

# City of Philadelphia



Council of the City of Philadelphia  
Office of the Chief Clerk  
Room 402, City Hall  
Philadelphia

(Resolution No. 260281)

## RESOLUTION

Honoring and recognizing Mary Nolan and her family for their leadership at the Commodore Barry Arts and Cultural Center, also known as the Irish Center in Mt Airy, and their lasting contributions to the Irish American community in recognition of Women's History Month.

WHEREAS, Mary Nolan is a pillar of the community in Northwest Philadelphia, whose longstanding commitment to civic life with organizing Mt. Airy Day pony rides for thirty years, serving on Mt. Airy Playground Advisory Council for twenty years has enriched the 8th Councilmanic District and during Women's History Month, we celebrate the women whose leadership, service, and dedication preserve the cultural heritage and social fabric of our NW Philadelphia neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Through her membership in the Mayo Association of Philadelphia, Mary Nolan serves as a leading voice for one of the City's most historic and active Irish county organizations, preserving immigrants' stories and spirit of connection to Ireland for future generations; and

WHEREAS, The Mayo Association and 5 other Irish county organizations, Ceili Group, and GAA continue to host cherished events such as the annual Balls and other cultural gatherings that unite families, strengthen intergenerational bonds, and celebrate Irish heritage throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, Mary Nolan's main focus is assisting her husband, John, in his role as Manager of the Irish Center for 30 years, where their labors have helped sustain and revitalize this historic community anchor at 6815 Emlen Street as a vibrant, inclusive hub for arts, culture, and civic life including blood drives, movies, lectures, graduation ceremonies, etc.; and

WHEREAS, The Irish Center has flourished as a dynamic gathering place where residents of all ages and backgrounds come together to experience music, dance athletic, and cultural programming across the area; and

WHEREAS, With the donated time and talent of many women (and men), including skilled contractors who keep this aged structure intact, the Irish Center has stitched a strong social fabric

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in Mt. Airy, Chestnut Hill, and surrounding towns, ensuring that longstanding traditions remain relevant and accessible to future generations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, Hereby honors and recognizes Mary Nolan and her family for their outstanding service, leadership, and enduring contributions to the Irish American community and the cultural vitality of the 8th District.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That an Engrossed copy of this Resolution be presented to Mary Nolan as an expression of the sincere admiration and gratitude of the Council of the City of Philadelphia.

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CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Resolution, Adopted by the Council of the City of Philadelphia on the twenty-sixth day of March, 2026.

Kenyatta Johnson  
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Elizabeth McCollum  
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmember Bass

Sponsored by: Council President Johnson, Councilmembers Bass, Phillips, Gilmore Richardson, Jones, Landau, Lozada, Young, Brooks, Harrity, Driscoll, O'Neill, Squilla and Ahmad