

st. patrick's day parade

March 11, 2017, Seattle, WA

Grand Marshal Timothy Egan



Timothy Egan comes from a family of nine, from a mother who loved books and a father with the Irish gift of finding joy in small things. He is the author of eight books, his most recent being *The Immortal Irishman*, about Thomas Francis Meagher, a leader of the 1848 Young Irelander Rebellion who was sentenced to penal servitude in Australia, who escaped to America and led the renowned Irish Brigade in the US Civil War. *The Immortal Irishman* was a New York Times bestseller. Egan's book on Edward Curtis, *Short Nights of the Shadow Catcher*, won the Carnegie Award for best nonfiction, and his account of the Dust Bowl, *The Worst Hard Time*, won the 2006 National Book Award. A lifelong journalist, Mr. Egan now writes for The New York Times where he shared a 2001 Pulitzer Prize with other reporters. Egan is very proud of his Irish heritage, and is descended on his mother's side from the

Galway Lynches, one of the famous 14 Tribes of Galway. In accepting the role of Parade Grand Marshal, Tim said he would be "honored, humbled and grateful to accept this role, a chance to put my Irish-American pride to good use."

Honorary Grand Marshal: Mary Charles



Mary Charles, a proud native of Aughavas, Co. Leitrim, has been a Washington State resident since 1951 when she became a nursing student at St. Joseph Hospital School of Nursing in Tacoma. After working as an RN at St Joseph Hospital, in 1964 she obtained an MSN degree at The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. She returned to Tacoma and was active in the Mental Health Community for many years. In 1970, she moved to Seattle and worked as nursing manager at the UW Hospital Psychiatric Service. Since 1975 Mary has lived and worked in various Snohomish County Mental Health and Social Services before retirement in 1996. She is the widow of Larry Wright and has three stepchildren: Bradley, Susan (Wood) and Clayton Wright. Mary is also very active in St. Thomas More Parish, Lynnwood, and in the Seattle area's Irish community. She has been a Board Member of Irish Immigrant Support for over ten years and during that time has also

annually sewed the Sashes for the St. Patrick's Day Parade Grand Marshals. This year, Mary is being recognized for her contributions to the Irish community by being asked to make her own Sash!

visiting from IRELAND

Galway Mayor Noel Larkin



First elected to Galway City Council in 2014, Councillor. Noel Larkin was elected Mayor of Galway City on 10th June 2016. A successful businessman and entrepreneur, Noel is Managing Director of Larkin Engineering, a leader in the Irish Steel Fabrication and Street Furniture markets. He established the company in 1985 and produces a full range of high-quality Street Furniture and Outdoor Street Products at his 20,000 square ft. premises outside Galway City. Noel is a member of many local organizations and development committees in the Galway area including on the Board of Management of Galway Community College and is a Founder member of the Corrib Lions Club. He is married to Rita and they have three children, and this is their first ever visit to Seattle. The Mayor is accompanied by his wife Rita, along with Galway City Manager Brendan McGrath and his wife Rose and their daughter

Siobhán. We're delighted that the group from Galway is joining us to help us properly celebrate St. Patrick's Day and Galway's Sister City relationship with Seattle. We extend to them a warm *Céad Mile Fáilte* (One Hundred Thousand Welcomes) from the Emerald Isle to the Emerald City.