



City of Cambridge

Calendar Item # 29

^{11.}
IN CITY COUNCIL

February 25, 1991

March 4, 1991

COUNCILLOR WALSH

WHEREAS: More often than is appropriate, a certain matter-of-factness pervades our view of people and events without adequate appreciation of the struggles which have transpired individually and collectively in their lives up to the present. This has special relevance to the residents of Cambridge who have emigrated from Ireland themselves or whose ancestors left Ireland in the massive waves of immigration which began during the mid 1800s when one quarter of the entire Irish population came to America buoyed by the beauty of both its soil and soul; and

WHEREAS: The Irish immigrants' path to progress in the New World was no highway with green lights guaranteeing peaceful passage. It was a chronicle of struggle and survival in which the self-anointed politically correct people of that time greeted the immigrants not only with the "No Irish Need Apply" sign when jobs were advertised, but, in subtle and not so subtle ways, did their best to deny them equal rights, treatment and opportunity. The occasion was piled high with difficulties and the Irish immigrants rose to the occasion; and

WHEREAS: The inner strength of the Irish immigrants to confront and conquer these difficulties was part and parcel of the towering personality of William Cardinal O'Connell who led the Catholic Archdiocese of Boston for many years during the first half of our 20th Century and spearheaded the assault within our metropolitan area on individuals and institutions when their attitudes and actions barred Irish immigrants from tasting the fruit of equality. The three small words, emblazoned in Latin on his coat of arms, "VIGOR IN ARDUIS," i.e., "strength in the midst of difficulties," summed up the life experience of the Irish immigrants in their march to become and be accepted as full first class members of their community; and

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge, in neighborhood after neighborhood, has been and continues to be the beneficiary of this "strength in the midst of difficulties" and it should be given appropriate recognition and appreciation alongside the recognition accorded other nationalities whose richness adds to Cambridge's often cited wealth of cultural diversity; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That this City Council, in recognition and respect to those of Irish heritage in Cambridge, designates March, 1991 to be IRISH HERITAGE MONTH in Cambridge. Further, that Her Honor, the Mayor, arrange that a sign expressing this designation be prepared and displayed on the front lawn of City Hall from March 15 thru 17, 1991, special days in the lives of those with Irish heritage; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and is requested to prepare a duly engrossed copy of this resolution and transmit same to the Irish Consul General in Boston, Liam Canniffe, on behalf of the entire City Council.

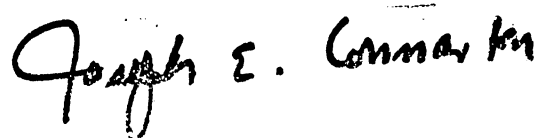
In City Council March 4, 1991.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joseph E. Connarton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joseph E. Connarton
City Clerk



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- WHEREAS: The Irish immigrants' path to progress in the New World was no highway with green lights guaranteeing peaceful passage. It was a chronicle of struggle and survival in which the self-anointed politically correct people of that time greeted the immigrants not only with the "No Irish Need Apply" sign when jobs were advertised, but, in subtle and not so subtle ways, did their best to deny them equal rights, treatment and opportunity. The occasion was piled high with difficulties and the Irish immigrants rose to the occasion; and
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Order # 11 *Cult # 27*

CONSENT

S-366

Councillor Walsh resolutions on "Irish
Heritage Month."

In City Council,

February 25, 1991

*Charter Right exercised
by Councillor Walsh
3/4/91 Order Adopted*