



Ancient Order of  
**HIBERNIANS**  
IRISH • CATHOLIC • AMERICAN

*Ohio State Board*

*Newsletter*

*August 2021*

*Volume 3 Issue 8*

## President's Message



Brothers All,

Great news, as we launch from the convention into the next two years...**we have a new Ohio Division**, bringing us from 13 to 14 Divisions!

Thanks to the hard recruiting and organizing work of Chaplain Fr. Keehner and Organizer Casey, we have a **new Division in Stark County (Canton)**, led by the newly-elected first President Tom Fickes. Tom is long-time Hibernian Brother, and a previous Division President, so we know these new Brothers will be in good hands. We'll be looking forward to great things in Stark County.

We'll now start to focus our organizing efforts on the two other counties that we've targeted for success: Jefferson County (Steubenville) and Scioto County (Portsmouth).

**Recruiting and Retention:** Be positive, be engaged, and be excited about who and what we are. It's hard to get others excited about our organization unless they see our passion and love. Remember those bottles of Redbreast 12. Get out there and win one of those bottles!

I'll be attending a number of upcoming Division meetings and events, including Division meetings in Medina and Washington Counties, and an AOH Picnic in Lucas County. Where and when you deem appropriate, I'll be glad and grateful to attend your meetings and events whenever and wherever possible, too. Please feel free to send invites, and you can bet I'll attend if at all possible.

As always, thank you for your commitment, passion, and leadership. God Bless you all, God Bless Ireland, and God Bless our great Nation.

Slan,

Bob

## Chaplain's's Comments



This past weekend, my parish was visited by a priest from Nigeria for our annual Mission Appeal. While this annual appeal is something every parish in the United States is expected to take part in each year, I have learned from experience that it can sometimes be difficult, whether due to the heavy accent of the speaker, the logistics involved with travel and housing, ensuring that nothing else is happening in the parish that weekend which would take attention away from appeal itself, and of course the fact that so often the person preaching the appeal is unaware of time constraints associate with parish schedules and the real nightmare which can occur in the parking lot when one Mass time runs into the next one. While my parishioners and I certainly experienced a long homily this weekend, I can honestly say that I have never heard one that was more compelling or challenging. Fr. Joseph, who has lived in the United States for the past twenty five years, spoke of his own experience of persecution in his native Nigeria and the real danger which Catholics and other Christians face every time they gather for worship. In telling the story of his own imprisonment and his escape the night before he was scheduled to be executed for the capital crime of being a Catholic priest, he spoke eloquently of the need for us, here in the United States, to remember the freedoms which were won for us at great price by those who founded our nation, especially the freedom of worship. He reminded us of what it means to be grateful for what we have and to remember those who are not so fortunate as we are. Of course, we are conscious that the possibility of religious persecution is not a distant memory in Ireland but rather a part of the history which brought so many of our ancestors to America, whether it was the direct result of violence or the result, rather, of the anti-Catholic policies which left the majority of the Irish people destitute and even starving. But do we take the religious freedom we enjoy in the United States

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### Chaplain's's Comments, cont.

seriously? I was reminded as we recited the Nicene Creed just after Fr. Joseph had finished his long but moving homily that people have died for that Creed. People have died for the ability to proclaim that Creed and to live it as Catholic Christians—not just the martyrs of the ancient Roman world—people are dying for the ability to proclaim that Creed and live it even today. Are we even conscious that there are as many Christians dying for their faith in parts of the world today as died in what we commonly refer to as the Church of the Martyrs of the ancient world? Perhaps we might take time over the next days to reflect upon what it means for us to enjoy the freedom of religion which is ours and what might be asked of us in the future. Perhaps we might take the time consider the depth of our own commitment to the Lord and our own participation in the faith that we profess. Do we really take our faith seriously, or do we treat it as something we do but which is not really a part of who we are on Sundays or even less frequently? And let us renew our commitment to the freedom of religion here in these United States. Let us renew our commitment to the faith which our ancestors held so dearly that they were willing to risk everything, including their lives, for the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and their ability to worship as Catholic Christians.

Fr. John Keehner  
Chaplain for the State of Ohio  
National Chaplain

## It's time to make Congressional phones ring off the hook!

[CLICK TO CALL CONGRESS](#)

Can you spare 30 seconds for unborn babies?

**Click above to call Congress.** *(Once your address is entered, a green icon of a phone will appear next to your representative and senators. Click the phone for a short script of what to say and the phone number to call.)*

Last week, the House Committee on Appropriations voted to push through four of the most extreme pro-abortion bills EVER. The full House is expected to begin voting on these bills **next week**.

These bills **take away** the pro-life policies that:

- protect taxpayers from having to pay for elective abortions, both here and overseas;
- protect health care providers from being forced to perform abortions or refer for abortions against their beliefs;
- protect employers and insurance companies from being forced to pay for abortion.

**Don't let our government make you pay for, or participate in, the taking of innocent human life. Call now (even if you already emailed)!**

Lawrence J. Squires, National Pro-Life Chair  
(412) 760-2600

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**Newsletter News**

Just a reminder. If you have information for our monthly newsletter, please send it as a Word attachment to an e-mail to Editor, Jim Casey at

[jjcasey973@gmail.com](mailto:jjcasey973@gmail.com)

The **deadline** for articles is the **24th of the month.**

## The Preamble to the AOH National Constitution

**It is hereby declared that the purpose of this Organization,  
The Ancient Order of Hibernians in America, Inc. is**

1. To promote Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity
2. To foster and sustain loyalty to country and community
3. To aid and advance by all legitimate means the aspirations and endeavors of the Irish people for complete and absolute independence, promoting peace (with justice) and unity for all Ireland
4. To foster the ideals and perpetuate the history and traditions of the Irish people
5. To promote Irish culture
6. To encourage civic participation
7. To encourage an equitable U.S. Immigration law for Ireland, and to cooperate with all groups for a fair American Immigration Policy
8. To accept and support, without prejudice, the concept of free expression of religious practices for the people of the world
9. To protect and defend all life born and unborn

Membership is confined exclusively to males residing in the United States who can prove their Irish ancestry or who have been legally adopted by those of Irish Ancestry, or be a member of the Roman Catholic clergy, or be enrolled as a Seminarian regardless of ancestry if they meet all other requirements and be a practicing Roman Catholic.



Ancient Order of  
**HIBERNIANS**  
IRISH • CATHOLIC • AMERICAN

### Mark Your Calendars

**March for Life**

January 21, 2022

<https://marchforlife.org/>

**2022 AOH National Convention**

July 13-17, 2022

Pittsburgh PA

**2024 AOH National Convention**

Orlando FL

## State Historian's Report

### Hibernian Rifle Song, 1893

By: J. Michael Finn, State Historian



While doing some research on the Hibernian Rifles in Ohio for a future newsletter article, I ran across the following words to a song printed in the March 23, 1893 issue of the *Catholic Telegraph*, newspaper for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

The new words were dedicated to Captain George Francis Lee who was the commander of the Hibernian Rifles, Company A in Cincinnati, Ohio. The words were written by M. O'Connor.

The words were to be sung to the tune of *The Ballyhooly Blue Ribbon Army*, a song which dates to about 1880, and was likely composed by Robert Martin, also known as "Ballyhooly Bob" who wrote a number of burlesque tunes for the London theatre in the 1880s and 1890s (the tune is also referred to in James Joyce's novel *Ulysses*).

Nothing is known regarding the author of these new words, M. O'Connor. It is assumed he was a resident of Cincinnati and based on the wording of the song, he appears to have been a member of the Cincinnati Rifle Company A.

The Hibernian Rifles were a separate military division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians. Rifle Companies existed in several communities in Ohio from the late 1880s until the 1930s. I have included with this article a picture of Company A of the Hibernian Rifles from Columbus, Ohio marching in front of the Ohio Statehouse during the parade commemorating the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the coronation of Pope Leo XIII on March 1, 1903.

### The Hibernian Rifles

*Dedicated with the greatest respect to Captain George F. Lee,  
of the Hibernian Rifles, Cincinnati, Ohio*

*By: M. O'Connor (1893)*

Tune—The Ballyhooly Blue Ribbon Army

'Twas a glorious summer's day, when from Cork I sailed away,  
And crossed the broad Atlantic to this nation;  
With the strange sights here I see, I need not trouble thee,  
But I thought such wonders were not in creation.  
My pockets they were light, and I had my belt pulled tight,  
For my stomach was not full—but these are trifles;  
While walking up the street, Mr. Lee I chanced to meet,  
He's a captain in the Hibernian Rifles.

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## State Historian's Report, cont.

### CHORUS

Forward, march! We are all as stiff as starch  
Through sunshine or rain—we don't mind trifles.  
In the Patrick's Day parade, watch the A. O. H. brigade  
And keep a steady eye upon the Rifles.

Do you know our Captain Lee? Oh he's a sight to see  
As he walks before our column proud and stately,  
With his shining sword on high, and a fiercely flashing eye;  
'Pon my soul, but he's the boy can do it nately.  
Then he turns to the boys, and he shouts, "Now stop your noise,  
And hold your head erect and don't mind trifles;  
McCarthy, keep in line—Pat Murphy, step in time;"  
Faith! 'Tis grand to be a captain in the Rifles.—**Chorus.**

And then to see us wheel, as we bring down every heel,  
With a steady and a soldier-like precision;  
While our flag floats high in air, and the crowds all stop and stare,  
By my faith, but it baffles all description.  
And then our countrymen—hear them cheer and cheer again,  
With a roar that all other noises stifles,  
I don't care of whom you speak—English, Russian, Turk, or Greek,  
They can't hold a farthing candle to our Rifles.—**Chorus.**

And then to hear the band, playing the tunes of the "old land,"  
"The Wearing of the Green," or "Paddy Carey,"  
You must be made of stone, for you are not flesh and bone,  
If your heart does not feel just light and airy.  
And then the jigs and reels, made for Irish hearts and heels,  
The "Rocky Road to Dublin," or such trifles;  
By my grandfather's old goat—and that's a hairy oath,  
'Tis a pleasure to be marching with the Rifles.—**Chorus.**

Here's success to Captain Lee and his gallant company  
May they n'er tire of their glorious occupation,  
And I'll tell you what is true we're as loyal to the blue  
As we are unto the grand old Irish nation.  
And should Mrs. England Bull—that's her name I think in full,  
Kick up her heels, or dare with us to trifle,  
There will be great disaster—she'll want tons of sticking-plaster  
To patch up all the wounds made by the Rifles.—**Chorus.**



### Stark County Division #1

On Monday, July 19, 2021, the State of Ohio AOH grew by one division! The Stark County Division #1 formed at St. Joseph's Parish Hall with a combined nineteen new members and transferees. This has been a long road that was made worse because of the pandemic. I thank Fr. Keehner and Tom Fickes for all of their hard work and dedication.

I officiated at the Shamrock Degree, with assistance from Fr. Keehner and Tom Fickes. Elections were held and officers were installed. They are **President**, Tom Fickes; **Vice President**, Joe Harrison; **Recording Secretary**, Erik Keenan; **Financial Secretary**, Bill Keenan and **Treasurer**, Tom Wolf. Tom Fickes accepted the ceremonial gavel and immediately began his first meeting. Fr. John Sheridan graciously accepted the appointment of division chaplain. The photo shows most of the members standing in front of the St. Patrick statue in St. Joseph's church. Congratulations to all involved and welcome to our noble Order.

From the State Organizer, Joe Casey



**Welcome Brothers**

## An Olympics to Remember

By: J. Michael Finn, State Historian



In 1908 the summer Olympics were held in London, England's White City Stadium. The games were originally scheduled to be held in Rome, but the 1906 eruption of Mt. Vesuvius devastated the city of Naples. Reconstructing Naples left the Italian government financially unable to put on the games, so the games were moved to London. The games lasted a total of 187 days, or 6 months and 4 days, the London games were the longest in modern Olympics history.

Like most Olympics, 1908 had its share of controversies. These began with the opening ceremonies. The English had lined the top of the stadium with flags representing the participating countries. The problem was they left out the American flag. The American team which was full of members from the Irish-American Athletic Club of New York, refused to march into the stadium until that omission was corrected. The English excuse was that it was impossible to find an American flag in London, so they just omitted it from the display. A flag was found and the US Team marched in the opening ceremonies.

But, the controversy did not end there. The Olympic teams from each nation marched into the stadium and past the royal box occupied by the King of England, Edward VII. Each team was expected to dip its flag as it passed the box as a salute to the English King.

The American flag bearer was a young shot putter from California named Ralph Rose. As they approached the box, Rose heard the Tipperary brogue of Matthew McGrath, the 6ft. 248 pound Irish-American hammer thrower say, "Dip that flag and you will be in the hospital tonight!" Rose wisely kept the flag straight as the team marched in front of the King.

The English took this to be a great insult to the King and the press confronted Martin John Sheridan (pictured), the captain of the 112 member US team, for his response. Sheridan, like his teammate Matthew McGrath, was a member of the Irish-American Athletic Club and they were both New York City Police Officers. In response Sheridan reportedly said, "This flag dips for no earthly king!"

The perceived insult incident sparked retaliation by some of the British judges. Several decisions by British judges went against American athletes during the games, and U.S. spokesmen felt they stemmed from bias, caused in part by the flag incident. Bias by the British judges did not prevent the US Team from winning medals in 1908. The team won 47 medals (23 Gold, 12 Silver, and 12 Bronze). Martin Sheridan won two Gold Medals for the discus throw and one Bronze Medal for the Standing Long Jump

Not all of the athletes who trained at the Irish-American Athletic Club were Irish. In fact, one of the members, Dr. John Baxter Taylor, was the first African-American to win an Olympic medal (in 1908 he won the Gold Medal for the Medley Relay). Dr. Baxter died just five months after returning from the 1908 Olympics of typhoid fever.

Of all of the interesting impacts to come from the 1908 London Olympics was the fact that Martin Sheridan's response, "This flag dips for no earthly king!" found its way into the United States Code (adopted June 1923), Chapter 1, **Paragraph 8: Respect for the Flag**, which states: "*No disrespect should be shown to the flag of the United States of America; the flag should not be dipped to any person or thing.*"



## Ohio AOH Veterans Affairs

### VETERANS AFFAIRS REPORT

#### **1) Coronavirus (COVID-19) and Veterans:** [www.va.gov/coronavirus](http://www.va.gov/coronavirus)

Brothers – As of 7/23/2021, the VA in Ohio has completed vaccinations for 113,550 individuals. More details can be found at this website: <https://www.va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine/>  
VA-Tracked\* Cumulative Cases in Ohio: 11,196; 515 Deaths; Active Cases: 46

#### **2) Honor 365 9/11 Commemoration Exhibition at National Veterans Memorial & Museum:**

On August 4th, the NVMM will display a traveling, limited engaging, commemorative exhibit to honor the 20th anniversary of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. They have partnered with the non-profit organization, HONOR365. Their mission is to create a lasting impact on the lives of Veterans and first responders through employment, education, healthcare and housing. The exhibit has been traveling across the country since January and will be on display in Columbus for just 26 days. Its next stop will be in New York City on September 11th. NVMM Members can get a special preview on August 3. The exhibit was created by a young man from the Netherlands who was inspired by the courage and sacrifice of first responders and others on 9/11/2001. More details regarding the exhibit itself can be found here: <https://honor365.org/911exhibit/>

More information on the NVMM can be found here: <https://nationalvmm.org/>

#### **3) American Forces Travel / Department of Defense / Priceline Travel Discount Program:**

On July 16th, the Department of Defense and Priceline announced a collaboration that will allow more than 16 million veterans to leverage the American Forces Travel website to secure travel discounts. The site is a joint initiative among the service branches, to include the Coast Guard, the National Guard, DOD, and Priceline, which operates the platform at no cost to the DOD. All honorably discharged veterans will be eligible to use the leisure travel site, which was launched in 2019 for active-duty, Reserve and Guard members, retired, and their family members. Those eligible can find discounts of 40% to 60% off popular hotels, flights, car rentals, travel packages and cruise brands, according to DoD and Priceline officials. There are more than 1 million hotel deals at more than 71,000 destinations around the world, for example. First-time visitors to [AmericanForcesTravel.com](http://AmericanForcesTravel.com) will be asked to verify their eligibility with DoD through the site, and once verified, will be able to use the site to book discounted travel around the world. This is a similar process for verification as they use for their military exchange shopping privileges. The site is connected to the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System, or DEERS, for authentication. More details can be found in this article from The Military Times:

<https://www.militarytimes.com/pay-benefits/2019/06/05/searching-for-vacation-deals-heres-where-to-find-some-military-only-treasures/>

American Forces Travel Website: <https://www.americanforcetravel.com/>

National VA Committee meetings are held online every third Tuesday of each month at 7pm ET. Please contact me if you are interested in participating. Also, be sure to visit the Ohio Department of Veterans Services at [www.ohiovets.gov](http://www.ohiovets.gov) to learn more about veterans benefits at the federal, state, and local level in Ohio as well as the National AOH site at [www.aoh.com/veterans-affairs](http://www.aoh.com/veterans-affairs) for information about benefits and other services around the country.

Danny Eakins

Veterans Affairs Chair

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**Patrick Pearse, Division 1  
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## Catholic Action

The month of August falls entirely within the cycle of Ordinary Time. The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, August 15, usually a holy day of obligation, falls upon a Sunday this year.

### MAJOR SAINTS AND FEAST DAYS OF AUGUST

John Vianney	Memorial	August 4
Transfiguration of the Lord	Feast	August 6
Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein)		August 9
Clare	Memorial	August 11
Our Lady of Knock		August 13
Maximilian Kolbe	Memorial	August 14
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Solemnity	August 15
Bernard	Memorial	August 20
Pius X	Memorial	August 21
Bartholomew, Apostle	Feast	August 24
Monica	Memorial	August 27
Augustine	Memorial	August 28

### IRISH SAINTS OF AUGUST

Molua, Abbot (d. 608) August 4

Also known as Lughaidh or Lugaid, this saint was a boy of Limerick herding livestock who earned a reputation for sanctity and was sent to the monastery at Bangor, where he was under the tutelage of St. Comgall. After ordination to the priesthood, he was tasked by his abbot with making other monastic foundations, the most important being what came to be called Kyle, in the Slievebloom Mountains. Molua may have made a trip to Rome, where he submitted the monastic rule which he had drawn up to Pope Gregory the Great. Some of the things said about him may result from confusion with another man.

Abel of Reims, Bishop and Abbot (d.c. 751) August 5

Abel appears to have been one of the many Irish missionaries who aided St. Boniface in evangelizing the Germanic peoples of continental Europe. He was appointed bishop of Reims by Boniface, but was never able to claim the see due to its occupation by a rival claimant. He ended his days as abbot of Lobbes, in modern-day Belgium.

Nathy and Felim (6th century?) August 9

Though not closely associated in life, these two men have come to be commemorated on the same day. Felim came from a family of saints. He is traditionally considered the first bishop of Kilmore. Nathy was a priest from Sligo.

Blaan, Bishop (d.c. 590?) August 11

Blaan, also known as Blane, was a Scot, but spent seven years in Ireland under the tutelage of Sts. Comgall and Canice. He then returned to his native land, where he became a bishop.

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**Catholic Action, cont.**

Eoghan, Bishop (6th century)

August 23

This saint's name is often Anglicized as "Eugene," though "Owen" is more correct. His life relates that he was one of three boys carried off from their home in Ireland, first to Britain, then to Brittany, where they were enslaved to work at grinding grain. When their master returned one day to find the three reading while angels worked the mill, he ordered their release. They found their way back to Ireland, and Eoghan became a monk with St. Kevin at Kilnamanach in Wicklow. Later, he aided St. Tigernach in the founding of the monastery at Clones, and finally settled with some followers at Ardstraw in Tyrone, where he became the first bishop.

Aidan, Bishop of Lindisfarne (d. 651)

August 31

Aidan's birthplace was Ireland, though we know virtually nothing of his early life there. We are fortunate in having some account of his later life from the English monk, Bede, who was a careful historian. Aidan was a monk of Iona when one of his brethren returned from an unsuccessful mission to the kingdom of Northumbria in northern England. Northumbria had been Christianized earlier from the south, but the interlude of a hostile pagan dynasty had virtually wiped the Faith out there. The sainted King Oswald had requested a monk of Iona to re-evangelize his people, but the chosen monk's extremely rigorist approach bore little fruit. When Aidan suggested that a different approach was needed, his brothers responded by appointing him to the mission. Oswald established him as bishop on the isle of Lindisfarne, and Aidan also established a monastery there, under the rule of St. Columcille. This grew to be one of the greatest monastic establishments in the British Isles. Aidan and his disciples meanwhile succeeded in bringing Northumbria back into the Christian fold. Bede describes him as a man who, though a leader of his society, always remained humble and compassionate. He devoted considerable time to the plight of slaves and unfortunate children.

**OUR LADY OF KNOCK**

On the evening of August 21, 1879, in the village of Knock, County Mayo, the housekeeper of the local parish church saw the south outside wall of the church bathed in a light of unknown origin. Going to fetch a friend, she and her companion came back to witness an apparition of the Virgin Mary, with two others figures, who were understood to be St. Joseph and John the Evangelist. In addition, there was an altar, with a cross and a lamb on it. Others gathered and likewise saw the figures. A notable feature of this Marian apparition is that Mary was silent. Acceptance of authenticity was slow--some local ecclesiastical authorities suspected a hoax by the local Protestant constable! Today Knock is the site of a large basilica and a dedicated place of pilgrimage. Once celebrated on August 21 in the Roman calendar, the feast has been moved to August 13 to make way for Pope St. Pius X. The shrine at Knock has been reopened for Mass and devotions, though with restrictions in the basilica. Ireland's National Novena to Our Lady of Knock has been postponed till later this year.

**NEWS OF INTEREST**

--the State of Ohio's budget signed into law June 30 includes conscience protection for medical professionals, allowing them to decline to perform, participate in, or pay for any service which would violate their consciences. Dr. Michael Parks of the Catholic Medical Association praised Governor DeWine's actions in supporting the measure.

Do you have local news? Please send for inclusion in this report.

Fraternally,

Pat Lally  
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## Ohio AOH Pro Life Bulletin

### REMAINS OF ABORTED CHILD FOUND IN TRASH

In 2020 Governor DeWine signed Senate Bill 27, the “UNBORN CHILD DIGNITY ACT”, into law. The bill requires surgical facilities to either bury or cremate the bodies of aborted children. Opponents of the bill said it was frivolous and unnecessary since Ohio law already requires the humane disposal of remains killed as a result of an abortion. In 2015, an investigation by then Attorney General DeWine to determine if Planned Parenthood locations in Ohio were selling or were involved in selling aborted baby parts ...discovered that the remains of aborted children were being put in landfills.

Over several weeks, starting in early June, 2021, a pro-life advocate with CITIZENS FOR A PRO-LIFE SOCIETY looked in the trash cans behind the NORTHEAST OHIO WOMEN'S CENTER (NEOWC) in the city of CUYAHOGA FALLS. Disposed of in the trash was the dismembered body of a well developed aborted baby, wrapped in a blood stained blue colored surgical sheet. The child had been subject to Dilation and Evacuation (D&E) commonly known as a dismemberment abortion, in which the child is pulled apart in pieces using forceps.

Ohio's new law is still in the process of having the rules written. Even if SB27 will not pertain to this particular incident, Ohio law still requires humane disposal of children killed in abortion. And throwing this child's body in to the trash is certainly not humane! At the very least this child's body should be considered hazardous waste, and by law should be placed in a trash container. It should be noted that in addition to the child's body found in the trash were bio-hazard medical waste as well as patient names, contact information and prescription. This would appear to be a clear HIPPA violation.

The Cuyahoga Falls facility has a long history of health and safety violation as well as to continue to operate after their license expired in March of 2019. In 2013 it was ordered closed by the Ohio Department of Health and the federal DEA. The facility reopened a year later with a change of name. Also found in the trash was the name David Burkons who lost his license, from the Ohio Medical Board, for six months in 2017 for running a pill mill from the clinic. Many other names were discovered including Rebecca Lowenthal reported to be the abortionist in 2014 that performed a late term abortion on 22 year old Lakisha Wilson at Preterm Clinic in Cleveland after which she tragically died. David Burkons also runs the NEOWC abortion facility in Shaker Heights is associated with the Toledo WOMEN'S CAPITAL CARE abortion clinic, has been medical director at the PRETERM CLINIC in Cleveland, has worked at Planned Parenthood in Bedford and was associated with FOUNDERS'S abortion clinic in Columbus before their closure.

Abortion Supporters constantly state that abortion is “reproductive healthcare, if so then those who perform what is actually “non-reproductive endangerment” procedure must follow the rules and regulations that are in place to protect us all. If you inspect the Ohio Department of Health database, you will find that of the hundreds of Ambulatory Surgical Facility (ASF) in Ohio, it is only those that perform abortions that have expired licenses.

**THE ABORTION PILL:** Acting FDA Commissioner, Janet Woodcock, declared safe to allow the abortion pill RU-486 (mifepristone) be taken at home without medical supervision. The Arkansas Department of Health reported that through 2019 medical abortion accounted for 55% of all abortions and they accounted for 89% of abortion complication. Several other states have reported similar statistics. As of July 21, 2021 the Guttmacher Institute reports that 32 states, including Ohio, require clinicians who administer abortions to be a physician and 19 states, including Ohio require clinicians to be physically present when the medication is administered. Acting FDA Commissioner Woodcock's declaration may have opened the door to mail order abortions.

All the above is from Life Lines summer 2021 edition. More details than I have provided can be reviewed at [www.RighttolifeofNortheastOhio.com](http://www.RighttolifeofNortheastOhio.com).

Quote from Pope Saint John Paul II, “AS TO A LAW PERMITTING ABORTION, ... IT IS NEVER LICIT TO OBEY IT ... OR TO VOTE FOR IT”.

David Manley, Ohio AOH Pro Life Chair

## Freedom for All Ireland

A chairde

For decades the British attitude on legacy killings was deny, delay and die. They denied the truth about crown force or collusion murders, until the truth was undeniable. They delayed any legal way of getting the truth, until no more delays were possible. They hoped that relatives and witnesses would die, and those remaining would lose heart. Since this strategy did not work in the Ballymurphy, Inquest, the British decided to shut down any legal means of getting justice.

Their proposals have been rejected by the Irish government, northern political parties, Catholic Church and relatives' groups. Britain does not care. Britain cares about America. We cannot let these victims down! Many of you saw the AOH WEBINAR, featuring live appeals from victims relatives and survivors of the Springhill-Westrock Massacre, Miami Showband Massacre and collusion murders in East Tyrone.

Congressman Boyle (D) and Congressman Fitzpatrick (R) are circulating the attached formal Congressional protest letter on legacy justice. For this letter to have an impact on the British we need Congressional signatures from Congressmen across the country. **(Ed. Note: This Letter may be found on Page 14 of this Newsletter).**

Most Congressmen will only sign, if they get calls from local people who tell them as constituents who are concerned about Irish justice issues, that you would like them to co-sign the bipartisan letter for Irish legacy justice that is being circulated by Congressmen Boyle and Fitzpatrick.

Please email me if your Congressman needs more information.

Watch on YouTube at: <https://youtu.be/UHK7ARh9o4U> .

### BURYING LEGACY TRUTH

“The new British proposals, titled ‘Addressing the legacy of Northern Ireland’s past’, were described as a plan to bury Britain’s legacy in the north’s conflict. Britain will enact an Amnesty dressed up as a statute of limitations, so that no one could be prosecuted for murders during the Troubles. While ostensibly applying to all killings, the real beneficiary would be members of the British Army, and Royal Ulster Constabulary, who never faced charges for murders like those in Ballymurphy or collusion killings. During the Troubles, crown forces and non-jury Diplock Courts had no hesitancy in jailing Republicans, while only a literal handful of British troopers were jailed for conflict killings.

“Britain will also use the statute of limitations gimmick to take away legal rights to inquests and civil actions, to prevent more proceedings, like the Ballymurphy inquest, from revealing more embarrassing truth about British crown killings.

“Britain wants to remove the Historical Investigations Unit (HIU) from its Stormont House legacy mechanisms, agreed with the Irish government in December 2014. An HIU conducting genuine investigations of all controversial killings is viewed by nationalists as the key component of Stormont House, which could give them truth in hundreds of other crown force or collusion killings.

“Instead of an HIU, the British would create an Information Recovery Body, citing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in South Africa as a case study. South Africa required state force killers to reveal the truth as a condition of getting an amnesty. The British are giving amnesty in advance so that no one would have any incentive to come forward.

All of the victims groups and relatives who have been fighting for justice on counting on America and us. Don't let them down!!!!

Please get back to me with any questions, or responses.

Martin Galvin, National FFAI chairman

[mgalvinesq@AOL.COM](mailto:mgalvinesq@AOL.COM)



Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515

July 29, 2021

Dame Karen Pierce  
British Ambassador to the United States  
3100 Massachusetts Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20008

Madam Ambassador,

As Members of Congress who have continued to be involved in the effort to bring peace and reconciliation to the island of Ireland throughout our time in the House of Representatives, we believe it would be a serious mistake for the British government to renege on its commitment to the Stormont House Agreement. We represent districts with large Irish American populations, and many of our constituents have expressed grave concern over these new legacy proposals that would lead to major setbacks in the search for justice and reconciliation.

When the British and Irish governments, along with Northern Irish political parties, published the Stormont House Agreement on December 23, 2014, they pledged to create four new legacy bodies. The goal of these bodies was to deliver justice to the bereaved of the conflict by providing human rights compliant investigations under the rule of law. Of critical importance to the agreement was the formation of the Historical Investigations Unit, which was a legacy body established to investigate lingering and controversial killings that took place during the Troubles, including those committed by British state forces.

In January 2020, over five years after conditions were originally laid out, the U.K. government finally pledged to introduce Parliamentary legislation to set up the legacy bodies. Despite this, progress into these investigations has essentially remained stagnant while nearly 1,700 conflict-related cases await investigation. Had the Historical Investigations Unit been provided with the resources and attention it was promised, more substantial progress might have been achieved over the past several years.

We are disappointed to learn that instead of taking constructive steps to fulfill these promises, British Parliament plans to introduce new legislation that would modify Stormont House Agreement legacy laws and institute a ban on legacy inquests and prosecution of former soldiers who served in Northern Ireland during the conflict. To be clear, we strongly disapprove of these proposals. We believe that they would not only prevent a pathway to justice, but that they would also strip these families of their legal rights protected under European Law and the Good Friday Agreement.

The issue of legacy killings spans across generations, and any continued deprivation of justice will only further deepen the wound that this history has on Britain and Ireland. We are concerned that these proposed legacy laws would strain the British-Irish relationship and cement widespread feelings that justice is again being denied. There is no doubt that the difficult and troubling

legacy of the past must be addressed, and we as Members of Congress will continue to advocate on this issue until good faith action is taken and progress is made.

These legacy proposals require genuine reconsideration. Delivering answers for these bereaved families has been a longstanding priority for the Irish American community and those interested in global peace. We will continue to listen to these families as they await long overdue answers.

We urge you to reexamine these proposals, reverse the decision, and reaffirm your commitment to the Stormont House Agreement.

Sincerely,



Brendan F. Boyle  
Member of Congress



Brian Fitzpatrick  
Member of Congress