2015 Walks of Life Honoree

LINDA M. KANE

As senior vice president and treasurer of Forest City Enterprises Inc., Linda Kane oversees the finances of the Cleveland-based company’s $9 billion in assets across the United States including 83 commercial properties and more than 45,000 apartments and military housing units.

After receiving her degree in Accounting from Cleveland State University in 1979, Kane became a Certified Public Accountant. Among her present activities, she serves as treasurer of the Cleveland State University Foundation and as an advisor to the university’s Monte Ahuja College of Business. She also is treasurer of Cleveland Neighborhood Progress and is a board member of the Better Business Bureau and the Rainbow Babies and Children’s Foundation. At Saint James Catholic Church in Lakewood, she is a member of the Finance Council.

A member of the Leadership Cleveland class of 2012, she has served as treasurer of the Great Lakes Theater Festival and on the board of Saint Joseph Academy. She recently co-chaired the school’s Expanding Minds ~ Building Futures ~ Raising Leaders Capital Campaign that raised $7.8 million for a new dining hall and utility improvements. She received the Women of Achievement Award from the YWCA of Greater Cleveland, a non-profit which she had served as a trustee.

A long-standing member of the West Side Irish American Club, Kane has lineage ties to County Mayo on Clew Bay, where her grandfather Patrick Kane lived in Mulranny, and her grandmother Mary Joyce Kane hailed from Newport.

Kane and her husband, Gary Stewart, live in Bay Village. A son, Joseph Williams, a St. Ignatius High School graduate now living in Brooklyn, N.Y., is founder of a custom lacrosse equipment enterprise, and a daughter, Carolyn Reilley, is an advertising art director in Chicago. Together, the family has twice tackled Croagh Patrick, the 2,500-foot mountain overlooking Clew Bay, on top of which St. Patrick fasted for 40 days in 441 A.D.

Irish American Archives Society 2015 Walks of Life Awards