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Phil Coulter
Comes to Cleveland

ANNUAL CELTIC & IRISH FESTIVAL FOCUS ISSUE!

EDITOR'S CORNER
By John O'Brien, Jr.
@Jobjr



The Druids

the Annual Festival Focus pages within for all fun, and the details too. Besides the 4th of July parades and gatherings, there is so much going on this month, including Faith & Whiskey @WOW Wednesday on the 6th; the AOH/LAOH National Convention, this year in Pittsburgh, the 11th thru 17th; an Inner View with one of the true legends of Irish music: singer, songwriter (Hand Me Down My Bible; Ireland's Call, My Boy, Saturday Night, Scorn Not His Simplicity, The Town I Loved So Well ...), recording artist and producer Phil Coulter, performing the 24th at the West Side Irish American Club in Cleveland; and The Prodigals @ Byrnes Pub in Columbus on the 22nd. Believe it or not, there is even more. Check What's the Craic to find your fix,

on pages 28 and 29. The Druids gave a fantastic performance for the Irish Club of Toledo's fundraiser. - many of the songs in the show you would know, but the arrangements, the story behind the songs, the authenticity that the guys bring to each and every show, made it an enjoyable and memorable event. They have a new CD out, titled, *Just Grateful to Be Here*. on page 40 & 41 & Molly's profile is on page 17.

Continued on facing page

**"FOLLOW ME WHERE I GO,
WHAT I DO AND WHO I
KNOW"**

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About Our Cover:



Songwriter, Recording Artist and Producer Phil Coulter Comes to Cleveland July 24th.
See the story on Page 46 & 47.

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LIVE MoreLife BE Moreilrish



Do you remember our story on Irish baseball player Patrick Mitchell, training for the Irish National Baseball team right here in Cleveland, Ohio? Patrick has accepted an offer to play at Penn State Allegheny College, which is a great fit for him, according to coach Jay Murphy. In more great news, Coach Murphy let us know that young Cleve-

land man Dave Gallagher now plays on the Irish National Team as well.

If you would like to support the Irish National Baseball team, contact Coach Murphy at j217murph@gmail.com. We are trying to help them raise funds for their work here in Cleveland, and travel expenses playing for the Irish team in games around world.

ilrish is made in America. We have always been green and are proudly Irish, all year long. Join us. ■

Nuair a stapann an ceol, an damhsa déanann an amhlaidh (When the music stops, so does the dance)

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The High Kings are Finbarr Clancy, Darren Holden, Brian Dunphy and newest member Paul O' Brien. The High Kings play 13 instruments between them, creating the unique sound and atmosphere that they still showcase to this day.

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SPEAK IRISH

By Bob Carney

@BobCarneyGTR

Cén Fáth Gaeilge, Cén Fáth?

A few years back, we had a lovely young couple in our class, both were young professionals, organized, eager and able to learn and fun to be around. When I was trying to explain some point or reason for a grammatical change such as séimhiú or urú, the young woman would clench her fists over her head and exclaim in exaggerated exasperation, “Why Irish, Why!” It broke the tension and helped everyone realize that they were not alone in their struggle.

Almost everyone has a difficult time learning a new language when they're older. It seems our brains have a problem grasping new patterns and our tongues become tied over new and strange pronunciations. It's known that brain function changes as we age, but there is no evidence to say that we cannot continue to learn, and that includes languages.

What is supported by studies is almost the opposite, as adults our knowledge base is different than that of a child. Learning too much at once or pushing too intensely

to master a language may make the process more difficult than it needs to be.

For many years I have repeated to frustrated students who are trying to learn Irish, the way a high school senior might study English, trying to understand all the grammar or looking for “formulas,” that when we first learned English as children, it was in small steps.

We were able to communicate our needs and wants very early on, without knowing anything of Warriner's English Grammar and Composition, a book I learned to despise in high school. Yet, many adult students want to jump in head first without the years of experience we had with English before our encounter with Warriner's.

As children, our brains were almost devoid of any real world knowledge, but as we grew we learned skills, such as those studied in school, our social interactions, our careers and interests. It should come as no surprise, our brains are full! Ask me the first guitar player to play with Miles Davis, no problem, but remember all three of the things Mary sent me to the store for, highly unlikely.

The good news is the parts of the brain that are responsible for processing language remain relatively unchanged from childhood to adult. It may slow somewhat in the elderly, but it still does not make it impossible to learn a language.

There have been studies to determine why some adult learners pick up new languages better than others. Immersion in a culture where the language is the primary language spoken, makes learning much faster than trying to learn where English is the main form of communication. If the only way to get through your day is to communicate through the new language, necessity will make you acquire the language quicker.

In another linguistic study, it was found that adults who learned a new language casually did better than those who studied in a formal more intense setting. When the pressure is off we learn better.

One other thing that holds us back as adults that children don't suffer from is self-consciousness. Kids aren't afraid to mess up, like we are as adults. We don't like to look foolish as we perceive it. We also don't have the advantage of listening to native speakers all day as we did when we learned English.

Guinness or uisce beatha (whiskey)

I belong to a few on-line forums where learning Irish is the topic. Recently there was a “serious” discussion about the benefits of Guinness or uisce beatha



(whiskey) in assisting in the study of Irish. Although it was meant to be a bit of silliness, there were some insightful comments about breaking down that self-conscious attitude we develop around others. Personally, I think to learn Irish all you have to do is make some space in your brain and approach it with all the assuredness of a two-year old.

What is the Irish Language

Now that we know we're capable of learning a new language, let me share a little bit about Irish. It's one of the oldest languages still spoken today, it belongs to the Celtic family of languages, which is divided into two branches.

The Gaelic branch consists of Irish, Scots Gaelic, and Manx, they are all similar to one another. The other branch consists of Welsh, Cornish and Breton, and all differ dramatically from the Gaelic branch. Together they form one of the twelve branches of the Indo-European linguistic family.

There are three regional dialects, Ulster, Connacht and Munster, along with an official dialect that was adopted in the language reform of 1950. The official dialect is what is taught in schools and many self-learning sources. There are eighteen letters in the Irish alphabet, but you will see the remaining letters of the English alphabet used in loan words.

Vowels can be long or short, indicated by a mark over the vowel called a fada, the Irish word for long. Consonants can be broad or slender. Spelling looks confusing at first, but the vowels that appear to be extra are there to aid in the pronunciation of the consonants. In English, there are far more exceptions than rules. In Irish, there are by comparison, very few exceptions.

Why Learn Irish

So why learn Irish? For many it's personal, a family member is a speaker or a trip to the Gaeltacht is in the future. For others it's because of an interest in Irish mythology and literature. Still some see it as a way of stimulating their brain.

Leonardo da Vinci said, “Learning never exhausts the mind.” In his book, “Thirty-Two Words for Field,” Manchán Magan wrote, “Can the language help make sense of who we are? Not just sense of the current population of this island but of all humanity – of those who evolved skills and higher consciousness over millennia and spread out northwards from Africa. For what is most valuable about Irish is it's direct link with the original Indo-European language, which gradually spread out from the region where humankind first settled and learnt to farm on the borderlands of Europe and Asia. This concept is not merely poetic or sentimental but reflects the simple truth that languages offer a connection to the inner lives of our ancestors. Old ways of thinking and living remain encoded in them.”

New classes will be starting September 6th. Hope to see you then. Tóg go bog é agus foghlaim Gaeilge! ■

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

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HEALTH MATTERS

By Krystal Russell, APRN, CNP

Pediatric Obesity: What adults can do to help their children

Childhood obesity has been, and continues to be, a serious problem in the United States, putting children and adolescents at risk for poor health and various health complications. Obesity prevalence among children and adolescents is still too high, rising in numbers since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. Understanding and promoting healthy lifestyle choices in our ever-changing world is important for families everywhere.

The pandemic caused economic hardship, school closings and limited some of the physical activities we came to regularly enjoy – including kids sports and extracurricular programs. While schools reopened and our calendars filled with activities again, the pandemic's influence on our lifestyles quickly and significantly impacted habits. This is true for our kids too, emphasizing the importance of using this summer season to promote healthy lives for all children.

While several factors contribute to childhood obesity, including behavior, genetics and community circumstanc-

es, a child's lifestyle is often the main contributor to this health challenge. Namely, too little activity and too many calories from food and drinks. This can potentially lead to diabetes, high blood pressure and high cholesterol in your child, which can also cause other health complications.

Improving the entire family's diet and exercise habits is one of the best ways to achieve a healthy weight in your child and potentially reverse childhood obesity. Involving the whole family and working together to make gradual changes can also be a great way to bond.

Parents can help prevent childhood obesity by providing healthy meals and snacks for their growing bodies and nutrition education outside of health class. Modeling healthy eating behaviors and attitudes within the house as a parent can also promote healthy habits that carry into their teen years and adulthood. Allowing children to be a part of grocery shopping is also a great way to focus on the family's nutrition and work as a team.

Avoid Fad Dieting

Parents should also avoid fad dieting or trends. Children need healthy varied diets, so it is important to not put kids on strict, restrictive diets. Focusing on “health” as opposed to “weight” is key.

Physical activity and exercise are also key to promoting healthy habits and decreasing the likelihood of obesity. Getting 30 to 60 minutes of physical activity per day may seem daunting at first, but short sessions of movement can add up.

Limiting extended screen time on devices and swapping that time for outdoor play is a simple change parents can make to increase physical activity. Walking in the park, visiting a playground and swimming during the



“INVOLVING THE WHOLE FAMILY AND WORKING TOGETHER TO MAKE GRADUAL CHANGES CAN ALSO BE A GREAT WAY TO BOND.”

summer months are great ways to make exercise fun.

Even household chores can help boost activity – and give you an extra hand around the house. For example, taking the dog for a walk or vacuuming and dusting around the house can also help incorporate physical activity into a child's daily routine. Always keep in mind that children should not engage in excessive amounts of exercise. Exercise should be fun and can be “play” for kids.

Families wanting to achieve a healthier lifestyle may turn to the internet for help or be tempted to try popular trends. It's important that you have a conversation with your doctor or primary care physician before making any major changes or jumping into the latest fitness trend, especially when it comes to your kids. You can work with them on specific goals that are small, yet challenging, to increase exercise and im-

prove nutrition, ensuring the steps you take are right for your family's unique needs. Your doctor may also refer you to a family-based program for kids with overweight conditions or related complications to help you and your child on this journey.

Adopting a healthier lifestyle can feel like an uphill battle no matter your age, but starting with small changes can make a big impact over time. ■

Krystal Russell, APRN, CNP, is a family nurse practitioner for Mercy Health. She sees patients of all ages, including pediatric patients and teenagers, and enjoys working with her patients on health promotion, wellness and disease prevention and treatment.

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IRISH AT HEART

By Natalie Keller

Ireland's Long Fight for Reproductive Freedom

The latest buzz from D.C. has brought reproductive rights to the forefront of my mind. With the historic Supreme Court case Roe v. Wade being called into question in the United States, it can be illuminating to learn how other countries have struggled to obtain abortion rights — and what their trajectory might tell us about our own in a post-Roe world.

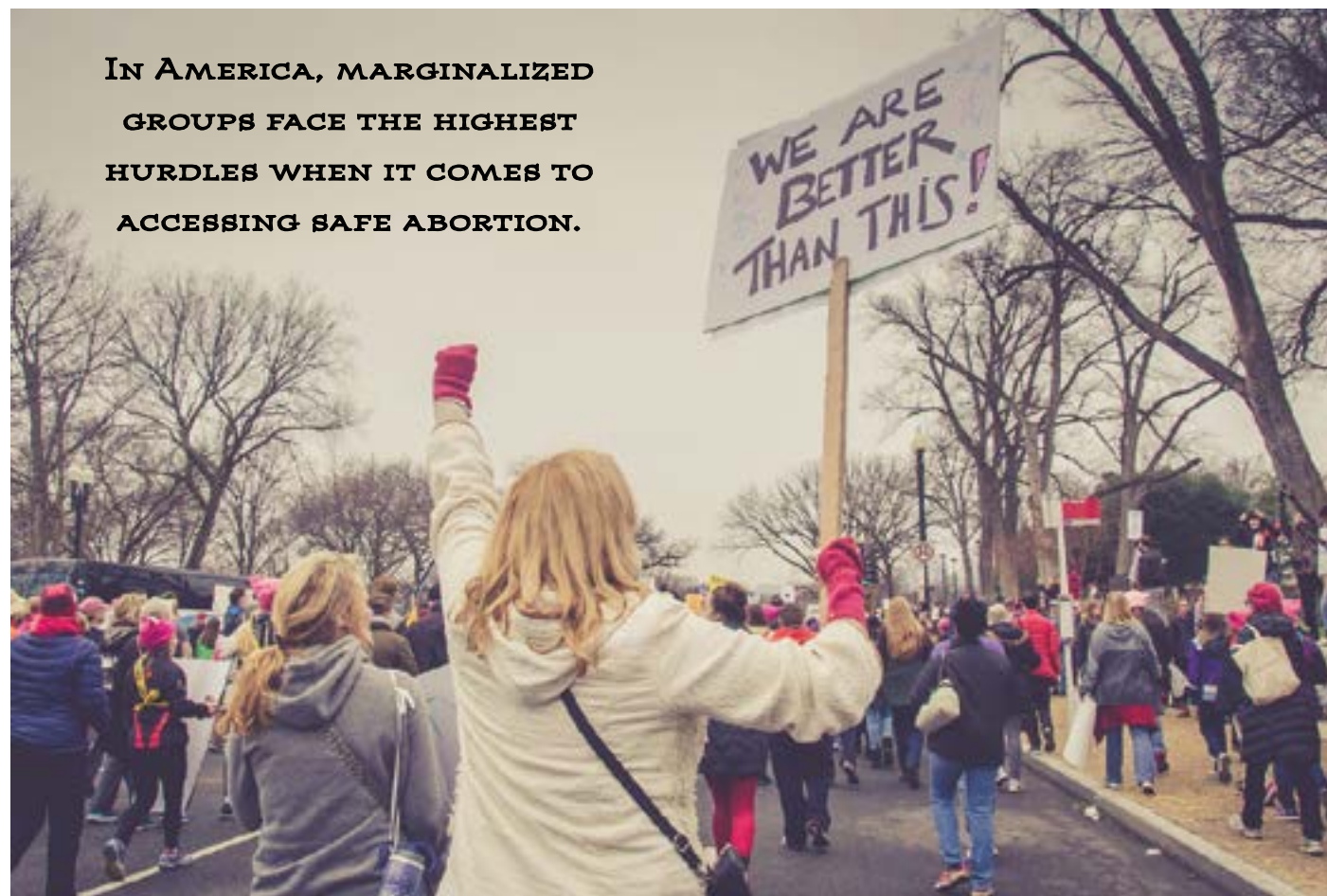
Ireland's battle for reproductive rights has been an uphill one. Abortion was first banned in Ireland through the Offenses Against the Person Act of 1861, and became law in 1922, when Ireland won independence from the United Kingdom. Later in the twentieth century, when other Western countries began legalizing abortion, Catholic organizations feared similar progress in Ireland and formed the Pro-Life Amendment Campaign, which aimed to embed an abortion ban into the nation's very constitution. And they achieved just that: in 1983, Ireland's eighth constitutional referendum was passed, which "[acknowledged] the right to life of the unborn and [gave] due regard to the equal right to life of the mother."

Hypocrisy and Death

Nowhere was this statement more hypocritical than in the case of a 14-year-old rape victim in 1992 who testified in court that she was contemplating suicide for being forced to carry her abuser's child. The judge did not grant her permission for an abortion — instead, he banned her from leaving Ireland for nine months, effectively barring her from seeking an abortion abroad.

The story of Savita Halappanavar is even more disturbing. At seventeen weeks pregnant, she sought treatment at a hospital in Galway after her body began to miscarry. Wracked with pain and infection, she begged the doctors to perform an abortion and save her life — but because the fetus still had a detectable heartbeat, the doctors couldn't intervene. By the time the fetal heartbeat failed, the infection in Halappanavar's uterus had spread to her blood. After four days in intensive care, her organs failed, and she died. If the law truly granted due regard to the equal right to life of the mother, Savita Halappanavar would still be walking among us today. Halappanavar's death became a rallying point for pro-choice activists in Ireland as publicity surrounding the case exploded. Thanks to a fresh wave of activism, the Protection of Life During Pregnancy Act became law in 2013. This was a victory, but not an all-encompassing one. While the law permitted abortions that would save the mother's life, all other kinds of abortion remained criminalized. The Irish people continued to advo-

IN AMERICA, MARGINALIZED GROUPS FACE THE HIGHEST HURDLES WHEN IT COMES TO ACCESSING SAFE ABORTION.



Protests are a historic and effective way of placing pressure on lawmakers.

cate for a woman's right to choose, and five years later, in 2018, a referendum repealed the Eighth Amendment by an overwhelming majority of 66% to 34%.

Abortions Barriers to the Marginalized

With costs covered by the public health service, abortions are now legal in Ireland during the first trimester, and at any point if the mother's life is endangered. But the battle is not entirely won. Although medically unnecessary, the law stipulates a three-day waiting period after requesting an abortion and having the gestational age of the fetus certified by a doctor. In 2019, the Abortion Support Network reported that twenty-five people in Ireland were turned away from the abortion service at fewer than three days past the legal limit. If not for the mandatory waiting period, those twenty-five people would have qualified for legal abortion.

And, as in America, marginalized groups face the highest hurdles when it comes to accessing safe abortion. The Conversation reports that "the new Irish law is especially burdensome for poor women, migrant women,

asylum seekers, Irish Travelers, and other marginalized groups who already experience barriers on their mobility and access to medical care. Such women might struggle to afford to travel for multiple clinic visits. And migrants in Ireland who miss the 12-week legal limit will face additional [barriers] because they are required to obtain a travel visa for England or the Netherlands."

Similarly, if Roe v. Wade is overturned in the U.S. and abortion regulations are handed to the states, marginalized women may not have the financial resources or transportation to seek abortion outside their home state while their more privileged counterparts cross state borders to end unwanted pregnancies.

The Line Between Government and Religion

Just last month, the Irish government considered a proposal to grant control of a proposed \$840 million state-funded maternity hospital to a charity run by Catholic nuns. The decision has been delayed amid concerns that religious doctrine will limit abortions at an establishment

funded by public tax dollars. The line between government and religion, here and in Ireland, is perpetually blurred.

There is still work to be done. Indeed, when it comes to reproductive freedom, it seems the work is never finished. However, Ireland is moving in the right direction, while our own country seems poised to move backwards. So, what can we learn here? What kind of future can we envision for reproductive freedom and women's rights in the United States? The answer, perhaps, is to look again to Ireland.

Ireland's Example

Julie F. Kay writes in The Hill, "Ireland offers a human-rights-infused way forward for abortion rights in the U.S. and indeed globally. After 35 years of a regime that banned all abortion, Ireland now provides safe, legal and funded services throughout the first trimester of pregnancy. American abortion activists rallying to "Save Roe" would do well to look across the pond for inspiration and examples of successful human-rights-

based strategies... [which] combined human rights litigation, political activism, and mass protests; a trinity of strategies that deserves U.S. attention."

Martin Luther King Jr. reminded us that "the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." These are the words I turn to in times of adversity, that give me strength when human rights and dignity are challenged in the country I love. To those feeling despair and hopelessness in the face of decisions by extremist minorities, know this: the battle has been fought and won before, and it will be won again when we stand together and demand justice for women everywhere. ■

Sources consulted:

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3. In Ireland, Abortion Rights Activists Oppose a Hospital Deal by Ed O'Loughlin, The New York Times.
4. One year on, it's clear that the new Irish abortion services have serious limitations by

Sydney Calkin, The Conversation.

Natalie Keller is a former resident of Galway, Ireland and works in the world of libraries. Her poetry and fiction have appeared in various online platforms, including *Mirror Dance*, *Asymmetry*

Fiction, and *The Peace Chronicle*. She loves to hear from readers at natalie-keller.writer@gmail.com.

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CLEVELAND COMHRÁ

By Bob Carney

@BobCarneyGTR

Celtic Harpist Tiffany Schaefer

The Irish harp or cláirseach that adorns the Irish Euro, as well as the products of Guinness and countless other products and institutions in Ireland and Scotland is a replica of the Brian Boru harp that resides in the library of Trinity College in Dublin. Boru's harp dates from the fourteenth century, and is of a design that was famous throughout Europe in the Middle Ages. They had a "dug out" willow soundbox that produced a bell-like tone when the strings were plucked.

The earliest reference to a harp in Irish lore occurs in the story of the battle between the Tuatha De Danaan and the Fomorians, fought around 1800 BC. It was described as having four angles and having "the murmur of the sweet apple tree."

In Castledermot, Co. Kildare, granite north and south high crosses dating from the tenth century feature a depiction of a seated person playing what appears to be a six string quadrangular harp. The triangular harp we are more familiar with, is said to be an Irish innovation that originated in the ninth century, and became the preferred form by the eleventh century. It remained little changed for the next six-hundred years.

In the seventeenth century, the old Irish harp and the lifestyle of the harpers themselves changed dramatically, due not only to political persecution, but also to changing musical tastes and creativity. Lower tunings were necessary for the progressions common in the Baroque Period.

Today we have two basic types of harp: the orchestral harp and the folk or Celtic harp. It's said that in the right hands "it can create laughter, tears and deep



dreaming."

Tiffany Schaefer is just such a harpist, and speaks with us about the Celtic harp and her music.

Tell us about your harp

My harp is a folk harp or Celtic harp. It's not as big as a pedal harp, which is used in orchestral or classical music. There are usually over forty strings on a pedal harp. The kind I play, the standard, is about thirty-four strings, sometimes thirty-six strings.

My harp was made by Thormahlen Harps in Oregon. They are great harps; they sound good no matter what you do! The harp has been around since ancient Egypt I believe, and has gone through several innovations.

The type I am playing is more modern than a pedal harp, it uses levers instead of pedals. A lot of people think of it as being more historical but technically, it's not.

What do the levers do?

Whenever you have a lever engaged, it will sharpen the notes by a half step. It depends on what I'm playing; some of my strings are tuned to flat and if I put the lever up, it will make it natural, change the pitch a half step.

Many lever harp players will tune their harp to E flat; that is what I do; it gives you the most range, so I can play in E flat all the way to E major and everything between. Some people tune to C because a

lot of folk music is in C or D or G, it really depends on personal preference.

How long have you been playing and what made you choose the harp?

What I was looking for, after I had my first real job and had some extra money, was a lute, because I liked the English Renaissance music, but then I came across a cheaper twenty-two string harp on Ebay and thought, I love Celtic music, I'll give that a try.

I came to the harp because of the music more than the harp itself. I got it and fell in love with it. My friend invited me to the Scottish Games, where I was introduced to the harp competition and lots of harp crazy people. That's where I started to get into Scottish music. My friend told me about Greg Meyer and that's where I got my thirty-six string harp; it's been my life ever since.

Did you play any instrument prior to playing the harp?

No, I played around on the piano since I was five or six, and I also had a guitar that I picked up every now and then. The harp's the one that stuck.

It's not uncommon for the harp to be a first instrument. I teach a lot of adult beginners, people who always wanted to learn. It's a very forgiving instrument, you don't have that awkward phase like you do with a violin, where you sound like a dying cat for a while.

The harp sounds beautiful from the get go, and you can play simple things and it sounds good. It's actually a really good first instrument.

Have you been able to teach much the last couple of years?

I teach privately, but also do on-line teaching and workshops, so people all over the world can take lessons. This is my job, I divide my time between teaching privately, doing workshops. I have a subscription service out where I'll put out material every month for those that sign up.

I put out sheet music there, and Zoom workshops. People can subscribe month to month and learn the music with me.

I also perform, more so lately that I'm playing with the Bigley's. We have a group called the Cleveland Celtic Ensemble. That group is Brian and Kristen Bigley, Ian Crane and myself.

I like to do a little bit of everything. I also perform solo and with Andrew McManus on occasion.

Can you tell us about your learning process?

When I was little, I wanted to play piano by ear, but my mom wanted to teach

me how to read music; I wanted none of that, which I kind of regret now. When I was twenty-two, I picked up the harp and learned more of its folk background.

I found you were encouraged to play by ear. I thought this is great, this is the instrument for me! I did a lot of self teaching, and once I got involved in the Scottish Games, they also have the Scottish Arts School the week after the games, which is like a week long summer camp.

They have a harp program with lots of great teachers there. I've had a smattering of lessons from others, but I'm mostly self-taught. That's a bit of a misnomer because I've learned so much from others over the years.

How can someone contact you to inquire about learning or booking you for a performance?

@tffanyharpsong is my website; you can get to everything from there, including my monthly subscription and email. You can also get to my Youtube performances from there. T

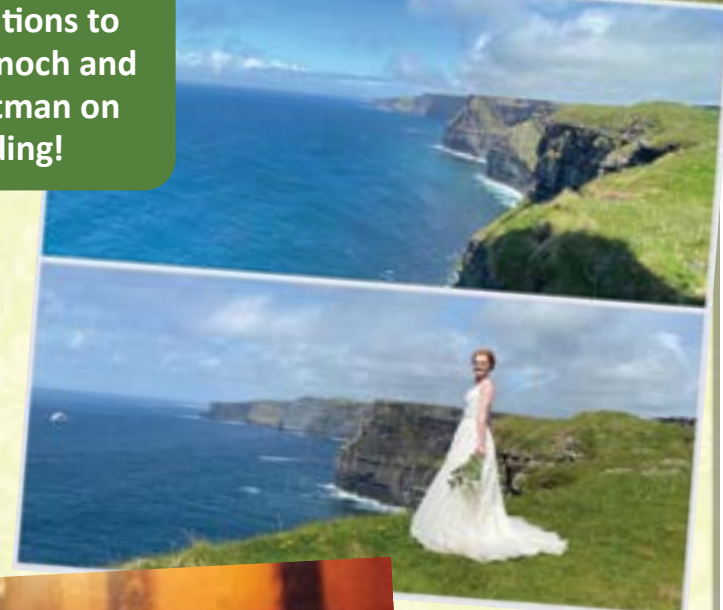
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MILESTONE & SWEET SNAPS



Congratulations to Shannon Enoch and Spencer Litman on their Wedding!



Congratulations to Eileen Quinn Egan and Tom Egan on their 40th Wedding Anniversary!

COMING NEXT MONTH: AUGUST 2022

Bringing you the movers, shakers and music makers in our community each month.

Sessiúns: See What's the Craic on Page 21 for a new, updated list!

- 5th to 7th - Goderich Celtic Roots Festival and College Goderich, Ontario
Midwest GAA National Finals, Rochester, NY.
Dublin Irish Fest
The Bard & the Ballad @Dublin Irish Fest
- 6th - Lakewood Art Festival
- 7th - Shamrock Club of Columbus General Meeting, Euclid, OH.
West Side Irish American Club Family Picnic, Olmsted, OH.
RunOhio Jeff McGowan Memorial Run
Ashura begins at Sundown
- 8th - #ilrish eBulletin drops in your inbox at 3:10 p.m. Signup: ilrish.us
#LiveMoreLifeBeMoreIrish #IrishAmerican #Shenanigans
- 12th-14th - Ohio Celtic Festival, Painesville, OH.
- 14th - WSIA Steak Roast, Olmsted Twp, OH.
- 15th - Irish American Club East Side Monthly Meeting, Euclid, OH.
- 18th - West Side Irish American Club (WSIA) Monthly Meeting, Olmsted Twp., OH.
- 19th - New Barleycorn @WSIA, Olmsted Twp., OH.
AOH Boland-Berry Div. Golf Outing @Bob-o-Links, Avon, OH.
- 19th-21st - USGAA U.S. Irish Football, Hurling, Camogie Finals, Chicago, IL.
Milwaukee Irish Fest, Milwaukee, WI.
- 22nd - #ilrish eBulletin drops in your inbox at 3:10 p.m. Signup: ilrish.us #ilrish
#LiveMoreLifeBeMoreIrish #IrishAmerican #Shenanigans
- 27th - Ukrainian Independence Day Parade, Ukrainian Village, Parma, OH.
- 31st - September Issue of ilrish hits the street #ilrish
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Festival Focus 2022



Mahoning Valley Irish Festival

July 29-30

Featuring: Spot Fire, Weekend at Blarney's, Steel Valley Pipes and Drums, County Mayo, The Bogtrotters, Burke School of Irish Dance, Here comes Tuesday, Low Kings, Irish Bard Alan Irvine, Celtic Rush, One String Short, Mary Lewis.

Plus: Fat Axxes will have axe throwing. Saturday is kid's day w bounce houses, face painters, and kid's crafts. Penguin City Beer will be creating a special Red Irish Ale for the occasion. Sullivan's Brewery will be making their Mahoning Valley debut. thirty food booths, 75 vendors, Community Alley/ Wean Park, 201 S. Phelps Street Youngstown, Ohio, Youngstown, OH 44503

Gaelic Storm, Natalie MacMaster & Donnell Leahy, We Banjo 3, Dervish, Red Hot Chilli Pipers, Skerryvore, Irish Music Masters, Slide, Socks in the Frying Pan, Scythian, Rory Makem & Dónal Clancy, Connla, Seven Nations, The Town Pants, The Byrne Brothers, The John Whelan All-Star Céilí Band, One for the Foxes, Adam Agee & Jon Sousa, just to name a few.

Tickets are on sale; festival goers can save a little green when they [purchase their tickets now](#). Purchase a weekend pass online and save \$10 or purchase a one-day ticket online and save \$5. Children ages 10 and under are free. Seniors (60+), military and student guests can purchase a ticket online or at the Festival for \$15 (I.D. required at the Festival). On Sunday, August 7, non-perishable food items and monetary donations for the Dublin Food Pantry will be collected at each festival admission gate. Guests arriving between 9:30-11 a.m. on Sunday will receive free admission.

For more info: [DublinIrishFestival.org](#), and follow the Festival on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#).



Goderich Celtic Roots Festival

August 5th - 7th, 2022

Top Celtic Artists from Ireland, Scotland, Canada and USA will perform, featuring: Cherish the Ladies, Steve Byrne and Mark Dunlop of Malinky, Bourque *Émissaires*, Beaton-Plasse,

Continued on page 12

2022
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Clíodhna Ní Aodáin • O'Jizo • and more!

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Festival Focus 2022

Goderich Celtic Roots

Continued from page 11

North Atlantic Drift, Emily Jean Flack, Emory Lester, Windborne and more. Is your dream to play whistle with Joanie Madden, or Irish fiddle with Nollaig Casey, learn guitar with Fionán de Barra or mandolin with Emory

Lester? Join our week-long Celtic College to classes with some of the world's best musicians. The Celtic College includes instrument, singing, craft art and dance classes. The Celtic Kids Camp runs concurrently. The festival will also be showcasing the two artists chosen during last year's Virtual Festival as the "Robinson Emerging Artists." They are Clíodhna Ní Aodáin of

Ireland, and the Celtic trio from Japan, O'jizo. Lions Harbour Park on the shores of Lake Huron in Goderich, Ontario Canada. Day and weekend Festival passes available online or by calling (519) 524-8221. For more information on the 2022 Festival lineup or the Celtic College and Kids Camp, visit www.celticfestival.ca or <https://www.facebook.com/goderichceltic>.



Lakewood Arts Festival August 6

Lakewood Arts Festival closes Detroit Avenue, between Belle to Arthur Avenues, to bring artists of all disciplines together, along with 15,000 collectors and art lovers. The juried festival hosts over 170 regional and national artists and makers displaying paintings, prints, photography, art glass, ceramics, jewelry, sculpture, fiber and more. *Featuring:* Assane M'Baye, Senegalese Drums, Chris Allen, Punchdrunk Tagalongs and more, *PLUS:* unique arts-based performances and activities in The Beck Center. **EAT ON THE STREET** food court in front of the Lakewood Library on Detroit will offer a selection of the region's best food trucks. Festival proceeds fund an annual scholarship for Lakewood seniors continuing to art school. After the Festival, the Board will present \$4,000 to the 2022 recipient. The event also funds grants for arts education and programming in the city. Recent awardees include H2O (Help to Others, middle-school students), The Barton Center (senior arts activities), The Beck Center for the Arts (Saturday programs) and Lakewood High School Art, Theater and Photography programs. For more info: www.lakewoodartsfest.org.



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Festival Focus 2022



Ohio Celtic Festival August 12-14

Featuring The New Barleycorn, Tartan Terrors, The Elders, Chelsea Celtic Orchestra, Byrne & Kelly, Plus Celtic Canines, Inflatables for the Kids, four Irish dance schools, bag-pipe bands, vendors with authentic merchandise, Irish & American food, beverages, local and imported beer, whiskey tasting, wine tasting and

more. Lake County Fairgrounds 1301 Mentor Avenue, Painesville Township, Ohio 44077 www.ohiocelticfestival.com



20th Kansas City Irish Fest September 2 -4

Featuring: The Elders, Gaelic

Storm, We Bajo 3, The Narrowbacks, Byrne & Kelly, Shane Hennessey, KCIF Mix Tape, Ashley Davis Band, Carswell & Hope, Seamus Kelleher, Aoife Scott, The Friel Sisters, Kian Burne, Eddie Delahunt, Bob Reeder, Ella Harp, Gerald Trimble & Jamborogue, Calvin Arsenia, Tullamore, KC St Andrew Pipe & Drum, Eileen Gannon & Eimear Arkins, Jump 2 3's.

Fans can follow the fest on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Crown Center Square - Downtown Kansas City: A complete list of performers and other info can be found on-line at www.kcirishtfest.com



31st Pittsburgh Irish Festival September 9-11, 2022

Pittsburgh Irish Festival will be held at Carrie Blast Furnaces National Historic Landmark.

"We could not be more excited to present this year's Festival at such a historic destination," said Mairin Petrone, Pittsburgh Irish Festival

Continued on page 16

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Festival Focus 2022

Pittsburgh Irish Festival

Continued from page 14

Executive Director. "The venue will provide a unique atmosphere where the region's only remaining non-operative blast furnaces will serve as the backdrop to the vibrancy of our annual Celtic Celebration."

The Carrie Furnace Company began operations in 1884, was acquired by Andrew Carnegie in

1898, and then purchased by J.P. Morgan in 1901, who created the U.S. Steel Corporation. It is currently owned by Allegheny County and managed by Rivers of Steel.

For more information on the Pittsburgh Irish Festival, to see photos, and watch video highlights, please visit www.pghirishfest.org.

The Lots at Sandcastle, Pittsburgh, PA. Visit www.pghirishfest.org Facebook.com/PittsburghIrishFestival Twitter: @pittsburghirish Instagram: @pghirishfest for info. Fun for the entire family. ●



21st Michigan Irish Music Festival September 15 -18

MIMF returns for its 21st year at the beautiful Heritage Landing in downtown Muskegon, Michigan on the shores of Muskegon Lake. The festival kicks off with a pub party on Thursday. Multiple stages and over

twenty bands are planned for the weekend, featuring traditional, rock, and contemporary Irish music from local, regional, and Ireland-based acts.

Scythian, Old Blind Dogs, The Elders, Aoife Scott, Shane Hennessy, The Alt, Kittel & Co., Rory Makem, The Tossers, Friel Sisters, RUNA, Connla, The Irish Music All Stars, and still more to come.

Plus: Irish food at the Celtic Kitchen, wee ones' activities, cultural workshops, dance stage, marketplace shopping, and craft beer/whiskey tastings. Thursday's pub preview party is a great value at only \$5, which features four bands on the pub stage.

For tickets and discounts (patrons save \$5 p/ticket online vs. the gate price), visit www.michiganirish.org A four-day pass is also available online. Children aged 12 and under are free. ●



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TOLEDO IRISH
By Molly McHugh

The Druids

All the hard days are gone, it's all beer or whiskey and just songs from now on; laugh at the darkness and dance until dawn, all of the hard days are gone.

All of the Hard Days are Gone
written by Kevin McKrell.

The Toledo Irish American Club in conjunction with Toledo AOH brought *The Druids* to Toledo for a night of education, dancing, and most importantly, a night of Irish musical entertainment that rocked the house! The night started off with an educational talk from Mick O'Brien, founding member of The Druids.

Mick's wealth of knowledge of Ireland's history is second to none, and he has a delightful and copesetic way of connecting Irish history with Irish music. Have you ever thought about Irish music as artifacts? Well as Mick explained, when you synchronize the stories and lyrics of Irish music to thoughts and feelings, the music becomes emotional artifacts.

After Mick's talk, members from The Ardan Academy of Irish dance performed a set of Ceili dances, and a few slip jigs and reels. Rylei Young, who recently competed at the World Irish Dancing Championship in April, was part of the performance. The Ardan dancers never disappoint, and they were a great prelude to The Druids.

The Druids performed two sets, which included both traditional and modern Irish folk songs. They even sang a few classic US hits! Have you ever heard an Irish band sing Joleen by Dolly Parton? If not, you need to make it to the next Druids event!

In between sets, I had the pleasure of speaking to Mick about The Druids, and he shared some insights on



Mick O'Brien

the band that are just too good not to share.

How did The Druids come to be?
Mick O'Brien and Gary Lowry, another founding member of the band, worked together at a professional youth program. At the same time, Mick was hosting an Irish Radio program, the longest running folk music radio program in Ireland. A regular listener of the program connected the dots that Gary was a great singer. When Mick caught wind of that, he approached Gary about the idea of forming a band, forming in 2008.

Where does the name The Druids come from?

About a year before the current The Druids band formed; Mick had a small band that played low key shows around town; they called themselves The Druids. When the current Druids first gig came in, they had not yet come up with a name. Low and behold, Mick had some old promotional materials from the initial band already printed, so they went ahead and used that, and the rest, as they say, is history.

How would you describe your style

of music?

There is not a genre of music that exists today with the style of music that we play. We take old Irish songs and present or play them in an upbeat fashion.

Do you have a favorite song to perform?

Currently, my favorite song to perform is called 'All of the Hard Days are Gone,' which was released on our latest album. The song was originally written by Kevin McKrell. The song talks about dealing with issues of anxiety and depression.

The original song goes like this, 'all the hard days are gone, it's all beer or whiskey and just songs from now on; laugh at the darkness and dance until dawn, all of the hard days are gone.' An important part of The Druids story is that three of the band members are in recovery. When Mick heard this song and wanted The Druids to record it, he reached out to Kevin and asked if they could change one word of the song that would give it a completely new meaning. Kevin agreed, and The Druids lyrics now goes like this, 'All the hard days are gone, there's no beer or whiskey just songs from now on; laugh at the darkness and dance until dawn, all of the hard days are gone.'

Recording during the pandemic was challenging. We couldn't get in studio because of COVID restrictions, and when we could get in and get on a roll, we were made to leave again. However, because we were not on tour during that time, it allowed us the time to record, so you have to take the good with the bad.

Do you have any unusual tour stories?

Once, we went to perform in Denmark; we arrived at the venue, did the sound check and we were waiting in the green room to perform. The green room was filled with every drink you could imagine. Mick was trying to communicate that they do not drink, but because of the language barrier, the Denmark host thought they were asking for more drink! Luckily, they finally got on the same page.

Mick clearly did not remember the language barrier because when they

went on stage that night, he told the crown he was jumping in to crowd surf, which didn't translate, so Mick jumped in and landed on the ground! Not to worry, he came out unscathed!

Besides Toledo, if you could play anywhere in the world, where would that be?

My goal is to play at the Olympia Theater in Dublin, and I will be sure to play there.

I have seen many Irish bands perform in my life, and The Druids were more than impressive. Their love of telling the story of Irish Irish music shines through in every lyric and tune that they sing. ■

Molly McHugh is a Toledo native. She holds her MSc in Strategy, Innovation and People Management from National University of Ireland, Galway. She can be reached at molly.mchugh16@gmail.com.

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Irish Boxing with Lisa, Lisa, Lisa

I often wonder how I ended up in such a sporty family. When I go to sporting events, I am just in it for the snacks. But in the last few years, sports have provided some amazing memories for our family, especially my in-laws, Kevin and Ann. They live next to the family home in Roscommon and were blessed with five daughters.

That fact was a bit daunting to my brother-in-law Kevin, who has worked a sheep and cattle farm for the last thirty years. Farm help arrived in the form of two of his daughters, Aoife (*Eefah*) and Lisa. Working on the farm made

two little girls into two strong, fit young ladies.

Around a month ago, the same two young ladies boarded a plane, along with a dozen or so amateur boxers, as members of the Irish Boxing Association. They were on their way to fight in the World Boxing Competition, the toughest of the global competitions, which was held in Istanbul Turkey this year.

Aoife and Lisa made it into the Irish national spotlight from the get-go. Not only did they train together, but Aoife, the older of the two, had already shown herself a formidable competitor on the world stage.

How did this happen in a small rural community? The popularity of the Irish boxing phenomenon Katie Taylor spurred interest and investment in ladies boxing. A club opened auspiciously in the girls' hometown, Castlereagh.

All five girls have been in the boxing gym to work out; it's about the only game in town. Aoife and Lisa's natural athleticism, along with commitment and determination, made them stand-outs at the club. It was on to bigger things for them.

Having two of them in the recent competition was really bad for the blood pressure for all of us. Bout times were strange due to the international



Welcome Home Katie!

location. The fights were streamed live on YouTube, but they are hours long and the individual matches are short.

So, we watched with nerves jangling as Aoife and Lisa fought for position. Unfortunately for Aoife, her first fight was against the reigning world champion, and things did not go her way.

We saw it coming with Lisa. There is a determined set to this normally sweet girl that lets you know that no matter how sweet the smile, she is going to do what she set out to do. When she boxes, she boxes and when she plays football, she plays football.

I remember being in Ireland when she was playing Gaelic football and a ref called her over and asked her to remove her glasses so that she didn't get hurt. She replied, "You mind your business and I'll mind mine." That's our girl, she takes no prisoners. So, when she decided to add boxing to her repertoire, I knew that the world better get ready.

By repertoire I mean that the girl is an athlete. She led a Roscommon high school age team to a national victory by scoring a buzzer beating basket. Watch her play anything, and it is easy to see that she does well in pressure situations.

Her first passion was Gaelic football. In Ireland, there is a serious women's league that plays inter-county football and Lisa is on the Roscommon team.

Lately, at least in that sport, her athleticism has worked against her. She is so visibly strong and fit that she has drawn some, we'll call them interesting, referee calls on the pitch.

Olympics

About five years ago, she decided that she would train seriously for boxing. Her sister Aoife went to the Olympics in China last summer and Lisa, along with fellow boxing golden girl Amy Broadhurst, were allowed to accompany her and train with the Irish team up until the competition officially started. That was a very inspirational trip for Lisa, and she set equally inspired goals.

Istanbul started great for Lisa when she won by unanimous decision in her first fight. Her second fight was on May 13, her twentieth birthday, and it was another win. That day, she fought immediately after her friend and teammate Amy, who was also victorious.

Again, I am no expert and certainly not unbiased, but Lisa is fun to watch in the ring. She is very light on her feet and has stamina to burn. Amy is smaller and grittier in the ring, but also a great fighter. The whole family were sick with nerves on the day of the last fight, the one for the gold medal, on May 19.

The competition was tough, judging is subjective at times and the Ireland ladies had only won the world gold medal twice, in the forms of Katie Taylor and Kellie Harrington. Adding to the stress,



Katie and her proud Da

Lisa was fighting the reigning champion Helena Panguane from Mozambique.

First up was Amy's fight. She is older than Lisa and has been training for this moment since she was little. She is small but tough and it was a tough fight, but she pulled it off and won! Immediately after her victory, Lisa walked into the ring. This was easily her hardest fight. She was taller, younger and much less experienced than her opponent, Helena. There was a lot of back and forth in the competition, but Lisa maintained her speed and grace throughout. Somewhere in the last round, I saw her chin set and I saw the end in sight for Helena. Another trait of Lisa's is that she is stubborn. She prevailed and won the match in a 4-1 decision.

Her victory jump was about four feet in the air. It was wonderful to see Amy and Lisa on stage with their gold medals, just beaming, and the tricolor behind them. Lisa's sister Aoife was there cheering them on the entire time.

Homecoming

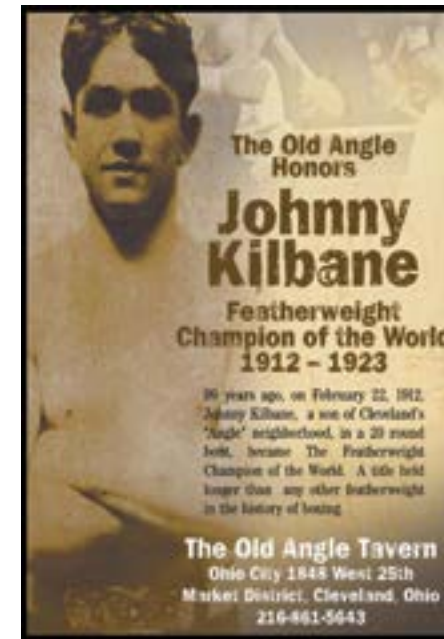
There were homecoming activities galore! The ladies have had ceremonies and parades. Amy and Lisa were on the Irish "Late, Late Show" two weeks ago. It is amazing to watch, especially seeing the stalwart humility and grace of all three ladies. I can tell you that Lisa is not done, not by a long shot. She was back on the football pitch this past weekend and scored three points, helping the Roscommon team to victory over the Kildare Lillywhites. She has some football goals that she is working on too.

Little tolerance is given to the bragging in Ireland. Whether it is a fear of tempting fate or a general distaste for self-praise, you just shouldn't do it.

Will success spoil Lisa O'Rourke? We certainly hope not and have every reason to suspect that we are right. Like many a good Irishman, her father Kevin has always been the leveler of the family, never letting anyone's balloon get too high; he is waiting and watching with a long sharp pin. As flashbulbs popped, Kevin told a crowd that if they wanted to talk to the girls, "they could come to the bog and spend a few hours. That's where the girls will be next week." ■

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

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Stone Mad:

Exploring Achill Part II

As a follow up to the March article, Still Stone Mad: A Conversation with Dry Stone Wall Genius Ken Curran, this is a story of discovery a little closer to home. While visiting with Ken on Achill Island, we decided to take a slight detour from the Deserted Village at Slievemore to explore a vacated homestead in the small village of Dooega. This old house holds childhood memories for a family in the West Park community and fuels my enthusiasm for sharing knowledge of how our ancestors may have lived and some of the stories hidden in the stones left behind.

With not much to go on but our own curiosity, Lavelle's as a gatepost and a few local names to drop, we headed out

to the seashore to find the house on the hill that was once the home of Joseph and Margaret Gallagher. The Gallaghers lived in the home along with their nine children with descendants now here in the States.

Dooega

Typical of small villages where everyone knows each other, Dooega was no different; we were assured that upon our arrival, Michael or Kevin at the bar could point us in the right direction. As with any adventure and the best laid plans, sometimes things can go a wee bit astray.

However, in Ireland we've discovered that going astray can be a good thing, as

long as you keep a sense of humor and adventure close at hand. We arrived at Lavelle's ready for a pint and a chat with the locals, and much to our surprise, the pub was closed due to COVID. Luckily, we had one last bit of instruction to make the connection to the homestead by the sea: call this number and ask for Michael.

So, without hesitation, we pulled out our cell phone to ring the number with hopes that the person on the other end will understand our quest and provide us with sufficient directions to get to the destination. A pleasant voice answered our call, and it most certainly wasn't Michael. Michael's wife Breda was more than happy to connect us with her hus-

band. Not only did we get to spend time chatting with both of our new found friends, but we also received a personal escort to that lovely house on the hill, overlooking the bay. Looking at the deserted house, it was easy to imagine life in such a setting. I could picture the chimney rising up through the roofline and imagine many warm fires on the shores of beautiful Achill Bay.

Now at our destination, our hope was to explore the grounds, take a few pictures and see if we could learn anything about the structure itself. It didn't take long for Ken, our expert tour guide, to begin to discover and share some interesting finds about the struc-



ture. Although in disrepair, the exposed walls and ceiling revealed the type of construction that was typical of early to mid-19th century homes.

Irish Construction

Wooden purlins spanned the roof, making it easy to observe the slate tiles that would have protected the family from the harsh winters on the island. In addition to the exposed ceiling, we could see how the walls, chimney and home were placed as a basis of lifestyle.

The home was constructed with three distinct rooms, with entry from outside through a small vestibule that protected the family from the cold ocean winds. Once inside, there was a sitting room

to the left, kitchen in the center where Joseph and Margaret would have slept, and the last room to the right, would have been the bedroom for the children. One of the main features of any dwelling in Ireland is the fireplace and as expected the fireplace was located in the kitchen, where everything from dinner prep to storytelling, laundry and child rearing all took place under the watchful eyes of the parents.

Moving outside and around the building, the years of wear had exposed much of the underlying stonework. The white lime wash that is commonly seen across Ireland, had all but disappeared. With

Continued on page 22

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Stone Mad Continued from page 21

help from Ken and his in-depth knowledge of the region, he was able to identify the type of stone used to construct the walls and surrounding structures.

Quartzite, Gneiss Schist

Most of the stone that exists on Achill is primarily quartzite, gneiss and schist, which is where you will generally see the grey-green, orange, white and purple colors which are evident throughout the exterior walls of the Gallagher home. What makes an adventure like this so rewarding is not only the discoveries we make, the friends we meet, or the surrounding natural beauty, but to also identify the unique nuances of the structures and be able to share this with

the families.

When you take time to look closely at the construction, the stories emerge in your imagination, and you see in your mind's eye the history in the stones themselves. Although similar to other abandoned home sites, each one is unique and has its own story and history hidden in the walls. The specific way each wall is built can be found nowhere else but where the stones are forever placed.

That is the beauty of stone construction, the techniques are derived from centuries of history, yet each build is unique to the stones that are used at the site. Having the opportunity to provide photographs of this site to the family will forever be a snapshot of their ancestors' home. The patterns and colors of the stone provide a fingerprint to the past that can live together with their childhood memories of summer at the sea with grandparents, cousins and other relatives.

We will continue to work with DSWAI to bring you content, stories and information published here in iIrish as well as on the internet at www.ilrish.us ■

John Digney is an Artist /Designer who received his BFA in Industrial Design from the Cleveland Institute of Art. He was raised in the Cleveland neighborhood of Westpark near Kamm's Corner. John and his wife Kathleen now reside in Greenville, SC. He can be reached at jdigney59@gmail.com.

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Freedom for All Ireland Irish Road Bowling Fundraiser a Strike

By Michael Cosgrove

The Second Annual AOH Patrick Pearse Division Freedom for All Ireland (FFAI) Road Bowling Fundraiser was full of great competition, and fun. Rain came early, but it passed through just as bowlers started to arrive, leaving a cloudy but warm day for the event.

Despite the threatening weather, a good turnout of just under sixty bowlers and friends came down to Deer Creek State Park to roll 28-ounce iron and steel balls down a winding and slightly hilly road. Competition was fierce (but friendly) and the First Place trophy was taken home by Mike Murphy's team, "Better at Cornhole;" ... and he is.

West Virginia teams did not take the trophy, and it's good to keep it in Ohio. Of course, no West Virginia teams showed up, due to a competing event in Morgantown, and that may have had something to do with the outcome; they would have smoked us otherwise.

West Virginia is a hotbed of Irish Road Bowling stateside, sponsoring over twenty events annually. Here in Ohio, the last Saturday of October brings the annual Greater Columbus Irish Cultural Foundation (GCICF) event to Deer Creek. The AOH event



will be held annually on the last Saturday of April, also at Deer Creek.

Many thanks to all who participated, sponsored signs or otherwise assisted with the event.

Request more information at pearseffai@gmail.com. A good time was had by all, and we met and exceeded our fundraising goal once again. ■

The AOH's Freedom for All Ire-

land Fund aids and advances the aspirations and endeavors of the Irish people for complete and absolute independence, promoting peace and unity for all Ireland. Categories of Hibernian aid through Freedom for All Ireland funding include truth and justice groups, cross-community and local community groups, Irish culture,

heritage and language and cross border groups, forums and initiatives.

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BLOWIN' IN

By Susan Mangan

@SueMangan

A Day in Derrylaughan

"Nature is a wonderful thing. Every living creature has a part to play in it."

– Uncle Paddy

As a girl, I would stand in the middle of my uncle's barnyard and inhale the fragrance of sweet grass and cow manure, ripe tomato vines and hot July earth. The air smelled of innocence and animals, honesty and hay. I memorized this scent, so that I might conjure it when the city reeked of exhaust and

car fumes threatened to smother my daydreams.

I have not been back to my uncle's Missouri farm in many years, but I know the fragrance well. When summer rains fall in my suburban garden, I am that girl standing with arms spread wide embracing the fresh horizon.

Perhaps that is what initially drew my husband and I to one another that evening years ago when I told him stories of my uncle's farm in Missouri, and he told me of his love for his uncle's farm in the west of Ireland. We shared a passion for country air, farm animals, and the peace of an open field.

A Day in the Life of a Farmer in Ireland

This spring I stood among buttercups and buzzing bees while one of the uncles walked me through a day in his life as a cattle and sheep farmer in County Mayo, Ireland. Serenaded by the ubiquitous call of the spring cuckoo bird, the wind surrounded me with girlhood memories of fragrant sweet hay and cows ripe with unborn calves.

Uncle Paddy farms the land that has been in his family for generations.



Billy the ram



Uncle Paddy

As a boy, he learned from his father and grandfather commitment to the land and the animals under their care. Uncle Paddy breeds all the animals himself, so he knows the health of their lineage.

He introduced me to three of his docile-eyed cows: Daisy, Essie, and Bessie. The diets of the expectant mothers are carefully tended. The right balance of healthy nutrients ensures a healthy calf and a better labor for the mother. If the mother cow eats more than her limit, the unborn calf has the potential to grow too large, which could result in a difficult and dangerous labor.

Depending on the time of year and the progress of the mother's gestational time, the cows either birth in the field or in the barn. Given the circumstances of the birth, the farmer tends to the mother during calving if necessary. Usually, the female cows are two to two and half years of age before they are considered mature enough to safely carry a calf.

Uncle Paddy raises Simmental, Charolais, and Limousin cattle for

meat and breeding. In addition to his herd of approximately twenty heads of cattle, he also herds over a hundred sheep: Charolais, Texel, and Mayo Mountain Horned Sheep. Each breed is hardy and easy to lamb.

Sheep on the Mountainside

Curious as to how the terrain impacts the flavor of the butchered lamb, I asked the Uncle about the sheep that cling to the rocky mountainsides in Achill Island. I was curious if their meat was tougher because of their physical exertions. Uncle Paddy's pastoral farm is marked with rolling hills of grass and heather, as opposed to the rocky soil of the cliffs and the coastal flowers that grow amid the extreme winds and salty Atlantic air.

Curiously, the wild herbs that the Achill sheep feed upon contributes to a sweet meat with fine texture. Much like varieties of honey that result from bees that sup on clover, orange blossoms, or wild blackberries, the natural terrain impacts the flavor of the lamb.

Proud of his family legacy, Uncle Paddy works hard to maintain the prime quality of his product and the purity of his land. Farmers must work closely with the Irish Bord Bia to ensure that the provenance of the lamb and beef cattle is certified proof of farm-to-farm traceability. In fact, diners can expect to see the provenance of the meat and the artisanal producers of sausages and puddings who use their products listed directly on a menu's meal offerings locally and throughout the country.

The Business Side to Irish Farming

After feeding the animals and discussing the business side to Irish farming in the twenty-first century, Uncle Paddy told me to hop in the jeep and he would show me the rest of his family's land. With Cap the dog leading the way, we slowly made our way around narrow, hedge-lined bends, each field more beautiful than the last.

Uncle Paddy brought me to Dúir-nawanna Field, the land which his grandfather and grandfather before him farmed. Maintaining the integrity of the land, Paddy has kept the original stone fencing marking the property's gardens: The Five Gits and Préata, the kitchen garden where his grandmother

tended potatoes.

The rows where the potatoes once grew are still neatly visible beneath the grass and meadow flowers. A beautiful tree stands as sentry to this serene place. Growing strong and free for generations, the tree reaches over the stone fencing and protects a carpet of spring bluebells. I remarked on this lovely tree and Uncle Paddy agreed, "Sure, 'tis a nice tree. I remember my dad talking about it and his father too."

Such is the beauty of a farm. Years may pass, but land - kept, loved, and respected ensures that future generations can enjoy the simple magic of nature and an honest life well-lived.

Uncle Paddy's dedication to his family's land and his commitment to the humane treatment and compassionate care of his animals is evident throughout his farm. At heart, a trust must exist between the farmer, his steadfast sheep dog, and the farm animals in his care. While the day began to dim, I met Billy the ram, who made sure his want for an evening snack was well known.

He bellowed a hardy "Maaaa" as the sun set beneath his back.

Cap kept me on a sturdy path, always with a loyal eye out for his master. Cows as pale as milky cups of tea regarded me curiously as I made my way throughout the barnyard. Mother sheep trotted to the trough for their evening feed, while the lambs frolicked and settled in to nurse at their mother's heavy teats.

As Uncle Paddy beautifully declared, "Nature is a wonderful thing. Every living creature has a part to play in it." Indeed, Paddy is a kind and compassionate director, with nature taking the lead. ■

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

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CLEVELAND IRISH

By Francis McGarry

Someone's Past

My graduate Professor, Michel-Rolph Trouillot, taught me a few things. One was always cut the cards; actually, that was Mr. Dooley. One was *terra nullius*, roughly translated to "land belonging to nobody." It has been referenced before in these columns and is pertinent to processing the patterns of settlement and re-settlement in Cleveland.

As the City of Cleveland increased in population and area, its application was diminished. The heuristics of settlement patterns in Cleveland and in America in general has historically been limited to census data and what we are going to call visibility.

Census

Census data is the starting part, as we have seen in our review of the 1940 Census data in the St. Aloysius neighborhood. This methodology is substantiated in the initial urban communities of New England, the Middle Atlantic and East North Central states. These areas experienced the most heterogeneous range of immigration, via various points of entry, and the greater part of the Irish Catholic immigration.

It is also in numerically significant and temporally precise contexts that members of migration groups create "high visibility." In Irish American studies that equates to trade union, political and church overrepresentation, based on census numbers. It is also why I can ride my bike to Murray Hill. Italian migration and the Great Migration

THE HISTORY OF THE IRISH IN CLEVELAND BOTH BEGINS WITH A NUMERICALLY SIGNIFICANT MIGRATION AND A COMPARATIVELY OPEN LANDSCAPE.

can be generally understood utilizing this paradigm.

The history of the Irish in Cleveland both begins with a numerically significant migration and a comparatively open landscape. That is a very basic understanding of the Cleveland Irish narrative and should immediately lead to the question, "Why settlement in the Flats?"

Those are also transportation and employment issues. The cultural nexus never points in one direction. To curtail discussion of settlement and re-settlement to a theory of numerical strength is both facile and inadequate.

Irish American history has to be understood in terms of comparative immigration periods and potential multi-phase settlement and re-settlement. It is a false notion that Irish immigration was limited to the Famine. It

is also a false notion that immigration from various ethnic groups occurs independent of other immigrations and a global context.

My Uncle paid a physical price for his concrete work with his Italian friends. As a historical actor, he worked in concrete with the Italians and not the canals with his brethren nor the railroads with the Chinese due in part to his immigration in 1904 and not 1840.

Professor Trouillot taught to look at history on a local, national and international level, simultaneously. That connection can be gleaned from the census data in various expressions. The Irish reported being born in the Irish Free State, Ireland, Eire, West Ireland, South Ireland and by their Irish county. How they identified was a function of those three levels of history and their place in history.

He taught that it is critical to connect history with those who are the historical actors of today, those of us on this side of the grass. Devoid of that connection those events and actors are just "the Past" and not history.

Oh, Mexico

He shared his experience at Chichen Itza, Mexico, and the Cenote of Sacri-

face where men, women and children were thrown in alive to deities now mostly forgotten. Cenotes are limestone sinkholes found in the Yucatan Peninsula. Great for snorkeling and diving, I was told by my Mayan friends.

The translation was lost on how I failed my swimming test at Notre Dame, four lengths of the Olympic pool utilizing a different stroke each length, really? Lost in translation because they spoke a dialect of Mayan and I spoke some form of summer job Spanish. I dove in and "swam" the thirty or so yards in the water filled cave to the subsequent opening. I prayed more than I swam.

My professor would not have been impressed by my aquatic skill set. He would have been impressed that my Mayan friends knew their history and had a connection to that history, the pyramids, cenotes and their cultural history. That was critical to Trouillot: making the past become not just history by process of scholarship, but connecting that history to the present and making it someone's past.

Irish Generations

In Cleveland that requires the connection of those earliest immigrants

to the lineage of Irish immigrants in migratory phases that followed and to the offspring of all of those immigrants. The Irish during the 1930s and 1940s, as the Census data has shown, consisted of a good three generations: the remnant of the first to arrive, born in Ireland who had left Ireland in their youth and were the last of that generation; the children of those immigrants who were mostly raised in the last decade of the nineteenth and first few years of the twentieth century; the children of the latter who were the coming of age in 1940. All three of these generations were still witnessing Irish immigration that did not compare numerically to early migrations but expanded the bricolage of Cleveland Irishness.

The goal then is understanding the synchronic history of each individual Irish group and diachronic history of the Irish collective history in Cleveland. Synchronic history is when we focus on one particular time, like the 1940 census. Diachronic history is through time, longitudinal data, and analysis. That is the ability to connect the 1940 Census data with 1820 and with 2020, to us and our children. Lucky for us, the 1950 Census has been made public. Analysis of Wards

24, 25 and 27 will illuminate the re-settlement of those three groups of Irish and determine whether if those distinctions impacted that re-settlement and/or what variables did. We can also begin to historically connect to those same Irish folks in the 1930 Census and the 1920 Census. That can be researched to the first Irish immigrants in Cleveland and to a diachronic history of Irish settlement and re-settlement. That is what Trouillot taught, to increase the connectivity each of us has with history, and to make making the past someone's past. ■

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

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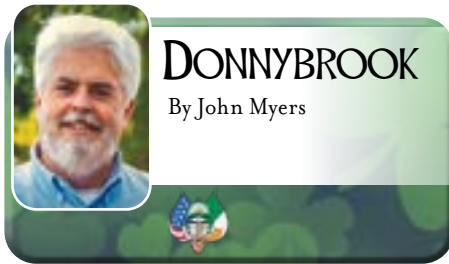
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DONNYBROOK

By John Myers

BOJO losing MOJO

While British Prime Minister Boris Johnson officially “won” a majority of support from fellow members of his Conservative and Unionist Party, he emerged in a weakened position. There are 359 members of the Tory Party in Westminster, so BOJO needed approximately one hundred eighty votes to ‘survive.’ He did receive fifty-nine percent of the vote (211 to 148); but the fact that members of his own party asked for this vote of confidence is a bad place to begin and the fact that one hundred forty-eight of his fellow Tory Party members voted to replace him may be a sign that the end is in sight.

In modern history, Thatcher ‘won’ a vote of confidence in 1990, as did PM John Major in 1995 and PM Theresa May in 2018, but the vote signaled, whether in days or months an end to their leadership. BOJO has been described as only leaving No. 10 Downing Street in handcuffs or a grave diggers box.

His pugnacious spirit will not allow him to ‘walk’ out the door. In all likelihood, his “Partygate” scandal, in which he violated his own government pandemic lock down rules, coupled with worldwide high inflation, a European war, losses in several bi-elections and continued challenges presented by the realities of implementing Brexit, combine to paint a bleak picture for BOJO. But before stepping down, he would call for a snap election and throw his fate to the electorate. After all, it was only two and a half years ago that he won a landslide victory and BOJO has supreme self confidence in his abilities to connect to the voters.

Irish Nationalists have little use or love for BOJO but are conscious to not take too much pleasure in the PM’s troubles. BOJO is an amoral cad, not bound by any burden of consistency or truth telling, but his transactional



“REMEMBER THAT BOJO IS THE LEADER OF THE CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST PARTY AND YET HE ABANDONED HIS COMMITMENT TO NORTHERN IRELAND UNIONISTS THAT HE WOULD NOT ALLOW AN IRISH SEA BORDER.”

nature has been inadvertently beneficial to the cause of Irish unity by getting Brexit ‘done’ and his willingness to negotiate the Northern Ireland Protocol, which did keep a hard border off the Irish Isle and created an economic border between Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Irish Sea Border

The Irish Sea border helps by more clearly defining the Island of Ireland as a cohesive economic unit, laying a profound and logic-based foundation for the call for Irish unity. Remember that BOJO is the Leader of the Conservative AND *Unionist* Party and yet he abandoned his commitment to Northern Ireland Unionists that he would not allow an Irish Sea border. BOJO was focused on getting Brexit done and was willing to sacrifice the NI Unionists to accomplish that goal.

The Unionists should embrace this reality, the reality that nobody in Westminster really cares about Northern Ireland (less than 3% of UK population), this relationship the Unionists hold so dear to their identity is a fallacy,

it is a one-way relationship. Younger Unionists are seeing this more clearly and appreciating that a future as part of a United Ireland within a progressive European Union is the path to peace, growth, and stability.

In the meantime, elections in Westminster will still have impact on how the march to Irish Unity will play out. A weakened BOJO government may make him more desperate to accommodate unreasonable Unionist demands. In the end, don’t forget that the Conservative and Unionist Party is also known as the Tory Party, “Tory” coming from the middle Irish word “Torai,” meaning outlaw or robber.

Unionist Umbrage

The Unionists continue to boycott the Northern Ireland Assembly (Stormont), allegedly due to the Northern Ireland Protocol (Irish Sea Border). DUP Leader Sir Jeff Donaldson stated: “The Northern Ireland Protocol has left me feeling like a second-class citizen.”

UUP Leader Doug Beattie, a Sandhurst (Royal Military Academy)

graduate and a MLP from Upper Bann said: “There is a large swath of Unionism where the Protocol is deeply damaging for them, and they feel their identity is under threat.”

While going out of his way to claim he was not threatening violence, Beattie played the age old Orange card of doing just that with his words: “It doesn’t take much to go from a brick to a stone, and from a stone to a petrol bomb to a bullet, and from a bullet to a coffin.”

While in the spirit of inclusion and one trying to follow the call of empathy, it is really a challenge in this case where Orange men and women take umbrage at having their British kippers inspected en route to Belfast supermarkets causing them to feel like 2nd class citizens versus the Nationalist community who suffered the decades of grave indignities of denial of the right to vote, the right to full education, the right to housing, the right to speak their own language, the right to fly a flag of their choosing, the right to free access to a job, the right to free expression of one’s faith; let alone the

loss of liberty, the loss of due process and the loss of life itself. They also must go through inspections. Implicit bias does not even begin to explain the elevated heights of Unionist entitlement exemplified in this continued fit of self-pity.

O’Neil Outreach

Contrast the inward-looking self-pity of Unionism with the leaders of the Nationalist community focus on the future, not the past, through a gracious outreach to all. Sinn Fein’s Northern Ireland leader, Michelle O’Neil, to date, has been denied her right to be sworn in as First Minister of the Northern Ireland Assembly through Unionist political sabotage. While only a symbolic title, Unionism cannot come to grips with giving up of its privilege by following the will of the democratic vote and the law of the land and proceeding with a historic Nationalist First Minister.

What would have been considered remarkable just a short time ago, Sinn Fein Leader Michelle O’Neill has penned a letter to Queen Liz on the occasion of her 70th Jubilee. O’Neill praised the Queen for

her “significant contributions” to the Peace Process and spoke of the “value and respect” she had for the Queen advancing the cause of reconciliation; words exhibiting Sinn Fein’s serious intent to lead ALL the Irish people in the Six Counties and all of Ireland in the twenty-first Century.

Saudi Sand Trap

County Antrim native and world class golfer Graeme McDowell is facing blow back from his decision to the grab the oil cash by joining the Saudi Arabia sponsored LIV Golf Invitational, a rival of the PGA Tour. Some would say the ‘blood’ cash, as the Saud’s are looking to paper over dismal human rights status through sponsorship of international sport.

Royal Bank of Canada was one of the first to pull their sponsor relationship with the Irish golfer and American Dustin Johnson. Time will tell if McDowell can work his way of this sand bunker. ■

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ON THIS DAY IN IRISH HISTORY JULY

- 1 July 1893 - Gaelic League (Conradh Na Gaeilge) is founded and dedicated to the “de-Anglicization of Ireland” through the revival and preservation of Irish as a spoken language.
- 5 July 1828 - Daniel O’Connell wins the Clare election. He was unable to take his seat since Members of Parliament had to take the Oath of Supremacy, which was incompatible with Catholicism.
- 6 July 1907 - The Irish Crown Jewels vanish from Dublin Castle, never to be found.
- 8 July 1980 - Birth in Tallaght of soccer player Robert David “Robbie” Keane.
- 9 July 1809 - Birth of Irish scholar John O’Donovan, translator and editor of The Annals of Four Masters. Written by four Franciscans from Donegal, they are considered to be the most extensive of all the compilations of the ancient annals of Ireland, covering

from 2,242 years after creation until 1616AD.

11 July 1921 - A truce ends the War of Independence between the IRA and the British Army, which had been raging since 1919.

12 July 1691 - Over 7,000 die in the Battle of Aughrim; the Williamites are victorious over the Jacobites.

14 July 1999 - A meeting is held to decide on whether to back the Northern Ireland peace plan by the Ulster Unionists. It ends in only fifteen minutes, with their opposition to the act unchanged.

16 July 1958 - Birth of Michael Flatley, Irish American step dancer, writer, flautist and choreographer, who became internationally known for his stage show, Riverdance.

19 July 2009 - Death in NY of Frank McCourt, Pulitzer Prize winning author of Angela’s Ashes.

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TAKING THE FIELDS OF GLORY

By Vincent Beach

Midwest Gaelic Athletic Association

Cleveland 7-A-Side Gaelic Football Tournament

Results: On May 21st at the West Side Irish American Club, twenty-nine games of men's and ladies Gaelic Football were played amongst sixteen teams from 10am until 6pm. With the Virgin Mary's statue in the front window, the tournament volunteer committee headed up by Jim Coyne were able to hold off the ominous thunderstorms that were predicted, until the award ceremonies were nearly complete.

Winning for the Men's was Pittsburgh Celtics (1) with their defeat of Chicago John McBride's; for the Ladies was Chicago Aisling Gaels over Milltown Gaels; in the Men's Shield division Cleveland St. Pat's - St. Jarlath's over Pittsburgh Celtics (2); and in the Ladies' Consolation match, Cleveland St. Pat's - St. Jarlath's over Pittsburgh Banshees.

Midwest GAA News

After the Cleveland Memorial 7s, teams rocked into the new season. The Cleveland Men hosted Cincinnati CLG and the two Men's Buffalo teams squared off on May 28th. Cleveland routed Cincinnati by the score of 5-15 (30) to 2-4 (10), despite several gorgeous points and a rocket goal by the Cincinnati's former Midwest all-star.

The new Buffalo Na Fianna squad led the entire match against the Fenians, finishing out 2-11 (17) to 1-3 (6) at Potters Road Field. The Cleveland ladies and Pittsburgh ladies had also planned to play both football and hurling May 28th, but have rescheduled to July 2nd to avoid travel to Cleveland three weeks in a row.

Camogie 360

Camogie 360 was well attended on



The Battle of Buffalo

June 4th at Cleveland's West Side Irish American Club by current and new players from around the Midwest (Akron, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, and Rochester). The program was organized by Midwest GAA's Camogie Development Officer, John Young, and Chicago's Colm Egan, who also led the instruction. Ladies combined classroom and field lessons on Saturday to a game-paced action on Sunday.

The program was sponsored by the Global Games Development Fund (Ireland), the USGAA, and the Midwest GAA. June 4th also saw the Buffalo Fenians' Men travel down to the Pittsburgh Celtics at UPMC Graham Field. The Celtics beat out the Fenians.

Cleveland's Men met the Detroit Wolfetones in Detroit at the historic Fort Wayne Fields. The "Tones outran the Saints by the score of 5-15 (30) to 3-7 (16).

On June 11th, the hurling season commenced, with the Buffalo Fenians again traveling, this time to Rochester. The Fenians began their inaugural hurling year with a good showing, but the now veteran Roc City won the day by the score of 8-12 (36) to 1-4 (7).

Ladies Football also commenced

the regular season games, with the Buffalo Fenians traveling in to play the Cleveland Saints. A fully stocked Cleveland side were able to spread the workload on balmy day to beat the Fenians (34-4).

In the Men's west bracket for Football, Cincinnati was again on the road, this time to play the Wolfetones at the familiar Belle Isle sport fields. Detroit won, 5-21 (36) to 0-2 (2), bringing their regular season record to two wins at home with two road games ahead.

Cincinnati will have their next two games at home where everyone is stronger.

The balance of July is as follows: **July 2** will be a mid-morning double header of Cleveland v Pittsburgh ladies in Gaelic Football and Camogie. **July 9** Buffalo Hurling Blitz (Cleveland v Buffalo, Pittsburgh v Roc City, Akron v Buffalo) and the Banshees host the Fenians in Ladies Gaelic Football.

July 10 a Sunday game like they all used to be, the Battle of Buffalo when the Fenians host Na Fianna. **July 16** Cleveland Hurling Blitz (Cleveland v Buffalo, Akron v Pittsburgh, Roc City



Midwest Camogie 360



Colm Egan Instructing at Camogie 360.

v Cleveland), and Men's Football with Buffalo Na Fianna at the Celtics and the Wolfetones at Cincinnati CLG.

July 23 Pittsburgh GAA extravaganza - Hurling/Camogie (Akron v Pucas, Saints v Na Laochra, Saints v Pucas) and Ladies Football with the Saints v Banshees. **July 30** Men's football closes out the season with the Celtics playing Na Fianna in Buffalo and the Saints playing away to Cincinnati.

Remember, the Midwest Finals are being hosted by Roc City Gaelic (Rochester, NY) on August 6th and 7th. The Divisional Finals will determine who goes on the USGAA Finals on August 19-21 in Chicago.

Cleveland Youth Teams

St. Pat's - St. Jarlath's continue to hold training sessions for all ages on Thursdays from 5-6:15PM at the West Side Irish American Club. The summer sessions will end with the Continental Youth Championships. The CYC's will take place in Chicago over four days, July 28-31.

Representing the Saints this year will be Ambrose Beach (U13), Bernadette Beach (U11), Cedric Beach (U9), Emilia Dietz (U11), Adam Dietz (U11), Lucy Dietz (U7), Conall Gannon (U13), Jack Kaesgen (U11), Max Kaesgen (U11) Jackson Kaylor (U15), Parker Kaylor (U11), Hudson Kaylor (U11), Tucker Kaylor (U11), Ashoka Kerns (U13), Ewan Kerns (U11), Andrew Kilbane (U13), Jack Kilbane (U11), Martin Kilbane (U11), Rose Kilbane (U7), and Emmet Kimbrell (U11). Cleveland's players will join others from Detroit and Buffalo. For more info on the youth program, contact ClevelandYouthGAA@gmail.com.

Go raibh mile 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 2022 activities for Men, Women, and Youth, or visit ClevelandGAA.com. ■

Vincent Thomas Francis Xavier Beach is a proud Greater Clevelander and emigrant of Michigan.

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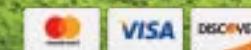
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ÉASCA, PÉASCA

By Marie Young

Student Stories Laura Finkle

Pop-Up Gaeilge

Fado, fado, fado when I was a young cailín, I was introduced to the movie, ‘The Secret of Roan Inish.’ Through it, I fell in love with the landscape of Ireland, the music, the stories of seals and selkies and the sea. I was also intrigued by the language.

In parts of the film, the grandfather speaks as Gaeilge and tells stories of the time when Gaeilge was spoken by all in Éire. I told myself that when I grew up, I would learn Irish. And while it wasn’t something I pursued (or knew how to pursue) at the time, that goal stuck with me over the years.



Laura Finkle holds the Pop-up Sign.

Fast forward to adulthood. I was searching for a school at which to finish my bachelor’s degree. I found the University of Pittsburgh; I was interested in their many classes on mythology and folklore. And then I saw that they offered the Irish language. My decision was made immediately; the first class I signed up for when enrollment came was Irish level 1.

As I moved from level 1 to level 6, I fell in love with the translations of the words, particularly of the names

of animals. I incorporated them into class projects by making up and writing stories about how they got their names. Jellyfish, Dragonfly, Spider, Ladybug, Whale: I was able to use my growing Irish to write stories about them, and I got to recognize and delve into the deep connection between the Irish language and storytelling. The words and phrases in Irish convey so much beauty and history and story.

Irish language and culture made its way into my other classes. I took the Irish culture class, offered by Marie Young, our language professor, and wrote my final paper on the history of the language. I took a few classes in linguistics and was able to look at Irish through a linguistic lens.

My final project was a proposal on a linguistic analysis of the ‘th’ sound in Irish/English speakers based on different variables. My major was in Religious Studies. Our capstone assignment was to write about a religious figure.

Saint Brigid

I chose Brigid, and wrote about her transition from goddess to saint as Ireland converted to Christianity. During level 5 and 6, I was an undergraduate teaching assistant for the level 1 and 2 Irish students, and my Irish grew as I went back to foundation level with them.

Irish helped provide a centering force to a lot of my academic work. From the time I started in level one, our professor was working to make the Irish language an official minor at our school. That was approved shortly before my graduation. Myself and one of my classmates were fortunate enough to be the first two students to graduate with the minor from our school.

During my time in classes, I was also fortunate enough to study abroad in

Ireland twice. We were slated to have a language specific study abroad program to Ireland through our school, but due to low attendance, it was cancelled. I was determined to go still, so I sought out other programs and found an adult Summer Gaeltacht program in Dún Garbhán through Coláiste na Rinne.

The two-week program led us through an immersive experience of classes as Gaeilge and sightseeing around Ireland. The immersion was a bit overwhelming as I realized that I still had so much to learn, but the foundation of my courses at home combined with the non-stop Irish in the course caused my Irish to grow so much in that short time.

I did the same course with the Coláiste two years later and again came out so much better for it. From that course, I made life-long friends, and people with whom I could share the practice and love of the language.

Pop-Up Gaeltacht’s

In classes, we learned about the existence of Pop-Up Gaeltacht’s in Ireland and other places, and we wanted a place to converse in Irish outside of school and after graduation. Marie and I worked together to create one in Pittsburgh.

It went strong until Covid put us on pause, and while we have had a session or so since, we haven’t been able to get back into our regular monthly practice with the fluctuating pandemic. But it’ll still be there for us when we can.

While my practice of Irish is not as full or regular as it was when I was in school, I try to keep it a part of my life through practice on Duolingo, through talking to Gaeltacht friends over Facebook, or turning on RTE. But even during times when I am not as diligent, Irish is still such a part of me and my life.

I have always been interested in languages, but I have never delved into one so fully as I have into Irish. I have grown such a love for it, and I am always thrilled to talk about it when people ask, to tell them that ladybug, bóin Dé, translates to ‘God’s little cow,’ or to just let people know that Ireland has a language of its own, outside of colonization. I am forever grateful for my experiences in learning Irish and want so deeply to continue them throughout my life. ■

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ILLUMINATIONS

By J. Michael Finn

Sister Anthony O’Connell, Angel of the Battlefield

Sister Anthony O’Connell, S.C. was born August 12, 1814 as Mary Ellen O’Connell in Limerick Ireland. Her parents were William O’Connell and Catherine Murphy. She had two brothers, William and James.

In 1821, Mary Ellen and her family emigrated from Ireland to Maine, where her mother passed away in 1832, and her brother William died in 1836. Mary Ellen, her father and her brother James then relocated to Boston, where she attended the Ursuline Academy in Charlestown, Massachusetts. Her chief desire was to become a religious sister and serve the poor.

At about midnight on August 11, 1834, the Ursuline Convent and Academy buildings were burned to the ground by an anti-Catholic mob. The Ursuline Sisters, Mary Ellen, and her fellow students fortunately escaped injury by hiding in the convent’s garden while the angry mob looted and burned the buildings.

The following year, on June 5, 1835, Mary Ellen entered the novitiate of the American Sisters of Charity in St. Joseph’s Valley, Maryland, founded by Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton. Ellen was professed in 1837, taking the religious name of Sister Anthony.

Sister Anthony was quickly assigned to Cincinnati, Ohio, where in 1837 she began her religious work at St. Peter’s Orphanage and School for girls. She was then given charge of St. Joseph’s Orphanage for boys when it was begun in 1852, and later oversaw the combining of the two institutions in Cincinnati’s Irish neighborhood of Cumminsville.

Sisters of Charity

She was in Cincinnati in 1852 when the Sisters of Charity in Cincinnati became independent of their founding motherhouse in Emmitsburg, Maryland. Sister Anthony was one of six founders of the Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati. She was placed in charge of St. John’s Hostel for Invalids, Cincinnati’s first modern medical institution. It was at there that she received extensive medical training.

Prior to the Civil War, most hospital nurses were male. Because many of these nurses volunteered for service as soldiers, there was a shortage of qualified nurses to serve in military hospitals and on the battlefield. The US government called upon Catholic women religious to replace the loss of the male nurses. At the outbreak of the Civil War, the Sisters of Charity, along with many religious orders, volunteered to serve the Army as nurses. Sister Anthony and thirty-seven of her community volunteered for service.

The nursing sisters initially received resistance from doctors who thought that women should not serve as nurses and from soldiers who refused to be cared for by women, in particular, Catholic women. This discrimination soon faded as the sisters were proven to be highly competent administrators and caring nurses.

Shiloh

On April 6th and 7th, 1862, the battle of Shiloh, Tennessee brought ten Sisters of Charity to the battle scene, led by Sr. Anthony. Sister Anthony’s word became law with officers, doctors, and soldiers once she had established herself as a prudent and trusted administrator and nurse. She and other sisters often treated wounded prisoners of war since the sisters showed no bias in serving confederate, union, white, or black soldiers.

The battle of Shiloh, Tennessee was one of the significant battles of the war. Combined Union and Confederate losses were 3,482 killed and 16,420 wounded.

Sister Anthony wrote of her experiences: “At Shiloh we ministered to the men on board what were popularly known as the floating hospitals. We were often obliged to move farther up the river, being unable to bear the terrific stench from the



Sister Anthony O’Connell, S.C.

It was at Shiloh where Sister Anthony became known as the “Angel of the Battlefield.”

bodies of the dead on the battlefield. This was bad enough, but what we endured on the field of battle while gathering up the wounded is simply beyond description.” It was at Shiloh where Sister Anthony became known as the “Angel of the Battlefield.”

One Union soldier wrote in his diary about Sister Anthony: “Amid the sea of blood she performed the most revolting duties for those poor soldiers. She seemed like a ministering angel, and many a young soldier owes his life to her care and charity.”

Sister Anthony is also recognized for developing battlefield triage methods (triage is the assignment of degrees of urgency to wounds to decide the order of treatment of a large number of casualties). Her methods are described as, “The first recognizable modern triage techniques in war zones. It saved countless lives through faster hospital treatment and won her praise from President Lincoln.”

Sister Anthony and the other Sisters of Charity moved from place to place during the war, working in military hospitals in Cumberland, Maryland; Nashville, and Richmond, Kentucky.

It is an ironic circumstance that during the war Sister Anthony nursed on the battlefield or in the hospitals several of the men who took part in the anti-Catholic mob that burned the Ursuline Convent when

she was a girl. She was a true heroine of the Civil War.

After the war, Sister Anthony went on serving, tending to the poor and sick at Good Samaritan Hospital and the St. Joseph Infant and Maternity Home. Sister Anthony was also recognized for her work during the yellow fever epidemic of 1877 in Cincinnati.

The Mother Superior of the Sisters of Charity retired from active service in 1880, and died on December 8, 1897, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, in Cumminsville, Cincinnati, Ohio. As a rule, a Sister of Charity is buried from the mother house, but in recognition of the extraordinary services of Sister Anthony Archbishop William Henry Elder ordered that the funeral be held at St. Peter in Chains Cathedral in Cincinnati.

A vast multitude gathered near the church; only a very small proportion was able to gain admittance. There was a notable attendance of the dignitaries of the Church. Archbishop Elder celebrated the Mass, and the sermon was preached by Rev. Thomas S. Byrne. Many of the mourners wore the emblem of the Grand Army of the Republic – the organization of Union veterans of the Civil War.

Sister Anthony is buried at the Sisters of Charity Cemetery located behind the Mount St. Joseph Motherhouse in Cincinnati. Sister Anthony and the sisters who served as US Army nurses have two headstones. One is the headstone provided by their religious order and the other is a military headstone noting the sister’s service in the army.

A great book on Sister Anthony and other Nuns who served in the Civil War is “Nuns of the Battlefield” by Ellen Ryan Jolly. ■

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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**MADIGAN
MUSES**

By Marilyn Madigan

Gathering of Hibernians

Hibernians from Coast to Coast will be traveling to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to attend the National Convention held at the Wyndham Grand Hotel from July 12-17th. This will be the first large gathering since 2018 National Convention that was held in Louisville.

At that time no one expected that the next AOH/LAOH National Convention would not be held in person due to a worldwide pandemic. The leadership looked back in history to see how the organizations dealt with the 1918 Flu Pandemic.

In 1918, the Convention was cancelled, and the leadership stayed in office until the next Convention was held in 1919. We all were concerned about the status of the National Convention to be held in Orlando.

The AOH and LAOH of the State of Florida continued their plans for the Convention. Our Convention Chairs and the National leadership were following the situation closely. Both National Boards were working on plans in case the Convention could not be held in Orlando.

AOH President Jim McKay and LAOH President Carol Sheyer had to make a difficult decision and had the unfortunate responsibility to notify all members of the AOH and LAOH that the 2020 national convention would move to a virtual convention due to COVID-19. The health and safety of our membership is the reason for this change.

In the announcement, stated, "The challenge presented to us today includes opportunities for continued success of both the AOH and LAOH. We anticipate participation from del-

egates virtually who would otherwise not be able to participate in the 2020 AOH/ LAOH National Convention. We look forward to a successful and historic convention as we go virtual for the first time." History was made with the first Virtual Convention and the election of new leadership; AOH President Danny O'Connell and LAOH President Karen Keane.

Under the leadership of President Keane, the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians embraced the virtual world. Bimonthly meetings of the State Presidents were held on ZOOM. Each of the Officers held meetings on ZOOM with their counterparts. These virtual meetings brought our membership closer together.

Our Order were able to gather virtually to celebrate the Feasts of St. Patrick and St. Brigid. The Hibernians embraced the virtual world and adapted to help our Order during the challenges during the past two years.

During 2021, State Conventions were held in person and some still virtual. President Keane attended the following Conventions: Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania, Texas, Montana, Florida and Maryland. The Delegates at the State Conventions were honored to have the National President in attendance and get a chance to know her better. We have a great Sisterhood with a very dedicated Sister as our leader.

Our membership has increased over the past two years. New York, North Carolina and Ohio welcomed three new Divisions. We look forward to meeting our new Sisters at this Convention.

The Convention in Pittsburgh will be busy with the Business of the Order. Over the past two years, all of the Officers and Appointees have worked very hard for the Order.

The membership has been very generous with donations to our projects: Columban Fathers and Sisters, Appeals for Aid, Project St. Patrick, Support Our Aging Religious, and Freedom for All Ireland. Our membership has also been very generous with our Appeal to help the Ukrainians.

Since 2008, the Spirit of St. Brigid Charity Project, a hands-on charity project, has been held to help the

"WE BELIEVE THE IRISH AMERICAN WOMAN OF THIS COUNTRY ARE REALIZING THE GREAT ADVANTAGES OF MEMBERSHIP IN AN ORGANIZATION OF THIS CHARACTER AND THAT THE LADIES AUXILIARY IS DESTINED TO BECOME THE GREATEST FRATERNAL SOCIETY OF CATHOLIC WOMAN ON THIS CONTINENT."

local community of the Convention site. This year our Hibernian Sisters will help two local charities in Pittsburgh: The Center for Domestic Violence and the Red Door Kitchen at Divine Mercy Parish.

The members of the LAOH are women of action. The Political Action Committee has held webinars on Catholic Social Justice. We have educated our membership with an Immigration Webinar. Our Veteran's Chair has educated our membership on Woman Veterans issues.

At this Convention, I will have the honor of being nominated for the Office of National President. I have been proud to be a member of the best Irish Catholic American Women's organization for over forty years.

When I attended my first Convention in Buffalo in 1986, I never expected to attend every National Convention from that point on. I met many members at that first Convention and have been friends since.

I have a wonderful group of Sisters in my Division, the Our Lady of the Rosary Division, in Cleveland. My division recently welcomed a new division in the Cleveland area; Deirfiúr of Charity and look forward to a close relationship working together in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity. I have been honored to serve on the Ohio State Board and the National Board.

The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians have been a strong presence in Irish America for the past 128

years, starting as an Auxiliary to where we are today. In the National Hibernian, a National President of the AOH stated: "bears testimony to the excellence of the Ladies Auxiliary and gives them full credit to for the noble work they have performed."

"We believe the Irish American woman of this country are realizing the great advantages of membership in an organization of this character and that the Ladies Auxiliary is destined to become the greatest fraternal society of Catholic woman on this continent."

"The LAOH is that legacy. The future is bright for the LAOH and we all have a role to play. Continue to invite others to join and become a member of the best Sisterhood in America. Please visit our website www.ladiesaoh.com and find a division in your area or contact me at laohnationalvicepresident@gmail.com. I would be honored to be selected to lead this wonderful organization. ■

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

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The Druids Just Grateful to Be Here 2021 11 Tracks

I have had the pleasure of hearing The Druids in person at Cleveland Irish Cultural Festival, online on posts and Facebook pages, and in person again in Toledo last month. They have evolved in to a whole new level. You will recognize most of the songs on Just Grateful to be Here, but the arrangements, the vocals ... WOW.

Traditionalists may balk at the concept but will bow down at the arrangements themselves. I truly believe that some people have taken a song and made it their own – others will perform it well, but, not the same. Tommy Makem's Four Green Fields; Paddy Reilly singing Fields of Athenry; Alec De Gabriel singing Patriot Games; Mary Black singing Song for Ireland ... are just a few examples.

The Druids pay homage to the spirit of the song, and bring out the highlights, in beautiful pre-song narratives that teach, entertain, and illuminate, followed by such stirring vocal and instrument performances, I can only shake my head in admiration, and appreciation.

These guys are from there; thy live there; and they capture that spirit and passion by the way they tell their story, about this story, in verse and song. I had a two-hour drive back home late that night, but had no desire to leave, or for the show to end. The concert kept going on in my head, as I listened to the new CD on repeat all the way home.

Featured songs ranged from those written Shane McGowan, Dougie Maclean, Kevin McKrel, Luka Bloom, Bono, The Edge, and Christy Moore. The selection was deliberate, and even told a story all on its own.



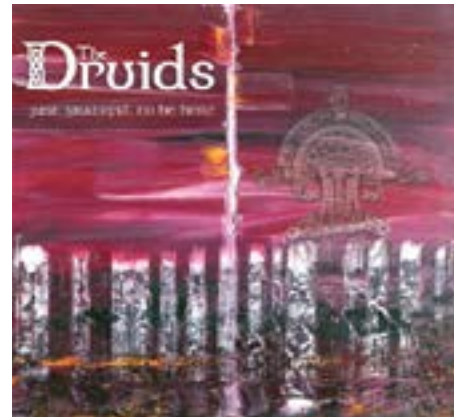
The Druids are Mick The Banger O'Brien; Zack Zeebo Moran; Gary The Sham Lawlor; Denis The Big D Moran; Neil Harnz Harney.

From the Liner Notes:

"Just Grateful to be Here signals a new era for The Druids. With the addition of Neil Harney and Denis Moran, along with the old guard of

Zak Moran, Gary Lawlor and Mick O'Brien, the band has developed a new look and a new sound. The songs on this album give a glimpse in to the lives if The Druids; where they currently find themselves, and the journey they have taken to get there.

"Hard Days' deals with the plight of addiction, an issue close to each of our hearts. 'Something Inside So Strong' reflects the different struggles



we face together and as individuals. The poignant lyrics in 'Rainy Night in Soho' hint at the loneliness we all feel at times. 'Come My Little Son' was recorded to echo the emigration and countless hours on the road we endure to earn a living.

"But most of all the album title says exactly how we feel: We're Just Grateful to Be Here"

The Hope, the self-awareness, inspiration, gratitude – the bards are just grateful to be here, indeed.

Go Lassie Go – This beautiful song as been recorded by hundreds; I'd rank The Druids version with any I have heard before.

Colours – I wasn't familiar with this one, but loved it, and could see them identifying with the story, they felt it deep within, but are courageous enough to share it anyway.

St. Patrick's Battalion – You've heard of the ballad, the San Patricios, or St. Patrick's Battalion, before, but this song is different one; it broadens the story, another perspective of coming to the U.S. and feeling obligated to fight for Mexico, against the U.S.

Rainy Night in Soho – Shane McGowan's song of what could have been, and my favorite line of all: You're the measure of my dreams.

North and South – Bono, The Edge and Christy Moore wrote this one, Paddy Reilly had a huge hit with it, The Druids do it beautifully.

Caledonia – written by Dougie Maclean, Caledonia has been recorded by thousands of gifted singers, and a few others too. You sway in the beat, and again feel the pain of another



someone, having to emigrate from home.

Something Inside So Strong – a moving story of resolution, I kept repeating it to pick up the words, and add it to the top shelf CD collection that travels with me wherever I drive.

Hard Days - Kevin McKrel penned this story of redemption, hope, and surviving the battle, moving on to and with hope. We've been through hellish times, we have survived, and hope for today, and tomorrow, sings out.

Come My Little Son – such a beautiful song, written by Ewan McColl, beautifully sung by the boys.

South Australia – Fast, joyful, fun, a sprint – Heal Away, Haul Away.

City of Chicago – Written by Luka Bloom, made famous in the recording by his brother, Christy Moore, this tale centers on the hope and inspiration Irish immigrants escaping from

An Gorta Mor (The Great Hunger) to America found in the music of their home:

In the city of Chicago, as the evening shadows fall, there are people dreaming, of the hills of Donegal. 1847, the year it all began, deadly pains of hunger, drove a million from the land. They journeyed not for glory; their motive was not greed, a voyage of survival, across the stormy seas, to the city of Chicago.

... They spread throughout the nation, they rode the railway cars, Brought their words and music, to ease their lonely hearts. ■

Check out *The Druids* on Facebook: [thedruidsfolkband](https://www.facebook.com/thedruidsfolkband) and www.TheDruids.ie to add their works to your own Great CD's collection. Tell them OB sent you.

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**AN Eejit
ABROAD**
By Conor Makem

Want to Know a Culture? Check Out Their Groceries

Hear me out. I know that to understand Irish culture, you need to visit the pubs, but for me, the most underappreciated establishment for any culture is the grocery store. It's the commonality between almost everyone in every country around the world.

Roam the aisles and cast your eyes on the foreign variety of biscuits and beer, frozen foods and chocolate bars. I absolutely love experiencing the local

Lidl's and Tesco's, the Carrefours and Aldis. Food is at the heart of every culture and these shops are where your average Juan and Mariah Sixpack grab their essentials.

I'd argue that you learn as much about a culture by visiting their food marts as you do from their museums. Sure, museums will teach you their history, but the grocery store will tell you who they are.



Penny Market was a grocery store in our temporary Romanian home with plenty of non-food items as well.

Crisps

Among my favorite pastimes in Ireland, for example, is to hit the petrol stations and peruse the sheer volume of crisps: gammon and cheese; scampi; buffalo; Irish stew; Wuster sauce; chorizo and cherry tomato; bacon and cabbage. It seems endless and that's before considering the styles like chipsticks, hula hoops, potato puffs and waffles.

And it's not just what the stores stock, it's what they don't. I searched high and low through store after store in Romania before I found a container of maple syrup. It made me appreciate not only the different offerings they stocked, but what I had back at home.

Speaking of which, I'd like to offer a shout-out to the cashier lady at our local Carrefour in Sebeș, Romania. For three months, the other half and I saw her almost every day and not once did she crack a smile.

After months, the shop's security officer wouldn't stop following us around through the aisles. I wanted to pull him aside and explain that Libby and I probably spent as much in the store as a family of eight. But I digress.

Knowing What People Eat

Anyhoo, a grocery store will tell you what the average home puts on their plates day after day. In Spain there's plenty of rice and seafood, in Germany, local sausages and infinite beer, in Puerto Rico, tropical fruits and corn flour.

I was in a small shop on the island of Curacao; the shop wasn't busy at all, but there were four lanes, each with cashiers and baggers. There was no waiting. I zipped through. When I

made an off-hand remark to one of the locals in the parking lot, he informed me that that's common down there.

Conversely, he said, you can't always find what you want. There might be days without salsa, or seasons where certain produce just isn't available. One just needs to be ready to adjust based on the offerings. It dawned on me that that's not the worst thing.

There was a child running a corner store in Córdoba, Spain, probably ten years old. I was looking through packages of biscuits and she pointed to a container of butter cookies, a selection I likely wouldn't have chosen. But she was right. I brought them home and Libby and I devoured the entire package with cups of tea.

Are international flights not in the cards for you? Not to worry. The offerings in the southwest are quite different from the northeast, from dried hatch chilis to local wines to beef tongue.

One of my favorite shops is in Abiquiú, New Mexico. Called Bodes General store, it serves a small community of 231. It's a gas station that sells just about everything you can imagine, from cattle feed to hats, local wine to frozen meals.

There is a food takeout window inside Bodes, where you can grab a cup of chili or freshly made tamales, load up on their baked pastries and snack as you drive past craggy red rocks and desert. It's an experience, let me tell you.

And for those of you not in a traveling mood, may I suggest you make use of import shops and Irish bakeries, some of which you can find advertising in iRish. If you're new to Irish cuisine, here are some of the items it is compulsory to start with: Tayto Cheese and Onion crisps, Irish sausages, vegetable soup, Cadbury Dairy Fruit and Nut bars, and Smarties. I'm not saying you want to make a diet based on these things, but...well, if you add potatoes, you should be okay. ■

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

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By Megan
Lardie

KIDS CRAIC

WE THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES

When I think about summer, I always look forward to The Fourth of July! It is one of my favorite holidays. Over the years, I have become more amazed at what the Founding Fathers were able to understand about what would be needed in order for the United States to become a great nation.

The Declaration of Independence's main purpose was to explain to the rest of the world that the colonists (the people who had left their own country) had a right to the revolution against Great Britain. A great country also needed laws for its citizens to abide by.

It was not until 1787 that the Constitution of the United States was written. The Constitution is the highest law in the United States. It says how the government is to work. It creates the Presidency, the Congress, and the Supreme Court.

The Constitution can be changed. Any time it is changed, it is called an amendment. Amendments are rights of people in this country. The government cannot violate these rights. The first ten amendments are important, and they are called the Bill of Rights.

So, it is fascinating that laws that were written over 200 years ago are still in effect! How many do you know? As of today, there are twenty-seven amendments.

The first amendment everyone always knows. It states that you can practice any religion you want. This is one reason many of the colonists left their homelands. The government cannot make laws that focus on specific religious practices or block people's worship.

It also states that you have the right to free speech, and that you can gather in a group peacefully. The second amendment states that you have a right to a well-regulated militia (group of men who protect the village) and the right to bear and keep arms. It was important to have a way to protect yourself back then.



Did you know that during the Revolutionary War, soldiers could have stayed at your house even if you did not want them to? The third amendment makes that illegal now.

The fourth amendment states that your home or property cannot be searched without a reason and a warrant (a statement from a judge that says there is a reason to search). Sorry, that does not apply to you if your parents want to search your room!

The fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth amendments have to do with your rights if you have been accused and convicted of a crime. Those are some of the big ones.

Did you know that these laws did not apply to every person living in the United States at the time they were written? Even though the Founding Fathers had planned out these rights, times change and therefore changes have been added to the Constitution. When this was written, only white men were allowed to vote.

It was not until 1870, when the 15th amendment was ratified (approved by Congress), that all men, regardless of race, color, or if they used to be a slave, were allowed to vote. And it was not until the 19th amendment was ratified in 1920 that women were allowed to vote!

After the first ten, there have only been seventeen amendments added, and one actually reversed itself. The last amendment was ratified in 1992 and was actually introduced to Congress by James Madison in 1789. The United States of America is a country like no other! ■



Kids in the Kitchen

4th of July Flag

Ingredients:
Strawberries, blueberries, frosting or Cool Whip, graham crackers

Directions:
Assemble flags onto the graham crackers using frosting or Cool Whip as glue.
Add blueberries as stars, add strawberries for the stripes.

Enjoy!

..... Literature Corner

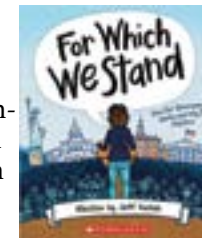
For Which We Stand by Jeff Foster

If you have ever wanted a book that explains our government in a way that you can understand, give this a read. It answers all of your questions like: What exactly is the Electoral College? What is the Constitution? Why was the Declaration of Independence written?

This book, written by a teacher, gives the complete backstory on how our government works and how people have worked with and protested against our government to improve the lives of all American citizens. For ages 8-12.

What Does the Constitution Say? by M. J. Slate

The Constitution is four pages long, and helped shape our nation, but do you know what it actually says? Do you know what it means for you? This book is based on facts and is written in a way kids can understand. For ages 5-10.



Lardie's Laughs

Q. I follow you all the time and copy your every move, but you can't touch me or catch me. What am I?
A. Your shadow.

Q. Why does ice cream always get invited to the party?
A. Because it's cool.

Megan is a Reading Intervention educator at Andrew J. Rickoff Elementary in the Cleveland Municipal School District. She holds a BA in Humanities from Hiram College and a BA+ in Early Childhood Education from Ashland University. She may be reached at meganlardie126@outlook.com

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COOKING UP A HOOLEY

By Katie Gagne

Wings for Dad

Trying to find the perfect gift or the best way to spoil our dads for Father's Day is not always easy. For some it may seem to be near impossible. Not all dads like the same things, but we can with some assuredness say they do appreciate a good meal. This tasty dinner is perfect for his special day or for anytime you feel like firing up the grill with something unique.

Grilled Chicken Wings with Sweet and Spicy Guinness BBQ Sauce and 1000 Island Coleslaw

Chicken Wings

2-3 lbs. of uncooked Chicken Wings (approximately 24 flats and drumsticks)

2 tablespoons Olive Oil
2 tablespoons Cracked Black Pepper
3 tablespoons Season Salt
1 tablespoon Granulated Garlic

Place wings on a full-size baking sheet. Drizzle with olive oil and sprinkle with pepper, Season Salt, and garlic. Toss the chicken wings to coat completely with the oil and spices.

Cover with foil and bake at 350* for approximately 50 minutes. Do not overcook

Fire up the grill to 400* and grill each

wing for 2 minutes a side. Remove from heat and keep warm.

Guinness BBQ Sauce

1 12 oz bottle Guinness Stout
½ cup Brown Sugar
1 tablespoon Cracked Black Pepper
2 tablespoons Granulated Garlic
¼ cup Worcestershire Sauce
¼ cup Yellow Mustard
¼ cup Red Wine Vinegar
2 cups Tomato Ketchup
¼ cup Frank's Red-Hot Sauce

In a medium saucepan, pour Guinness. Add brown sugar, garlic, and pepper. Simmer on medium until reduced, stirring frequently. This will take about 10 minutes.

Stir in all other ingredients and heat through.

1000 Island Coleslaw

1 head Green Cabbage
½ head Red Cabbage
1 cup shredded carrots
1 bunch scallions – chopped small – whites and greens
3 stalks celery sliced medium
1 bottle 1000 Island Dressing
¼ cup Salad Vinegar
1 tablespoon Cracked Black Pepper
1 tablespoon Kosher Salt
½ cup crumbled Blue Cheese (optional)

Shred the cabbages and mix them and the other veggies together in a big bowl.

In a smaller bowl, combine ½ cup dressing, vinegar, pepper and salt. Stir until combined.

Toss the coleslaw mixture with the dressing mixture. Add more 1000 Island if it is too dry.

Sprinkle with crumbled blue cheese just before serving.

The coleslaw can be served along-



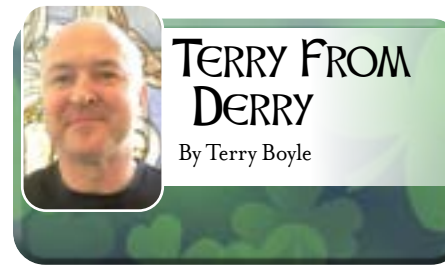
side the wings or under them with the sauced wings on top.

To sauce the wings – put a few spoonful's of the BBQ sauce in a container with a lid. Add about six wings. Cover and toss until the wings are coated. Repeat until all the wings are sauced. Serve warm. ■

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 mklbluebows@aol.com, or find her on Facebook at [sassyssweetsandmore](https://www.facebook.com/sassyssweetsandmore).

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Katie Gagne teaches English at Trinity



TERRY FROM DERRY

By Terry Boyle

I Don't Like Mondays

Released in 1979, the song *I Don't Like Mondays*, was a success for Bob Geldof and hit on a very pertinent note, one that still continues to linger today, like a bad smell. A sixteen-year-old, Brenda Ann Spenser, decided to go on a shooting spree. She killed two adults, injured eight children and a police officer.

Her explanation for the rampant destruction of life was simply, 'I don't like Mondays. This livens up the day.' Horrified by the casualness of the teenager and the accessibility of weapons, Geldof responded with a message has still to be addressed. Why is America, the strongest democracy in the western world, so pre-occupied with weaponizing its citizens.

The lax guns laws across this nation have done nothing to improve the lives of its people. In just a short time, we've seen again and again how easy it is for someone to kill en masse.

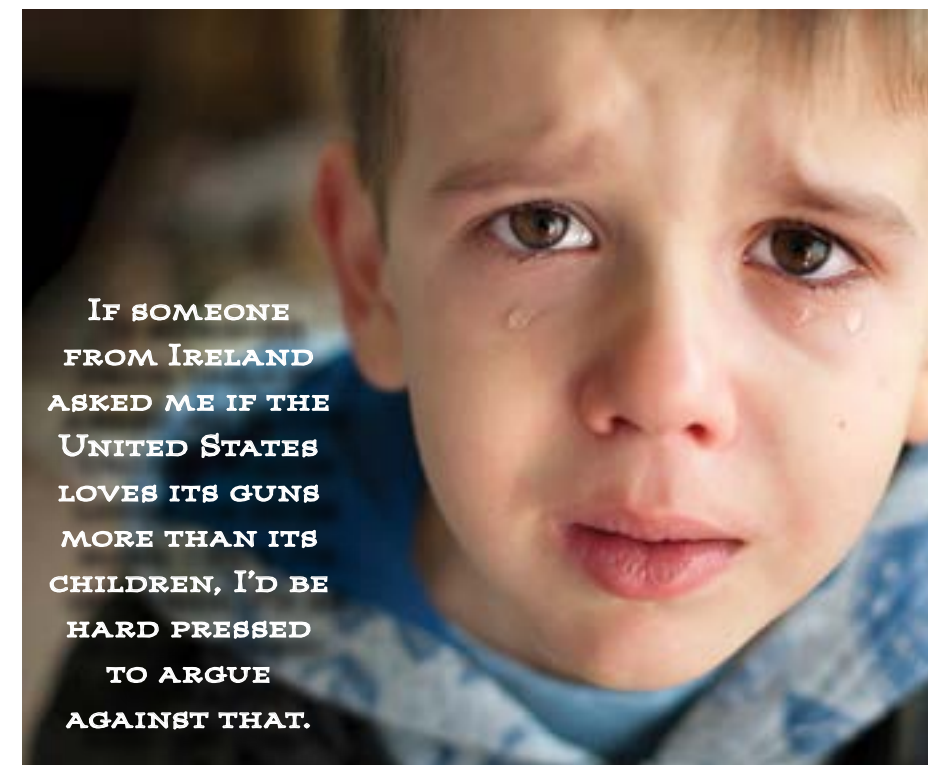
We were horrified by the shooting at Columbine High school in 1999, when thirteen people were shot and over twenty wounded. In Flint, Michigan in 2000, a six-year-old boy fatally shot a classmate, making him the youngest school shooter.

At Sandy Hook Elementary School in 2012, twenty-six people were killed, twenty of the deceased were between the ages of six and seven years old. More recently in Uvalde, Texas, nineteen young kids and two adults were shot dead.

I've only chosen a select few, the most familiar, but if you go to Wikipedia and look at the number of school shootings since 2000, you will be shocked and horrified by what you read:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_school_shootings_in_the_United_States

I say shocked and horrified, because in my mind, that's the proper response to such atrocities. However, the constant avoidance or unwillingness to do anything about gun control makes me wonder if indeed anyone is shocked or horrified enough to do anything about it.



Republicans refuse to endanger their relationship to the NRA and continue to point the blame at mental illness, even when they resume to whittle down funds for mental health agencies. Trump and Cruz's idea of having only one exit/entrance to a school is so absurd that one wonders if they should think about investing in their own mental health.

Guns

The gun issue is not going away, even if we persist, as we have, in ignoring it. When we think of these shootings, it's not enough to think of the numbers who have died and been injured. What about the families, the classmates, and the teachers?

If we tallied up the numbers for those affected by such shootings, we would hate to face the fact that many, many people are having to deal with the gun problem in a more visceral way than we do. I wonder if Senators or Representatives would cow tow to the gun lobby if it were one of their own children who had been killed or injured.

It's easy to distance yourself when it doesn't affect you. Yet, we have elected them to represent us, not a powerful lobby who contribute to their political aspirations.

Guns do not make you feel safer. I remember going to Guatemala a few years ago, and there were guards armed with machine guns at every shop or pharmacy. Did that make me feel safer? Is that how we want to live?

The only way to make ourselves

feel safer is to strengthen gun laws. If children can easily access weapons and carry out heinous acts, something is fundamentally wrong with our gun laws.

We only have to look at the facts, and I don't mean the alternative facts of planet Trump and those disconnected to any meaningful reality; we will see that the U.S leads the way when it comes to school shootings. Other countries have had their problems with guns and their response, for the most part, is to make it harder for anyone to access weapons.

When shootings happen here, protests occur, everyone seems temporarily stunned, but nothing changes. We want our kids to feel safe, so we do nothing to help them feel safer. If that isn't rank stupidity, then I don't know what is.

Does the United States Love it's Guns More Than it's Children

If someone from Ireland asked me if the United States loves its guns more than its children, I'd be hard pressed to argue against that. What facts would I have to offer?

I can imagine them doing what I've just done, listing down numerous examples of school shootings, and saying it's not what you say, it's what you do. Everybody has something to say about school shootings, but nothing gets done. Nothing that puts the lives of children ahead of the gun lobby.

Every time I hear of another shooting, I'm reminded of the bumper sticker I saw in Derry, 'invest in America, buy a

Senator.' How I wish that statement was not true, but it's only too easy to show the tight connection between the NRA and politicians who refuse to support changes to the gun laws.

'We the people' are the only ones who can bring about change, by forcing our politicians to act on our behalf, and not their biggest financial contributor. We the many, can collectively protect the lives of our children by using our vote to communicate a very loud message to those seeking to be elected. How many need to die before we act?

It's not simply the shooter who is responsible for these deaths. We, collectively, have created an environment that makes such shootings possible, if not easy. It is we who are partially responsible for each shooting by continuing to vote in people who refuse to support changes in the gun laws, whether Democrat or Republican. ■

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwP7ynN3Y2clKt5a_ueI3VQ
terryaboyle@gmail.com

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Phil Coulter, The Hits Keep Coming

While teenybopper music was good for my bank balance, Irish music was good for my soul!
– Phil Coulter

Our Inner View with Phil is condensed to fit the limits of print. To read the full interview, visit www.ilrish.us.

You are coming to Cleveland on July 24th at the Westside Irish American Club. How did that come about?

This is this is a strictly a one-off. I'm not on tour. It came about purely and simply for two reasons. #1: my friendship with John and Alec of The New Barleycorn, who like the rest of us, have had the wagons parked up for such a long time, no gigs, and I thought, well, if I'm going to be in Cleveland, wouldn't it make sense to get the guys on stage, and have a little bit of a get together. #2: What really had me in that part of the world at all, is my son Ryan, who just signed at the start of this season as the goalkeeper coach with Cincinnati FC.

Hand Me Down My Bible; Ireland's Call, My Boy (written for and recorded by Richard Harris, and a huge hit for Elvis Presley), Saturday Night (for the Bay City Rollers), Scorn Not His Simplicity, Donegal Danny, The Old Man, Steal Away, The Town I Loved So Well

I grew up listening to you, both on recording, and in a lot of your songs being sung by other people, at Cleveland Irish Cultural Festival, with Barleycorn, Paddy Reilly, Danny

I was in a in a blessed position, John, having a voice like say Luke Kelly of The Dubliners on hand to record songs, that were certainly by no definition commercial. They afforded me the opportunity to be a bit more substance, you know? Luke Kelly used to call them grown up songs. He said, fairly soon, you're gonna have to write some grown up songs.

By that he meant songs like *Scorn Not His Simplicity*, which, you know, addresses a pretty complex subject,

Doyle.

Woody Guthrie said that you write what you see. Has that held true for you?

I think you could probably divide it into two different schools of thought. I learned my trade as a pop songwriter, in Tin Pan Alley in London from the mid 60s. I was just learning how to structure a three-minute pop song. So, my training from all of those years would have been to to try and perfect the three-minute pop song.

We had a lot of a lot of success for the Eurovision Song Contest and the Bay City Rollers and Elvis Presley and God knows [who else], but fortunately, I had a kind of parallel road, as writing songs that were not geared to the cash register. I was lucky that I had a passion for music, a passion for Irish music and for Irish folk music, much to the confusion and consternation of some of my associates!

But for me, it was never a complication. *Shangri La* or *Saturday Night* [a Coulter hit for the Bay City Rollers] is a million miles away from *Scorn Not His Simplicity* sung by Luke Kelly. But you're judging within their own contexts, you know *Saturday Night* is a three-minute pop song. *Scorn Not His Simplicity* ... it was not the same urgency to sell records.

or *The Town I Loved So Well*, or *Free the People*, and equally then moving from The Dubliners to the likes of The Fury Brothers or Liam Clancy. I was fortunate that in that idiom, in that circle, strong writing took a different direction.

I suppose that was always a passion, so you're very fortunate to be able to balance your work?

Yes. I think I was very fortunate, also, that I had learned my trade. I did three years as an apprentice songwriter in Tin Pan Alley, where every second Friday, with my then partner Bill Martin, we had to demo; we had to go into a little studio and demo six new songs, that is six completed songs: words, lyrics, music, and a little arrangement, for the young house four-piece band. So, that was six songs every second Friday. That concentrates your mind on the discipline of song-writing.

Most relevant was the following Monday. We would play those demos to our publisher, who was really an old-timer who had discovered a lot of big songs, a lot of big songwriters. He would analyze the songs; he would go through the songs one by one, bit by bit, tell us where we're going wrong. It is often five out of those six songs

ended up straight in the bin.

Yeah, it's cruel, but it's the reality of songwriting as in a lot of other jobs. You know, you're a paper man, you know what it is: discipline. Economy is the hardest thing to teach people, it is the hardest thing to learn.

Alec [De Gabriel] is a very accomplished musician, very adept guitar player, as is John Delaney. I've said this many times, that the combination of those two guys and the journey that brought them together has culminated; I firmly believe that they are the best two handers in Irish music.

How did you first connect with Alec and John?

I've been aware of the original Barleycorn; they had a hit in Ireland with one of my songs, called *Donegal Danny*. It was a big hit, so I was aware of the Barleycorn, and they had a few other hits.

It's one of those classic things where the Barleycorn is greater than the sum of their parts; they have that spark between them; it's telepathy, they make the whole thing look so easy. A few years ago, one of my musicians on the on the cruise, when he was doing his party piece, I said what are you going to do, something special? He said I'll do *Czardas*, by Monti?

That's a very difficult thing to play, but it's equally difficult to accompany it. It goes through several keys, and it goes through all kinds of weird and wonderful chord changes. Did it bother Alec? Not a bit, because he had played it for his dad all those years and years ago [as a Fit-up].

Will you share stories about your time in London in 1960s?

A lot that happened in London in the 1960s! A lot of it I can't remember. It was formative; I arrived in Denmark Street in '64. In the 60s, London was the only place on the planet where you wanted to be. London was swinging 60s, everything was, not only in music, but in fashion, in theater, in art generally, and people were coming in from the provinces, so the old regime in the music business of the old-fashioned variety was slowly being challenged.

The old fashioned [form of a] record was a singer, and a sixty-piece orchestra. All of a sudden, you've got The Beatles, and The Animals, and The Rolling Stones. All that is evolving musically.

[Note: Phil was hired to work with so many well-known bands and performers, perhaps influencing that success when paired with the performers hard work. This included Billy Connolly, Tom Jones, Jerry Lee Lewis and The Man, Van Morrison. He produced work for the Furey Brothers, The Dubliners, Sinéad O'Connor and Boyzone, to name a few].

Phil continued: The funny thing is, there was no envy. It was like a rising tide floats all boats. There was that kind of a camaraderie, you're there with very talented mates, and you're training with them, and you're hoping to make the big time.

I learned how to drink then. I came straight from university, and Belfast. Belfast in the in the late 50s and early 60s was certainly not Sodom and Gomorrah, I can tell you that!

You talk about Derry, what are some of the favorite memories or what do you feel that Derry formed in you?

I've often said, John, one of my first smart moves was being born in Derry, because Derry, it's just a natural musical city. I was born 1942, the war was still raging in Europe, so things were tight. When you went to the store to buy something, things were very tight; the luxuries were non-existent. Even in those dark, dismal black and white kind of days, they were pretty bleak.

The one thing that kept the spirits up was music. In a lot of working-class families in Derry, including our own piano, was more important than a three-piece suite. When there was any sort of celebration in our neighborhood, that happened in our house, in Coulters, because we had a piano. It was a point of pride. There would be a gang of people. Everybody had to either sing a song, play a tune, or recite a poem, or do something.

Music was so much a part, the fiber of life. I grew up with that, I grew up with the sense that music, because of those nights that will happen in our house. I would be like just a nipper, maybe, but I'd hear from outside the door the music they played, and people enjoying themselves.

My father played the fiddle, my mother played the banjo, along with the piano, often in different keys from the one my father was planting! It didn't matter because they were enjoying the

whole exercise. More specifically, the people in that room were enjoying it.

The story of the dance bands is coming back again. People are more aware of it now. They've been, certainly in my life, in the sense of knowing how big a part of Ireland that was?

Undoubtedly, undoubtedly. When the whole dance thing died off; I'd offer it for a number of reasons. One of which was in dance halls, there was no license. You just drank minerals; there was no alcohol.

Then along came discos. The clamor for the whole dance thing and the dance hall, which had which had sprung up all around the country, one after another became carpet warehouses.

It was sad, sad, and I'm sure at the time, it felt like it was overnight?

Oh yeah, especially in rural Ireland. The glamour of a big show band coming into town on a Friday night, and the dance club would be like a breeze block palace, built away in the middle of nowhere. For miles the cars were parked on either side of the road, tractors ... it was showbiz, it was razzle-dazzle, it was glamour.

That era, certainly in terms of the social history of rural Ireland, was very important?

Oh yeah, that even predated the showband, the Fit-ups*, when they traveled, just by doing a variety bit, a little bit of melodrama, a little bit of plays, a little bit of comedy, a few sketches; they were great. Alec's stories are great; going into a new town, borrowing the chairs, and then tomorrow night, putting out posters in all the shop windows; he tells a great story.

Alec says that the dance halls, and then movies all contributed to the end of the Fit-ups era.

Oh, for sure. Just as the discos killed off the dancehall, dance halls killed off Fit-ups.

You have twenty-three Platinum discs, thirty-nine Gold discs, fifty-two Silver discs, two Grand Prix Eurovision Awards, five Igor Novello Awards, three American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers Awards, a Grammy nomination, a Meteor Award, a National Entertainment Award AND a Rose d'Or d'Antibes, any influencers treasure?

Luke Kelly [was] a big a big influence, a big mentor, as well, because he was the one who was continually [trying to] persuade me to write songs that would go a little deeper than *Puppet on a String* or the Bay City Rollers.

I learned a lot from him, and his collection of songs that he gathered, that whole world of folk music; what it took to write a good folk song.

As I said, it's a start, it's not a concert, it's not a gig. This is just a get together with the Barleycorn, as much to to give the guys a better crank and a bit of spotlight and a bit of kudos in their hometown. This one is personal. ■

*For more on the Fit-ups, and on Alec De Gabriel and John Delaney, pick up my book, *Festival Legends: Songs and Stories, the people who made the music that defined a people*, a biographical look at Irish music legends like *The Barleycorn, Tommy Makem, Liam Clancy, Danny Doyle and more.*

Available at www.songsandstories.net.

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IRISH TRIVIA

1. What are the seven distinctly Irish breeds of dog?
2. What is a pampootie?
3. What city is "Ireland's Canterbury"?
4. What is known as the "Rebel City"?
5. What is Cork's twin city in the United States?
6. Where is St. Patrick's Purgatory?
7. Who introduced the potato to Ireland?
8. What was the population of Ireland prior to the Famine of 1845?
9. What did the Romans call Ireland?
10. What is a fleadh?

1. Irish Wolfhound, Irish Setter, Irish Water Spaniel, Irish Terrier, Kerry Blue Terrier, the Soft-Coated Wheaten Terrier and the Glen Inaal Terrier.
2. A raw-hide, heel-less shoe worn on the Aran Islands, suitable for climbing over rocks and in and out of curraghs.
3. Armagh, with a Catholic and Protestant cathedral.
4. Cork
5. San Francisco
6. Lough Derg, Co. Donegal.
7. Walter Raleigh
8. Approximately 8,000,000.
9. Hibernia
10. A "Feast of Music" - traditional music festivals held in Ireland each year.



Three Extra Cheeseburgers a Day

Researchers have revealed that most everyone eats the equivalent of three extra cheeseburgers a day than they admit, regardless of their waistline. The study shows obese and thin people all fib about food to the same amount regardless of the number on the bathroom scale; and this could be undermining national health advice.

Researchers considered the amount of energy a person burns in a day with everyone misreporting how many calories they consume by an average of 900 calories. They found that as obese people burn more energy doing day-to-day tasks, they do not lie about food more than slimmer people. Although the gap in reported meals and actual intake was bigger in obese people, they burn more calories than non-obese people.

The research team said: "The gap between reported intake and actual expenditure was bigger in obese adults than normal-weight adults but not because they lied about how much they had eaten, instead it was because they expended much more energy each day than their thinner peers. Bigger bodies need more energy every hour of the day and particularly during physical activity because moving your weight is hard work."

The study looked at 221 adults with an average age of 54 and a range of body shapes. Although obese people misreported how much they ate by an average of 1200 calories and slimmer participants by 800 calories, they burned 13% or 400 calories more energy. Everyone lied, whether they were obese or non-obese, about how much they consumed by the same amount, claiming they consumed 1,800 calories on average.

New Weight-loss Intervention Targets Instinctive Desire to Eat

People who are highly responsive to food lost more weight and, importantly, were more successful at keeping the pounds off using a new alternative weight-loss intervention that targets improving a person's response to internal hunger cues and their ability to resist food, reported a team led by University of California San Diego.

"There are individuals who are very food cue responsive. That is, they cannot resist food and/or cannot stop thinking about food. Behavioral weight loss skills are not sufficient for these individuals, so we designed an alternative approach to address this clinical need."

Approximately 74% of adults in the United States are living with overweight or obesity. Behavioral weight loss programs, that include calorie counting, have been the go-to treatment. However not everyone responds, and most people regain the lost weight.

For those who find it difficult to resist food, weight loss can be particularly challenging. This food responsiveness is both hereditary and shaped by the environment and individual factors. In the Providing Adult Collaborative Interventions for Ideal Changes (PACIFIC) randomized clinical trial, the researchers compared their intervention, called Regulation of Cues, against a behavioral weight loss program, a control group, and a cohort that combined Regulation of Cues with the behavioral program.

Weight loss was comparable after twenty-four months among individuals in both the Regulation of Cues and the behavioral weight loss program. However, participants in the Regulation of Cues arm stabilized their weight and kept it off while participants in the other groups regained weight at mid-treatment when clinic visits were reduced to monthly.

According to the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, overweight and obesity are risk factors for heart disease, stroke, Type 2 diabetes, and some cancers, all of which are among the leading causes of preventable death. Over a 12-month period, 271 adults aged 18 to 65 attended twenty-six group treatments. They were all asked to engage in at least 150 minutes of moderate or vigorous intensity physical activity per week.

The Regulation of Cues

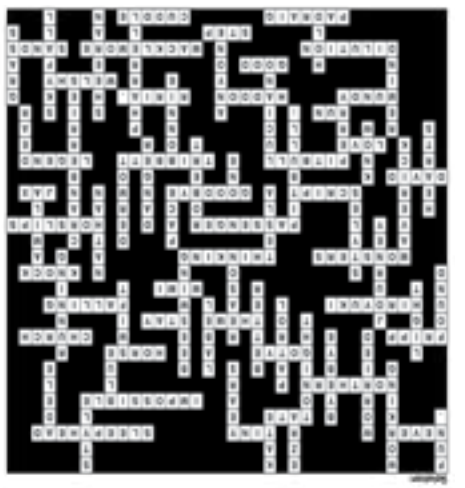
The Regulation of Cues intervention did not prescribe participants with a diet. Instead, it trained the use of natural cues of when to eat rather than focusing on calories, it reinforced tolerance of cravings, and focused on inhibiting urges to eat palatable foods when not physically hungry. Palatable foods, food that contains high amounts of sugar or fat, with the addition of salt, stimulate the reward system in the brain and can be particularly challenging to resist.

The control arm provided nutrition education, social support, and mindfulness training. The behavior weight loss program prescribed a diet, restricted calorie-dense foods, reinforced avoidance of cues to overeat, and focused on restricting calories. The combined program integrated the focus on diet and energy intake from the behavioral weight loss program with Regulation of Cues, including management hunger cues.

"Individuals who need help losing weight can seek out the Regulation of Cues program if behavioral weight loss did not work for them, if they feel they have trouble resisting eating, or if they never feel full." ■

Dr. Peters is the founder of "The Fitness Doctor" (www.thefitnessdoctors.com). He is also a Professor of Applied Exercise Science at Concordia University. He has a Ph.D. in Physiology from Kent State University and is a certified member of the American College of Sports Medicine.

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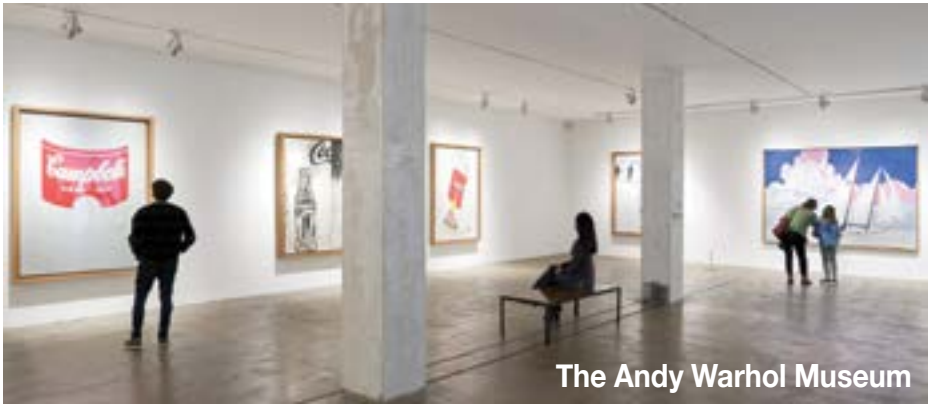
So Much to See Here

Typically, in years past, July was a time many of us were organizing our vacations and Irish Festival trips. I have attended festivals since July 1986, and although I never attended a bad one, there were some that were better than others, they had more personality and music, but they all offered something good.

However, this year, things have changed, with Covid rearing its ugly head and the level of so much gun violence in many cities around the country. I am apprehensive to travel anywhere. Of course, staying home is not a guarantee of safety.

There has been a tremendous increase in the number of people being shot, and some killed, no matter where you are or what you are doing. For several others and I, we are taking 'stay-cations', and that means no festivals this year. And although there are several to attend, I find it too risky and inconvenient.

In flying somewhere, look at the time you need to spend waiting in line going through security. In taking a train, well, the cars jump off the track, and if you are driving, you will need to almost drain a bank account to drive to the destination and pay turnpike fees. So, I have decided to stay home and take



The Andy Warhol Museum

advantage of some of the events and sites here in Pittsburgh.

In our Cultural District, there are several theaters with top class productions being performed. There are Broadway plays, symphonies, concerts and lesser know plays. Plus there are top quality restaurants where you can enjoy a really delicious meal before or after the event.

We have excellent museums within the Carnegie Museums in our Oakland area. Many of our colleges and universities are located here. At the Carnegie Museum of Art, world art is on display, including Monet's and Degas' paintings. The Carnegie Museum of Natural History where you can see dinosaurs, lions, other animals along with Egyptian mummies is close by.

On the North Shore in the North Side, there is the Carnegie Science Center, where science and life connect, and the Andy Warhol Museum is a place to learn about the world-renowned Andy Warhol. He was originally from the Pittsburgh region and was educated in our schools. Museums create and host dozens of special exhibitions each year.

In the Strip District is the Senator John Heinz History Center; much of the history of Pittsburgh and the region has been preserved. The Strip District of Pittsburgh is a most interesting desti-

nation, with family-owned shops, street vendors, and unique restaurants.

The Clemente Museum is dedicated to preserving the memory and legacy of Roberto Clemente. The museum is located in a restored historical firehouse, Engine House 25 in the Strip District. The Museum is open by appointment only for guided tours, which do require a reservation.

Would like to take a tour of Pittsburgh? There is a 'Hop On-Hop Off' Double Decker bus tour, either a destination tour or an all-day tour. This is a good way to enjoy the city. Or you can ride the Monongahela or Duquesne Inclines up to Mt. Washington, have a meal at a fine restaurant and see spectacular views of Pittsburgh.

In Downtown Pittsburgh is Point State Park, the historical sight of forts used during the French and Indian War, and the Revolutionary War. The park has been reconstructed to deliver history to the present. This is home to the Fort Pitt Museum (entrance fee), and the Fort Pitt Block House (free), as well as a myriad of walking/ biking paths and a large fountain. Views of the surrounding area, including the three rivers, are picturesque.

There are quite a variety of tours, including Walking Tours, Whiskey Tours,

Private Tours, Pub Crawls, and most anything else to 'tickle your fancy.' There is the Pittsburgh Zoo in Highland Park, with amazing animals and displays, or you can visit Phipps Conservatory in Oakland with unique flowers and displays, plus fifteen acres of some of the most beautiful indoor gardens.

Kennywood is Pittsburgh's Thrill and Entertainment Destination, located in West Mifflin. This year it is celebrating its 125th anniversary, and offers a unique mix of classic rides and modern thrills, including seven roller coasters, a Kiddieland for the little ones and several attractions that cannot be found anywhere else. Guests enjoy homemade fudge, tasty funnel cakes, and world-famous Potato Patch fries! The park hosts a number of seasonal events in the fall and winter!

There are so many more destinations to see and enjoy in our fair city, you probably need at least two to three days here. I have lived here all my life and there is still so much I have not seen, so it is a good time to stay home and explore Pittsburgh.

PICT Classic Theatre was to present 'The Boys in the Band' from June 16 through July 9. However, they had to postpone this production. You can check them out at picttheatre.org.

I have decided that this will be my last "Pittsburgh Happenings." Enjoy your summer! ■

Diane V. Byrnes, Producer & Host of Echoes of Erin, WEDO 810AM, Sunday 12:30pm, online on Wednesday www.kdwradio.com @ 1:30pm (then click on Listen Live) diane.byrnes@verizon.net

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OFF THE SHELF

By Terry Kenneally

The Border The Legacy of a Century of Anglo-Irish Politics

By Diarmaid Ferriter

Profile Books ISBN 978 -78816-179-4 2019 184 pp.

In the aftermath of the horrors of the Great Famine, the grim, distrustful relationship between Ireland and the rest of the United Kingdom deteriorated into a generation-long argument about “Home Rule.” The unprecedented nature of the Irish problem with most Irish people wanting to break away from England made it extraordinarily difficult for either side to come up with a compromise.

For many years actual independence seemed inconceivable. And then, as these bitter disputes continued, it became clear that under no circumstances would the Protestants be a party to any of it. The result was Partition.

This month’s Off the Shelf book is about what partition created - the border. Written by Diarmaid Ferriter, one of Ireland’s best-known historians and a columnist for the Irish Times, this is a wide-ranging history of Irish Partition from 1920 to the present day and the emergence of Brexit.

For more than 100 years, many in Northern Ireland, the majority of Irish in the Republic and, of course, most Irish Americans have been waiting for the day when Ireland would become once again one country. Ferriter’s book could hardly be timelier as he writes in his review of another book on the same topic, “The Unity train is coming and it is time for all to be prepared to board it.”

The mix of the fallout from Brexit

and Tory incompetence (courtesy of Prime Minister Boris Johnson), coupled with the emergence of Sinn Fein as the most dominant party in Northern Ireland, with Mary Lou McDonald leading the way, there is a sense of inevitability in the masses.

But that is getting ahead of myself. Ferriter’s book has a chronological precision to it as one would expect from a historian. In just 144 pages, it takes readers from 1920 to last week’s headlines dealing with Brexit issues.

He discusses how the Catholic minority was kept as one third of the population, but treated as if they were pariahs. For much of its history, the border was a ‘hard one,’ meaning one had to go through a checkpoint each time you went south from Northern Ireland into the Republic or north from the Republic into Northern Ireland, until the ‘soft’ or ‘invisible’ border came into being as a result of the peace process before Brexit.

There was reason to believe that the 1955 reflections of Hubert Butler on the Partition question were close to being vindicated. Butler has suggested that the border ‘might become meaningless and drop off painlessly like a strip of plaster from a wound that had healed, or else survive as some modified form as a definition which distinguishes itself but does not divide.’ (Butler, Crossing the Border).

Brexit, however, rendered such optimism redundant. The border remains profoundly relevant these days, and the challenge according to Ferriter is to lift the oppressive weight of Anglo-Irish history. The Border is an invaluable new addition to the growing canon of border literature and is a TOP SHELF read.

*Terrence J. Kenneally is an attorney and owner of Terrence J. Kenneally & Assoc. in Rocky River, Ohio. Mr. Kenneally received his Masters Degree in Irish Studies from John Carroll University and has taught classes in Irish History and Irish Literature. He may be reached at terry@tjkenneally.com. ■

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

By Linda Fulton Burke

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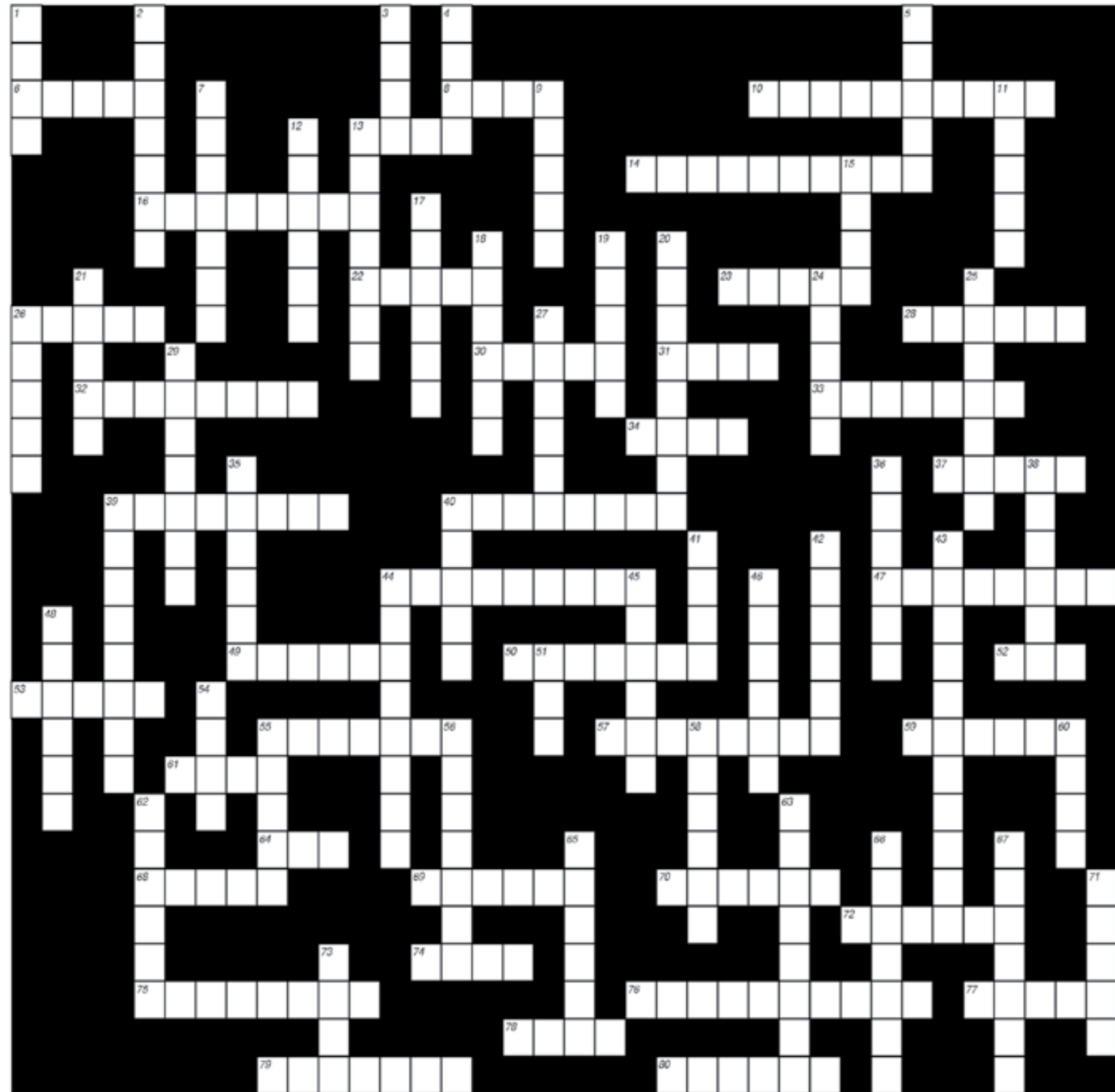
- 6 Ruslanas Kirilkinas: _____ Let Me Go
- 8 A Song for Lily-Mae: _____ Dancer
- 10 Galen Crew: _____ (Smallboy Remix)
- 13 _____ McRae: she’s all i wanna be
- 14 James Arthur: _____
- 16 Danny O Connor: _____ Lights (feat. Ingrid Arthur)
- 22 _____: Somebody That I Used to Know (feat. Kimbra)
- 23 The Rubberbandits: _____ Outside
- 26 Robert _____: Music for Quiet Moments 22 - Elegy Pt1 (Rome 20 Jun 2006)
- 28 Hozier: Take Me To _____
- 30 The _____ System: Stranger Things
- 31 Rihanna: _____ (feat. Mikky Ekko)
- 32 _____ Sawano: Parkour
- 33 Sarah Menescal: Can’t Help _____ in Love
- 34 _____ Webb: House On Fire
- 37 Sean and Michael Gavin: The Road to _____ & the Templehouse
- 39 Of _____ and Men: Little Talks
- 40 Ed Sheeran: _____ Out Loud
- 44 _____: Let Her Go
- 47 _____: Deary Doom
- 49 The _____: Hall of Fame (feat. will.i.am)
- 50 Harry Nilsson: I Said _____ to Me
- 52 _____ Jones & MNEK: Where Did You Go?
- 53 Zachary _____: Somnium, Part II
- 55 _____: Give Me Everything (feat. Ne-Yo, Afrojack & Nayer)
- 57 Tye _____: New
- 59 John _____: All of Me
- 61 David Guetta, Becky Hill & Ella Henderson: Crazy What _____ Can Do
- 64 Leona Lewis: _____
- 68 _____: Galway Girl (feat. Sharon Shannon)
- 69 Deitrick _____: Here Comes the Joy
- 70 _____: Shikisai
- 72 _____: All Day (feat. Nonô)
- 74 Belters Only & Jazzy: Make Me Feel _____
- 75 Austin Rock: Evening _____
- 76 _____ & Ryan Lewis: Can’t Hold Us (feat. Ray Dalton)
- 77 Chico Hamilton Quintet: Blue _____ (feat. Buddy Collette)
- 78 SIDEPIECE & Lee Foss 1, 2 _____
- 79 _____ Jack: Making Sand (feat. Nicki Leighton-Thomas)
- 80 Ruslanas Kirilkinas: _____ Up

DOWN

- 1 _____: We Are Young
- 2 _____ Men’s Club: Ploys
- 3 George _____: Shotgun
- 4 _____ Bush: Wuthering Heights (New Vocal)
- 5 PSY: Gangnam _____
- 7 OneRepublic: I Ain’t _____
- 9 DJ Yankee, Blaqbonez & Cheque: 1000 _____
- 11 _____: Hello
- 12 Riria: _____, See You.
- 13 Paul Simpson: Gotta See You _____ (feat. Barbara Roy)(Dance Version)
- 15 Vera _____: Settle
- 17 Snow _____: Chasing Cars
- 18 Jeremy Loops: _____ Together
- 19 Doug Stone: Warning _____ (Re-Recorded Version)
- 20 Lillis: _____ (feat. Claire Johnstone) [Live from Iso]
- 21 Gardna: _____ It Up (feat. Fox & Dynamite MC)
- 24 Taylor _____: Shake It Off
- 25 Kate Bush: _____ Up That Hill (A Deal With God)
- 26 Instrumental Pop Songs: You _____ Me
- 27 P!nk: Just Give Me a _____ (feat. Nate Ruess)
- 29 _____: Don’t Stop Believin’
- 35 Harry _____: As It Was
- 36 _____ Dawe: 21 Reasons (feat. Ella Henderson)
- 38 _____ Cabello: Bam Bam (feat. Ed Sheeran)
- 39 _____ City Music & Kirk Franklin: Bless Me
- 40 Orchestral Manoeuvres In the Dark: _____ Girls
- 41 PmBata: i hate her boyfriend’s _____
- 42 _____ Kennedy: Something to Someone
- 43 The _____: Zombie
- 44 _____ (feat. Ke\$ha)
- 45 _____ Frapp: Music for Quiet Moments 23 - Elegy Pt2 (Rome 20 Jun 2006)
- 46 Kenny Loggins: _____ Zone
- 48 Christina Perri: Jar of _____
- 51 Nazareno Aversa: _____
- 54 Michelle Murphy: If You Love Me Let Me _____
- 55 Katy _____: Roar
- 56 _____ Pavarotti: Nessun Dorma!
- 58 Dallas Wind Symphony & Frederick Fennell: Ye Banks and Braes of _____ Doon
- 60 Cory Asbury: _____ God (Acoustic)
- 62 Tom Grennan: _____ Me
- 63 _____ Williams: Happy (Oktoberfest Mix)
- 65 George Ezra: _____ For You (Tiger Lily)
- 66 Ed _____: 2step
- 67 Adele: _____
- 71 George Ezra: Green Green _____
- 73 Lady Gaga: _____ My Hand

Irish iTunes Top Hits

By Linda Fulton Burke



We look forward to seeing all of our AOH/LAOH Brothers and Sisters at the National Convention in Pittsburgh!

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CIRCULATION: 15,000 monthly. Estimated readership is 53,000. *ilrish* is available for free at 627 locations in and around Ohio, PA, NY, IN, MI, & KY. For information on the locations go to www.ilrish.us and click on the Distribution button.

CONTENT: *ilrish's* main focus is on news of interest to those of Irish heritage; including current events, special events, radio, sports, book reviews, travel, entertainment, history, calendar of events, Irish personalities in all fields, cultural news, and news from Ireland.

For Rates for Packages that meet your needs and your budget, contact:

John O'Brien
jobrien@ilrish.us



ONLINE

| | Social Media Post P/Week | | | eBulletin P/Mo | | Web (300 x 100) P/Mo | |
|-----|--------------------------|---------|-----------|---|-----------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| | Facebook | Twitter | Instagram | 1/4 Page | Full Page | Header Bar Ad | Side Bar |
| 1x | \$25 | \$25 | \$25 | \$220 | \$400 | \$100 | \$75 |
| 2x | \$50 | \$50 | \$50 | \$400 | \$700 | Max 4 ads | Max 6 ads |
| 3x | \$75 | \$75 | \$75 | *Our eBulletin goes to 12,000+ opted-in Subscribers twice a month | | | |
| 7x | \$150 | \$150 | \$150 | | | | |
| 14x | \$250 | \$250 | \$250 | | | | |
| | | | | | | Max Height General size | 400 pix 300 x 250 |

For more information: Jobrien@ilrish.us