



The Museum of Newport Irish History MNIH

Third talk of our 23rd Annual Lecture Series

☞ *Made possible by a generous gift from Francis J. Furtado,* ☞
given in memory of his wife, Barbara Carr Furtado

A Celtic Team:

***Genevieve McGlinchey and Wallace Mathison,
Newport Community Leaders in the 1950s to 1980s***

Guest Speaker: Marian Mathison Desrosiers, PhD

Wednesday, November 20, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Wyndham Newport Hotel
240 Aquidneck Avenue, Middletown, R.I. 02842
and Live-Streamed via Zoom

As a team, Genevieve McGlinchey and Wallace Mathison took on leadership roles in Newport organizations that enhanced the community, transformed neighborhoods, and tackled tough problems faced by all levels of society. Gen was of Irish heritage, and Wally's ancestors hailed from Scotland's highlands. They began their service as Newport public school parent-leaders. Their spiritual commitment was evident in Catholic organizations like the Knights of Columbus and Lady Hibernians. The Mathisons were among those who initiated the traditions of Christmas in Newport and Newport Irish Heritage Month, and served on the Newport Bicentennial initiative. With the advent of urban renewal, the team served on the first board of Operation Clapboard and other groups working to save Newport's architectural heritage. The couple took a major role in health and safety and quality of life issues surrounding tuberculosis, lack of swimming instruction, and loss of access to public rights of way. Together, they spent four decades working for the benefit of Newport. The presentation shows the power of individuals with ideas and talent who commit themselves to active involvement with others to make the community a better place for all.

MARIAN MATHISON DESROSIERS, PhD, is an independent scholar, for two decades a public-school history teacher, and for a dozen years an Adjunct Professor of History and Humanities at Salve Regina University. She is a two-time Fulbright Scholar to India and to Russia. Her published books include *John Banister of Newport: The Life and Accounts of a Colonial Merchant* (2017), *The Banisters of Rhode Island During the American Revolution: Liberty and the Costs of Loyalties* (2020), *Island Girl: The Life of Justice Florence Kerins Murray, Patriot, Public Servant, Esteemed Jurist* (2022). This is her third talk for the Museum.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Light hors d'oeuvres & Cash Bar available.

Members: \$5 Lecture Fee is payable at door via cash or check to "MNIH." No fee to Zoom.

Reservations Required for In-Person and Zoom Participation

To reserve, visit www.NewportIrishHistory.org, click "Lectures," then the appropriate link to reserve under the Nov. 20 listing (In-person OR Zoom). You will receive an E-confirmation. If you do *not* see this email, check your spam. The talk will be videotaped, and a link will be available on our website's "Lectures" page.

Questions or Assistance with Registration: Contact Ann Arnold at (401) 841-5493 or tpm1@earthlink.net

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