



Irish American Archives Society Inc.

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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:
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**Or for inquiries, contact:
Margaret Lynch
(216) 941-5727 or
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Director's Corner

Last October, Cleveland hosted several visiting delegations from County Mayo. One of those delegations hailed from Comharchumann Forbartha Ionad Deirbhile Eachléim Teo, a community development organization headquartered in Eachleim on the Belmullet Peninsula. Ionad Deirbhile has spearheaded the development of a database and memorial garden dedicated to the memory of the people of North West Mayo who emigrated to Canada and the United States in the years 1883-84 assisted by "The Tuke Fund." The searchable passenger database that Ionad Deirbhile has created is accessible to all on the website, <http://www.blacksodbayemigration.ie>.

On October 11, 2015, representatives of Ionad Deirbhile—Executive Director Jacqui D. Uí Mhónacháin, Board President John Gallagher, and researcher Rosemarie Geraghty—made a presentation at the West Side Irish American Club about "The Tuke Assisted Emigration Scheme" and the efforts that the development group has made to make this family history resource widely available. Present that day were descendants of several families—Burke, Masterson, Dugan, Gallagher, and McManamon—who are pictured here with the Ionad Deirbhile delegation, IAAS Executive Director Margaret Lynch, and Belmullet-area native Mary Gilbert Mangan and her husband Mike. Representatives of other Cleveland area families—Kilbane, Lynch, Gorman, and Caine—were unable to attend or couldn't stay for the photograph but have also reached out to identify ancestors who were able to immigrate on one of the Tuke-assisted sailings.



This coming semester, a John Carroll University history student will be assisting with research on the destinations of some of the Tuke passengers, in an effort to help illuminate how many of them ended up in Cleveland. More will be reported on the outcome of this research at a later date. – Margaret Lynch, Executive Director



Board Members: James G. Brennan, Sr. Maureen Burke, SND, Hon. Ken Callahan Jr., Dan Conway, Thomas D. Corrigan, John Coyne, Ray Daull, Brendan Doyle, Rosemarie Feighan DeJohn, Thomas Lynch, Margaret (Meg) McGarry, John Myers, Erin O'Toole, Kevin O'Toole, Max Rieker, Thomas J. Scanlon, J. Gerard Sheehan. **Trustees Emeritus:** Kevin McGinty, Mary Karen O'Neil, Gerald Quinn.
Executive Director and Newsletter Editor: Margaret Lynch. **Contributing Writer:** John Coyne.
The photo of the "Tuke sailing" descendants and the photo of Patrick Sweeney are courtesy of Marianne Mangan.

Preserving Our Heritage, Sharing Our Stories

The Newsletter of the
Irish American Archives Society of Cleveland & Northeast Ohio

Volume 19, Number 1 Winter 2016

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

Taimid ag suil le do comhlúadar
We look forward to your company!





Timothy Hagan (cont.)

Ursuline High School and attended Youngstown State University for two years before entering the Army. He returned to Youngstown in 1968 to work as a baker and steelworker before moving to Cleveland in 1970 and obtaining a bachelor's degree in urban studies from Cleveland State University.

Following in his father's footsteps, he quickly became enmeshed in local politics, working on various campaigns, including Jim Carney's candidacy for Cleveland mayor in the early 1970s. During that campaign, he met Carney's niece, Jeanne, whom he married in 1973. They divorced in 1995 and Hagan was later married to actress Kate Mulgrew for nine years.

He was elected a county commissioner in 1982, a position he held through 1998. During that time in office, he worked to persuade voters to pass a tax on alcohol and cigarettes to provide money for the Gateway project, which resulted in the building of Jacobs Field and Gund Arena.

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 untiring 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, where he now serves as assistant to the vice president of governmental relations.

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.



Jack McGarry

John F. McGarry & Lawrence J. McGarry

As owners of one of Cleveland's premier painting companies, Jack and Larry McGarry this year will celebrate the 70th anniversary of the company their father founded in 1946.

The company had a curious start, the brothers have said. Their father, Michael McGarry, who came to America in 1922 from County Roscommon in Ireland, was a painter at Cleveland Graphite Bronze Co., back in the 1940s. One day, he was asked to work the second shift. Fearing he would not be able to spend much time with his nine children, he refused and was fired. The next Sunday, he took the last few dollars from his pocket and placed them into the collection basket at St. Aloysius Church. After hearing about McGarry's job loss, the president of Graphite Bronze called him the following day and offered him the job of painting his own house. McGarry liked the freedom of working on his own, and the business was born.



Larry McGarry

Both Jack and Larry say they started in the business while still in school working summers and weekends helping their father paint houses. As the business grew, the company took on industrial and commercial jobs, such as painting the steel at Jacobs Field and the interior of Gund Arena. Other clients have included Cleveland Clinic, Progressive Insurance, Sherwin-Williams, Lincoln Electric, Eaton Corp., and Cuyahoga Community College. Along the way, they have provided jobs for more than 3,000 union painters, not only in Cleveland, but throughout Ohio.

Jack McGarry met his future wife in the fourth grade, but it was more than a decade later when he and Meg began dating. They married in 1961 after he spent two years in the Army. The couple are the parents of Sean, Timothy, Brendan and Meghan and nine grandchildren. They now live in Euclid. For many years, Jack entertained those attending the kick-off for the annual St. Patrick's Day in Cleveland with the singing of the American and Irish national anthems.

Larry McGarry, who celebrates his 72nd birthday on the day of the Walks of Life dinner, joined the Navy after graduating from Collinwood High School and spent most of his service time in dry-dock in Philadelphia. After returning from the service, he split his time between painting and bartending at the family-owned Euclid Lanes bowling alley and McGarry's Lounge, both of which were later sold. Larry and his wife, Patricia, will celebrate their 47th anniversary in May. They are the parents of Larry Jr. and Elizabeth and have four grandchildren. The couple are residents of Eastlake.

For the last 25 years, the brothers have operated the painting business from a family-owned building on E. 49th Street, just a block south of Lake Erie.



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 Áitiúil Acla, Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization, Fíor Gael, Gordon Square Fall Fest, Ionad Deirbhíle. Irish Garden Club of Cleveland, Kamms Corners Hooley, Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Lake County Captains, Maltz 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 Pianka, P.J. McIntyre's, Portersharks, Roundabouts, St. Malachi 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