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# OHIO IRISH AMERICAN NEWS

APRIL 2019 • Volume 13 - Issue 4



*2019 Ohio Rose of Tralee*  
**Danielle Goebel**





## EDITOR'S CORNER

By John O'Brien, Jr.



## On a Roll

I was just finishing off the buzz from the Ohio Rose Selection Ceremony when March roared in. Neither lion nor lamb was slaughtered in the making of this column. Like February's resolution, I am determined to not let March roar by either.

For the first time, we marched as the OhioIANews in the 177<sup>th</sup> Cleveland St. Patrick's Day Parade. What a fun way for our columnists and staff to hang out together; we were joined by some of the organizations we are proud to sponsor: Speak Irish Cleveland, Cleveland St. Pat's/St. Jarlath's Gaelic Football Club and the Akron Celtic Guards Hurling Club. We feasted like kings and queens, and I will never forget the day surrounded by so many friends, colleagues and supporters of the OhioIANews.

We are on a God Blessed roll, and

I can't wait to see what April brings: showers and shows and celebrations and one monster back surgery to roar down the lion pain to a lamb, are in the works for me. May the pain be light, the progress be swift, and the surgery be successful.

Danielle (Dee) Goebel was selected as the 2019 Ohio Rose of Tralee, and as is our annual spring tradition, the Rose graces our cover. Dee is passionate, gifted and what a fantastic Ambassador for Ohio she will be. If you see her out & about, please say hello and welcome her. You may not know her yet, but you will. She has guts and glitter, humor and sense and a great, generous soul. Congratulations Danielle; we look forward to seeing you shine!

We welcome new Graphic Artist Bridget Krane, who joins Christine

Hahn in our graphic arts department, and New Business Manager Peyton Morris, who will be working with new advertiser accounts. Peyton hails from



Peyton Morris

Co. Galway, and now makes Cleveland his home. We are still looking for three Interns with social media passion and creativity; if you know of a good candidate, please send them my way via [jobrien@ohioianews.com](mailto:jobrien@ohioianews.com) or direct them to the employment ad within.

How mad was your March? How many memories were added to your bank? Sing Irishmen, Sing seems to resound more in March. The rest of the year may not be St. Practice Day, but the flame does get reignited with pride every St. Patrick's Day, and the activities that surround it.

Don't forget, you can read larger print and see more pictures of all of our stories that run in the paper, and the ones that came in after we went to print too, on our [www.ohioianews.com](http://www.ohioianews.com) website. All issues are also archived, and ads are interactive; click on them and you will go to the advertiser's website. Find auld stories too as we build our Storybank, past, present and future.

We connect with so many of you on OhioIANews Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, and we follow back too, so reach out!

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

John

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

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### About Our Cover:

2019 Ohio Rose of Tralee, Danielle Goebel.

Photo by John O'Brien, Jr.



## WHEN IRISH EYES ARE SMILING; BE VERY AFRAID

By Maury Collins



Toward the end of the Sunday service, the Minister asked, "How many of you have forgiven your enemies?" 80% held up their hands. The Minister then repeated his question. All responded this time, except one man, Walter Barnes. "Mr. Barnes, are you not willing to forgive your enemies?" "I don't have any," he replied gruffly. "Mr. Barnes, that is very unusual. How old are you?" "Ninety-eight," he replied

The congregation stood up and clapped their hands. "Oh, Mr. Barnes, would you please come down in front and tell us all how a person can live ninety-eight years and not have an enemy in the world?" The old timer tottered down the aisle, stopped in front of the pulpit, turned around, faced the congregation, and said simply, "I outlived all them jerks." Then he calmly returned to his seat.

## ON THIS DAY IN IRISH HISTORY APRIL

**3 April 1900** - Queen Victoria arrives in Kingstown (now Dun Laoghaire) for a three-day visit to Ireland.

**4 April 1818** - Birth of Thomas Wayne Reid, novelist who wrote over thirty adventure stories, including *The Headless Horseman*.

**5 April 1962** - Guinness formally adopts the harp as its symbol.

**7 April 1941** - A Luftwaffe bomb kills thirteen people in Belfast in the first German bombing of Northern Ireland.

**8 April 2003** - Paul Muldoon, 51, Belfast poet, is awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry for his work, *Moy Sand and Gravel*.

**10 April 1867** - George William Russell, widely known as 'AE', poet, mystic, editor, writer and artist, was born in Lurgan, Co. Armagh.

**11 April 1912** - The Titanic stops in Cobh to pick up seventy-nine people on the second day of her maiden and final voyage.

**13 April 1906** - Birth of Samuel Beckett in Foxrock, Co. Dublin; he was the 1969 winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature.

**15 April 1848** - Thomas Francis Meagher presents the tricolor national flag of Ireland to the public for the first time. He was inspired by the French tricolor.

**18 April 1949** - The Republic of Ireland withdraws from the British Commonwealth.

**22 April 1967** - Walter Macken (50), actor, dramatist and novelist, died.



## THE IRISH IN ACTION

Are you running for an elective office? There are over 1.6 million people of Irish descent in Ohio; 475,000 in Greater Cleveland; 176,00 in Cuyahoga County: Want to reach them?

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[jobrien@OhioIANews.com](mailto:jobrien@OhioIANews.com) to reach the Irish community throughout Ohio.

A newly married man asked his wife, 'Would you have married me if my father hadn't left me a fortune?' 'Honey,' the woman replied sweetly, 'I'd have married you, NO MATTER WHO LEFT YOU A FORTUNE!'

A wife asked her husband: 'What do you like most in me, my pretty face or my sexy body?' He looked at her from head to toe and replied: 'I like your sense of humor!'

Son: 'Mum, when I was on the bus with Dad this morning, he told me to give up my seat to a lady.' Mom: 'Well, you have done the right thing.' Son: 'But mum, I was sitting on daddy's lap.'

A husband and wife were driving through Louisiana. As they approached Natchitoches, they started arguing over the pronunciation of the city's name. They bickered back and forth until they stopped for lunch. At the counter, the husband asked the cashier, "Could you settle an argument for us? Would you pronounce where

we are very slowly?" She leaned forward and said, "Burr-gerr Kiiing".

Seamus wakes up in hospital the morning after St. Patrick's Day, covered in bandages. He notices Mick sitting at his bedside so he asks him, "What happened to me?" "Well," replies Mick, "You had a few too many drinks celebrating St. Patrick's Day last night, and then you made a bet that you could jump out the window and fly around the pub."

"What! Why didn't you stop me?" asks Seamus.

Mick says, "Stop you? Hell, I bet fifty dollars on you."

Pat and Mike are drinking in the remodeled version of their local pub, They take in the no-sawdust on the new Italian tile floor; the hi-back red leather bar stools; and the shiny, black, two inch thick, granite counter. "Ye know", Pat," says Mike, "it's all brilliant, but I miss the old spittoon." Pat takes his pipe from his mouth, sips his pint, then says, "You always did, me old friend. You always did." ■



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**AN EEJIT  
ABROAD**  
By CB Makem



## Make Tea, not War

I've settled in to my post at Ohio Irish American News sufficiently enough that I feel I can broach a serious topic, if for no other reason than to bring it out of the shadows and into the light, to have a full and frank discussion of the matter, if you will. As Irish-Americans, we've all been victims, even if the malefactors were well intentioned or we were too polite to mention it. In fact, it is so ubiquitous that many downtrodden souls have grown to accept it as the way of the world. Good people, I beseech you, we are more than animals! I'll set the scene.

You and your loved one's pop into a diner for what you hope will be a comforting, downhome breakfast. The

blueberry pancakes will hit the spot, as will the bacon and a couple of fried eggs. But then you reach the end of the menu, where tucked into one corner are the "hot drinks." There's coffee, decaf, hot chocolate and lastly, and leastly the most forsaken of all American beverages—tea.

You can see the car wreck before it hits the table. You've endured it a hundred times, a small mug of tepid and quickly cooling water with a frail and incapacitated teabag on the side... and a wedge of lemon. Your heart shutters. You can already taste the pancakes and bacon. But what about your tea?

I'll let you take a minute... These kinds of emotions can be hard to deal



Photo by CB Makem

A proper cup of tea.

with. Just know that we are all with you. We've all said at one point or another, "You know what, I'll just have the smoothie."

Worldwide, tea is second in popularity only to water. Above coffee, Coke, beer and wine. It's a cup of pure perfection if done right.

While we're on the subject, let me give you a scenario from a night out thirty years ago. At the encouragement of one responsible friend, and against my better judgement, a group of associates and I dropped into a coffeehouse where everyone ordered their respective cups of joe. When it came my turn, I asked for tea. The young man behind the counter had a look on his face like a confused pup. "What flavor do you want?" he asked. "I don't want any flavors," I replied. "Just plain tea." All kidding aside, he asked me what flavor that was.

Anecdote two: I knew a man from Glasgow who referred to flavored teas as crap petals, except he didn't use the word crap, he used the PG-13 word, which isn't suitable for family publications. If that's your preference, I won't cast aspersions like my Scottish friend, but I wish I had a bullier pulpit from which to encourage more people to take up the true leafy elixir. I'll also admit to exceptions which I note in a couple paragraphs.

Anecdote three: Several years back, a friend from Cork called me in despair.

He was staying with a mutual acquaintance about an hour away. My friend spoke in hushed tones, noting that there were no tea-making facilities in the abode, that our shared comrade in fact used a microwave.

Ladies and gentlemen, I was aghast that a close friend of mine would serve another close friend of mine a cup of tea utilizing a microwave, like some Neanderthal. I felt his anguish and offered to pick him up and deliver him to a sofa in my apartment, with the only amenities being offered an electric kettle, Irish tea bags and real milk. He accepted in under a heartbeat and submitted profuse thanks. A private room was no match for a real cup of tea.

Caveat one: Anyway, I'm fresh in from a trip to Spain. Tea isn't anywhere near as popular as coffee to the Spanish, but in southern areas, they're heavily influenced by Morocco (just seven or eight miles across the Strait of Gibraltar), and some beautiful tea houses served exceptional flavored teas, even according to this middle-aged tea curmudgeon. The different varieties with fresh cardamom, ginger or mint won't make me give up my hourly cuppas, but they were better than a hot stick in your ear.

So, let me say this loud and clear, we are Irish! We have been kicked around for centuries and we will not settle for mediocre tea anymore! This is the

*Continued on facing page*



**OFF THE SHELF**  
By Terry Kenneally  
@TerryKenneally



## NORMAL PEOPLE

By Sally Rooney  
Faber & Faber Publishing  
ISBN 978-0-571-33464-3  
266 pages 2018

Costa Book Award winner in 2018, long-listed for The Man Booker Prize in 2018, *Normal People* is Sally Rooney's second critically acclaimed novel by one of the best young novelists in Ireland. This is a heartrending coming of age love story, detailing the complicated relationship between Connell, a working-class teenager in Carricklea, Co. Sligo, and Marianne, a brilliant, introverted fellow teen whose family is

well-to-do but also dysfunctional. While they both attend the same secondary school, Marianne lives in a "white mansion with a driveway," while Connell's mother works as a cleaner in Marianne's house. Connell picks his mother up, and as a result, the two are thrown into each other's company on a regular basis. Connell is the more popular in school, being a star football player, while Marianne is considered to be a misfit at school and regularly mocked by some of the crueler students.

Connell keeps the affair a secret from his school friends out of shame, but ends up attending Trinity alongside her after the summer and they reconcile. Well-off Marianne blossoms at the

## Make Tea, not War

*Continued from facing page*

twenty-first century. We've put a man on the moon, we can surely boil a proper cup of tea!

\* For those of you who are going to point out that I didn't focus on loose tea, fear not. I have enjoyed many a cup of delicious dried leaves of the loose variety. But come on, we're not tea snobs.

### Tea the Irish/UK way

What you will need: a large mug, a kettle (either electric or stovetop), strong teabags (available at Gaelic Imports in Parma or Casey's in Rocky River), water, sugar or honey, milk or cream, and if at all possible, biscuits or toasted brown bread with butter and honey.

What you will not need: A microwave or a wedge of lemon.

Step one: Boil the water. Don't warm it. Boil it.

Step two: Pour some of the boiled water into your mug and swish it around to heat up the cup. Alternatively, you can warm up a teapot with the same procedure.

Step three: Dump that water out.

Step four: Throw a teabag into the mug, or alternatively, two or three into

a teapot. You may also add sugar or honey to the mug at this point.

Step five: Add boiling water to the mug leaving room for milk or cream. If you haven't added your sweetener, do it now. (Note, if you are using a teapot, you can leave the sweetener for the individual cups.)

Step six: Steep. It's rather like a pint of Guinness. Patience pays off. Usually a few minutes will do, if you're using good tea.

Step seven: Add milk or cream to your taste, or alternatively, pour the tea into cups from the teapot and add the dairy.

Step eight: Stir.

Step nine: Open a package of biscuits and enjoy one of the truly best treats you've ever consumed.

Step ten: Repeat as often as necessary. ■

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

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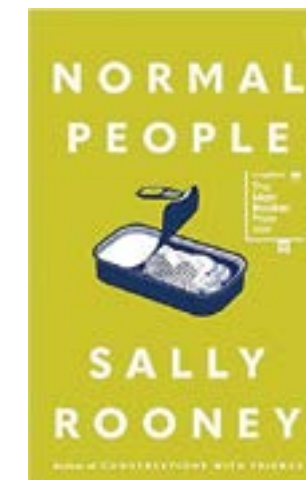
university, while Connell struggles to fit in properly for the first time in his life. They resume their relationship and the book charts its fluctuations and ruptures. Rooney moves frequently between the point of view of the two characters and between the present and past tense.

Rooney hones in on what becomes the book's central discovery: "Really, she thinks, really people can really change one another!" Marianne and Connell have been formed by each other. They would both be different people if they hadn't met. This can happen at any age, though its most common in youth, and it leaves us with the book's central question: what rights do we have over the people with whom we've done this, and what responsibilities?

Sex dominates the book, though it's by no means graphic. In the case of

Marianne, she begins to harm herself in a masochistic fashion, which is a product of how a history of violence in her home created a need for self-harm.

Rooney brings her brilliant psychological acuity and perfectly spare prose to a story that explores the subtleties of class, the electricity of first love, and the complex entanglements of family and friendship. *Normal People* is an exquisite love story, which breathes fiction with new life. I rate it a TOP SHELF read. ■



*Terrence J Kenneally is an attorney and owner of The Kenneally Law Firm in Rocky River, Ohio. He defends insureds and insurance companies in defense*

*litigation throughout the state of Ohio. Mr. Kenneally received his Master's Degree from John Carroll University in Irish Studies. He teaches Irish Studies at Holy Name High School and is also the President of the school.*



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# The Wishing Chair Foundation Launches at the Embassy of Ireland

Ambassador of Ireland to the U.S. Daniel Mulhall hosted students, faculty and guests from Community Colleges, Universities and Irish Organisations at the Irish Embassy in Washington DC. to launch 'The Wishing Chair Foundation'. The Wishing Chair Foundation takes its name from a scenic spot on the Donegal Coastline. It was the brain-child of Donegal natives Dr. Niamh Hamill, who has been running

hall spoke about his admiration for Ireland's diaspora in and his determination to develop and diversify Ireland's links in the U.S., including in the education sphere.

**"IF WE BRING STUDENTS TO IRELAND TO SHARE NARRATIVES, WE CREATE EMPATHY, AND FROM EMPATHY COMES CRITICAL THINKING, AND THE URGE TO CHANGE THINGS FOR THE BETTER"**

In addition, he regards the Wishing Chair Foundation as adding a new dimension to this relationship. After a long tradition of Irish emigration to the United States, he said, it was time to ensure that there was a warm welcome for those who wanted to return.

John O'Connell emphasized the suitability of Ireland for educational programs in Ireland, particularly the warm welcome and rich cultural narratives that were accessible to all. During the launch, there were powerful testimonials from students who had completed



Wishing Chair Dr Niamh Hamill Founder Wishing Chair FDN.

programs in Donegal.

Kirsten Quinn, from Birmingham Southern College, Alabama, said, "my choice of study and my career aspirations were a direct result of my transformative experience in Ireland. As a native of the Southern United States, I've grown up knowing the struggle for equality within my own backyard and the ongoing fight for civil rights in America. However, exploration of study in Ireland allowed me to make my abstract understanding of the fight for civil rights around the world more concrete. This recognition was the opening of the door to what Seamus Heaney would call the 'Republic of Conscience.'"

Thomas Boyd, from Clackamas Community College in Oregon said, "growing up, I had a hard life. I didn't have access to programs or experiences that would allow me to take advantage of opportunities to travel abroad or even have the chance to attend a university. However, through the program at Clackamas Community College I was able to open myself up to a world I never knew existed."

"This profound event was only possible thanks to programs like the Wishing Chair Foundation. I learned about my history, my culture and myself. I gained

a deeper understanding of where I came from. I came back from Ireland and connected with family where there was little connection before.

"We visited Ballyshannon and I had this moment on the dock that I really connected with emotionally and spiritually. Standing where so many emigrated from, imagining the uncertainty and fear for the chance at a better life for themselves and their future generations, was powerful and life changing." Jaylan Berry, from Huntsville, Alabama, spoke of his connection as an African-American with his visit to Derry. "I did not know about Ireland's Civil Rights struggle, and I did not know about their Bloody Sunday, but I was truly moved to learn how similar our stories were."

Dr. Niamh Hamill, academic director of the Wishing Chair Foundation, concluded the launch by reminding the gathering that the goal of the foundation was to change lives. "If we bring students to Ireland to share narratives, we create empathy, and from empathy comes critical thinking, and the urge to change things for the better," she said. ■

The Wishing Chair Foundation website is [www.wishingchairfoundation.org](http://www.wishingchairfoundation.org).

**FIRM FOUNDATION**  
By Ken Callahan  
@KennethRCallahanJr

## Brian Gannon



Brian T. Gannon

Here is something you already know: among all ethnic groups that emigrated to America, Irish Americans are unrivaled in their tenacious attachment to their identity and culture, even among descendants of famine immigrants more than a century and a half ago. Some have suggested that among the reasons for this is that there remains an as yet unattained political imperative, that of a united island nation, but, regardless the source of the impulse, its reality is palpable.

Brian T. Gannon is a partner at the Reminger law firm in Cleveland. He is the son of Patrick and Barbara Gannon, the great-grandson of James F. Gannon, who emigrated to the Cleveland area from Achill Island, Co. Mayo. He and his brother Matt grew up in Rocky River and attended St. Christopher's grade school. Matt attended St. Edward High School while Brian elected to study at St. Ignatius. Of his time at Ignatius, Brian relates that not only did he meet some of his best, lifelong friends at the school, but that the Theology Department instilled in its curriculum "a solid base of morality that has guided me throughout my adult life."

After graduating, Brian attended Miami University and was degreed in Political Science. He thereafter studied law and obtained a J.D. degree from Cleveland Marshall Law in 2003.

To support himself in his years of study, Brian worked cleaning golf clubs at Westwood Country Club, where he formed relationships that later lead him to seek an internship at Reminger, and he has never looked back. He chairs the firm's Healthcare Law Practice Group. He is an accom-

plished trial lawyer, guiding medical professionals through medical malpractice lawsuits that, as a category, rank among the most stressful and medically technical in the litigation world.

Among other honors, Brian has been recognized by Best Lawyers in America. "For over seventeen years, the leadership at Reminger has given me independence to establish my own practice, while at the same time providing guidance and support to grow my practice."

Notwithstanding his commitment to his profession, Brian honors his Mayo heritage in helping establish the Irish American Law Society of Cleveland, and in contributing to the very successful International Symposium that the group sponsored in Cleveland this past September; he attended the symposium the group sponsored in Dublin and Galway in 2016 and plans to attend the next, now scheduled in 2020.

The event will be hosted by The National University of Ireland Galway and will coincide with the Notre Dame-Navy game in Dublin on Saturday, August 29, 2020. The game will be played at Aviva Stadium and will be preceded on Friday by dozens of American High School Football games being played throughout the Greater Dublin area. The IALSC is working with the University of Notre Dame to secure a block of rooms in what will surely be a sold-out capital that weekend.

Brian notes that, "The Irish American Law Society of Cleveland has provided a great outlet for

celebrating my Irish heritage and for networking with Cleveland's many lawyers and judges of Irish descent."

Brian and his wife Jaclyn are members of St. Raphael's Parish, where their three children, Paige (11), Patrick (9) and Jack (7) attend school. Like so many others, Brian Gannon was formed in a family that instilled in him a central morality and fostered

**"THE IRISH AMERICAN LAW SOCIETY OF CLEVELAND HAS PROVIDED A GREAT OUTLET FOR CELEBRATING MY IRISH HERITAGE AND FOR NETWORKING WITH CLEVELAND'S MANY LAWYERS AND JUDGES OF IRISH DESCENT."**

a commitment to family and education—and to promote and enjoy his Irish-American heritage. ■

Callahan is a retired Common Pleas Court judge and a partner at Collins and Scanlon LLP



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## Brexit

Just saying the name Brexit evokes similar feelings in me that I have when I encounter the English cardboard-like breakfast cereal with the eerily reminiscent name, Weatabix. Is this really natural? Is this good for me? Who had this idea in the first place?

The British vote to leave the EU on June 23, 2016 left those questions and many more. And like many other current events, Brexit was a thing that cooler political heads never believed would happen. Stories have surfaced since that illustrate just how cool and calculating the "mastermind" planners of Brexit were, and conversely, how unconcerned they were with the ramifications of a leave vote.

Many people here have at best, a passing interest in the political machinations of Great Britain. There is undoubtedly more interest in the wardrobes of the royals than the Brexit vote. Ireland does not share that ambivalence. They watched in shock and dismay as the "leave" votes came in. We were there at the time, so I know that for a fact. We were in the North and witnessed the menacing placement of pro-Brexit signs right along side little Union Jacks, in long rows on stretches of road. It appeared that the pro-Brexit vote was comfortably in-sync with the right-wing thinkers in the North.

England and Ireland are the European Hatfields and McCoys. They don't like each other but they have been living in a cool negotiated peace since the Good Friday Agreement.

The European Union has made them economic bedfellows as well. Some Irish farmers export almost exclusively to England. They even have some resentment of the EU in common. Big centralized governing agencies like the EU generate annoyance within individual countries due to their attempts to fit uniform policy on some very different cultures.

Ireland has had its own shaky relationship with the EU. It began, like many

relationships, with the EU pleasing and helping and then trying to control too much, leaving the Irish bristling at some of the "nanny state" regulations as much as any other country.

Some of the rules seem draconian to the Irish, like very strict driving restrictions aimed at curbing Irish road fatalities, well-intentioned ideas that go too far at times. However, the Irish also realize, that like England, they are a lonely island, a disconnected rock in the middle of the Atlantic.

England is the European economic conduit to Ireland; the route through which goods and services flow. Sure, some things travel by air, just like here, but trucking routes go through England via ferry to and from Ireland cheaper. After all, you can see Scotland from the North of Ireland and the ferry ride between the two countries is only forty-five minutes long, compared with seventeen hours to Cherbourg, France.

The economic damage that Brexit could inflict on Ireland is considerable, and it is impossible that it will not have a negative effect on the economy. Currently, since the English government is unable to establish a plan for a negotiated separation from the EU, it looks like what will happen is a "no deal" Brexit; think ugly divorce.

A leaked UK document estimates that "no deal" Brexit will cost Ireland an estimated 7% of their economic output, compared to 5% for the UK (NY Times, 2/24/19). Since the UK never adopted the Euro and still uses the English pound, there are already currency exchanges between countries that trade with the UK. The currency exchange rates will surely compound, as will tariffs, and Ireland will bear the brunt of it, with a raise in prices coming and going.

Money is one thing, but that is little comfort without a peaceful life. Peace is the scariest potential loss in the Brexit deal. Even though the North and the Republic do not share a currency, the fact

that they are in a common market has eliminated the financial incentive for a hard border between the two countries. A hard border means the presence of checkpoints and a formal passage between countries, like the US and Canada.

Currently, the border is a soft one, acknowledged but not enforced, like going from Ohio to Pennsylvania.

The twenty-one-year-old Good Friday Agreement eliminated the border politically. There was a feeling between the negotiators at the time that the border itself was part of the problem.

The physical partition came with a psychological one. Brexit will change that, and a hard border just can't be a good result for Ireland, and everyone knows it. With this in mind, the Irish Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar, has done everything in his power to throw some tacks in the road to Brexit, and he has been criticized in England as a trouble-maker. And why not? He has absolutely nothing to gain by Brexit and everything to lose.

In preparation for Brexit, Irish police are positioning themselves along the border in the boundary counties like Monaghan and Cavan. The same offen-



sive maneuver is surely happening in the North. It looks like an escalation after all these years and seems to precipitate an inevitable slide to sectarian violence. The people who have the misfortune to live along the border will have to endure checkpoints every time they cross, possibly several times a day as they attempt to go about their business. The divide highlights the "us and them" mentality that the soft border blurred.

Great Britain has a habit of leaving a big imperial footprint wherever they go. The partition of Ireland is part that legacy. The injury that Brexit will inflict in part, is not deliberate, but an indifferent consequence of geography. Ireland is unlucky in this deal to have an ocean on one side and England just the far side of the Irish Sea.

There is irony in the timing of Brexit. The two big moments in the 20th

century between the two countries were at Easter; the Easter Rising and the Good Friday Agreement. Now it is mid-Lent with Brexit due to begin on March 30th. The other two were decisive moments of change and this moment mirrors the dull, limping gloominess of Lent.

In hindsight, Brexit looks like a bellwether of the global trend of thought, a demonstration of the frustration of people tired of globalization and pretty sure that they aren't getting a fair shake on their end of the bargain. There is evidence that validates those thoughts, like the widening socio-economic chasm, but the means don't mean the end, they might just be mean. ■

*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 Gaelige. She runs a Gaelige study group at the AOH/Mark Heffernan Division. She is married to Dónal and has two sons, Danny and Liam. Lisa enjoys art, reading, music, and travel. She enjoys spending time with her dog, cats and fish. Lisa can be contacted at [olisa07@icloud.com](mailto:olisa07@icloud.com).*



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## BLOWIN' IN

By Susan Mangan  
@SueMangan



# Faces of the Mountain

“Every mountain has its faces that’d make you want to stop On this so unwelcome journey From the bottom to the top.”

*Something Beautiful by Great Big Sea*

I have climbed one mountain in my life, Croagh Patrick. Majestic, this mountain is the third largest in County Mayo, Ireland. The Reek, as it is known, is a paternal life force that watches over the villages, hills, and people of this part of Ireland.

On a clear day, the viewer can observe the mountain for miles. The shadows of his face change with the

light. White paths snake up the front and sides of the mountain, etchings left by generations of pilgrims who have climbed the Reek each day of every year. Some climb Croagh Patrick to test their physical strength, some climb to test their mental endurance, others climb as humble pilgrims in homage to St. Patrick. Our family climbed to share a moment in time that may never return - a time when five different branches of kin joined to laugh, sweat, complain, and to pass a summer’s afternoon, together.

The mountain pass begins benignly enough: sheep roam, a gentle river tumbles over rocks that are a millenia old, and purple heather springs

from a boggy patchwork quilt nestled between hard stone. A statue of St. Patrick stands encouragingly at the first phase of the mountain. Since the children have been young, we have journeyed to that statue to take a family picture. We never ventured past that point until this year.

As we embarked upon the next stretch, our group began to separate into pairs. Some turned around, while most climbed upward. As the mountain grew, the terrain became increasingly rocky. At points, the only way you can walk is by grappling for seemingly sturdy rocks with your hands. I never questioned my physical capabilities, but my psychological resolve was tested at every turn. I waved the others on, determined to balance my own breathing, to listen to my heart. I am afraid of open heights.

Having long lost sight of my family climbers, I began to reflect as I moved tenuously from one rocky pass to the next. I must have looked quite the sight, struggling for a sense of balance on all fours like the awkward human that I am in a land of mountain sheep. Nevertheless, I carried on as I continued my inward, solitary conversation, silently encouraging myself of my bravery and strength. I would make it to the peak, and there I would look out, high above Clew Bay, and obtain my favorite yoga position, the mountain pose.

Just shy of the final path to the summit, I stopped. I never made it to the top. My fear got in the way of my goal. My breathing became rapid, tears began to well in my eyes, and vertigo started to manifest. Still, I clung to the rocks, with my scraped and dirty fingers, digging the tips of my shoes into the mountain-side. Others, much younger and much older than I were surpassing me. Some climbers tried to encourage me to move forward, but I settled into my limitations.

And so, I turned my back to the mountain and sat on rocky ground at approximately 2,000 feet, looking out over my accomplishment. No, I never reached the peak, but I was there to meet my husband and oldest son as they descended from the top.

Motherhood is a journey, at times arduous and unyielding, much like



the path that reaches to the peak of Croagh Patrick. Raising our children, we can be stymied by fear of the unknown, illness, tragedy, but we can also be transported by the sheer joy of life: the vigorous cry of a newborn baby, the softness of a child’s hand, the strength of your eighteen-year-old son’s grip when he hugs you the moment you learn that your own mother has died.

No, I never made it to the top of Croagh Patrick, but I celebrated my courage with my son and husband as they paused to look out over the land of their ancestors. I observed them silently, happy to part of this shared moment.

I mark my accomplishments not by the journey of others, but by my own feats as a mother, a daughter, a wife, a unique individual. When I encounter fear, I remind myself that my heart is as strong as the earth, and my spirit is not weak, but gentle and ever blooming, like the heather that grows between the rock that paves the bottom of the mountain, as well as the top. ■

*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*



## YOUNG & IRISH

By Mary Kate Campbell



# Two Pennies and The Titanic

It was the tale heard around the world, when on April 15, 1912, the “unsinkable” ship had sunk after colliding with an iceberg the previous night. The Titanic remains infamous today, partly due to James Cameron’s 1997 film.

While Cameron’s portrayal is an “inspired by” movie, the nonfictional stories surrounding the Titanic ground its history as an impactful, devastating loss to many innocent, ordinary lives.

To Thomas Millar, the Titanic was an ambitious and exciting new project in his career. He was a laborer in the Belfast shipyard of Workman, Clark & Co., but that did not satisfy his thirst for success. He worked long hours during the day, and studied late into the night to perfect his skills. When a job at Harland & Wolff for cutting edge shipbuilding opened up, he jumped at the opportunity.

In 1911, Millar brought his two young sons, Tommy and Ruddick, to the Harland & Wolff shipyard for a look at the ship he was working on, where he was a part of the team building and installing the engines. According to four year-old Ruddick, the ship was a tall, frightening metal mountain, and too big to be a boat. Millar also had a yearning for travel outside of Ireland. And after his time at Harland & Wolff, he began working as an assistant deck engineer with the White Star line, signing on as a Titanic crewmember in 1912.

In April of 1912 in Belfast, Millar said goodbye to Tommy and Ruddick before setting sail. As a going away gift, Thomas gave each boy a new penny and said, “don’t spend this until I see you again.” Unfortunately that day never came, as Millar died in the early morning hours of April 15<sup>th</sup> in the North

Atlantic Ocean.

Susie Millar, the great granddaughter of Thomas Millar and program director of the Belfast Titanic Tours, wrote a book entitled, *The Two Pennies—A True Story from the Titanic*. She

presents the story in a moving and touching way in the form of diary entries penned by her family members. Not only does the book talk about the 1912 tragedy, but also it depicts a first-hand account of life in late 19<sup>th</sup> Century Belfast.

Tommy spent his penny, but his younger brother Ruddick never did. His penny has remained in the family and is now in the care of Susie. ■

*Mary Kate Campbell is Cleveland State University alumna with a BBA in Finance and will be attending law school in the fall of 2019. In her spare time she enjoys reading, writing, playing volleyball, and travelling.*



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# TAKING THE FIELDS OF GLORY: GAA MONTHLY

By Vincent Beach



## Cleveland GAA April Update

**Adults.** The adult coed indoor Gaelic Football sessions are in full swing Fridays in March and Thursdays in April at the Soccer Sportsplex in North Olmsted. The sessions start with the mixed group of new and experienced players cycling through skills stations, before putting the recently learned rules to action in a scrimmage.

On March 8, thirty-seven men and women players took the field. The Club is looking for more players as each session will begin with the same skills-learning geared towards newbies to the game. It's fun, it's active, it's fast-paced, and it's competitive in club atmosphere.

The introductory night continued next door at Fuzzy's, where the social aspects of the Club were practiced. Did we mention the Adult Coed is Free? Anyone wanting to try out the sport and meet some new people are welcome to come to any of the sessions, Thursday nights (7-8PM) in April. Missing the first one will

not preclude you from participating in the second one. Come May, both men's and ladies' teams will be outside training.

Cleveland GAA is also excited to announce that they will be hosting a Gaelic Football 7-A-Side Tournament on Saturday, May 11th, at the West Side Irish American Club. Two fields will be live with Men's and Ladies teams from 10AM to 6PM, while the craic will be had in the pavilion.

Come out to see the action and join in the Gaelic fun. Teams from Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, Detroit, Indianapolis, and Chicago have confirmed. Corporate promotions are available, and volunteers are needed for this 501-3c event. Contact info@clevelandgaa.com.

**Youth.** March 9th was the first weekly indoor session of the year. The 5-6-year-olds continued to learn the game and have fun. The 7-8's picked up the pace and played a full field match at the end of the training. The second hour belonged to the

9-12-year-olds. The boys and girls were pre-divided into teams, met their coaches, and performed pregame warm-ups before going toe-to-toe for 40 minutes. The action was non-stop. In the end the Thorny Roses (Red Team) beat the Incredible Hulks (Green Team) by two kicks of the boot.

**Parents** - there are still some spots available if you are interested in alternatives to spring time lacrosse, American football, or outdoor water-logged soccer. Gaelic is a non-impact sport similar in contact to basketball. The game flows like soccer, but faster, with more scores.

Skills include aerial catches, kicking, basketball dribbling, and volleyball passing. Fitness and fun are the major components each week. If you are interested in getting involved in Youth Gaelic Sports, contact ClevelandYouthGAA@gmail.com.

**Minors.** Players under eighteen years of age on January 1, 2019 are welcome to join the Cleveland Minors squad this spring and summer. Are you or someone you know still wanting to compete in meaningful games? Do you want to represent Cleveland? The Gaelic Athletic Association is looking for players of ages between the youth and adult programs to compete regionally and nationally. Contact ClevelandGAA@gmail.com if interested. The Midwest GAA will be bringing other Minors



The 5-8 Gang.



The 9-12 Gang.

to town from Detroit, Pittsburgh, and Buffalo to train with high level coaches before the national championships. Three sessions are currently planned for May 18, June 15, and July 13 before select squads will head to

the Continental Championships in Philadelphia on July 25.

**New Players Wanted.** Cleveland GAA is open to all who want to play competitive sports, meet new people,

Continued on page 14



**Meet the Cleveland GAA:**  
Simon (Sizzler) O'Doherty  
*Men's Head Coach*  
**Hometown:** Belfast, Antrim  
**Home Club:** St. Paul's  
**Current Location:** Avon Lake, Ohio  
**Job:** Health and Physical Education Teacher @ Westlake City Schools

Belfast native Simon O'Doherty, otherwise known as Sizzler, took on the role of head coach for the Men's Gaelic football team at the beginning of the 2018 season, after longtime coach Martin Wall departed back to his native Carlow after the first match. While Sizzler is new at head coach, he's no stranger to Gaelic football in Cleveland.

He first visited Northeast Ohio to play Gaelic with St. Jarlath's in Cleveland during his summer break while an undergrad at Queen's University in Belfast. He subsequently ended up moving to Cleveland upon graduation and has considered it his home ever since. As a player, Sizzler appeared in nine Midwest and three National championship teams before hanging up the cleats in 2013. He and his wife Jennifer reside in Avon with their two children, Aidan and Eileen. Sizzler "feels privileged to play a role in promoting Gaelic football in my local community."

In April, you can find Sizzler managing indoor practices once a week at the Soccer Sportsplex, before moving to outdoor training in May. Anyone interested in trying Gaelic football (women's or men's) should fill out the interested player form found at ClevelandGAA.com/JoinUs.



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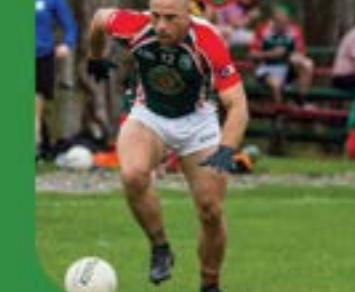
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Register at [ClevelandGAA.com/Youth](http://ClevelandGAA.com/Youth)

Question - Contact [CLEVELANDYOUTHGAA@gmail.com](mailto:CLEVELANDYOUTHGAA@gmail.com)

## GAA Update

Continued from page 13

and join an athletic, fitness minded club. Consider getting involved at any level. Fáilte (welcome) to all. The Gaelic Athletic Association is Ireland's largest sporting organization and a bit of home for the Irish abroad here in the US. Beyond sports, the Association also promotes Irish music, song and dance, and the Irish language as an integral part of its objectives. Go raibh míle maith agaibh (thanks y'all) to our readers and supporters.

Follow @ClevelandGaelic on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter for the 2019 activities for Men, Women, and Youth. Or, visit [ClevelandGAA.com](http://ClevelandGAA.com).

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael i gCleveland. Tá an scéal ag scaipeadh faoi CLG i gCleveland. Tá cairde agus colanna ceathracha ag teacht anseo as Éirinn sa samhradh. Fáilteoidimid rompu leis obair agus cairdeas. Ba mhaith linn níos mó daoine a fheiceáil ag teacht agus a roinnt cultúir le chéile.

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Feicimid arís go luath sibh. ■

*Vincent Thomas Francis Xavier Beach is a proud Greater Clevelander and emigrant of Michigan. He joined the St. Pat's Gaelic Football Club in 1999 and, with much help, is the current caretaker of the Cleveland GAA. His Irish is a cross of dialects from the University of Cincinnati and An Cheathrú Rua. With his wife, Michelle, he enjoys watching time absolutely fly by as their children, Ambrose (9), Bernadette (8), and Cedric (5), grow. His other hustles are teaching Irish at PJs, coaching CYO basketball at St. Mary of Berea, coaching soccer in Olmsted TWP, and slanging some engineering skills on local concrete and pipe projects.*



## CLEVELAND COMHRÁ

By Bob Carney  
@BobCarneyGTR

## Earth Day

Throughout the ages, mankind realized the importance of location when establishing his communities. A river was a valuable asset. Drinking water, food source, transport and defense are just a few reasons to settle on or near a river.

By the industrial age, rivers were being utilized as never before; the Cuyahoga was crucial in the development of Cleveland. It provided the means to move coal, iron, iron ore and numerous other products. It also became a way to rid ourselves of the waste generated by industry and the community growing around it. In other words, it became a sewer, like many other rivers surrounded by cities with growing industry.

In the early 1900s, the Cuyahoga provided water for Cleveland's industry, mechanical power, drinking water, and later for power generation. Raw sewage, garbage, rats and the by-products of the various businesses and factories around it floated on its surface and littered its banks. Fires had been breaking out on the Cuyahoga approximately once a decade since the 1860s.

It was a relatively small fire in 1969, however, that would change history. First reported by local news, the national media picked up in the burning river, Time magazine ran the photos and did a story that would catapult America's pollution problem into our living rooms.

A growing group of environmentally aware people used the coverage of the fire to promote that awareness to others both locally and globally. Around the nation people began to look at their rivers in a new light.

Folk singer and activist Pete Seeger, an avid fisherman, pushed to clean up "his river" the Hudson. The American people had spoken and by 1970, the Water Quality Improvement Act, the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement with Canada, the Clean Water Act and

the creation of state and federal environmental protection agencies were formed. That small fire was also a major inspiration for the first Earth Day.

April 22 is now celebrated in 193 countries. It marks the birth of the modern environmental movement. Prior to 1970, there were no regulations or legislature to stop anyone from dumping garbage, sewage or toxins into the water we drink or the air we breathe. Started by Senator Gaylord Nelson, it was his way to push awareness for the need for legal mechanisms to restore and protect our damaged environment.

That spring, twenty million Americans demonstrated in cities across the nation. Environmental awareness was around long before then, but was never perceived as a mainstream issue by our legislators. The E.P.A. was formed in December 1970 by lawmakers as a response to that call for action. Richard Nixon in his State of the Union Address said; "Restoring nature to its natural state is a cause beyond political party and beyond factions. It has become a common cause of all the people of this country."

During the next few years, Congress passed several legislative measures giving the E.P.A. the authority to establish national pollution standards and the ability to enforce them. As a result, according to agency data, automobile emissions of common pollutants, such as nitrogen dioxide, have been reduced 99%. Lead levels in children tested, have dropped from 88% to 3%. The number of U.S. waters that meet federal water goals has doubled since 1972.

The E.P.A. never would have been established had it not been for public demand. The first administrator of the E.P.A., William Ruckelshaus said, "Public opinion remains absolutely essential for anything to be done on

behalf of the environment."

The first chapter of Rachel Carson's landmark book, "Silent Spring" told of a world that could be devoid of color, the singing of birds, but instead full of sickness and death. Because of the awareness raised by Carson and countless others, the use of many of the toxic pesticides that were dumped on our crops and into our streams and rivers has been dramatically reduced. There is still a long way to go; trash litters our highways and our cities, plastic swims in our oceans, lakes and rivers; landfills are bulging with our waste.

Some would have us believe that the E.P.A.'s time has come and gone. I strongly disagree, without laws and regulations, I believe that the dollar in

hand would far out way our children's futures in the minds of some, rationalizing profit over responsibility. John James Audubon said, "A true conservationist is a man who knows that the world is not given by his fathers, but borrowed from his children."

It's a rather cold Sunday afternoon in February as I write this. Mary and I spotted a bald eagle flying over the Cuyahoga as we walked our dogs near the Station Road Bridge in Cuyahoga Valley National Park, a site I couldn't have imagined on "my river" fifty years ago. I urge all of you to attend one of the many celebrations of Earth Day taking place locally this April. Remember to take your children and grandchildren, after all, it is their world.

### For more information:

*Silent Spring* by Rachel Carson

*The Sixth Extinction* by Elizabeth Kolbert

*The Death and Life of the Great Lakes* by Dan Egan

*Turning the Tide on Plastic* by Lucy Siegle (the best book I've read this year)

*The Uninhabitable Earth Life after Warming* by David Wallace-Wells

### Events:

Penetentiary Glen Reservation (Kirtland) April 28, 2019

Cleveland Metroparks Zoo [clevelandmetroparks.com/zoo](http://clevelandmetroparks.com/zoo)

Cleveland Museum of Natural History April 22, 2019

Earth Day Work Party April 20, 2019 W.Hines Hill Rd. Hudson, Ohio

Cuyahoga Valley National Park ■

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

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**AT HOME,  
ABROAD**

By Regina Costello



## Galway Girl in India Part 3

The sightseeing adventure began on our door step of Delhi, with Ginny (Deepak's sister) as our ardent guide. With an avid interest in history, she eagerly shared her knowledge of the two zones of the city – Old Delhi and New Delhi– that was devoured by myself and somewhat endured by Deepak.

I expected an interesting day, but I did not expect to catapulted back to my own culture immersing me in somber musings. Crossing into Old Delhi can be likened to traveling back in time depicted in the movie Back to the Future.

Our jolting rickshaw rambled through the interconnected cobblestone narrow lanes in this ancient city built by the Moghul Emperors. Looming before us were spectacular architectural structures of several magnificent historical sites that have stood the test of time.

Ginny chose to take us to Red Fort and Chandni Chawk to experience the essence of this ancient principality.

Red Fort is aptly named, from the red sandstone that built it. Spanning more than 2km in length, with heights reaching up to 33 meters, bordered by a canal, it truly is an impressive acropolis.

My favorite memory of the tour was the walkway that specifically accommodated elephants and their entourage to enter the city. It's probably wide enough to fit a tour bus through today.

Glances into a turbulent time gone by are evidenced by bullet marks embedded in the walls. We strolled throughout the various halls, and private dwellings of the emperor and mistresses. The first tricolor flag of independent India was flown at the main gate in 1947, where the dream of freedom from the British became a reality.

The Prime Minister hoists the Indian flag in that spot every August 15, Independence Day. Interestingly enough, the flag colors and patterns are the same as those in the Irish flag



Red Fort, Old Delhi

except the colors are horizontal. The first time the flag of the Irish Republic was flown was on March 7, 1848, in County Waterford, not to be seen again until it was displayed above the GPO in 1916. Both countries, thousands of miles from each other, seeking independence from the same unwanted and uninvited authority. Somber musings indeed.

We finished up at the Fort and crossed the street to one of the oldest markets in Old Delhi. Chandni Chawk is a bustling shopping area of narrow lanes lined with hawkers reminiscent of a medieval bazaar. In business since the seventeenth century, one can purchase all kinds of goods and foods in this "shoppers' paradise," as it is locally known. When I think of Chandni Chawk, I recall the florists selling roses, marigolds and lotus flowers. The floral scent was so overwhelming, I had to step back. "Now that's how flowers should smell!" Deepak commented to me.

Hailing a rickshaw, we left the bumpy streets of Old Delhi and we were Back to the Future in New Delhi just as quickly as one exits Achill Island and enters the mainland. No evidence of Moghul living here, but in its' place are elements of British occupation visible in the architectural style of government and civic buildings serviced by extensive metro facilities.

The British built a number of

structures, including India Gate, the House of the President, and Parliament House. And yes, we saw all of them and I'll share the more striking memories. India Gate at first glance looks like a replica of the much older French Arc de Triomphe. Dedicated to the Indian soldiers of World War 1 and the Anglo-Afghan War, eternal flames are lit at its' base.

On to the Indira Ghandi Memorial Museum; we visited the official residence of the first female Prime Minister of India. This museum was indeed more like a home. Personal items, newspaper articles and original furniture are on view, in addition to her life's work in public service during turbulent times. Sadly, in 1984 she was assassinated by her bodyguards as she strolled in the gardens of her home.

In that museum, President Mary Robinson came to mind, as another powerful leader who was also popular and an eloquent speaker. I saw myself as a foreigner in India, and although a proud American citizen today, I still feel like an immigrant, but I hope I will always feel that way. President Robinson initiated the tradition of a candle burning nightly in an upstairs window of Aras an Uachtarain. It serves as a beacon of welcome for returning sons and daughters of Ireland. I want that symbol to always be meaningful to me.

Last on our list for the day was the



modern and unique Lotus Temple that looks like a giant half opened lotus flower against the vibrant sunset. This structure has won numerous architectural awards. It's a relatively new building, opened to the public in 1986. The Lotus is the national flower of India, and the temple consists of 27 marble petals.

The nine entrances depict the nine major faiths of the world and 2500 people of all religions can be accommodated in this giant Bahai

House of Worship to pray or meditate. The Bahai faith believes in religious freedom, a world that is divine in origin, broad in view, scientific in its technique, kind in its philosophy and dynamic in nature. As such, it is one of the most visited sites in the world.

Walking towards the temple that quiet evening, with twilight approaching was both serene and calming. Wishful thoughts for additional such structures to be in the world with global acceptance of all

faiths must enter the minds of visitors. Knowing my love for Indian food, Ginny suggested we stop at a McDonalds for dinner. Truly, this was the last place I wanted to go. Oh my goodness, it was wonderful! A menu of McSpicy Paneer (Indian Cheeseburger featuring mozzarella-like cheese wrapped in breadcrumbs, deep fried and served in a bun with the usual trimmings); McSpicy Burger; Chicken Tikka Burger; Green Chili Aloo Naan (naan bread wrapped around deep-fried chili and a potato vegetable burger); Mexican cheesy fries; India tea and Fanta. We selected an array of dishes and shared them. Really hungry from a long day of sightseeing, this dinner hit the spot.

Arriving home, we shared tales from the day with the family and crawled into bed exhausted. An excursion beyond the walls of Delhi was already planned for the next few days, with a car and driver booked to pick us up early in the morning. Agra Fort, the city of Jaipur, The Floating Palace and the Taj Mahal were on the itinerary. Our bags were already packed for the adventure that was to take me away from my new home abroad for a few days.

Sources consulted: [www.britannica.com/topic/India-Gate](http://www.britannica.com/topic/India-Gate), [www.culturalindia.net/monuments/india-gate](http://www.culturalindia.net/monuments/india-gate), [www.aroundthisworld.com/indira-gandhi-memorial-museum-residence-delhi-india/](http://www.aroundthisworld.com/indira-gandhi-memorial-museum-residence-delhi-india/), [www.holidify.com/places/delhi/chandni-chowk-sightseeing](http://www.holidify.com/places/delhi/chandni-chowk-sightseeing), [www.1848tricolour.com/history-of-the-irish-flag/](http://www.1848tricolour.com/history-of-the-irish-flag/), [www.dubmantalks.wordpress.com/2012/05/04/the-light-in-the-window/](http://www.dubmantalks.wordpress.com/2012/05/04/the-light-in-the-window/), [www.culturalindia.net/indian-temples/lotus-temple](http://www.culturalindia.net/indian-temples/lotus-temple). ■

*Regina is a graduate of History and Philosophy from the National University of Ireland, Galway and a post graduate of Library and Information Studies from the National University of Ireland, Dublin. She is the former Assistant Librarian of the Economic and Social Research Institute, Dublin; former Curator of Irish American Archives of the Cleveland History Center; former Executive Director of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument Commission and former Executive Director of the Northern Ohio Rose Centre. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Mayo Society of Greater Cleveland. She can be reached at [rcostello@ameritech.net](mailto:rcostello@ameritech.net).*

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# CLEVELAND IRISH

By Francis McGarry



## That 1890s Clout

As far as Mass goes, she is a rather good reader. On occasion she has a tad bit more Holy Ghost in her, but you can understand the words and her pauses are appropriate. Ethel is her name. I thought to myself she must have an exotic name like Monique or Danielle. Ethel told us, "Make not your heritage a reproach." Well, matter o'fact, it was Joel, but Ethel carried it.

In 1890 you could listen to the readings at the Cathedral and walk less than a city block west on Superior to the Irish American Club. St. Columbkille's was only six city blocks east of the Cathedral at Superior and Alabama. Cleveland Irish in 2019 should visualize Superior from East 9th to East 26th. If you can visualize East 41st and Superior, you are, and were, at Immaculate Conception.

Genueflectations aside, the IAC was establishing relationships beyond Superior. Your guy may be bigger than my guy up there, but my guy is bigger than your guy down here. In mid-July of 1890, the IAC hosted a reception for the Honorable Daniel J. Ryan. He was the Secretary of State and a member.

"Many of the prominent men of the city were present to greet Mr. Ryan.

Among those present were Mayor George W. Gardner, ex-congressman Martin A. Foran, Controller (Major) W.J. Gleason, Postmaster W.W. Armstrong, General James Barnett, Senator David Morison, V. A. Taylor, Col. A.T. Van Tassel, Deputy Sheriff Ryan, Fire Commissioner Robert Kegg, County Recorder A.T. Anderson, Deputy Superintendent of Police James McMahon, T.P. Thorpe, Dr. G.W. West, Dr. J.G. Carroll and Messrs. John Garry, John Reeves, C.C. Dewstoe, Ed Cowley, Jr.: Charles McHannon, T.J. McManus, W.J. Hart, W.L. West, Dan Guson, Frank Gallagher, Thomas Leggett, Owen J. Gallagher, James Gaulty, John Scriber, Hugh Quigley, Richard O'Rourke, Peter Burns, W.J. Lynch, F.M. Sheedy and Hugh Buckley."(PD 7/18/1890)

It was only five months later at the annual meeting of the IAC, yeah an Irish Club with one meeting a year, that the new board was elected. W.J. Gleason was president; Charles McHannon first vice president; C.E. Malcahy secretary; Peter O'Byrne, Lawrence Sinnott and W.J. Lynch house committee; and M.A. Foran, J.F. Gallagher and E.W. Sullivan committee

on literature.

This was not the only title that William Gleason held in the Cleveland and the Irish community. In 1890 he lived with his four daughters at 168 Cedar Avenue. That was a long way from his beginnings.

Gleason was born in Ireland in 1845 and immigrated to the Forest City very early in his life. As a youth he was a newsboy and worked his way up to learn the printing trade. He was Major W.J. Gleason. The Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument in Public Square was his doing. He was president of the monument commission and a charter member of Army and Navy post No. 187. Mr. Gleason was also a member of the Early Settlers' Association, G.A.R, first secretary of the board of election commissioners and in 1890 the city controller.

Major Gleason's influence was protuberant in Irish affairs of the city. He chaired the local meetings of the Irish Land League in the 1880s. He was a prominent member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians. He might have been a member of Clan-na-Gael.

He was definitely president of the Parnell Branch of Irish National League, which met at Parnell Hall, 72 Superior. His vice president was fellow Hibernian Owen Kane; treasurer James Gaulty; secretary John Walsh;

and trustees Pat Smith, W.J. Lynch and Thomas Gaulty. They were Irish Nationalists.

In 1889, William Gleason, despite his public standing, had to defend his Irish nationalism. The Catholic Universe in an editorial by Bishop Gilmour addressed Irish nationalism in Cleveland. "It is pretended that there is no Clan-na-Gael in Cleveland. Yet



for years one of the head organizers of the Clan-na-Gael lived in Cleveland and his friends yearly strive to keep his name before the public." (PD 7/15/1889). That organizer was P.K. Walsh, who was also in the Hibernian Guards. Gleason was one of his friends.

The Plain Dealer inquired with the Major. Gleason categorically denied

his membership and stated there was never Clan-na-Gael in Cleveland. He did note that there was a society in Cleveland that on occasion had some members who self-identified as Clan-na-Gael, but he never did call that society by that name.

"Mr. Gleason, what society was that?" "None of your business." The reporter notes that Gleason "admitted" to being a Nationalist. The Major responded to all in his own words.

"P.K. Walsh was, when a young man in Ireland, a member of the Young Ireland party, of which Thomas Francis Meagher, John Mitchell and others

Continued on facing page

## Celtic Women Launch "Ancient Land" New Album and DVD

### 13th Studio Album Introduces Newest Member, Megan Walsh

Multi-platinum Irish music sensation CELTIC WOMAN release their 13th album, ANCIENT LAND.

The 18-track album introduces the group's newest member Megan Walsh, who joins vocalists Mairead Carlin, Eabha McMahon and violinist Tara McNeill.

Since their 2005 debut, Celtic Woman continue to touch the hearts of a huge audience that spans the globe. Both an accomplished recording ensemble and a world-class performing collective, Celtic Woman celebrates Ireland's rich musical and cultural heritage, while continuing its remarkable legacy of introducing some of Ireland's most talented singers and musicians onto the world stage.

The new album was recorded in

Real World Studios in the U.K. this past summer, and features material that's all new to Celtic Woman, including original compositions, "Follow Me," "Be Still" and "Love & Honour", along with Irish traditional songs, "Sive," "Mna na hEireann (Women of Ireland)" and "Moorlough Shore" and some re-imagined workings of contemporary songs such "Long Journey Home," "Going Home" and "Homeland."

To coincide with the album's release, Celtic Woman presents a new concert spectacular on PBS stations nationally now on DVD. Check local listings for air dates.

Filmed against the backdrop of the historic Johnstown Castle in Co. Wexford, Ireland, the outdoor concert special features music from Ancient

Land, timeless Irish favorites and unexpected cover songs. You can see all their tour dates and get the cd and DVD at [www.celticwoman.com](http://www.celticwoman.com).

In honor of International Women's Day on March 8th, 2019, you can view the Celtic Woman's song, the Mna na hEireann (Women of Ireland)@ <https://youtu.be/i5sd8oiOaNE>

Celtic Woman will be in Ohio on the following dates:



April 9th - Akron @Akron Civic Theatre; April 12th - Lima @Crouse Performance Center;

April 17th - Columbus @Palace Theatre; April 18th - Cincinnati @ Taft Theatre. All tickets at [www.celticwoman.com](http://www.celticwoman.com). ■

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

### 1890s

Continued from facing page

were the leaders. He was driven to this country and served three years and three months in the union army. He was a patriot in Ireland and he acted the part of patriot in this country when the rebel who edits the Catholic Universe was doing his best to break down the intuitions of this county.

The editor dared not attack P.K. Walsh, for he was more than his match with his brogue or his pen, as several conflicts with that paper have proved. The English, Germans and French have their societies and organizations in this country and not one word is said against them. Why should not the Irish be entitled the same organization?

Our society here is an open one, free to every citizen in Cleveland and certainly our love of country can be no crime. It would suit some people that all the perjury and villainy practiced by the London Times and in the Parnell trials should be taken as facts; that the books of the league should be examined and opened for the English government to pry into. But the books of that infamous league-the Loyal and Patriotic union- which paid Pigett for

his forgeries, should be sealed." (PD 7/15/1889)

The Catholic Universe was at 530 Superior. That stretch of Superior connected the Cleveland Irish to international, national, state and local politics, their faith and their Church, and the international, national and local Irish community. More so it connected them to each other, all the while making not their heritage a reproach. ■

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## Freedom for All Ireland

The Ancient Order of Hibernians and Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians work on many joint projects. One is the Annual Freedom for All Ireland Christmas Appeal.

During the Annual Christmas Appeal, donations are collected to provide assistance to many groups in the North of Ireland. "The defined categories of Hibernian support include (a) support for former Republican political prisoners, (b) truth and justice groups, (c) cross community groups, (d) Irish culture, heritage and language, (e) preserving Irish Republican history, and (f) cross border groups."

The groups must submit an application. Some of the groups that have received support have included Cairde Strabane Republican Ex-Prisoner group, Conway Mill Trust, Duchad Oriall, Down Patriot Graves, Holy Cross Ardoyne Trust, National Graves Association in Belfast, Omagh Community a youth Choir, Tar Anall- Belfast, Pat Finucane Center in Derry, Relatives for Justice in Belfast, St. Patrick Centre, Green Cross, Greater New Lodge Republican Commemoration Committee and Bridges Beyond Boxing.

In addition to financial support, the Freedom for All Ireland (FFAI) Chairs on all levels of the organization educate our members on FFAI issues. This is a critical time with Brexit and its ramifications. The AOH and LAOH supports the McGuinness Principles, which deal with the full implementation of the Good Friday Agreement.

This past February, I was privileged to participate in the AOH FFAI Tour. The AOH and LAOH was well represented, with thirty-seven members from thirteen states, including both National Presidents.

The first stop on the trip was at the Border to meet Damien McGinnerty, Declan Fearon and John Sheridan of Border Communities against Brexit. We were hosted at the local GAA



Members of the AOH and LAOH on the FFAI Tour at Leinster House

Hall for a short presentation on how Brexit and the possibility of a hard border will hurt the community. The Panel included representatives from the Nationalist and Unionist Communities along with members of

the AOH.

A No Deal Brexit and/or a Hard Border will have economic effects with companies shutting down true to lack of regulations and the Peace process with the Good Friday Agreement in jeopardy. AOH National President Jim McKay presented the Border Committee the resolution from Congressman Brendan Boyle on America's efforts to support these communities. In the evening, we attended the 30th Annual Virgil for Pat Finucane.

Pat Finucane was an Irish Human Rights lawyer. He was shot in his home witnessed by his family on

Feb 12, 1989. His wife Geraldine was wounded. His family is still awaiting truth and justice of his murder by Loyalist in collusion with the British Government.

In November, Cleveland hosted

Carmel Quinn to speak about the Ballymurphy Massacres. The Hibernian delegation met with Carmel Quinn and other Ballymurphy Families at the Laganside Court in Belfast to attend the Inquest. Outside the Court House, the delegation and the families were filmed. AOH National President and National FFAI Chair were interviewed.

Attending the Inquest, we experienced the stall techniques used and witnessed the patience of the families in their quest for truth and justice. National Director Denny Parks, who is a Summit County

Court Official, stated: "if anyone refused to comply with court orders in America, the way the British had, the case would be dismissed and someone jailed for contempt; these families need our support in their

*Continued on facing page*



AOH National President Jim McKay Sean Mc Bride Honoree Fr Gary Donegan, Mayor of Belfast Deirdre Hargey and LAOH National President Carol Sheyer.

### Freedom for all Ireland

*Continued from facing page*

quest for truth and justice."

Belfast Mayor Deirdre Hargey welcomed the delegation to a reception in Belfast City Hall. The AOH and LAOH were honored to announce the 2019 Sean McBride Award at this reception. This prestigious award will be presented in October in Washington D.C. to Fr. Gary Donegan for his heroic

actions at Holy Cross and his work at the Ardoyne Houben Centre in Belfast. In the evening at the Felons Club check presentation to the local Belfast groups were made.

The next day, we had a very emotional schedule. First we met John Teggert, Carmel Quinn and other Ballymurphy family members at the site of the murder of their loved ones; Joe Austin and Brendan McFarlane

of National Graves gave us a tour of Milltown Cemetery; we paid our respects at the graves of Winifred Carney, who participated in the Easter Rising, Bobby Sands and many other Republicans. National Presidents McKay and Sheyer placed a wreath at the Republican Monument.

At An Culturán, presentations from the author Richard O'Rawe on his book about his friend Gerry Conlin, and by Niall Murphy, who spoke on the recent Belfast Forum. As a member of the LAOH, I was very interested in the presentation by Andree Murphy and Mary McCallan of Relatives for Justice on the women's perspective and the unique problems faced by women during the conflict. The day concluded with a special showing of the documentary Unquiet Graves.

In Derry, Kevin Hasson of the Bogside Artists spoke about the Murals and their impact. He spoke in particular about the mural of his friend George McBreaty and welcomed the family to the gathering at the mural. Tony O'Hara addressed the group at the Mickey Devine about the Hunger Strikers, in particular his brother Patsy, and Bobby Sands.

The Delegation met with the Mayor of Derry, John Boyle. Following the meeting with the Mayor, 8 City Counselors (6 Sinn Féin and 1 Independent Republican), led by Unionist Party Deputy Mayor Derek Hussey, answered questions in relation to Bloody Sunday and the Saville Report from the group.

While in Derry, the group had the opportunity to visit the Museum of Free Derry, a traveling exhibit on the Great Hunger. We then traveled to visit the Battery Bar, the site of the murder of Liam Ryan, a friend of Martin Galvin. We saw a presentation on the Hooded Men and the murder of Roseann Mallon.

The next day, the group visited the Hill of O'Neill, the offices of Relatives for Justice and presented our donation to Eula an Ex-Prisoners support group in Dungannon. We met relatives at the Galbally Community Center to discuss legacy issues and heard from them the British strategy to "deny, delay and die."

The Tyrone Hibernians hosted a wonderful evening at Quinn's Corner

of music and fellowship. They made some special presentations and gave each one of us a St. Brigid's Cross made by our Tyrone Hibernian Sisters. We hated to leave but know that this trip strengthens the bonds between the American and Irish Hibernians.

This was a trip of a lifetime, and will hold a special place in my heart. A special thank you to Sean Pender, Dan Dennehy and Martin Galvin for planning this wonderful and educational trip.

In preparing this column, I read and shared some of the information that Jim Sullivan posted on Facebook. Thank you Jim.

I conclude with a statement from FFAI National Chair Martin Galvin, "As many delegates said, the end of this tour is just the beginning of a greater national campaign. Members of this delegation from across the United States saw just how much American help is needed by those still denied freedom from British rule and suffer injustice. We were told again and again across the north that they count on Irish America and see the AOH-LAOH as their voice in America." ■

Marilyn Madigan is a Registered Nurse, recently retired from University Hospital. She is an amateur Historian serving as National Irish Historian 2014-2016 for the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians. She currently serves as National Secretary.

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## ILLUMINATIONS

By J. Michael Finn



# The Fierce O'Flahertys

The history of the O'Flaherty's goes back to the earliest times; they are one of the oldest tribes in Ireland. Descendants of the first Celtic invader Milesius (pron: mil-iss-see-us) founded the tribe Uí Briúin (O'Brien), who were believed to have witnessed the arrival of St. Patrick.

The tribe Uí Briúin split into three groups. One of these groups was the Uí Briúin Seóla. This group evolved into a tribe called Muintir Murchada, named for their chief Murchada. The O'Flaherty's get their name from a descendant of Murchada.

This Irish surname is written as Ua Flaithbertach in Old Irish texts. In Modern Irish the surname is now generally spelled as O'Flatharta (pron: oh fla-hart-a). The surname is most often translated as "bright prince." The clan motto in Latin is Fortuna Favet Fortibus, or "Fortune Favors the Brave" which may have been inspired by the same line in Virgil's Aeneid.

The first O'Flaherty, known in Irish as Ua Flaithbheartaig, is mentioned in the annals of Ireland in the year 1034

– Muireadhach Ua Flaithbheartach, Lord of Uí-Briúin-Seola, a descendant of the Muintir Murchada and the O'Brien clans. He united many of the descendants of the Uí Briúin tribes in the area east of Lough Corrib in County Galway.

The O'Flaherty tribes dominated the area around Galway during the 11th and 12th centuries. In the year 1092, Flaherty O'Flaherty briefly seized the Kingdom of Connacht from Ruadri O'Connor, and proclaimed himself High King of Ireland. However, he chose not to hold the throne, eventually conferring the Kingship on Muirchertach O'Connor. Flaherty O'Flaherty died in battle in the year 1098.

With their capital at Annaghdown Castle, the O'Flaherty clan controlled Lough Mask and Lough Corrib, Galway Bay, Connemara and the barony of Ross. In 1169 the Normans arrived in Ireland. The Ard Ri at the time, High King Roderick O'Connor in Connaught, ceded his claim to Ulster, Leinster, and Munster to the Normans, but held on to Connacht for himself. The Normans wanted more, and soon planted a castle in Connaught.

O'Connor summoned his councils and called the other clans into action. But the castles, chain mail, the armor, and the other advantages the Normans held proved too much for the Irish. The O'Connor, O'Flaherty, MacDermott and MacGeraghty tribes fell to the Normans. Their surrounding lands became Galway City, which was populated by fourteen Norman families who were eventually known as the "Tribes of Galway." The O'Flahertys never forgave the De Burghs (Burke) or the other tribes, and continued to harass the Normans within the walled city of Galway for centuries. The citizens of Galway one day erected a wall that bore the prayer, "From the



Aughnacore Castle, County Galway

ferocious O'Flaherty's, Good Lord deliver us."

In those centuries the O'Flaherty's adapted much from the Normans, building castles, churches, towns and growing rich on the commercial trade of the day. Copying the custom of building defensive castles, the O'Flaherty's built Aughnacore Castle (pron: ock-na-noor), near Oughterard (pron: Ooch-ta-rad) on the Drimneen River near Lough Corrib. It was built in 1490, and was perhaps their most impressive castle.

The castle was built over the Drimneen, surrounded by a forest of yew trees. Aughnacore is the English version of an Irish place name that means "field of the yews."

Today you can go through the remaining parts of the castle that are still intact. Going up a stone spiral

staircase in the six storey Tower House, you can walk through the large main hall on the top floor of the castle. As expected, the main hall in the tower has a large fireplace.

A small room off the main hall contains the "murder hole." This was a hole cut through the stone floor, where, after dining, enemies of the O'Flaherty's were taken. On the pretense of showing them a new sword or a cask of wine, the enemy was walked across a rug covering the hole. He dropped through the hole, falling five stories to the rocks below. The hole was also useful in dropping boiling oil on anyone foolish enough to attack the fortress.

The chief of the De Burgh's once sent his son to collect tribute from the O'Flaherty's. The young De Burgh was welcomed by a fine meal, then dropped

## Fierce O'Flahertys

Continued from facing page

through the murder hole and beheaded. The youngest of the O'Flaherty's was dispatched to the De Burgh castle carrying the head, which he tossed through the gate of the De Burgh castle.

"Tell my Lord Earl," the young O'Flaherty yelled. "That this is the only tribute the O'Flaherty's of Iar-Connacht will ever pay to the De Burghs!" Iar-Connacht was the name given to the O'Flaherty territory in Galway. It means West Connacht. The De Burghs eventually abandoned their castle following this incident, as they never felt quite safe there.

By the mid-16th century, an even more explosive element was added to the family. In 1546 the then 16-year-old pirate Queen Grace O'Malley married Dónal "An Chogaidh" O'Flaherty, heir to the chieftom of the O'Flahertys, forever linking her and the sea-faring O'Malley clan as members of the O'Flaherty's (Dónal's nickname meant "Dónal of the battle" and is pronounced ahn-cog-ah).

When Dónal died, Grace assumed the power and authority of her husband, and became the female

chief of the O'Flahertys. With her swift Galway boats and allegiance of her people, she dominated the waters around Galway for many years.

In 1593, Grace sailed her fleet up the Thames River to meet with Queen Elizabeth I, to petition her for the release of her sons who had been captured by the English. Grace met with Elizabeth at Greenwich Place, with the two of them surrounded by guards and the members of Elizabeth's royal Court. Grace refused to bow before Elizabeth because she did not recognize her as the Queen of Ireland.

The two women came to an agreement, which was later abandoned by the English. Grace realized that the meeting with Elizabeth had been useless, and she went back to supporting Irish insurgents during the Nine Years War. She most likely died around 1603, the same year as Elizabeth. The O'Flaherty's should also be credited with helping to preserve the essence of the Gaelic Irish heritage to the point that when the Irish chief Murrough O'Flaherty died in 1626, it was written that he still practiced the ancient brehon ways.

This column is dedicated to a good friend, Stephen Flaherty of Doon West, Gurteen, County Sligo, Ireland who

passed away ten years ago this May. He was a quiet, gracious and well respected member of the community where he was born, lived and died. He was not nearly as fierce as his surname would suggest. ■

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](mailto:FCoolavin@aol.com).



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

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WCWA-AM 1230 w/John Connolly

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## Cherish the Ladies: Music for All Ireland, All America, All the World

By Ryanne Gallagher Johnson

Joanie Madden and Cherish the Ladies band are on metaphorical fire. Coming up on thirty-five years of performances, the all-female traditional Irish music group is stronger than ever, releasing a new album just last year and having shows booked out for the next three years already. What started as a way to play music for fun has become an extremely successful way of life for the New York-born flute player and her ridiculously talented musician friends.

Raised by Irish parents in the Bronx, Ms. Madden was brought up in a household full of traditional Irish music. Her mother hails from County Clare, and her father, Joe Madden, an All-Ireland Champion accordion player, was from County Galway. From an early age, she was exposed to the tunes of her father and his friends, and she began taking lessons from legendary flutist and National Heritage Award winner Jack Coen.

She initially went to school for accounting, but found that it didn't feed her soul the way she needed, much to the chagrin of her father. "I was miserable," she admits. "I went to college for one year, and I came home, and I said 'listen, I wanna switch my major to music'.... And my father said, 'Joanie, over my dead body are you being a musician.' So, a lot of good that did."

Although the chances of her becoming a success in music were remote, she nevertheless persisted. As a teenager and young adult, she gained experience playing with her father's band, as well as with classmate and now-famous fiddle player Eileen Ivers; Ivers was also born to Irish parents in the Bronx.

Joanie and Eileen went on to compete in the All-Ireland at the same time, and both placed well in the competition. It was also a turning point for Madden, as the door to perform as part of a group was opened to her during that time.

"Myself and Eileen and a bunch of others had gotten lucky... in 1983, I went over to Ireland... and we got sec-

ond in the céilí band, and Eileen won the fiddle competition. And the Céilí band, it was a ten-piece Céilí band, and nine of us were women. And Mick (Moloney, also a traditional Irish musician) called me up to say, 'you know, you realize you're all women?... this is unbelievable because for hundreds of years, it was passed down from father to son, and now it's being passed down from father to daughter... most of us are daughters of very well-known musicians. He said, 'you know, this is unprecedented, and I think we should do a concert series to celebrate this'."

Madden didn't think anybody would come, but agreed to give it a try. She helped organize the group, and put the people together from all over the country. The group did a three-concert series to sold out audiences. "That was the beginning of Cherish the Ladies. We sold out every show."

"Nothing happened for a few months after that. Then I called the girls up and I asked them if they wanted me to see if I could get a few gigs lined up. So I did... I started getting gigs. I used to sit home on the phone and mail out packages and call everybody and their mother and sit there for hours and hours on end, on the phone, and I'd say 'this is Joanie Madden from Cherish the Ladies', and they'd say 'what church are you with, I'm sorry?'," she laughs. "People thought we were a marketing ploy... When we went out and we played our shows, people were like 'Oh, my God, you guys can play! You're not just a marketing ploy, you really can do it!'"

The first inclination that they had staying power as a musical group came when they did a tour in Ireland. "The first time we went to Ireland and we saw the band so respected and so well-received. That was a scary part for all of us because we're all Irish-American, and to come back to Ireland and see the crowd... standing ovations, so thrilled to see (us). I think that was kind of the turning point."

I'm very proud of [our new album], Heart of the Home. It's our seventeenth, and it's collaborative, but it's



still the band and it's all our music. I wrote six tunes on the album, and then our piano player wrote a tune, and our fiddle player wrote a tune, and the guitar player wrote a tune, and we still love to dig back into the old tunes... we love to find jams from the 1800s, we have a lot of music from the 1800s on there, and 1700s, and tunes that we learned from our fathers as well, because we're very proud of where our music came from... hopefully anything we've played over the years, we've always added to the music and never taken away."

The current group consists of Madden on the flute; Mary Coogan, also New York born, and the only other founding member still with the group, on the guitar; Mirella Murray from County Galway on piano accordion; Glasgow native Kathleen Boyle on piano and accordion; and Nollaig Casey on fiddle.

As for the doubts that her father harbored in the beginning, seeing the success that his daughter created for herself and the band set aside his fears. "He got to see my success (before he passed away). I was playing with the Boston Pops, they asked me to come up as a soloist, and I brought my parents to the show. Keith Lockhart, the conductor,

he gave me an incredible buildup, and I looked out and I saw my father when I was playing with the hundred-piece orchestra behind me, and I looked down and tears were rolling down his face, and I had never seen my father cry before... All my life, I was Joe Madden's daughter, and he said, 'Now I'm (known as) Joanie Madden's father!'. That was huge."

If you're looking for more time with Irish folk music and Joanie's brand of entertainment and fun, you can check out her cruise, Joanie Madden's Folk 'N Irish Cruise, which sails from May 12th-19th this year. The 7-day trip aboard The Norwegian Escape will travel from New York to Bermuda and back again, with 'Walzing, Jiving, Céilí and Set Dancing, Sing-A-Longs, Concerts, Workshops, Sessions, & More.'

"We've got 900 people booked for the folk cruise this year. It's our tenth year... It's been so successful, beyond my wildest dreams." ■

For more information on Joanie Madden, Cherish the Ladies, or the Irish folk cruise, you can visit: [joaniamadden.com](http://joaniamadden.com), [cherishtheladies.com](http://cherishtheladies.com) or [joaniamaddencruise.com](http://joaniamaddencruise.com).



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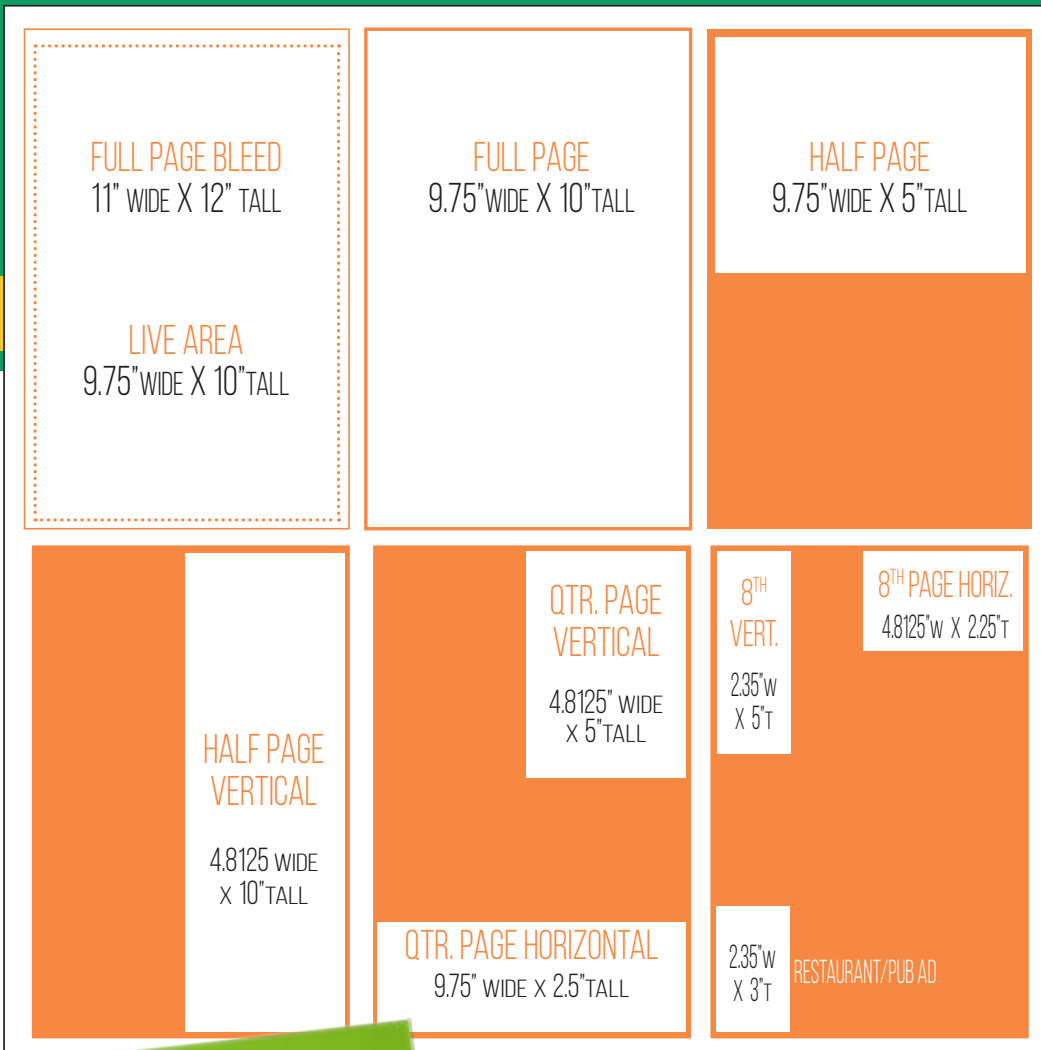
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**COOKING UP A HOOLEY**  
By Katie Gagne



## Sweet, Simple and Scrumptious Strawberry Vanilla Cream Cake Roll

This simple and sweet cake roll will wow your guests at your Easter gathering. This my favorite vanilla cake recipe. It's very easy to make and you can whisk it by hand. Using a good boxed white cake mix will definitely work well, also. But . . . the sweet, rich vanilla flavor makes this scratch-made one a little bit more effort worth it.

### VANILLA CAKE:

- 3 1/3 Cup All Purpose Flour
- 1/2 Teaspoon Baking Soda
- 1 Teaspoon Baking Powder
- 1 Teaspoon Salt
- 1 Cup – 2 Sticks Unsalted Butter, melted and slightly cooled
- 2 Cups White Granulated Sugar
- 4 Egg White – Room Temperature
- 1/2 Cup Vanilla Yogurt
- 4 Teaspoons Clear Vanilla
- 1 Vanilla Bean or 1 Teaspoon of Vanilla Bean Paste
- 1 1/2 Cups Whole Milk
- 1/2 Cup Powdered Sugar
- 1 Container of Sliced Fresh Strawberries

Line a large baking sheet with parchment and spray with Pam. Preheat oven to 350\*

Sift Flour, baking powder, baking soda, and salt in a medium bowl and set aside.

Melt butter in microwave safe bowl and let cool for 3-4 minutes. In large mixing bowl – place white sugar and pour in melted butter. It will be gritty.

Add in eggs whites, yogurt, vanilla and milk and whisk until blended. Add in vanilla bean or vanilla bean paste and whisk until blended. Add dry ingredients and whisk until smooth with no lumps. Pour batter into prepared pan about 3/4 of the way up.

Bake until slightly golden and spongy to the touch. Take a clean dry dishtowel and sprinkle with 1/2 cup of powdered sugar. Invert the cake pan onto the towel while it's still warm. Start at the long end and roll the cake up into the towel and set aside until entirely cooled.

Unwrap the cake and spread the vanilla cream mixture over the cake. Layer it with the sliced strawberries. Roll the cake as before. Sprinkle with powdered sugar and dollops of the vanilla cream and garnish with more strawberries.



### VANILLA CREAM FILLING:

This is a great blend of creamy vanilla frosting and fluffy whipped cream.

Beat 1 stick of softened unsalted butter until light and fluffy. Add 2 cups of powdered sugar, 3 teaspoons of vanilla, a pinch of salt and 2 tablespoons of heavy cream and beat until combined and very fluffy – about 4 minutes.

In a separate mixing bowl and with a whisk attachment whisk 2 cups of cold heavy whipping cream until soft peaks form. Add 1 cup of powdered sugar and 1 teaspoon of vanilla and continue whisking until a stiff and fluffy whipped cream forms.

With a rubber spatula blend the whipped cream into the frosting mixture until combined. ■

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

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## SPEAK IRISH

By Bob Carney

@BobCarneyGTR  
carneyspeakirish@gmail.com



### Is Breá Liom Mé!

I really like it! We've come along way in just a couple of months in getting to know someone using the Irish language. We've learned to say hello, introduce ourselves, ask someone their name, inquire how they are and even where they're from.

Another way to build a friendship is to share our likes and dislikes. We'll review some of what we know, plus add a few new words and phrases and talk about what we like. In Irish there is no equivalent to the English "yes" or "no"; we have to reply using the same verb that was used in the question.

Also, keep the pronunciation guide from the Jan. 2019 issue handy, it can help make sense of our phonetic translations.

#### Conversation Example:

Norá: Dia duit. (jee-uh ghitch) God to you.

Aoife: Dia's Muire duit. (jee-us mor-ah ghitch) God and Mary to you.

Norá: Conas atá tú? Is mise Norá, cén t-ainm atá ort? (kuhn-us ah taw ort? Iss mee-sha Nora, ken tan-im ah-taw ort?) How are you? I'm Nora, what's your name?

Aoife: Níl mé go dona. Is mise Aoife, tá sé go deas bualadh leat. (neel may guh dun-uh. Iss mee-sha ee-fah, taw shay guh jess boola laht)

I'm not bad. I'm Aoife, it's nice to meet you.  
Norá: Tá sé go deas bualadh leatsa! An maith leat ag léamh? (Taw shay guh jess boola laht-sa! ahn mah laht ah lee-uv) It's nice to meet you! Do you like to read?

Aoife: Is maith liom bheith ag léamh agus is breá liom bheith ag seinm ceoil. (Iss mah lum veh ah lee-uv ah-gus is braw lum veh ah shen-im kyool) I like to read and I love to play music. Agus freisin, an éisteann tú le ceol? (ah-gus fresh-in, ahn ay-stahn too leh kyool) And yourself, do you listen to music?

Norá: Éisteam. Is breá liom ceol traidisiúnta. (Ay-stahm. Iss braw lum kyool trah-dih-shoon-ta) Yes. I love traditional music.

Aoife: An bhfuil ceol agat féin? (Ahn will kyool ah-gut fayne) Are you musical yourself?

Norá: Tá. Seinnim an fhidil. (Taw shen-im ahn ih-dil) Yes. I play the fiddle.

Aoife: Maith thú! (mah who) Good job or fair play to you!

Norá: Feicfidh mé thú. (fek-ay may who) I'll see you.

Aoife: Slán. Tóg go bog é. (slawn. Toeg guh bug ay) Goodbye. Take it easy.

Notice that when Norá asked Aoife if she likes to read, "An maith leat ag léamh?", the g was not pronounced in the word ag. It is omitted when preceding a word that starts with a consonant, but pronounced when it precedes a word starting with a vowel. Aoife responded by repeating back the verb that Norá used when asking the question, "Is maith liom bheith ag léamh."

#### Vocabulary and Phrases:

Is maith liom... (iss mah lum...) I like...

Ní maith liom... (nee mah lum...) I don't like...

Is maith liom Guinness! Ní maith liom báisteach. (bawsh-tawhk) rain

Tá dúil mhór agam. (taw dool vor ah-gum) I really like it.

Is breá liom é. (iss braw lum ay) It's fine with me. (also a way to say you really like something)

Ní maith liom ar chor ar bith é. (nee mah lum ar cor ar bih ay) I don't like it at all.

Is fuath liom é. (iss foo-ah lum ay) I hate it.

Tá sé ceart go leor. (taw shay kyart guh lore) It's alright or ok.

If you wish to talk about something you like to participate in you would phrase it slightly differently.

Is maith liom a bheith... (iss mah lum ah veh) I like...

An maith leat...? (ahn mah laht...) Do you like...?

Is maith. (iss mah) affirmative reply to An maith leat...?

Ní maith (nee mah) negative reply

An maith leatsa é? (ahn mah laht-sa ay?) Do you like it? (emphatic)

An maith leat féin é? (ahn mah laht fayne ay) Do you like it yourself?

Is fearr liom.. (iss far lum) I prefer...

Ag léamh (ah lee-uv) reading

Ag seinm ceoil (a shen-im kyool) playing music

Ag snámh (ah snahv) swimming

Ag canadh (ah kah-nah) singing

Ag rith (ah rih) running

Ag garraíodóireacht (ah gar-ee-ah-dor-ahcht) gardening

An amharclann (ahn ah-ver-clen) the theater

An phictiúrlann (ahm fic-tchoor-len) the cinema

An scannán (ahn scan-an) the film

An teach tábhairne (ahn chawhk tah-vern) the pub

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The on-line dictionary teaglann.ie can be extremely helpful if you find pronunciation difficult, it is easier to hear the words along with a phonetic example than to rely on just the phonetics. Finally, here is an excerpt of the poem "Anois Teach an tEarraigh" "Spring is Coming", written by Antaine Ó Raifeirí and translated by Frank O'Connor.

"Anois teach an tEarraigh  
Beidh an lá dúl chon shíneadh,  
Is tar eis na féil Bride  
Ardóigh mé mo sheol  
Go Coillte Mach rachad  
Ní stopfaidh mé choíche  
Go seasfaidh mé síos  
I lár Chondae Mhaigh Eo"

(ah-nesh chawhk ahn ehr-ahgh)  
(veh ahn law dool kon she-nay)  
(iss tar esh na fayl breedj)  
(ar doe may mo hole)  
(guh cah-leeta mahch rah kayd)  
(nee stop fay may hwee-ha)  
(guh shesh-fay may sheesh)  
(ih lar hawn-day may oh)

Now with the springtime  
The days will grow longer  
And after St. Bride's day  
My sail I'll let go  
I put my mind to it,  
And never will I linger  
Till I find myself back  
In the County Mayo.

SLÁN GO FÓILL! ■

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

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**2.**



**3.**



**4.**

1. Ohio Rose Center President Mike and Karen Kileen. *Photos 1-4 by John O'Brien, Jr.*
2. Ohio Rose Center Director Ashley Speaker and Kyle Buckel.
3. Lunasa wows the house at MusicBoxCLE.
4. All the Roses 2019.
5. We kicked off the 2019 season with our largest attended indoor practice in recent memory. We were excited to welcome quite a few new mens players as well as our startup womens program at the Soccer Sportsplex.
6. Fairview Park Chamber President Mike Aerni presents the 2018 Business of the Year award to Gunselman's David Grace. *Photo by Jerry Masek.*
7. Alyssa Reichart Brandon Asazawa of Rambling House at Medina Performing Arts Center.



**6.**



**5.**



**7.**



By Dottie Wenger

# KIDS CRAIC

## What's Happening in April?

### EASTER

This holiday is celebrated in Ireland very much like in the United States. Ireland is predominantly Catholic. Many Irish families observe the Lenten season and recognize Good Friday as a quiet day to reflect and prepare for Easter Sunday. Attending mass is popular on Easter, followed by a holiday feast that may include lamb, ham, potatoes, and many of the same foods we enjoy. Easter baskets and visits from the Easter bunny are also part of the Irish tradition.

The day following Easter is "Easter Monday." It is also a day of remembrance and an official public holiday in Ireland. It commemorates Dublin's Easter Rising of 1916, Ireland's rebellion against British rule. Check out: "Irish Kids Discuss the 1916 Rising" on YouTube!



### EARTH DAY

Earth Day was begun in 1970 by U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson, after he witnessed a huge oil spill in Santa Barbara, California. In 1990, Earth Day went "global" - Ireland is now one of over 140 countries recognizing Earth Day!

Its goal is to encourage people to be friendlier toward our environment. Ireland's Friends of the Earth director Oisín Coghlan, stated, "The Earth is our only home. And it's a miracle of nature, a 'Goldilocks' Planet': not too hot, not too cold, but just right for human life."

**What are some ways you can help the Earth? Here are just a few:**

- Plant a tree
- Stop drinking bottled water
- Grow your own food or buy locally-grown produce
- Turn off the water while brushing your teeth

E	F	M	Z	A	M	A	Y	Z	O
T	P	R	E	C	Y	C	L	E	L
A	N	I	M	A	L	S	Z	E	I
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Z	V	C	M	V	Z	D	P	R	J
R	E	D	U	C	E	B	U	T	I
E	N	E	R	G	Y	L	Q	H	I
A	T	L	E	C	X	A	A	I	R
N	A	T	U	R	E	N	B	Y	V
W	A	T	E	R	U	D	S	V	M
energy	air	animals	land						
water	nature	reduce	planet						

### IT'S POETRY MONTH

Poetry Month was introduced in the United States in the year 1966, in order to increase awareness and appreciation of poetry. In Ireland, a special kind of poem is called a Limerick. "Limerick" is also the name of one of the largest cities in Ireland, as well as the name of one of its twenty-six counties.

Limericks are funny poems with five lines. Here is an example, from Follow Me Around Ireland, by Wiley Blevins:

There once was a shamrock named Pat,  
 Who tripped on a root and went splat,  
 She ripped her best leaf,  
 And sobbed in her grief,  
 And ruined her favorite hat.



### Irish Phrase

Cead Mile Failte

Pronounced  
 "Kade Maylah Fahl sha"  
 Meaning:  
 "A hundred thousand welcomes!"

*Dottie taught kindergarten and second grade for a total of thirty-two years, and she now handles marketing and promotions for Yorktown Service Plaza in Parma Heights. In her spare time, Dottie is a baker extraordinaire, and also enjoys participating in 5K events in order to offset collateral damage from this hobby. She is married to John and has two sons, Daniel and Andrew Fowler, the latter of whom is very active in the Cleveland pipe band community.*





# OUT & ABOUT OHIO

## FLANAGAN'S WAKE IS BACK!

The Hilarious Interactive Irish Wake is Every Friday & Saturday at 8pm starting January 4<sup>th</sup>. Kennedy's Theatre at Playhouse Square, Downtown Cleveland. 216-241-6000 or 866-546-1353 www.playhousesquare.org

### BROOKLYN

#### HOOLEY HOUSE!

10310 Cascade Crossing, Brooklyn 216-362-7700. 1FunPub.com

### CLEVELAND

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### FLAT IRON CAFÉ

1st - Opening Day - Free round-trip shuttle service to game for all customers. 4pm first pitch, 5th - Jim & Eroc 7-10pm, 12th- Donal O'Shaughnessy 7-11pm, 19th- Cats on Holiday 6:30. 1114 Center St. Cleveland 44113-2406 216.696.6968. www.flatironcafe.com

### TREEHOUSE

7th - Chris Allen; 14th - Chad Hoffman; 21st - Bibles and Bar fights; 28th - Cats on Holiday 820 College Avenue, Cleveland, 44113 www.treehousecleveland.com

### PJ MCINTYRE'S

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

### MUSIC BOX SUPPER CLUB

21- Easter Brunch w/ Marys Lane. 1148 Main Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44113. http://www.musicboxcle.com

### FLANNERY'S PUB

323 East Prospect, Cleveland 44115 216.781.7782 www.flannerys.com

### AVON LAKE

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## TRADITIONAL IRISH SOCIAL DANCING WITH THE CLEVELAND CEILI CLUB

The Cleveland Ceili Club promotes the musical traditions of Ireland by providing opportunities for adults to enjoy traditional Irish music and dance.

Set dancing lessons, Tuesdays 7:30-9:30 pm, St. Clarence Church, North Olmsted Wednesdays 7-9 pm, Irish American Club - East Side

Ceili dancing lessons, Thursdays April 4, 11, West Side Irish American Club.

Dance workshop, Sunday, April 28, PJ McIntyres, 12-3 pm  
Spring Ceili, May 10, West Side Irish American Club

For more information, contact CeiliClubCleveland@gmail.com find us on Facebook

weddings and special events. Call Tony Ahern / Lucy Balsler @ 440-933-9500. 726 Avon Belden Rd, Avon Lake 44012. www.aherncatering.com

### EUCLID

#### IRISH AMERICAN CLUB EAST SIDE

5th - Fish Fry w No Strangers Here, 12th - Fish Fry w Flashbaxx, 19th - Kennedy & Riley, 28th - Padraic Pearse Ladies Only Raffle & Luncheon. PUB: 7:30 - 10:30. IACES 22770 Lake Shore Blvd. Euclid, 44123. 216.731.4003 www.eastsideirish.org

### LAKWOOD

#### PLANK ROAD TAVERN

Open Sessiún Every Thursday 7 - 10. \$3 Guinness and Jamieson. 16719 Detroit Avenue, 44107

### MEDINA / MONTROSE

#### SULLY'S

6th - New Barleycorn, 12th - Other Brothers, 13th - Donal O'Shaughnessy, 19th - Music Men, 20th - Nathan Henry, 26th - West Awake, 27th - Dan McCoy. 117 West Liberty Medina, 44256 www.sullysmedina.com.

#### HOOLEY HOUSE MONTROSE

145 Montrose West Avenue Copley, Oh 44321 (234) 466-0060 www.1funpub.com



## ONGOING TRADITIONAL IRISH SESSIÚNS

BRING YOUR INSTRUMENTS AND PLAY ALONG!

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Central Ohio's Largest Irish-American Women's Organization  
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daughtersoferin.org facebook.com/daughtersoferin

### MENTOR

#### HOOLEY HOUSE

7861 Reynolds Rd Mentor www.1funpub.com (440) 942-6611.

### OLMSTED TWP

#### WEST SIDE

#### IRISH AMERICAN CLUB

13th - Open Mic Nite, 14th - Easter Bunny Breakfast 10am - noon contact maureen@mcv.org, 27th - Steak Shoot 7:30, 28th - "25" Card Tournament 3pm contact Dick Lardie 216-269-3005, 28th - Afternoon Tea & Fashion Show 1-4. Great live music and food in The Pub every Friday. WSIA Club 8559 Jennings Rd. 44138 www.wsia-club.org. 440-235-5868.

### ROCKY RIVER

#### GORMLEY'S

4th - West Awake, 5th - Crosswinds, 11th - New Barleycorn, 13th - Jeff Varga, 18th - Andrew McManus, 19th - Michael Crawley & Company, 20th - Austin Walkin' Cane, 26th - Chris Allen, 27th - Chris Tuma. 19500 Center Ridge Rd, Rocky River, OH 44116 (440) 990-7468 www.GormleysPub.com

### VALLEY CITY

#### GANDALF'S

6th - Sarena Tamburitza Orchestra, 13th - Jay Wonkovich, 20th - Pat Shepard, 27 - Andrew McManus. Join us for Brunch EVERY SUNDAY. Great food, atmosphere, staff and fun. 6757 Center

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Road Valley City, 44280 www.gandalfspub.com.

### WESTLAKE

#### HOOLEY HOUSE

24940 Sperry Drive Westlake 44145. 1FunPub.com (440) 835-2890

### COLUMBUS

#### SHAMROCK CLUB EVENTS

5th - Fish Fry; 6th - Quiz Night; 12th - Fish Fry; 13th - San Patricio's; 14th - Club Elections & General Meeting; 20th - DOE Kid's Easter Egg Hunt; 27th - Officer's Installation Banquet. W. Castle Rd. Columbus 43207 614-491-4449 www.shamrockclubofcolumbus.com

#### TARA HALL

Traditional Irish music w General Guinness Band & Friends 2nd Friday 8:00 - 11:00pm. No Cover. Tara Hall 274 E. Innis Ave. Columbus, 43207 614.444.5949.

## COMING NEXT MONTH: MAY 2019

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

5th Co. Mayo Vs. New York Gaelic Football Match in New York

10th Spring Ceili @West Side Irish American Club

11th Cleveland St. Pat's Gaelic Football Tournament

19th The Black Donnellys @ MusicBoxCLE

27th Memorial Day

29th June Issue of the OhioIANews hits the streets





# TOLEDO IRISH

By Maury Collins  
@MauryCollins



## Saint Florian Firefighter Shrine at Historic Saint Patrick Church Toledo

The Historic Church of St. Patrick is a parish of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Toledo, located at 130 Avondale Avenue in Toledo, Ohio. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1972.

On September 9, 1980, the 240 foot steeple was destroyed by fire, caused by a lightning strike. The Toledo Fire Department's ladder trucks could not reach that high. Gabriel Edwards told me that she didn't know how the firefighters got through the maze between the choir loft and the steeple. They then had to climb up narrow wooden ladders left from the construction of the church.

Retired Toledo Firefighter Rich Duffy remembers climbing up inside the steeple "There were six of us up in the steeple when that cross collapsed," he said, referring to the copper-clad cross at the top of the 90-foot steeple. "A couple of us were diving under the bells because there was a lot of debris coming down and we couldn't get out of there."

I spoke with Mr. Duffy at a reception in the Church's parking lot in 2007 after the blessing of the new cross to be placed on the restored steeple. I thanked him for his service and told him that I admired his courage. He told me that he was pretty scared under the bell. I said; "Yes, but you stayed there and saved the church." His response was that he was only doing his job.

Falling debris of the cross fell onto and damaged the roof. The firefighters were able to extinguish that fire before it got to the interior wooden beams, thus saving the church from total destruction.

After her death February 25, 2006, Parishioner Margaret Tank bequeathed funds for the steeple's reconstruction and other upgrades in the church. The steeple and other projects were com-

pleted August 28, 2007.

On September 9th of that year, St. Patrick's Historic Church welcomed firefighters past and present for what has become an annual event. The Rev. Dennis Hartigan, pastor of the downtown Toledo parish at that time, credits the fire department with saving St. Patrick's.

**"THEIR DEDICATION AND DETERMINATION ON SEPTEMBER 9, 1980, KEPT THIS CHURCH OPEN. WHAT COULD HAVE BEEN THE END OF THIS PARISH TURNED INTO A REBIRTH."**

"Their dedication and determination on September 9, 1980, kept this church open. What could have been the end of this parish turned into a rebirth."

Among those who filled the church to standing-room capacity were 100 or so firefighters, mostly from Toledo, but also from suburban departments, including Perrysburg, Oregon and Washington Township. The Toledo Fire Department Drum and Pipe band led the procession in.

After the Mass, Father Denny suggested that a side altar be permanently dedicated to firefighters. A side altar in the Historic Church of Saint Patrick was dedicated to St. Florian, the patron saint of firefighters, and contains badges from fire departments all across the United States and the world. Retired Toledo Firefighter Dave Meegan and retired Perrysburg Firefighter Gabriel



Edwards have maintained the altar from the beginning. Dave tells me that the special firefighter altar is the only one in the United States and perhaps the world. There are parishes named for St. Florian, but no special altar within a church dedicated to the Saint and the Firefighters.

During the annual Mass, observed on the second Sunday of September, there is a ceremony in which a bell is rung three times for each area Firefighter who had died since the last Firefighter's Mass. In 2010, an 11 year old boy died from Lou Gehrig's disease (ALS) in Liberty Center, Ohio. The boy was a big fan of Firefighters, so the Liberty Center Fire Department gave him a Firefighter's funeral. His casket rode on the back of a fire engine to the cemetery.

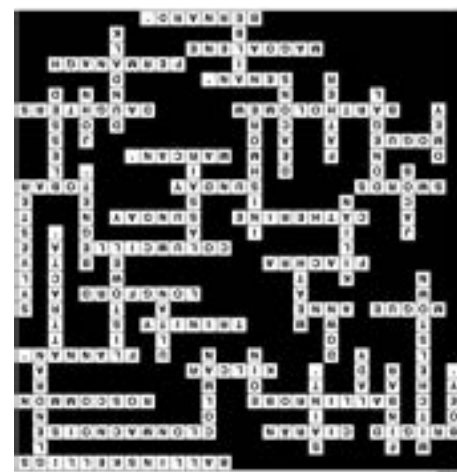
At the annual Mass that year, Ricky's name was read along, with the Firefighters who had passed, and the bell rang three times for him. Representatives of the Liberty Center Fire Department were present and very thankful. There is a photo of Ricky on the side wall of the altar along with a picture showing the 343 Firefighters who died while fulfilling their duties at the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

Items that have been added to the altar under the watch of the current pastor, Monsignor Chris Vasko, are a statue of Sr. Florian from Italy and a banner of St. Florian. Firefighter Phil Kensecker, who helped fight the September 9, 1980 fire, donated his helmet, which sits on top of the altar. There are also restored lanterns, originally used

to light the way and firefighting equipment such as an axe, a halligan and fire extinguishers.

There was a special Mass held on Sunday January 27, 2019 for the dedication of a class one relic of Sr. Florian and a blessing of an artifact that came from the World Trade Center. Those two items are now a part of the Firefighters Altar. If you are traveling on the I-75 highway going into Toledo from the South, you can't miss the beautiful Church at the top of a hill. Stop by, and if the church is open, come in to see the altar and say a prayer for the brave men and women, who protect us. ■

*Maury Collins is a charter member of the John P. Kelly Division AOH. His monthly newsletter is available at <https://mauryirishnewstoledo.weebly.com/> You may reach him at; [maurycollins61@gmail.com](mailto:maurycollins61@gmail.com)*



## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

By Linda Fulton Burke

### ACROSS

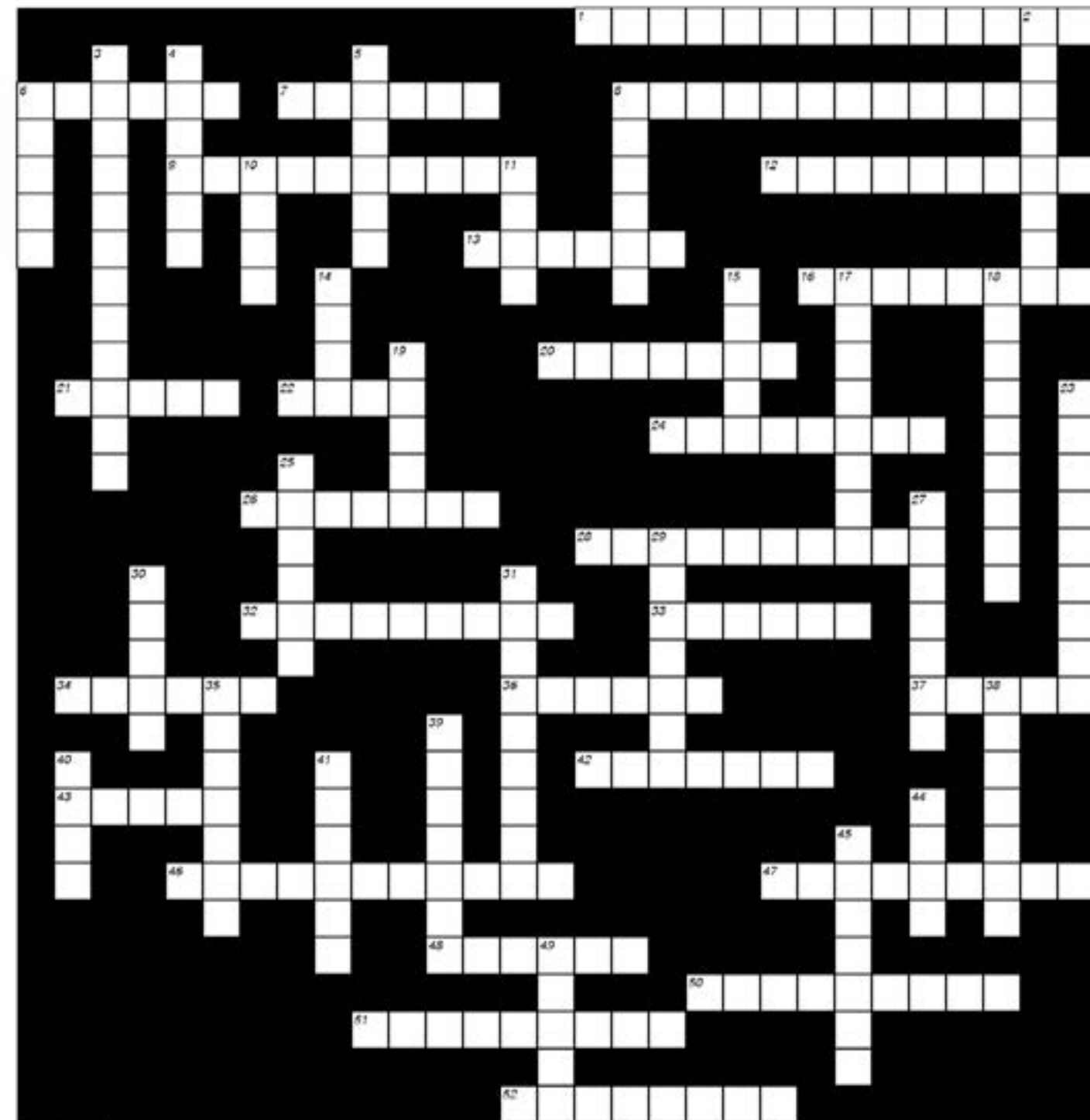
- 1 St. Michael's Well, \_\_\_\_\_ Co. Kerry
- 6 St. \_\_\_\_\_'s Well - Liscannor, Co. Clare
- 7 St. \_\_\_\_\_'s Well, Castlekeeran, Kells, Co. Meath
- 8 St. Finian's Well, \_\_\_\_\_, Co. Offaly
- 9 Holy Well, Loughmask Road, \_\_\_\_\_, Co. Mayo
- 12 Ogulla Well (Tobar Oigh-Ghiolla), Tulsk, Co. \_\_\_\_\_
- 13 St. Ciarán's Well, Bavan, \_\_\_\_\_, Co. Donegal
- 16 St. \_\_\_\_\_'s Well, Killaloe, Co. Clare
- 20 \_\_\_\_\_ Well, Kildemock, Co. Louth
- 21 St. \_\_\_\_\_'s Well, Clonmore, Co. Carlow
- 22 St. \_\_\_\_\_'s Well, Knockrooskey, Co. Mayo
- 24 Tobar Rí an Domhnaigh, Abbeylara, Co. \_\_\_\_\_
- 26 St. \_\_\_\_\_'s Well, Ullard, Graignamanagh, Co. Kilkenny
- 28 St. \_\_\_\_\_'s Well, Sandyford, Co. Carlow
- 32 St. \_\_\_\_\_'s Well, Drumcondra, Co. Dublin
- 33 \_\_\_\_\_ Well, Ballybot, Co. Armagh
- 34 Werburgh's Well, Crowcastle, \_\_\_\_\_ Co. Dublin
- 36 \_\_\_\_\_'s Well, Mullery, Co. Louth
- 37 \_\_\_\_\_ Doney, Halsly's Town, Co. Down
- 42 St. \_\_\_\_\_'s Well, Rosslave Inlet, Newport
- 43 St. \_\_\_\_\_'s Well, Rosinver, Co. Leitrim
- 46 St. \_\_\_\_\_'s Well, Cork City, Co. Cork
- 47 Well of the Seven \_\_\_\_\_, Renvyle, Co. Galway
- 48 St. \_\_\_\_\_'s Well, Scatterry Island, Co. Clare
- 50 St. Molaise's Well, Devinish Island, Co. \_\_\_\_\_
- 51 St. Mary \_\_\_\_\_ Well, Kilmurray Parish, Co. Limerick
- 52 St. \_\_\_\_\_'s Well, Rathkeale Parish, Co. Limerick

### DOWN

- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Well, Teemore, Co. Armagh
- 3 St. Fanahan's Well, \_\_\_\_\_, Co. Cork
- 4 St. \_\_\_\_\_'s Well, Gougane Barra, Co. Cork
- 5 All \_\_\_\_\_'s Well, Banaher (Tobar na Naoimh)
- 6 St. \_\_\_\_\_'s Well, Inismaghrath Parish, Co. Leitrim
- 8 St. \_\_\_\_\_'s Well, Cranfield, Co. Antrim
- 10 Our \_\_\_\_\_'s Well, Rochestown Parish, Co. Limerick
- 11 St. \_\_\_\_\_'s Well, Listowel, Co. Kerry
- 14 St. Patrick's Well, Sheplands East, Lecale, Co. \_\_\_\_\_
- 15 St. \_\_\_\_\_'s Well, Baileborough, Co. Cavan

## Ireland's Holy Wells, Pt. 1

Linda Fulton Burke



[www.CrosswordPuzzles.com](http://www.CrosswordPuzzles.com)

- 17 St. Erc's Well - \_\_\_\_\_ Co. Kerry
- 18 St. \_\_\_\_\_'s Well, Monasteraden, Co. Roscommon
- 19 Tobar Alt an Easa, Kilmainham Parish, Co. \_\_\_\_\_
- 23 St. \_\_\_\_\_'s Well, Malahide, Co. Dublin
- 25 Well of St. \_\_\_\_\_ of Würzburg, Mullagh, Co. Cavan
- 27 St. \_\_\_\_\_'s Well, Dalkey Island, Co. Dublin
- 29 St. \_\_\_\_\_'s Well - Lough Meelagh, Kilonan, Co. Roscommon
- 30 \_\_\_\_\_'s Well, Monkstown, Do. Dublin
- 31 Tobar Eithne, \_\_\_\_\_, Aran Islands, Co. Galway
- 35 St. Columcille's Well, Beefan, Glencolumcille, Co. \_\_\_\_\_
- 38 The \_\_\_\_\_ Well, Ballingarry Parish, Co. Limerick
- 39 Well of the \_\_\_\_\_, Aghagower, Co. Mayo
- 40 St. Feichin's Well, Gooreen, \_\_\_\_\_ Island, Co. Galway
- 41 \_\_\_\_\_ Moore's Well, The Curragh, Co. Kildare
- 44 St. \_\_\_\_\_'s Well - Dingle, Co. Kerry
- 45 Our Lady's Well, Dublin Road, \_\_\_\_\_, Co. Louth
- 49 St. \_\_\_\_\_'s Well, Kilroot, Co. Antrim

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