Save the Date!

Thursday, February 25, 2016, 5:30 pm

Annual Walks of Life Awards Dinner Honoring
Sr. Margaret Gorman, SND
Timothy Hagan
John F. McGarry & Lawrence J. McGarry
Patrick A. Sweeney

Windows on the River
2000 Sycamore Street
Cleveland OH 44113

Donation/individual ticket: $75 ($44 tax deductible)
VIP patron ticket: $150 ($90 tax deductible)

For information about sponsorship or ad opportunities
Or for inquiries, contact: Margaret Lynch
(216) 941-5727 or iaasadmin@gmail.com

Walks of Life Honorees

Sister Margaret M. Gorman SND

As provincial superior of the Chardon province of the Sisters of Notre Dame, Sister Margaret M. Gorman oversees the welfare of 303 nuns in Northeast Ohio, Florida and North Carolina.

About a third of these nuns are educators, mainly at Notre Dame Elementary School, Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin High School, Julie Billiart School and Notre Dame College. Others are pastoral ministers, directors of religious education or pastoral care givers, ministering to the sick and the elderly.

Sister Margaret was born in Washington, D.C., the first of five children of Frank and Barbara Gorman. At the time, her father was serving as a lawyer in the U.S. Department of Labor during the Truman administration. Her father had graduated from John Carroll University and Western Reserve Law School so the family returned to Cleveland in the early 1950s because her father felt he had a better chance of practicing law where he was better known.

Sister Margaret grew up in St. Clare Parish in Lyndhurst and graduated from Regina High School in 1966. After high school, she said, the idealism prevalent in the ‘60s made her think of joining the convent as the Catholic equivalent of joining the Peace Corps, which President John F. Kennedy had established just a few years earlier.

She later received master’s degrees in history from the University of Minnesota and in theology from Graduate Theological Union, a consortium of nine independent Catholic and Protestant seminaries in Berkeley, California. She taught social studies and religion in Ohio, Florida and South Carolina before becoming vice president of administration and executive vice president of Notre Dame College. She also served as president and principal of Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin High School. She was provincial treasurer of her order before taking her present position in July of 2011.

She has said that her main job today, like that of the other Notre Dame nuns, is to help people get closer to God.

Timothy Hagan

Cleveland’s downtown skyline has changed dramatically during last half-century and it would be hard to imagine how many of these changes would have occurred without Tim Hagan’s leadership.

From the Gateway district to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum to the new Convention Center and Global Center for Health Innovation, Hagan’s imprint can be found.

Hagan was the fourth born (by eight minutes after his twin, Jim) of Bob and Ada Hagan’s 14 children. He grew up in Youngstown, where his father was a Trumbull County commissioner and later represented the area as a state representative. The younger Hagan graduated from...
Cuyahoga County now ranks fourth of the 3,000 counties in the country in its commitment to these services. Though he had a significant role in the rebuilding of Cleveland's downtown, while looking back now, he says that he is chiefly proud of being able to win community support for many health and human services levies and developmental disability levies. Cuyahoga County now ranks fourth of the 3,000 counties in the country in its commitment to these services.

In 2004, he was again elected a county commissioner and one of his premier projects was the rebuilding of the old Cleveland Convention Center and construction of the Global Center for Health Innovation. Though he had a significant role in the rebuilding of Cleveland’s downtown, while looking back now, he says that he is chiefly proud of being able to win community support for many health and human services levies and developmental disability levies. Cuyahoga County now ranks fourth of the 3,000 counties in the country in its commitment to these services.

Patrick A. Sweeney
Northeast Ohio received millions of state dollars for a host of worthy causes, from the arts to higher education to social services, due to Patrick A. Sweeney's uniting work in the Ohio Legislature representing Cleveland's West Side and western suburbs. His career in public service also helped to promote the expansion of Cleveland State University. Pat was elected to the Ohio House of Representatives in 1967. During his 30 years of service in the House, he served as majority whip, assistant majority leader and minority leader. He was chairman of both the Legislative Budget Committee and the influential House Finance and Appropriations Committee. In 1997, he was appointed to the Ohio Senate to fill the vacancy created by Dennis Kucinich's election to Congress.

One of five children of Thomas and Bridget Sweeney, both immigrants from Ireland, Pat inherited his father's political inquisitiveness that sparked lively conversations during his early years. His cousin, Michael Sweeney, was a state representative who ran unsuccessfully for Congress in the 1960s. A life-long Democrat, Pat attributes his success in politics to his relationships – both in his concern for his constituents and in his ability to relate to the needs of both Republicans and Democrats in state and local governments.

He twice was a candidate for mayor of Cleveland and in 1998, lost a primary race against then-Bedford Heights Mayor Jimmy Dimora to become a Cuyahoga County Commissioner. Pat, a veteran of the United States Air Force, holds a master of public administration degree from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. His passion, imagination and curiosity for government and public policy have led to a continued commitment to many significant activities; he was a founding trustee of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, a trustee of Columbia College Chicago and a member of the Kennedy School’s alumni board. He also is president of PASCo Consultants, a public policy advocacy group.

He and his wife of 32 years, Emily, who served 10 years as U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio, have a daughter, Margaret Anne, a graduate of Miami University and Cleveland Marshall Law School. She now is an assistant prosecutor in the U.S. Attorney’s office and is the mother of Pat’s grandson, six-month-old Elliott.

In 2004, he was again elected a county commissioner and one of his premier projects was the rebuilding of the old Cleveland Convention Center and construction of the Global Center for Health Innovation. Though he had a significant role in the rebuilding of Cleveland’s downtown, while looking back now, he says that he is chiefly proud of being able to win community support for many health and human services levies and developmental disability levies. Cuyahoga County now ranks fourth of the 3,000 counties in the country in its commitment to these services.

President’s Note
In the 2015 Annual Fund appeal letter of the Irish American Archives Society, we were able to report that we had been able to collaborate during the year with an impressive number and array of community organizations and individuals:

- Achill-Cleveland Twinning Initiative, Baseball Heritage Museum at League Park, Chagrin Documentary Film Fest, Cleveland Historical, Cleveland International Film Festival, Cleveland Irish Cultural Festival, Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland Public Library, Comhlacht Forbartha Áineil Acla, Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization, First Gael, Gordon Square Fall Fest, Ionad Déibhil, Irish Garden Club of Cleveland, Kimm's Corners Hooley, Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Lake County Captains, Matt Museum, Mary Agnes Kennedy, Mayo Society of Greater Cleveland, Middleburg Heights Historical Society, Marianne Mangan, Murphy Irish Arts Center, Ohio City Bicycle Co-op, Judge Ray Pianta, P.J. McIntyre's, Portershanks, Roundabouts, St. Malachy Parish, St. Joseph Academy, Teaching Cleveland, the West Side Irish American Club, Western Reserve Historical Society, WVIZ, and Councilman Matt Zone.

- Outreach activities were funded especially by the Michael Talty and Helen Talty Charitable Trust, IAAS supporters, and the citizens of Cuyahoga County through a grant from Cuyahoga Arts and Culture. We promise to approach 2016 in the same collaborative spirit, and hope you will let us know about opportunities to share information about the proud history of the Irish in Cleveland. Thomas D. Corrigan, President of the IAAS Board