

I will give greater acknowledgement in book, but thank you to people I interviewed, archivists, librarians, & photographers who have and continue to be so generous with their time. I hope to make best book possible from the knowledge resources you've volunteered and provided.

Thank you to my friends, colleagues, & all folks who have been enthusiastic about book. I'll need your support to keep being the wind at my back and to finish what I've started. I'm doing everything in my power to place the very best book I can in your hands & on your bookshelf.

I am grateful forever to Patrick Kelly. I hope that the book I am writing pleases his spirit and that of all of my ancestor helping spirits. ♥■♥■♥■♥■

And for those who have a thing you want to do and you just can't see way forward, what Patrick Kelly would say is that "Nothing Is Impossible." I had a seed of this book at age 9. Began working on it at 29. And got the deal to publish it at age *none of your business.* ■■■■■■

My message is this — As Glinda sang to Dorothy, and mama sang to be "believe in yourself" and keep pushing forward. Onward! With love and always gratitude, e. ■■■■