

The Lucke Family Newsletter

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♥Congratulations♥

Adelynn Rose Gross was born on June 24, 2021 to **Christina Scofield and Greg Gross**. (This is Greg's birthday also!) Christina is the daughter of Kathy and Howard Scofield, granddaughter of Agnes and Ed Wilson, great-granddaughter of **#2 Frank**.

Kevin Ricco and Melissa Horak became engaged on July 17, 2021. They are looking towards a 2023 or 2024 Wedding. Kevin is the son of Denise and Anthony

Riccio, grandson of Mary Agnes and Peter Jubo, great-grandson of Agnes and Ed Wilson, great-great-grandson of **#2 Frank**.



The Fourth Generation - #10 Margie

We continue the stories of **Margie and Edwin Magee's** grandchildren as we move to the 7 children of **#10-3 Betty and John Connelly**. In this issue we feature **Betty** and her first two children, **Michael and Anne**.

- 10-3 **Elizabeth Ann (Betty) Magee**, born 22-Feb-1930 died 5-May-2006, married **John David Connelly** on 14-Jun-1952. John was born 21-Jun-1927, died 1-Mar-1998
- 10-3-1 **Michael John Connelly**, born 8-Nov-1953. He married (1) Katherine Kilcullen, 11-Oct-1986, born ??-??-??. He married (2) Sandra Olson, 18-Oct-2004, born 22-Mar-1963.
1. Julian Connelly, born 6-Apr-2006.
- 10-3-2 **Anne Marie Connelly**, born 15-Dec-1954. She married (1) Charles LeMieux, 7-Jan-1977, born 31-Jul-1953. She married (2) Tim Pocock, 9-May 1997, born 5-Aug-1954.
1. Sarah Elizabeth LeMieux, born 24-May-1979. She married (1) Dave Likhtiger 18-Sep-2004, born 21-Jan-1979. She married (2) Gary Washinski 31-Dec-2012, born 11-Feb-1979
 - a. Nella Anne Likhtiger-LeMieux, born 15-Jan-2005
 - b. Jacob Washinski-LeMieux, born 21-Jun-2012.
 - c. Lily Washinski-LeMieux, born 21-Jun-2012.
 2. Brendan Wolfe LeMieux, born 4-Aug-1987.
- 10-3-3 **Thomas Leo Connelly**, born 20-Jul-1957. He married (1) Leslie Allen. He married (2) Beth Kennedy, 9-Oct-1999, born 5-Jul-1954.
1. Meghan Kelly born 25-May-1979. She married Matt McFadyen
 - a. Nash McFadyen born 4-Mar-2020
 2. Ryan Thomas Connelly, born 9-Jun-1983.
- 10-3-4 **James Christopher Connelly**, born 10-May-1960. He married Carrie Felner, 22-Aug-2014 in Stratford CT, born 12-Jul-1973. They have divorced.

10-3-5 **Kevin Joseph Connelly**, born 29-Jun-1962. He married Jacqueline Lewis, 29-Jul-2011, born 5-Mar-1971.

10-3-6 **John David Connelly Jr**, born 31-Jan-1964. He married Karen Bilyard, 26-Oct-1991, born 27-Dec-1968.

1. Christopher Hutchins Connelly, born 27-May-1995.
2. Jack William Connelly, born 29-Oct-1997 in Stratford CT.
3. Nicholena Honey Connelly, born 9-Aug-2001 in Stratford CT.

10-3-7 **Brian Paul Connelly**, born 9-Feb-1967. He married Cristina Schulz, 6-Oct-2002, born 13-Mar-1967.

1. Owen Patrick Connelly, born 1-Dec-2003.
2. Griffin Wolfgang Connelly, born 25-Apr-2005.

Elizabeth Ann Magee

Betty, the 3rd child of Margie and Edwin Magee, was born on February 22, 1930—George Washington's birthday—and every year on her birthday, her father Edwin would give her a box of chocolate covered cherries! She said she always wanted to be called Liz, but she was mostly known as Betty.

Though she grew up in Mount Vernon, New York, Betty was always happiest at the beach. Each summer, Edwin and Margie would pack Betty and her brothers Eddie, Bob, and eventually Jimmy into the car and drive north on Route 1 to Fairfield Beach, where the Magees rented one side of duplex cottages named Tweedledum and Tweedledee. It was at Fairfield Beach that the Magee and Connelly clans crossed paths, and Betty met her future husband, John.

Betty attended the Ursuline Academy in the Bronx, where the quote under her senior picture in the yearbook said, "Her ways are ways of pleasantness and all her paths are peace." Following high school, she graduated from the College of New Rochelle with a B.A. in English Literature.

Betty and John were married at Sacred Heart Church in Mount Vernon on June 14, 1952, and settled down on North Avenue in Bridgeport, Connecticut, where they welcomed their first son Michael (11/8/1953) followed by daughter Anne (12/15/1954), then Tommy (7/20/1957), Jimmy (5/10/1960), Kevin (6/29/1962), Johnny Jr. (1/31/1964), and Brian (2/9/1967.) They raised their family on Brookview Avenue, in Fairfield, Connecticut, but most summers, they spent at least a few weeks in various rented cottages back at Betty's beloved beach.

In the early seventies, Betty and John's paths diverged. She raised her boys and welcomed each grandchild as a gift and delighted in them all: Michael's Julian, Anne's Sarah and Brendan, Tommy's Ryan and Meghan, Johnny's Christopher, Jack, and Nicholena, and Brian's Owen and Griffin. She had the joy of meeting her first great grandchild, Sarah's daughter Nella Anne Likhtiger-LeMieux (1/15/2005.)

Betty always loved music, especially Andy Williams, Mitch Miller, Ferrante and Teicher, and old-time musicals. One of her favorites was the Gordon Macrae recording from "The Radio Hour" of the operetta "The Student Prince." She passed this love of music along to her children, who've passed it to their children, several of whom are accomplished musicians.

After a short stint as a "Snowbird" in Port St Lucie, Florida, where she spent happy times with her brother Jimmy and his wife Pat, and riding her bicycle, Betty came back north. She spent her final years in her condo on the waterfront in Black Rock, Connecticut,

where she had her own small beach to stroll, could hear the lapping waves, and watch the sun set on Long Island Sound.



1940 Betty at Fairfield



Betty in HS



Betty Magee, Anne O'Brien,
Martha Connelly & Friends



1957 Betty, John, Michael
and Anne - Easter



1963 Anne, Michael, Kevin, Tom & Jim



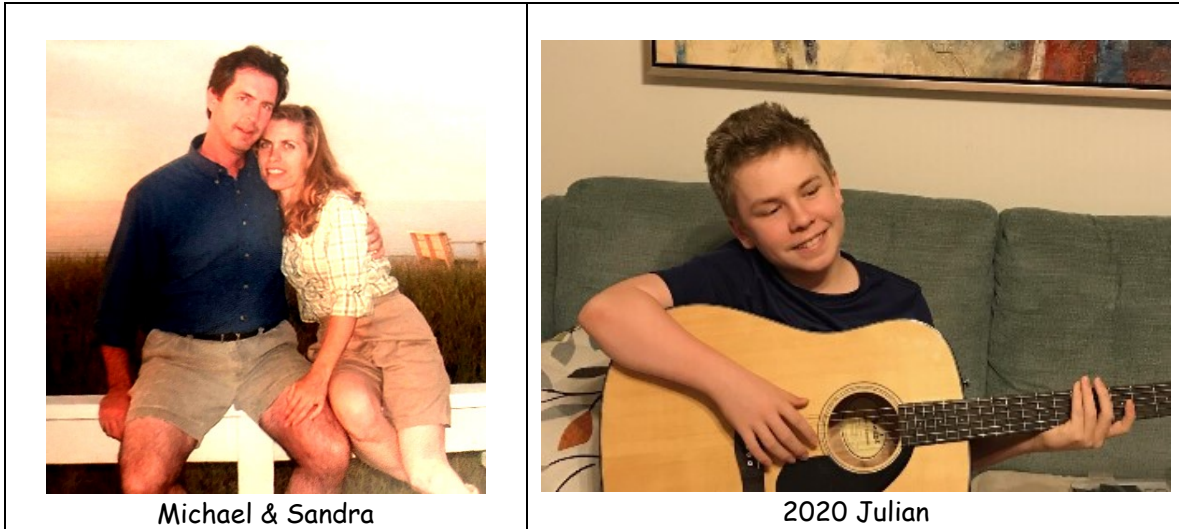
1999 Betty
Snowbird, Pt St Lucie

Michael John Connelly

It's difficult to telescope a lifetime down into a paragraph or two, but I can begin by saying how much fun I had as a child, especially with our Magee cousins at some holiday or event. Just the sheer number of us, and the amount of food required to feed us all was a kind of comedy in and of itself. (There were rarely leftovers from the 25lb turkey!). In an age of quarantine, these memories are even more precious.

As we moved into our school years, we saw each other less and less, moving with some success through Catholic schooling, until college, when I took several years away from academia to travel the country. When I returned east and worked in New York City, I survived a first marriage, and went to build houses for many years. After a few attempts at graduate school, and a short but intensive time working in the health and counseling field, I moved from Florida to Atlanta.

It is where my wife Sandra and I found each other, and have since been together for almost twenty years. Our son Julian, who is approaching fifteen, arrived at the same time as my diagnosis of Parkinson's Disease, and though life has presented its challenges, it has propelled me forward with a heightened sense of resilience and the importance of being engaged in every moment. I am truly blessed, and have found the special work of being an artist, even at my advanced age (I am #10 Margaret and Edwin Magee's first grandchild), as the place where I can return something to the world, for all the gifts I have been given.



Anne Marie Connelly

According to Betty's oral lore, after her second child was born on December 15, 1954, the nurse put the baby in her arms, saying, "Now you have your little Anne Marie." Little Anne (eventually towering over her petite mother) was to be the only girl out of Betty's seven children.

Always a precocious reader, Anne's love of books evolved into a love of writing that emerged early, in the form of a Crayola-illustrated novella, self-published in 7th grade, detailing in thinly-disguised fiction the goings-on among the various Brookview Ave factions of kids. This led to her first negative book reviews, when Sister Robert Ann, at Assumption School, read it out loud to the 8th graders, chagrined that their secrets had been spilled. The childhood neighborhoods of Fairfield Beach and Brookview Avenue would endure as the imaginary geography for a number of children's books Anne would one day write.

While attending Notre Dame Girls High (which once upon a time had been the Englewood Hospital on Jewett Avenue in Bridgeport, where #10 Margie Lucke Magee spent her final days) Anne met Fairfield Prep footballer Charles P LeMieux, III. The youthful romance blossomed, lasting through Anne's college days at Simmons College in Boston where she majored in writing and minored in illustration. They were married on January 7, 1977.

Anne and Charles moved to Miami, where their daughter Sarah Elizabeth was born on May 24, 1979. In 1980, they settled back in Fairfield, close to the beach. Anne took a career-path detour, studying classical and jazz guitar, which she also taught for a time. Brendan Wolfe LeMieux arrived on August 4, 1987. Very early on, he exhibited percussive interests; he started on his first real drum set at age three and a half. Sarah, meanwhile, had switched from Suzuki violin to piano. Around that time, Anne, who had been working

intermittently as a freelance writer for newspapers and magazines, settled down to her dreamed-of career, writing children's books.

During the nineteen-nineties, Anne published a dozen books for children and young adults, winning a few prestigious awards such as the American Library Association Best Books for Young Adults, and a Parents' Choice Silver medal. (In 1994, Anne and Chuck, after a twenty-five-year run, parted ways. They remain good friends to this day.)

In 1996, Anne met Timothy D Pocock through her brother Tommy. Anne's question to Tommy was, "Is he a good man?" Tommy's reply was, "He's a golfer." Anne persisted. "But is he good?" Tommy's eventual replay was, "Tim's as good as a guy can be, and still be my friend!" With that seal-of-approval, Anne and Tim embarked on a romance which was officially blessed on May 9, 1997. They lived in Southport for a few years. In 2000, Brendan was diagnosed with a condition called Williams syndrome, which explained a number of health issues that had arisen over the years. It also explained his extraordinarily friendly nature and his talent in music.

In the summer of 2001, they moved to an old farmhouse with a big barn where they built a music studio (Blues Horizon Studio), in Madison, CT. Music became the center of the family universe, with Sarah, having graduated from NYU and embarked on a singer-songwriter career, marrying New York blues guitarist Dave Likhtiger in the Madison barn. First grandchild Nella Anne Likhtiger-LeMieux graced the family on January 15, 2005.

Brendan pursued his music studies at Daniel Hand High School, Berkshire Hills Music Academy, and the Neighborhood Music School in New Haven, where he earned an Honors Certificate in their three-year Percussion Studies program. He also became involved with the Vanderbilt University Williams syndrome music camp, which resulted in him performing with the Grand Ole Opry house band half a dozen times.

Sarah recorded her first album, *Superbleu* in the Madison barn, after she and Nella came back home for a stretch. Later albums, recorded with her "home-grown drummer" brother Brendan as bandmember, include "Moments Musicaux", an original jazz album which won Album of the Year in 2015 for the Connecticut Music Awards and Americana album "Tennessee Wildflowers," by "The Girls From Ruby Falls."

With Sarah's help, Brendan started his own project with five other Williams syndrome musicians, in 2007. In 2014, the Kandoo Band, was named as one of the "Top Twenty-Five Stars of the Best Buddies Movement," after performances including a concert at Jazz at Lincoln Center, and several performances for Tom Brady's charity football game, Guy Fieri's tailgate parties, and the Hyannis Port Challenge bike race clambake. Through all the years of musical activities, Anne and Tim filled a number of roles: band manager, soundman, press agent, roadie, equipment van driver, fill-in bass player and rhythm guitarist, booking agent, and chief cook and bottle washer when the Kandoo Band came to stay at the Madison House for practices. Anne was also grandma-babysitter on the spot for Sarah's gigs, after twins Lily and Jacob Washinsky-LeMieux were born on June 21, 2012.

In November 2016, Anne, Tim, and Brendan downsized to a 1918 yellow bungalow in walking distance from the town Green and the beach and harbor, in Branford, CT. They cultivated a scraggy but rewarding kitchen garden during the first pandemic summer and kept busy, productive, and safe, though missing family get-togethers terribly! Meanwhile, Anne (when not working as an elderlaw paralegal) is hard at work on a new young adult novel.

Life is good. We have been very blessed



2019 Anne & Tim



2015 Nella, Sarah and Brendan



2016 Anne with Grandkids
Nella, Jacob and Lilly



2021 Brendan & Anne