

Museum of Newport Irish History

March 22, 2020

Dear Fellow Members,

At this unprecedented time, we hope you and your loved ones are well. As we all "hunker down" to weather the COVID-19 crisis together, please know you are very much in our thoughts. If you did not have a chance to read our most recent e-news of **Mar.14**, in which we announced numerous event postponements, you may access it [HERE](#). And please read the below latest updates

Please feel free to contact me directly should have any questions or concerns. Stay well. We look forward to resuming our activities and seeing you again as soon as possible.

Mike Slein,
President, Board of Directors
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Please review the below updates since March 14



Interpretive Center Closed

Our [Interpretive Center](#) closed Sunday Mar. 15 at 4pm, and will remain closed until further notice. Of course, we hope to be in the position to open for the 2020 Season on Friday, May 22, as originally planned.

Channel 10 pays a visit to the Museum

We are delighted to provide an opportunity for a "virtual tour" of our Interpretive Center, courtesy of **WJAR NBC 10**. President Slein hosted the producer of the station's "Studio 10" lifestyle program, Meghan Kayata, and her team on March 12, and the segment aired the evening of March 17 on their sister channel, Ocean State Network, Channel 5. In case you missed it, click the below orange button and enjoy!



(Note: a link to the video may be found on our website home page)

Virtual
Tour

Dancing at the Forty Steps Cancelled for Mar. 29

As the governor has cancelled all gatherings of 10 or more, indoors or out, we were also compelled to cancel the annual "**Dancing at the Forty Steps**" at Cliff Walk, which was to have been a festive close to the [43rd Annual Newport Irish Heritage Month](#). We hope to gather again in March 2021 for this much-loved commemoration. A sincere THANK YOU to the below key participants, without whose involvement, the event would not take place. We hope to see you in 2021!

Donal & Mary Lehane - leaders of dancing
The Ancient Order of Hibernians Men Singers
Rick Kelly, The "[Irish Hour](#)" on WADK

Musicians:

A.O. "Tony" Gutierrez, Tim May, Tom Perrotti,
Debbie Spitznagal and Jack Wright



Performance by Irish Singer-Storyteller Postponed

While we had not yet announced this event to the membership, we were scheduled to host the wonderful Irish storyteller and singer, [Helena Byrne](#) (pictured below) on Friday, May 15. Many of you attended Helena's sold-out performance, held at Hibernian Hall, in May 2018. Due to the current health crisis, Helena has cancelled her Spring 2020 U.S. Tour. We are working with her to re-schedule her Newport appearance for early Fall 2020. Stay tuned!



Forbes Publishes article featuring Museum's Interpretive Center

In case you missed the March 17 post on the Museum's [Facebook](#) page, our Interpretive Center was featured as a notable attraction of Irish interest by Forbes travel writer, Michele Herrmann. We are in good company, indeed, along with such attractions as the Tenement Museum in New York City, the Irish Railroad Workers Museum in Baltimore and Ireland's land's Great Hunger Museum at Quinnipiac University.

Forbes.com
article

Museum Launches a Facebook Page

The Museum launched a **Facebook** page to kick off 43rd Annual Irish Heritage Month. Despite the impact of the virus and the postponement or cancellation of countless events, the page is off to a fine start. Thus far, the majority of page followers are non-Museum members, so it's been a great way to increase awareness of our organizational. If you use Facebook, please consider "Liking" our page. Click the below FB graphic to reach our page:



Irish Language Learning Gatherings Suspended for now

Those of you involved with Salve professor Sean O'Callaghan's monthly Irish Language Learning gatherings at AOH Hall received an e-notification on March 16 that these sessions would be suspended for now, in light of the virus outbreak. If you missed the notice or would like to learn more, click the below orange button.

[Update from Prof. O'Callaghan](#)

[Visit our website](#)

[Membership Renewals](#)

NOTE: Except for those who joined recently, all those with Annual (vs.Life) memberships are due for renewal at this time. A renewal notice in the U.S. Mail will be forthcoming, but please consider renewing now online, using the above button, to help defray our printing and postage expense. If you are unsure of your membership status, please write Ann at tpm1@earthlink.net

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Museum of Newport Irish History

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