and would like to have a shamrock painted on your driveway as a way to honor your Irish heritage, please visit www.shamrockclubofcolumbus.com. It was a little different voting in candidates while in shorts and tank tops this year, but 2020 is all about adaptation and flexibility and that's what the Shamrock Club of Columbus has managed to do so well since the state shutdown in

March. Delaying elections meant current board members continuing their duties until the new were voted in, and everyone did an outstanding job in making sure that things were done in a detailed and safe manner for the reopening.

This year saw six candidates for Executive Board Director: Pat Conley,



Shamrock Club Golf Classic Winners.

Doug Eakins, Christina McConahay, Scott Robinson, Devin Stearns and Molly Truex; and two candidates for Secretary: Jay Fulton and



Andy Shuman greeting the members at the beginning of the meeting.



The whole group L to R Monsignor Cody Pat Conley Christina McConahay Andy Shuman Karen Komatsu Nancy Murphy Jim McDonald and Nora Feeney.

Nancy Murphy. Added to the normal voting procedures was a Vote & Go option for drive thru voting, which had been used in the past for members unable to manage the stairs to the voting room. This option was held mainly for people with underlying health issues; those that were healthy and able were encouraged to cast their vote inside the building.

After the regular business of the

August General Membership Meeting, Past President Bob Irwin presented the results to President Andy Shuman. Please congratulate Nancy Murphy on winning the office of Secretary and Pat Conley and Christina McConahay for the position of Executive Board Director. ■

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New Officers L to R Andy Shuman President Karen Komatsu Vice President Nancy Murphy Secretary and Mnsgr John Kelly Cody.

New Officers Results

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TAKING THE FIELDS OF GLORY

By Vincent Beach

Midwest GAA

Sláinte chugainn ar fad! Health to us all. Cleveland GAA is settling into a local football schedule, with inner club matches every second Saturday at the West Side Irish American Club (Olmsted Township). The next GAA Saturdays will be September 12th and 26th. Between the match days, the club holds regular co-ed training sessions each Wednesday evening at the WSIA at 6:30 PM.

The approach is well suited for new players as skill development is coached. On the hurling side, a puck-around

happens each Wednesday following the football training around 7:45 at the WSIA. Official training is at Brecksville stadium on Sundays at 2PM. If you are interested in trying either code (football or hurling) or are a veteran player wanting to dust the boots off again, reach out to info@clevelandgaa.com.

There are a few updates in the Midwest Division of the USGAA. A part of the division's by-laws, each club is required to field a referee. That referee must be certified, and if a significant number of rules have changed or a few years have elapsed, that referee must be re-certified.

As you may know, five new rules have come into men's Gaelic football. Cleveland was able to certify two new referees so far this year – Shawn Kerns and Vincent Beach.

The training took place at Akron's Hibernian Club on Brown Street and was administered by Akron Celtic Guard's Keith Knott. Shawn has many years of experience including time in Asia with Seoul GAA, and for the past few years as both a player and youth

coach. Congratulations to Shawn! We have touched on the rules changes as they were presented in the intercounty League and as they were voted on at the last GAA Congress, but to recap as we are finally seeing them played out in Ireland's club matches: 1) The Kick-Out Rule: all kicks are taken at the center of the 20-meter line and cannot be played backwards. The ball must travel 13 meters and the receiving player cannot play it back to the keeper. The "defensive mark", or mark from a kick-out that travels



past the 45-meter line and is caught cleanly by either team is still in effect.

2) The Kick-Out Mark has been modified to align with the Advanced Mark. If the kick-out is caught cleanly beyond the 45-meter line, the referee awards the mark by blowing the whistle. The player in possession may choose to play on, being allowed 4 steps before being tackled, or may choose to take the mark by raising his hand. The player then has 15 seconds for the free kick (set play).

3) The Advanced Mark occurs when the attacking team plays a ball across the opposing team's 45 meter line, the ball is caught cleanly, and the ball has traveled at least 20 meters from live play (not from a free or sideline ball). Again, the referee will award the mark by blowing the whistle and the player in possession may elect to play-on or take the mark.

There are a few exceptions due to the proximity to the goal. A mark taken inside the 13-meter line will be brought back out to the 13-meter line. And, if the player decides to play-on from a mark within the large rectangle (20-meter box) the defense may immediately challenge him. This keeps the offensive player from being allowed the 4 steps unmolested that could find them in the goal mouth.

4) The Sin Bin is the newest punishment for cynical behavior – we know cynical behavior as that deserving the Black Card. In the past the black card was a sending-off with the reduction of field players. That is, the offending player was no longer allowed to play, but a substitute could take his place on the field. Now, the offending player

Continued on facing page

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Midwest GAA

Continued from facing page

is sent to a designated location at the center of the field on the sideline for a running time of 10 minutes. After 10 minutes and at a stoppage in play, the player is allowed back onto the field. This is similar to hockey's penalty box.

Only for extra time will the running 10 minutes carry over into the next period. With the sin bin rule, the number of substitutions has also increased from 5 to 6.

5) The sideline official now has the power (and this is the only rule change for hurling this year) to bring to the attention of the official rough play, dangerous play, striking, hitting, or kicking offenses.

The GAA has also the following guidelines during COVID-19: no handshakes before or after games; no spitting or snot-rockets (nose clearing); team huddles should only take place where social distancing can occur; no sharing of water bottles, use sanitizer before and after play, and keep interactions with officials to a minimum.

As teams in the Midwest and across the USGAA wait for a return to competitive play, clubs in Ireland have been competing fully for many weeks. You can catch some of the matches on county YouTube sites or Facebook streams, TG4 (Ireland's Irish Language Station) – free for certain programs, or via GAAGO.

GAAGO has the largest cache of live

and archived matches from club to county. Subscriptions are available and can be viewed through many platforms including Roku. It is exciting to see live sports again, especially Our Games.

Go raibh míle maith agaibh (thanks y'all) to our readers and supporters. We need your help and involvement but would most like to share the fun of Irish sport and Cleveland community with you. 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 of A. Beyond sports, the Association also promotes Irish music, song and dance, and the Irish language as an integral part of its objectives. Cleveland GAA is open to all who want to play competitive sports, meet new people, and join an athletic, fitness-minded club for all ages.

Follow @ClevelandGaelic on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter for the 2020 activities for Men, Women, and Youth. Or, visit ClevelandGAA.com. ■

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Vincent Thomas Francis Xavier Beach is a proud Greater Clevelander and emigrant of Michigan. He joined the St. Pat's Gaelic Football Club in 1999 and, with much help, is the current caretaker of the Cleveland GAA.



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Ashley Herzog, Author, Lake Erie Monsters

OhioIANews: Walk over Lake Erie Monsters she tells about where she come from with the virus roots and about the book of course and where you can get it. Welcome to the show Ashley!

Thank you and as for where the book came from? I've always known that I was half Irish, but the big, the person who most carried on this heritage in our family was my grandmother. She was the one who always wanted to go to the Statler for Saint Patrick's Day in Cleveland. She was very active in the Irish American Club; I actually found her membership card to it in her purse after she died, which we still had years after her death.

After she died when I was nine, we kind of lost touch with some of it; we lost touch with that heritage a little

bit. When I was in college, I became interested in writing a novel. I wasn't sure where to begin or how I wanted to start. I wasn't sure if I should I write a novel about my real ancestors and tell their story in sort of a fictionalized form or if I should invent new characters and base it on my ancestors but not actually have it be them, have different names maybe, possibly even a different city.

My studies got in the way at the time. As soon as I had more free time as a stay at home mom, I started to do more research. My great uncle, Grover Masterson, was a genealogist and he had actually written books about his family history, based on trips to Ireland, his searches through their baptism records, marriage records, death records, cemeteries, and he continued the research in Cleveland. He looked through the Cleveland Census records from the 1800s into the 1900s.

So I sat down and read his books thoroughly. I started to develop an idea for a story and that eventually became Lake Erie Monsters.

My grandparents both grew up in Cleveland. They both lived in the West Park Area. My grandma lived close to Brookpark Road in West Park; that was her childhood home. My grandfather grew up around W 150th Street in West Park.

They eventually moved to Bay Village, but they stayed in touch with a lot of their Irish community. They are active in the Westside Irish American Club. That was something that was very important in their lives.

Where does your family come from in Ireland?

My grandmother's family, the Masterson's and the Chambers, who are the ones at the center of Lake Erie Monsters, were from Co. Mayo, many of the Cleveland Irish are from Co. Mayo, particularly Achill Island, or on the mainland across from Achill Island. My grandfather's family was actually from Wexford which is why his name his last name is Gory, it's very uncommon here.

So at about age 9, you had a good idea you're Irish, you were involved in a lot of things?

I was involved until around the time my grandmother died. Saint Patrick's

Day was always a big deal. She was very much culturally Irish, even though it was her grandparents who had immigrated here.

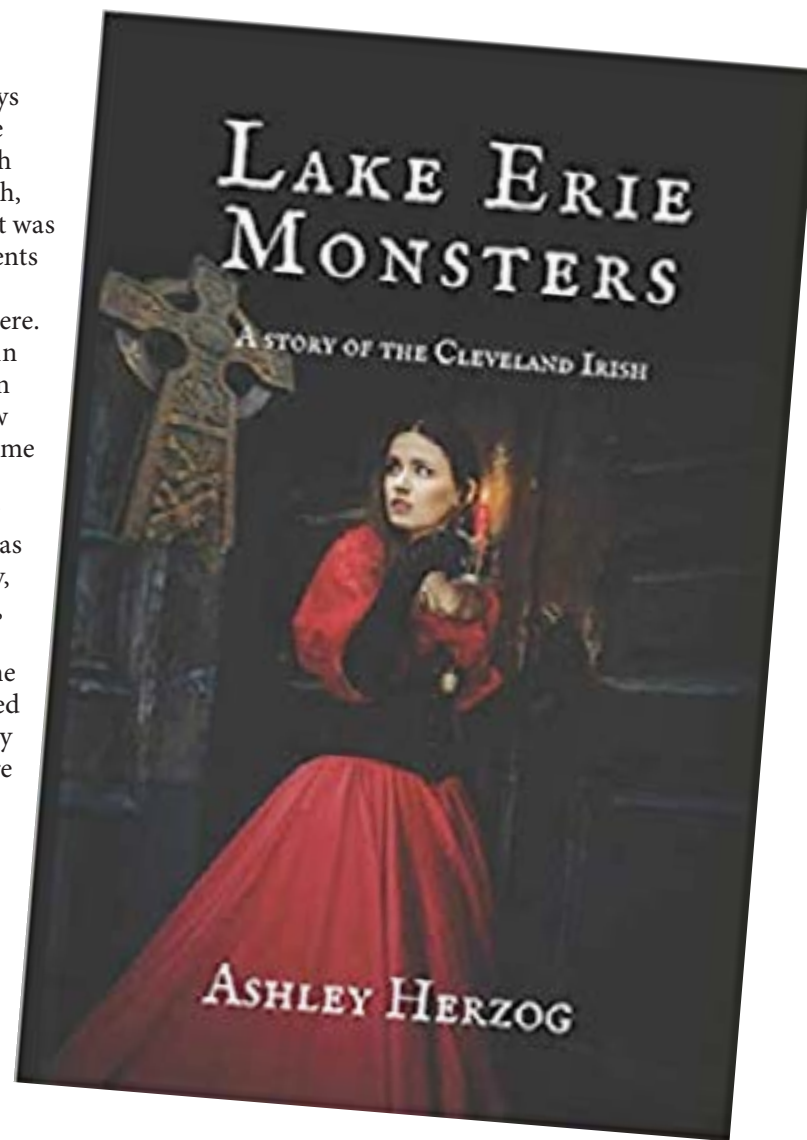
Gerry Quinn pointed out on his radio show that with a name like Herzog, nobody really identified me as Irish. In a way, I didn't either, but as I grew older, I became more interested in it, especially as I learn more about the history of the people in that movie, Gangs of New York came out, about Irish immigrants. I thought, well I have an immigration story. I wonder what mine is?

Lake Erie Monsters first come into your mind then; take us through the long line of writing and where the story was going to go?

Well, I didn't have to do a ton of work, because I based Monsters on their real story. Mary Chambers also known as Maimie Chambers, in Mary Masterson, after she was married, she (9:42 left) was one of the first female saloon owners in the city of Cleveland, starting from 1888 on into the 1930s. She owned a saloon; it's still standing, there in The Flats. It is still in operation today, in the original building.

I just had to tell her story, first coming from Ireland and immigrating here, and then the struggles with her, as a young woman, along with her friend and future sister in law, Kate Masterson, in running this bar.

I know the current owners; I've talked to them several times. The bar was in my family, it was in the Masterson family until Maimee's death



in 1937. After that, it went to a family named the Ginleys, and I think the Carney name and the owners are fairly recent, maybe since the 90s.

Tell us more about the plot of the book, what the storyline is?

It begins with Mamie Chambers, who is 20 years old. Her leaving her hometown, which is the town, Brosky in Co. Mayo. She came with two of her brothers as well as her fiancé, Peter Sweeney. They boarded a White Star Line ship to New York, made their way to Cleveland.

In the very beginning of the book, one of their first days in Cleveland, Peter Sweeney disappears. No one is really sure what happened to him. There have been signs that he was getting cold feet about this relationship, that he wasn't going to follow through on marriage, but no one was expecting him to actually leave. He vanishes without a trace, except someone's body washes up in the Cuyahoga River. They are not sure whose it is. It's basically

beyond recognition at that point.

So Mamie is now on her own in America. She starts running this saloon with Kate Masterson, who was working there by herself before Mamie moved in. They actually lived upstairs and worked downstairs. It became a boarding house as well as the saloon on the first floor.

They're living and working at this bar, and they're getting a lot of hassle from their neighbors and people in their church for the fact that there are two women running a bar.

How did you go about your research on the day-to-day stories about those two?

A lot of it was covered in my great uncle's genealogy books. A lot of information about maybe Chambers daily life, what it was like for her living there. He mentioned that she served oatmeal to poor children in the neighborhood, which is called The Angle. It actually still is, and in Irishtown Bend, the Angle, the area around St Malachi's.

For Kate Masterson, I didn't have as much information, but I still knew quite a bit about her. I knew that she had had a daughter from previous a husband, who also abandoned her.

He resurfaces in the book as well. She was a fairly young when this happened, so she was a single woman with a child running this bar.

What surprise you in your research?

I was surprised that this had not played a more prominent role in my family story. I've heard something about an ancestor owning a bar, in Cleveland, but I didn't know where it was. I didn't know which one it was, and I wasn't sure if I'd ever been there.

I did not know that it was still standing in basically this original form. I also wasn't sure who it was. I thought it was my great grandmother at first. It's actually my great, great grandmother.

I was surprised, as big of a role that she played in this Angle neighborhood, that I did not hear more about it from my family.

So, any really emotional connection?

The further I went into it, yes. When I walked into the bar I think, for the first time, and saw that (in early 2015),

I said this is exactly what you would picture it looking like! They did finally let me go upstairs, to the second floor, in what's now called Carneys.

You can see the original windows where they would have looked out, that's pictured several times in the novel, where they slept, and it's pretty well preserved. They haven't done much work on it.

Was there anything in the story that kind of made you cringe or a little bit afraid to explore?

I was a little worried about using real characters who did not come off very well, including Martin in it. I don't know if he has modern descendants in the area, but he could. I of course especially since I was taking some creative liberties, I didn't want to defame anyone, but I also wanted to tell a true story. So, I did my best to show every multiple sides of everyone's personality.

A lot of people are not just good or bad, they are both. They do some things that are good, or at the same time, they could be a womanizer or someone who has a lot of skeletons in his closet.

I tried my best to show that.

You just never know what they're facing as they go along, especially in those times. It could be a brutal life. Was there anything in the story that you thought you were planning on going one direction and in your research that Oh no we're going in a different direction?

Originally I was not going to use the character Martin at all. I was going to use a totally fictional character who would have been based on several different men who are prominent on Millionaire's Row.

This is the time in Cleveland history when Cleveland was one of the richest cities in the world. Euclid Avenue had some of the biggest collection of wealth ever seen. People were coming all the way from Paris just to visit.

I decided to use a real character because I thought it would kind of dishonor the story if it was not a real character. If all of these other people were nonfiction people, who had existed in real life, and then to throw in fiction on top of that, I thought it would not be the story I wanted to tell.

Did you find anything in the story

that maybe changed your life a little bit or changed your perception, whether it be of your family or the Irish community in Cleveland?

You know, it did, it made me realize, that I felt a little bit alienated from the Irish community, being named Herzog, and a lot of people tell me I look German. I'm actually not very German at all, it's a German name. I just didn't feel like I really fit into that whole culture. I know that people took a lot of pride in it and I would say well I am Irish in half, but you know, not really, and now I feel like I actually am.

I feel like it really is my culture, my holiday, so that was a turnaround for me.

There is more to being Irish than just the parade and music in the culture and the parade. The Irish have been here for hundreds of years in Cleveland. You needed to identify with that; you're feeling emotional tug now? Yes.

Great, any last words? Where can we get the book?

You can buy on Amazon. I'm fairly

certain you can go into bookstores like Barnes & Noble. Books-a-Million have it or and you can get the paperback and eBook version on Amazon.

On Facebook, my page is Facebook/LakeErieMonsters

Go ahead, see Ashley on Facebook, get the book of course. What's next?

I'm working on a sequel. This one is also about Irish immigrants, but it is based during the Civil War, so this is actually before the time period of Lake Erie Monsters, which is the late 1880s. This one set in the 1860s. It is also based on my real ancestors. It is said that every generation back is a little harder to write, because every generation previous there's less information, but I do know quite a bit about them.

Do you have a title yet?

No, I'm working on it.

I am sure that when the title is decided, Ashley will let us know first on her Facebook page. ■

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portfolio has increased ten-fold.”

Applications size has grown, too. The company now offers numerous large-scale dewatering and screening systems for cities and commercial production facilities, including the Or-Tec Blue Whale, the only 1mm Micro Bar Screen in North America. Its service department has also grown to provide reliable, cost-effective service.

“Our customers know the person coming to service the equipment understands the piece of equipment inside-out – and very possibly was the one who helped assemble it initially,” says Sean. “That kind of continuity is invaluable and saves our customers many hours and headaches.”

While most people don’t spend a lot of time thinking about wastewater solutions, they are fundamental to protecting people and ecosystems. In addition to removing pollutants and toxins, good systems help conserve water use. “Effective, affordable wastewater treatment equipment is crucial to the health of our communities,” says Sean. “Or-Tec is in the business of helping towns, cities, manufacturers and others clean their wastewater so that we can all thrive.”

While the company is very proud of its growth, Sean says Or-Tec’s biggest success is its loyal customer base. Indeed, many of the early customers that Ciaran drove through the night to reach have been repeat customers for decades. “Over 20 years ago, we had a problem with nickel in our sludge and chose an Or-Tec press,” recalls Minerva, Ohio, wastewater treatment plant Manager Don Luedtke. “That was in 1997, and Ciaran has been a good friend ever since.”

Ciaran attributes this loyalty to a simple mantra that governs the company: Look after the customer. While he acknowledges that this sounds cliché, Ciaran says it’s about listening

to customers carefully and selling them exactly what they need – and no more.

Sales & Marketing Manager and Vice President Jim O’Leary says Or-Tec’s customer loyalty is a result of thorough, personal service. “We don’t just deliver a system and then walk away,” he stresses. “We make sure that it is operating 100% correctly – and we make it a priority to be responsive through delivery, start-up, training and the life of the equipment.”

In an age of automated answering systems, Jim says that this begins by answering the phone. “When you call us, you get a human being who likely already knows who you are and who will help you talk through and solve your problem.”

Customers also appreciate Or-Tec’s innovative products. For instance, the company developed a skid-mounted, turn-key belt press system. “Most of the time, when you buy a belt press, you have to buy a sludge pump, a control panel and a polymer dosing system from different suppliers,” Jim explains. “It’s like buying a Chevy engine and a Ford body and trying to assemble your own car!”

In contrast, Or-Tec skid-mounted belt presses are ready to go. In another innovation, Or-Tec presses run solely on electricity, not hydraulics or pneumatics, which simplifies maintenance. Or-Tec equipment, 90% of which is manufactured in northeast Ohio, is built to last with stainless steel. Indeed, Ciaran recalls selling a belt press to a small town in South Carolina decades ago. “It’s still in operation. That must be 25 years ago!”

In the coming years, the company plans to continue to diversify its product portfolio, innovate new products and expand its national sales force. Sean and Jim both stress that the goal is to grow the company while maintaining product quality and

continuing the tradition of honest, personal service that Ciaran started.

Ciaran is retired now and busy travelling the U.S. with Celine to visit grandchildren. He wants to us to share a 40th anniversary message. “I want to be sure to say thank you to our customers for their kindness over the years. I have met so many great people!”

As for Or-Tec’s employees, Ciaran laughs, “I am just so grateful they managed without me!” Then he adds, “Seriously, they are doing a

fabulous job.”

As Or-Tec begins its 5th decade in business, the company plans to continue diversifying its product portfolio, innovating new products and expanding its national sales force. The goal is to maintain the highest product quality while continuing the tradition of hands-on service started by Ciaran in 1980. ■

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Or-Tec Celebrates 40th Anniversary Irish Founder Crosses the Pond and Achieves Sustained Success in the Wastewater Industry

Forty years ago, Ireland native Ciaran O’Melia came to the United States in pursuit of the American dream. Armed with decades of experience in the Irish global wastewater industry and a belt press that had begun to attract American customers, he founded Organic Technologies, now Or-Tec, in Bedford, Ohio.

For a decade, Ciaran’s wife Celine and their four small children remained in Dublin while he travelled the length and breadth of the United States as a one-man sales team. In 1989, production facilities – and the O’Melia family – permanently moved to Ohio as Ciaran continued to claw his way into the American market.

“The early years were tough,” recalls Ciaran. It was hard work establishing credibility as the new kid on the block.” Ciaran drove approximately 50,000 miles a year to reach potential customers, often driving through the night. “We couldn’t afford the flights!” he chuckles in retrospect. During those years, the Atlas Road Map was his constant companion, as he used it to find towns with a few thousand residents. “At the time, we were the only ones who sold small,

sludge dewatering systems,” says Ciaran. “If a town of 3,000, or even 1,000, needed dewatering equipment, there was nothing available except for a big, expensive machine. We were the originators of the small- to medium-sized wastewater sludge dewatering machine and screens.” With a combination of high-quality products and stellar customer service, Or-Tec has grown into a multi-million-dollar company, with a nationwide sales force and a proven portfolio of more than thirty wastewater solutions.

“We started out with a small belt press,” says Or-Tec President Sean O’Melia, Ciaran’s son. “Now we have belt presses, screw screens, vertical screens, tank screens, microbar screens, DAF flotation systems, polymer dosing systems, conveying equipment and so on. Our product



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TOLEDO IRISH

By Maury Collins

@MauryCollins

Twenty Years of Toledo Hibernian St. Patrick Celebrations 1990-2010

On March 10, 1990, the newly founded Lucas County AOH and LAOH divisions held the first of its' twenty St. Patrick's festivals. The Toledo Blade had an article about the event the Thursday before in which they admired the chutzpah of a new group calling their first event the "First" Annual St. Patrick's Festival.

The first festival was held at St. Clement Hall on Tremainsville Road. It was hosted by Ancient Order of Hibernian (AOH) division President, Bill Walsh, and LAOH division President, Eileen Kelly.

John Connolly and Ted McHugh

did a live broadcast of their radio show, *Echo's of Ireland*. Toledo Mayor, John McHugh, a first-generation Irish American, was there with his mother, Catherine McHugh, to present a proclamation from the City of Toledo. Entertainment was provided by John Connolly and the Limerick Rakes, the Central Catholic High School Glee Club and Irish dancers from the O'Hara Dance School.

How did this all come about? Here is the story in the words of Sister Ann McManus:

I recall how the first Hibernian St. Patrick's Festival came about. It started twenty years ago. Four of the Hibernians: Bob O'Connell, Bill Walsh, Jim Kelly and Sister Ann McManus were in a restaurant called Chicago. The discussion was about having a festival or other ways to help make the Irish Culture grow in Toledo. We started to talk and all kinds of ideas came out and we put them all on a napkin.

What a valuable piece of information for history that napkin would be if we had saved it. We started talking about a place. We thought of St. Clement Hall and Father Jim Auth was in favor. Then we decided to divide the jobs up.

Jim Kelly got the Kanery boys to cook and Jim and his crew took care of that. Bob O'Connell said he would take care of the vendors since he was going to be one himself. We had eight vendors and they fit into the hall. Bill Walsh took care of the ads and the programs.

His soon to be father-in-law, Jim Richards, helped with the printing.

Many of the Hibernians went to Rossford on many Sundays to fold and staple the programs. The entertainment was the Central Catholic Glee Club, Irish dancers and John Connolly, who did his radio show live and then performed with his group. All of the members pitched in and some of the people who did some work for me were fathers and grandfathers, mothers and grandmothers, aunts, uncles and cousins of our present members. A great bunch of workers.

We put a dream on a napkin and look what happened. The dream has come true thanks to the many volunteers, who come back every year to keep the dream alive.

The event soon outgrew St. Clement Hall and was moved to Lourdes College, where we had a headline act, The Makem Brothers! Lourdes, seeing our success and the success of the Toledo Irish American Club's summer festival, decided that they would take over the bar and keep the profits from it.

The Hibernians moved to the Blessed Sacrament Community Center in DeVaux Village. This was a good move since many of the members were members of Blessed Sacrament Church. The Community Center ran into financial difficulties and closed in 2003.

The Hibernians moved to Cambridge Hall on Alexis. The Hall was part of a K-Mart shopping center, so there was plenty of parking. In 2005, Father Dennis Hartigan was installed as President of Central Catholic High School and pastor of the Historic Church of St. Patrick. He attended the St. Patrick's Festival, observing how crowded the place was.

Father asked me if I would be interested in a larger venue, namely the Sullivan Center at Central. When I explained that the festival was a cultural event with low profit and the Sullivan Center would certainly out of our reach, he told me to call him. He would make it affordable to us. The ad the Hibernian ran featured a picture of an

Irish Traveling People's covered wagon with the headline "On the move again."

The move to the Sullivan Center lasted from 2006 until 2010. Brigid's Cross was brought in as the headline group, along with local Irish groups. The Mud Hen mascot became a regular, which delighted the kids.

Because of the extra space available, the "Kid's Korner" was expanded. Toledo Irish restaurants became vendors and set up food areas, relieving the Hibernians from cooking.

The Hibernians traditionally donated \$1,000 to the Historic St. Patrick's Church from the profits. The expanded venue allowed for an essay contest with four \$500 scholarships. Sherri McNeill and Mike Cassidy set up an "All Things Irish" art contest. Open to all students in Northwest Ohio or Southeastern Michigan grades 1 through 12. Three winners came from each group: 1st ~ 5th Grades; Middle School and High School, 1st place (\$75.00), 2nd place (\$50.00), 3rd place (\$25.00). An art supply package was awarded to the school of the top winner from each group. There was also a raffle with the prize a trip for two to Ireland.

The Hibernians were the first and only "outside" group allowed to use any of Central's facilities. The gentleman in charge of grounds at Central decided that the liability of an outside group using the Sullivan Center was too great and the Hibernians were not allowed to sign a contract for 2011. In the meantime the Toledo Irish American Club pretty much folded and canceled their Summer Irish Festival.

Tom McCabe, the manager of the Hibernian St. Patrick's Festival, pushed to move it to the summer. That ended a twenty year run of the Hibernian's St. Patrick's Festival, which traditionally was held the week-end before St. Patrick's Day. ■

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COOKING UP A HOOLEY

By Katie Gagne

Grown-up Ice Cream Sandwiches

Summer isn't over yet; there is still plenty of time to enjoy this delicious sweet, warm weather treat.

HOMEMADE BAILEY'S CHOCOLATE CHIP ICE CREAM

Makes approximately 5 cups

Ingredients

- 1 cup Whole Milk
- ¾ cup Granulated White Sugar
- Pinch of Salt
- 1 ½ cups Heavy Whipping Cream
- ½ cup Bailey's Irish Cream
- 1 10oz bag Mini Chocolate Chips

In medium bowl, whisk milk, sugar, and salt together until blended and sugar is dissolved.

Add in heavy cream and Bailey's and whisk until smooth. Cover and chill for 2 hours or overnight.

DARK CHOCOLATE GUINNESS COOKIES

Makes approximately 2 ½ dozen cookies

Ingredients

- Guinness Syrup
 - 1 bottle Guinness Stout Beer
 - 1/3 cup Light Brown Sugar
- In a medium sauce pan, over medium heat, whisk brown sugar and Guinness together. Bring to cup -- approximately 15 minutes. Set aside to cool slightly.

Cookie Dough

- 2 sticks soft Unsalted Butter
- 1 cup Light Brown Sugar
- ½ cup White Granulated Sugar
- 2 large Eggs
- 1 teaspoon Vanilla



- 2 cups AP Flour
- 1 teaspoon Baking Soda
- ½ teaspoon Salt
- 1 cup Unsweetened Cocoa Powder
- 1 ½ cups each Semi-Sweet Chocolate Chips and Dark Chocolate Chips

Preheat oven to 375*
Sift flour, baking soda, salt, and cocoa powder together and set aside. With a stand, or hand mixer, beat butter until creamy. Add sugars and mix until creamy. Add in eggs and vanilla and mix until combined. Add in the Guinness Syrup and blend well.

Add in flour mixture and beat until soft, sticky dough forms. Fold in chocolate chips. Cover and refrigerate 2 hours.

Drop by tablespoons onto parchment-lined baking sheet and bake 8-10 minutes until just done.

Allow to cool for 5 minutes before removing from baking sheet.

Assembling the Grown-up Cookie Sandwiches:

Allow ice cream to soften slightly. Place one cookie face down and top with one scoop of ice cream. Place second cookie on top and press lightly.

These are delicious as is or you can roll the sides of the cookie sandwich in sprinkles, more mini chocolate chips, or my favorite crushed pistachios.

You can make these ahead and wrap tightly in plastic wrap and place in freezer bag and freeze up to 1 month. ■

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

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May the luck of the Irish be with you!



TERRY FROM DERRY

By Terry Boyle

Strange but True

I was going through my usual search for something interesting to watch on my computer when I came across 'Strange Occurrences in a small Irish village.' The village in question, Knock, was of particular interest to me, but not for religious reasons.

My father, a devotee of the Blessed Virgin Mary, loved going to Knock. As his health deteriorated, he was given holy water from Knock, and swore by its healing properties. So much so, that when I happened to be going through the shrine area, he asked me to bring him back some holy water.

Having given my word that I would bring back water from Knock, I was not prepared for the ordeal it involved. It was pouring down with rain, bucketing from the heavens, and to cap it all off, there was a huge gathering at the shrine.

Since there was no parking space nearby, I had to pull in quite a long way from the holy water taps. The temptation to simply fill up a bottle with water from the hotel tap was great but how could I do such a thing to a dying man?

My heightened sense of guilt, every good Catholic's undoing, got the better of me. Thoroughly drenched, I fulfilled my mission.

It was with this memory in mind, I watched the show. Initially released in 2016, 'Strange Occurrences' deals with the supposed Marian vision of 1879. The apparition, which lasted for a couple of hours, was witnessed by 15 people.

One tidbit that brought me some sense of consolation was that those who had witnessed the vision did so as the rain lashed down on them. It seems water, whether its blessed or comes

straight from the heavens, is a permanent feature of this small Irish village.

What made Knock an important place of pilgrimage for Irish people was Pope John Paul's visit in 1979. His validation of the shrine visit put Knock on the map for Catholics worldwide.

A new airport was built to accommodate international pilgrims, religious shops with all sorts of iconography sprang up to meet demand, and tourists began to flock to the shrine. Despite the rain, everything in Knock was moving towards prosperity, until the clerical abuse scandals exposed the underbelly of the Catholic Church.

Once the less mystical and more earthly revelations of clerical abuse were disclosed, faith in the Church had been severely damaged. Since then, Ireland's moral compass has moved towards a greater former of secularism that has included the legalizing of gay marriage and abortion.

The disappointment in the religious leaders has led to a great divide between church and state. In my opinion, this divide was long overdue. The Catholic Church in Ireland did not hold itself accountable to the same morality it foisted on others.

Knock, in 2016, is a very different place than it was. The unquestioning piety that drove people of my age group to worship at the shrine is now limited, almost exclusively, to an older generation. Young people of Ireland have not been dominated by the excessive use of guilt and fear. They are critical of a church that has turned a blind eye to its own leaders.

As I watched the movie, I could not help but feel that the message of Knock was being forced to change. One woman, a believer in the apparition, is openly critical of the Catholicism. She accepts the rights of gays to marry and questions the subservient role of women in the church. What I was seeing was the struggle of Irish men and women holding onto the past while trying to reconcile to a less than religious present. Apart from the obvious desire to expand the reach of the shrine, largely through the vision of Fr. Richard Gibbons, it is obvious that the message of Knock needs to be reconfigured to meet the needs of the 21st Century.

To my surprise, I watched the film in its entirety. I was fascinated more by what was hinted at and left unsaid than the actual apparition itself.

For one thing, the visionaries of the 19th Century did not have any message to impart to the world. An empty cross, Mary, Joseph, John the disciple and a lamb are seen on the gable end of the parish church. The ambiguity of this light show was of less interest to me than the real-life battle of a church 'named and shamed' scrambling to make itself relevant to a new generation.

Fr. Gibbons, while appearing to be in awe of this mysterious event, is a shrewd developer of a new flavour of religious piety. His big plans for the shrine are still built on the blind acceptance of the miraculous, despite the thinly veiled doubts. His role as an ambassador of Knock is realized in the building of a basilica, welcoming pilgrims from New York and Boston, and reviving a message that, for most, is anachronistic.

I found myself watching a rural part of Ireland that was still trying to come to terms with a new reality. They cannot escape the past while they are held to an event that does not equip them to deal with the present. In some ways, Knock survives as a reminder of Ireland's Catholic heritage. It will continue as long as people want to hold onto the superstitions of the past.

There will always be a market for religion, as the numerous religious shops and paraphernalia demonstrate. Rosary beads shaped as tears with a fetus in each one does not invite debate or discussion but is a glimpse into an emotive, manipulative, form of indoctrination.

The changing face of Ireland has meant a drop in the number of pilgrims to Knock. People are less interested in visions or apparitions that guilt people into believing without questioning. The Catholic religion is on the decline in Ireland. Vocations continue to drop. What Ireland needs is not a relic from the past, but a vision of the future in which religion is not a promoter of superstition. ■

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By Dottie Wenger

@DottieWenger

KIDS CRAIC

Back to School?

At the time this column was written, schools in Ireland were expected to reopen fully in September, on a full-time basis. What makes school in Ireland different than school in the United States?

In America, we use words like "kindergarten" and "first grade", etc... to describe a child's progress through the school years. In Ireland, they use the words "classes" and "years". The Irish education system is split into Primary School (kids ages four through twelve) and Secondary School (those older than twelve). It looks like this:

Primary School:

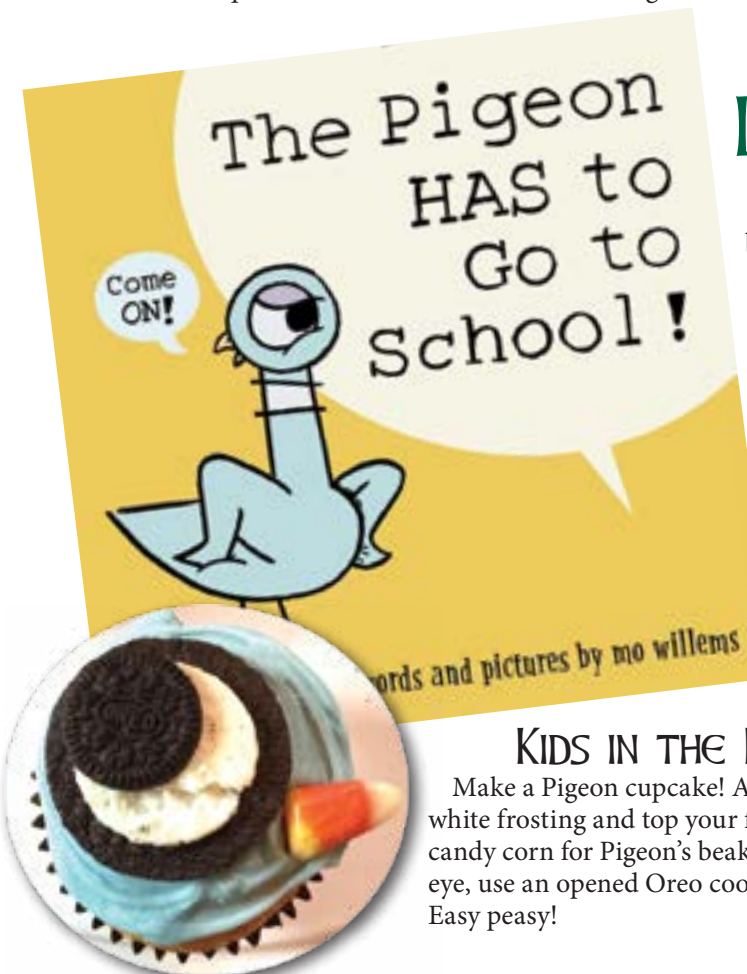
Junior Infants - beginning at age 4

Senior Infants - beginning at age 5

First class, Second class, Third class, etc...

Secondary School begins at age thirteen.

Children are required to attend school between the ages of six and sixteen.



LITERATURE HIGHLIGHT

The Pigeon HAS to Go to School, written and illustrated by popular American children's author Mo Willems. In this story, Pigeon (of *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!* fame) has the back-to-school jitters. He imagines all the things that may or may not happen.

CRAFT CORNER

Read Mo Willems' book (in Literature Highlight) and then make your own "Pigeon." Have someone trace your hand onto light blue paper. Add a neck and head, also from light blue paper. Draw a wing on the handprint with a black crayon or marker, as shown. Using small scraps of yellow and white, give Pigeon a beak and a collar. Pigeon's legs can be made from scraps of black paper or black pipe cleaners. Use a large craft "wiggly eye" to complete this fun character!

KIDS IN THE KITCHEN

Make a Pigeon cupcake! Ask an adult to help you add a bit of blue food coloring to white frosting and top your favorite flavor cupcake with the frosting. Use a piece of candy corn for Pigeon's beak (or a small piece of a candy orange slice). For Pigeon's large eye, use an opened Oreo cookie, frosting side up as shown, and top with a mini Oreo. Easy peasy!

Dottie taught kindergarten and second grade for a total of thirty-two years, and she now handles marketing and promotions for Yorktown Service Plaza in Parma Heights. In her spare time, Dottie is a baker extraordinaire, and also enjoys participating in 5K events in order to offset collateral damage from this hobby.

Count to Five in Gaelic

1 = a haon (pron. ah hain)

2 = a do (pron. ah dough)

3 = a tri (pron. ah tree)

4 = a ceathair (pron. ah cah-her)

5 = a cuig (pron. ah coo-ig)



The Modern Irish alphabet contains only the eighteen letters on this chart. Which letters do we use in English, that are absent from this list?

FUN FACTS

When learning to read or write in English, Irish children pronounce the letter z as "zed". In almost all countries in the world where English is spoken, it is pronounced this way!

In Ireland, the government provides a free preschool year, which includes three paid hours a day, five days a week at participating preschools.

Irish citizens can earn a bachelor's degree for free, too!

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Pandemic Blues & Rory Gallagher

The last few months, I've gone to work, walked and played with the dogs, worked in the yard and spent a lot of time at home. I've even found time to pick up my old guitar on a regular basis.

Along with that, I've been listening to a lot of music that influenced me when I was younger. I "discovered" the blues listening to bands like The Rolling Stones, Ten Years After,

Cream and The Yardbirds. My uncle pointed out the music I liked, mostly English bands, were doing covers or versions of music that originated in America.

That led to immersing myself in the blues. Of those early influences, one player that I still find myself listening to is Irish native Rory Gallagher.

In an interview in London, Jimi Hendrix was asked what it was like to be the greatest guitar player in the world, he replied, "I don't know, ask Rory Gallagher." Eric Clapton told the BBC that Rory should be credited with getting him back into the blues.

Queen's guitarist Brian May copied Gallagher's equipment set-up to obtain his sound. Numerous guitar players cite Rory as an influence on their playing style, among them U2's The Edge and Guns and Rose's Slash.

Rory was born March 2, 1948 in Ballyshannon, Co. Donegal. During his early teens, he took up the guitar. Starting out on a cheap Italian made instrument, he soon acquired the Fender Stratocaster he would be

identified with.

"It was made in November '61," Rory said, "and I got it in August of '63. So it was second-hand. It was the first Stratocaster in Ireland, apparently, but the guy that ordered it wanted a red one, like Hank Marvin's, and they sent him a sunburst one instead. So he had to wait for a year and a half or whatever to get the red one, and then he sold this one through the shop. So I got it." Gallagher started his musical career at age fifteen in one of the showbands that toured the ballrooms of rural Ireland in the 60s, honing his skills. Each of the members of The Impact, were required to adopt the style of one of their musical heroes. Rory chose Chuck Berry.

Later in his career, he would perform and record with Berry. There's a video on YouTube from a show in Germany in 1982 with Rory doing a cover of Berry's "Nadine," complete with all of Chuck Berry's moves.

In 1965, Ireland had many talented musicians, but no rock stars. Rory Gallagher was about to change that. He formed the power rock trio "Taste," a blues-rock band, to indulge his love of the blues. His hard work and determination paid off; his shows at The Shandon Boat Club in Cork became legendary for his fiery guitar solos and original music.

That led to gigs with Cream at The Royal Albert Hall and at the 1970 Isle of Wight Festival, alongside The Who, Jimi Hendrix, The Doors and Free. They were called back to the stage at that performance for seven encores.

Soon after, he was performing under his own name, his name making it a sure thing for promoters. By the early seventies he was being hailed as the best guitar player in the world by his peers.

Gallagher was also a brilliant slide player and a gifted songwriter. But according to the people who knew him, his best attributes were his generosity, kindness and compassion. Offstage he was shy and unassuming, his fans regarded him as one of their own, only with a superhuman talent.

Rory's brother and manager, Donal, said, "He never got above himself." He said Rory was happiest on the

road, on the stage he was at his best, everything else was just preparing or passing the time for the next show. His live performances bear witness to Donal's assessment of his brother.

He was never over the top as a soloist, and never quite fit the the typical blues-rock approach that many of the great players of that era fell into. Johnny Marr said, "His solos are not as composed as George Harrison's or my own, they are not guitar breaks but they are not blues-rock solos either. They are very daring, but not as out there as Hendrix's. They are just the right side of dexterity, of flash, of showing off. He wasn't musically blinkered, he saw merit in everything, it was liberating."

Rory Gallagher sold 30 million albums worldwide and even though he toured the U.S. twenty times in his career, he never made it big here as he did overseas. Of his own admission, he never cared to develop commercial, three minute radio friendly material. But then Rory never cared about being a rock star, he just wanted to play. So, unless you were an aspiring Fender Strat blues player or really into guitar based music, you may not have ever been exposed to him.

Rory Gallagher passed away in a London hospital in 1995 from complications from a liver transplant. After years of alcohol abuse, life on the road finally caught up to him. Fortunately for us, Rory's music is just a "click" away, check out YouTube, or any of the music streaming apps out there. Then dig that old guitar out from under the bed and pay tribute to Ireland's first rock star. ■

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, hounds Morrighán and Rian and terrier Doolin keep the house jumping. He can be contacted at carneyspeakirish@gmail.com

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Ephemera

Lately, I have retreated into the past, pouring over old photos, letters I have held onto for decades, ticket stubs from plays and concerts, playoff games and art exhibits. Stasis has that effect on me. Tomorrow is an unknown.

Through this ephemera: bits of paper that manifest fleeting joys from the past, significant only to the owner, I like to remind myself that I am modestly adventuresome, that travel will again be in my future, that I will be able to read to my students unmasked. I like to predict that the course of my children's lives will not be forever altered.

On summer days when lilies blaze orange and the air fills with the sweet smell of sudden rain, we seem to move forward. Nature reminds us that she is in charge. Night lasts only so long. Willingly, we accept her guidance, but then we are pushed back a step, a mile.

MEMORY

Ironically, if you allow yourself to journey back to joyful, sad, or challenging times, it can help steady you in the present. Suddenly, we are not paralyzed by fear or seclusion, but rather find contentment in the moment. We begin to cling to small goals, and perhaps, if we are brave, begin again to plan for the future, even though there are no guarantees.

My mother called wild orange lilies that spring randomly and with persistence alongside country roads, ponds, and plots of unused urban soil, ditch lilies. Though she moved from southern Missouri as an early twenty-something, her country wisdom always remained.

"You see," she would instruct, "when the ditch lilies bloom in the July sun, the height of summer has arrived." Ubiquitous, the flowers grow aside every daisy, black-eyed Susan, and frond of Queen Anne's Lace that crowns the summer earth. The lilies are not aware of the plainness in their petals or the unkempt quality of their narrow stems. They radiate sunshine and soft rain, corn on the

cob and white cabbage moths.

All too soon, their flowers fade and the crickets begin to hum. Summer is beginning its slow retreat into autumn. Spent ditch lilies leave behind muslin hued seed pods, their leaves turn into parchment - ephemera of lazy summer days.

At the first hint of a sudden storm, the drying stalks bend in the wind, the seeds cast hope for hummingbird days and firefly nights. Ephemera becomes indelible when the past, present, and future entwine like silken spider threads holding fast to clusters of wild ditch lilies.

My mother enjoyed both nature and traveling. She would book trips with anyone willing and able to join her. Only comfortable if he could fly the plane, my father would not travel abroad.

Fortunately, my father's cousin and his wife were travel agents and had an unquenchable thirst for journeys near and far. My mother and I enjoyed a trip to England, Ireland, and Scotland together before I began my graduate studies. We met up with my father's cousin and his wife.

Together we traveled across England's Lake District and into the Highlands of Scotland. Our rented red Ford Fiesta was filled with groceries for spontaneous picnics, souvenirs, pamphlets and Polaroid photos - ephemera that my mother treasured. Even though I inherited the suitcase filled with her memories, I wish that I could remember the exact ring of my mother's laughter at the sight of the loaded clown car, and if the ditch lilies grew along the River Tweed.

A certain gene for wanderlust has surely been passed down through the women on my maternal side. My grandmother Mim did not start traveling abroad until she was widowed. She raised her five children through the Great Depression and remained frugal, practical, and intelligent; these traits enabled Mim to actualize her travel dreams. Once her responsibilities as a homemaker, mother, farmer's wife, and teacher lessened, she visited all 50 states, rode elephants in India, camels in Egypt, and the gondolas in Venice. At almost 102 years of age, Mim had seen the world. During her impromptu "tour talks," she regaled us with her adventures: sipping white wine on the lawn of William Wordsworth's home and her first vision of Ireland's *Forty Shades of Green*.

Upon my grandmother's death, I was



given old journals, family letters, photos, and yes, entrance stubs to museums. My collection of ephemera continues to grow.

During our time in quarantine, my daughter and I sifted through the hoard of postcards and paper memorabilia that I collected during my autumn trip to London; she was fortunate to study there during the fall of 2019. Her appreciation for this unique opportunity is recollected with gratitude that she was able to have this unforgettable and life changing experience before the world as we know it changed.

For me, my trip to London was the first time I traveled alone internationally. I could people watch in airports and sip coffee or mimosas in the bustling airport cafes without fretting or fussing over my family. For once, I enjoyed the freedom to wander art galleries and museums, outdoor markets and independent booksellers.

My daughter patiently indulged my every academic whim, making sure I never lost my Tube pass. Together, we enjoyed leisurely glasses of red wine in Covent Garden and sought out the oldest pubs in Seven Dials - the haunts of Dickens and Shakespeare. My daughter and I wandered aimlessly throughout the holiday glitz of Harrod's and mused about what we would buy if we had gobs of money.

In truth, I do not need one scrap of ephemera to conjure the beautiful memory of my daughter and me strolling

among the Christmas Market stands in Trafalgar Square sharing hot cider, while late November mist sprinkled our dark hair. Perhaps the worth in ephemera lies not in the conjuring of memory, but rather in its capability of preserving one moment of fleeting time. ■

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

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Wise Cracks
By Maury Collins

Maureen's husband, Patrick, was a typical Irish male chauvinist. Even though they both worked full-time, he never helped around the house. Housework was woman's work!
But one evening, Maureen arrived home to find the children bathed, one load of clothes in the washer and

another in the dryer, dinner on the stove, and the table set. She was astonished; something's up, she thought.
It turns out that Patrick had read an article that said wives who worked full-time and also had to do all the housework were too tired to make love. The night went well and the next day she told her office friends all about it.
"We had a great dinner. Patrick even cleaned up. He helped the kids do their homework, folded all the laundry and put everything away. I really enjoyed the evening." "But what about afterward?" asked her friends. "Oh, that was perfect, too. Patrick was too tired!"

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Well, our lovely 90-year old Miss O'Leary is at it again ... she was certain her horse would win the big race at the track, because the bookie told her it would start at twenty to one and the race didn't begin until quarter past.

Sean got home in the early hours of the morning after a night at the local pub. He made such a racket as he weaved his way through the house that he woke up the wife. "By all the saints, what are you doing down there?" she shouted from the bedroom. "Get yourself up here and don't be waking the neighbors."
"I'm trying to get a barrel of Guinness up the stairs," he shouted back.
"Leave it 'till the morning," she shouted down.
"I can't" says he, "I've drank it!"

Father O'Malley was going through the mail one day. Drawing a single sheet of paper from an envelope, he found written on it just one word: "FOOL."

The next Sunday at Mass, he announced, "I have known many people who have written letters and forgot to sign their names. But this week I received a letter from someone who signed their

name and forgot to write a letter."

A man goes to the Doctor, worried about his wife's temper. The doctor asks, "What's the problem?"

The man says, "Doctor, I don't know what to do. Every day my wife seems to lose her temper for no reason. It scares me."

The doctor says, "I have a cure for that. When it seems that your wife is getting angry, just take a glass of water and start swishing it in your mouth. Just swish and swish but don't swallow it until she either leaves the room or calms down."

Two weeks later, the man comes back to the doctor looking fresh and reborn. The man says, "Doctor that was a brilliant idea! Every time my wife started losing it, I swished with water. I swished and swished, and she calmed right down! How does a glass of water do that?"

The doctor says, "The water itself does nothing. It's keeping your mouth shut that does the trick."

Irish patient to fellow in the next bed, "Look, the doctor's coming round soon. Try to cheer him up because he's very worried about you." ■

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

By Linda Fulton Burke

ACROSS

- 1 ____ Nothing by Patrick Radden Keefe
- 4 The House in ____ - Elizabeth Bowen
- 9 O'Brien At Swim Two Birds,
- 10 George ____ - Esther Waters
- 11 JG Farrell - ____
- 16 Joseph O'Connor - Star of the ____
- 18 A ____ Proposal - Jonathan Swift
- 19 Sebastian Barry - The Secret ____
- 20 Samuel Beckett - ____
- 23 Elizabeth Bowen - The Last ____
- 24 ____ by Jess Kidd
- 27 Mike McCormack - ____ Bones
- 30 Oscar Wilde - The ____ of Dorian Gray
- 31 Molly Keane- ____ Behaviour
- 32 Michael Farrell- Thy Tears Might ____
- 33 William Trevor- ____ of Fortune
- 37 Anne Enright - The ____
- 40 ____ Kavanagh- Tarry Flynn
- 41 James Joyce - ____
- 42 John McGahern - Amongst ____
- 45 A Journal to ____ - Jonathan Swift
- 47 ____ Mac Cúil - An Litir
- 48 Donal Ryan - The Spinning ____

DOWN

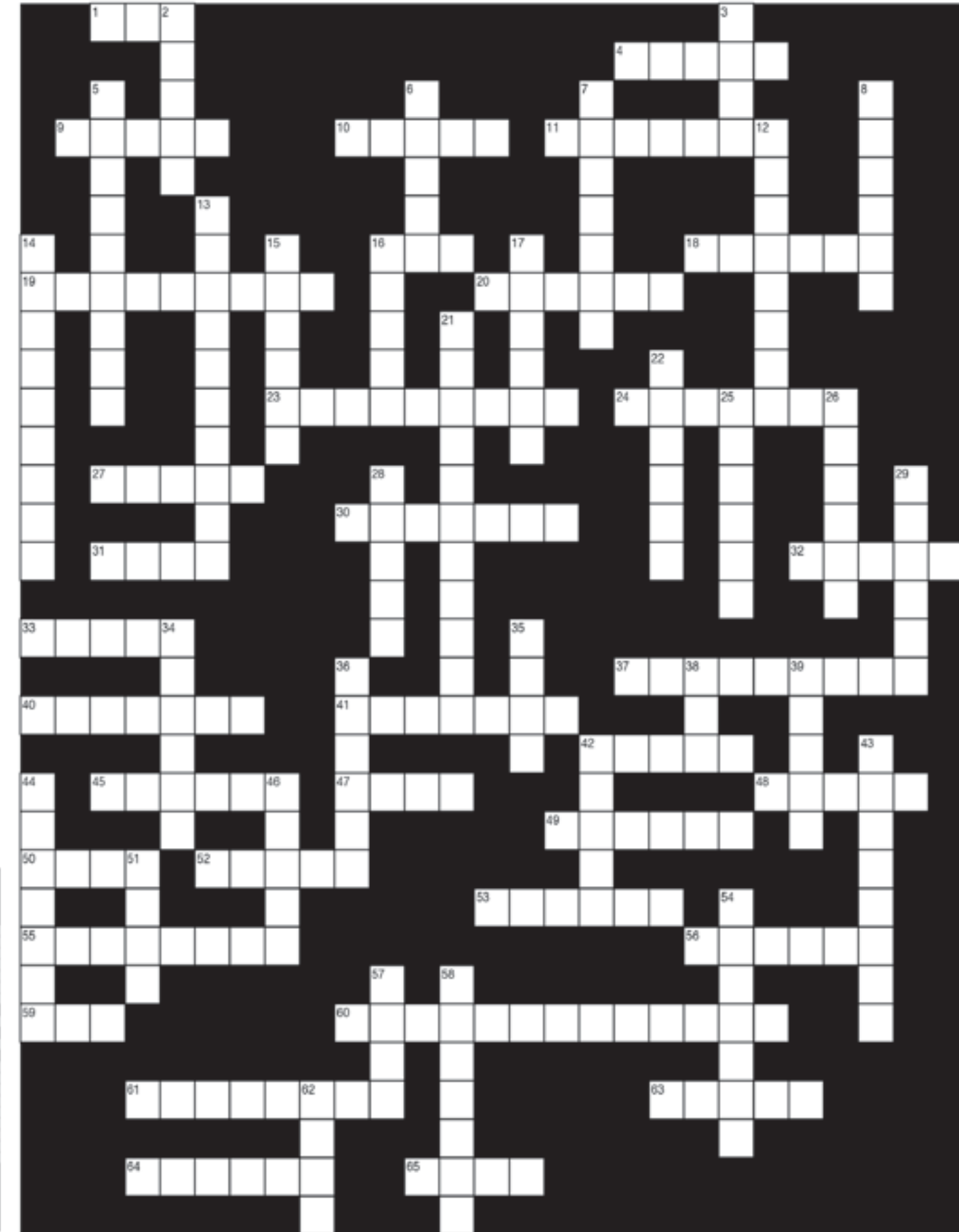
- 2 Rob Doyle - Here are the ____ Men
- 3 i Eimear McBride - A ____ s a Half-Formed Thing
- 5 Kevin Power - Bad Day in ____
- 6 James ____ - Dubliners
- 7 Bram Stoker - ____
- 8 Brian Moore- ____ Hearne
- 12 The Book of ____ - John Banville
- 13 Joseph O'Neill - ____
- 14 House of Splendid ____ - Edna O'Brien
- 15 A Portrait of an ____ as a Young Man\ -James Joyce
- 16 Jonathan ____ - Gulliver's Travels

- 49 Two Lives - William ____
- 50 Emma Donoghue - ____
- 52 The Scarperper - Brendan ____
- 53 Belinda McKeon - ____
- 55 Lisa McLnerney - The ____ Heresies
- 56 ____ People Sally Rooney
- 59 Hard Life - Flann O'Brien
- 60 ____ Stumbling into Motherhood - Anne Enright
- 61 John ____ - The Sea
- 63 Kevin ____ - City of Bohane
- 64 Bram Stoker - The Duties of ____ of Petty Sessions in Ireland
- 65 John McGahern - The ____

- 17 Sally ____ - Conversations with Friends
- 21 Roddy Doyle- The ____
- 22 Sara Baume - Spill ____ Falter Wither
- 25 William Trevor - Love and ____
- 26 The Wig My ____ Wore - Anne Enright
- 28 CS Lewis- The Lion, the ____, and the Wardrobe
- 29 John McGahern - That They May Face the ____ Sun
- 34 Kate O'Brien- The Land of ____
- 35 Paul Murray - Skippy ____
- 36 ____ Murder Squad series by Tana French
- 38 Third Policeman - Flann O'Brien
- 39 Brendan Behan - Confessions of an Irish ____
- 42 Colum McCann - Let the Great ____ Spin
- 43 Colm Toibin - ____
- 44 Anne ____ - The Gathering
- 46 Frank McCourt- Angela's ____
- 51 Costello - Academy Street
- 54 Edna O'Brien- The ____ Girls
- 57 James Joyce - Finnegans' ____
- 58 ____ by Ana Burns
- 62 ____, Found, Remembered by Lyra McKee ■

Good Reads

Linda Fulton Burke



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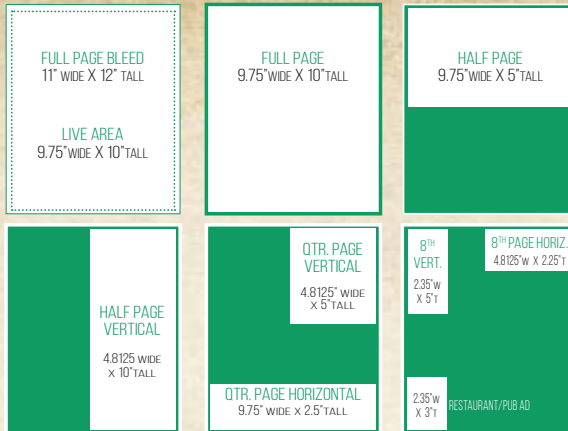


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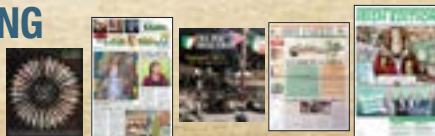
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