A RISING TIDE OF REBELLION

In March 1916, Boston’s Irish were divided over the move toward armed revolt in Dublin

By Peter F. Stevens
BIR STAFF

Third in a four-part series.

In Boston and other Irish-American centers in March 1916, few knew how close to armed rebellion the Irish Republican Brotherhood and an array of other Irish men and women in Ireland stood. Nationalists, socialists, workers, intellectuals, and proponents of women’s rights — all had their own agendas, and all were willing to fight for a free Ireland.

The turmoil in Ireland had some in Boston’s Irish wards hoping that John Redmond and other “cooler heads” still pushing for the limited Irish Home Rule bill might prevail. Still, every attempt to pass Home Rule since Charles Stewart Parnell’s efforts in 1886 to 1890 had stopped short of advocating open insurrection against Britain. More conservative organizations such as the United Irish League of America and the Charitable Irish Society — the oldest Irish group in America — cautioned that bloodshed would lead only to disaster for Ireland, as it had in 1798 — “the Year of the French”; 1803, Robert Emmet’s Revolt; 1848, the ill-fated Young Ireland movement; and the Fenian uprising of 1866.

The movers and shakers of Boston Irish politics in 1916 scrutinized the events in the “old sod,” but even “Himself” — James Michael Curley — who railed against Britain’s centuries-old grip on Ireland, stopped short of advocating open revolt. He likened the British to Cardinal William O’Connell’s centuries-old grip on Ireland — the “radicals” preaching rebellion and the “intransigent opposition of the Crown and Parliament was the only route to a free Ireland.

In Boston, debates over the situation in Ireland filled parlors, dinner tables, pubs, church events, subway cars, construction sites, the State House, and everywhere else the local Irish gathered. Many members of the A.O.H. (Ancient Order of Hibernians) and especially Clan-na-Gael urged insurrection against Britain. More conservative organizations such as the United Irish League of America and the Charitable Irish Society — the oldest Irish group in America — cautioned that bloodshed would lead only to disaster for Ireland, as it had in 1798 — “the Year of the French”; 1803, Robert Emmet’s Revolt; 1848, the ill-fated Young Ireland movement; and the Fenian uprising of 1866.

By JennIFer SMith
BIR Reporter Staff

The South Boston St. Patrick’s Day Parade will likely march along its normal route on March 20th, organizers said, returning to the longer trek after snow clogged the city and shortened the parade last year.

According to the website of the South Boston Allied War Veterans Council, which puts on the parade, the route will work east from West Broadway near Broadway Station deep into Southie. After moving along East Broadway, it will turn south on P Street and reverse course, heading past Thomas Park and on down Dorchester Street to end near Andrew Station.

Tim Duross, the parade organizer, said that the council was still waiting on city approval of the route. “This year, you’ll have a nice day like we usually do,” he guessed. And with about 1.8 million people descending on the city for the third largest parade in the country, “you can’t squeeze that amount of people on one road,” Duross said.

Last year, weather issues prompted the city to cut the march to about one-half of its traditional length, keeping the revelry along Broadway. (A spokesperson for Boston Mayor Martin J. Walsh told the Reporter on Feb. 29 that the route had not yet been finalized).

Duross said the longer route would make it easier for participants and spectators to get to and from the parade via mass transit. It also ensures that the procession will go past some significant Evacuation Day markers like Dorchester Heights.

Parade, breakfast set for March 20

Who was St. Patrick? Page 35

(Continued on page 16)
The Greene-O’Leary School of Irish Dancers
Saturday, March 12, 2016 • 10:30 am - 11:30 am

Come enjoy a celebration in honor of St. Patrick’s Day as these dancers demonstrate their athleticism, skill and pulse while presenting traditional and contemporary styles of Irish dance.

The Golden Thread series, appropriate for family audiences and children ages 5 and up, highlights America’s rich cultural diversity through the arts. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Space is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

*RESERVATIONS: To make a reservation, please visit the Golden Thread page online at www.bc.edu/centers/irish/studies/calendar.html or call 617-554-7848 and leave a message.*

O’Connell Street in ruins after the Rising.

1916 in 2016
Boston College Irish Studies Program Commemorates the Centenary of the Easter Rising

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**Mon., March 28, 6:30-9 pm**
Gasson 100:
An Easter Monday Commemorative Concert featuring, among others, Charlie Lennon, Regina Delaney, Seamus Connolly, The Murphy Beds, the Boston College Chorale & the Boston College Chamber Music Society.

**Tues., April 5, 3-5:15 pm**
Burns Library
O’Brien Fine Print Room: The Irish Arts & Crafts, panel discussion and campus walk. Panel members include: Diana Larsen (McMullen Museum), Maureen Meister (Tufts), Virginia Raguin (Holy Cross), Milda Richardson (Northeastern) and Patricia DeLeeuw (BC).

**Wed., March 16, 7 pm**
Gasson 100:
Colm Tóibín, “The Knowledge & the Power: Writing and Violence”

**Fri., March 18 – Sun. March 20**
Devlin 101:

**Sat., April 9, 9:30 am - 4 pm**
Connolly House:
“James Joyce & the Easter Rising”; a one-day conference including speakers: Joe Nugent (BC), Clair Wills (Princeton U.), Joe Valente (U. Buffalo), Mike Cronin (BC), and Richard Kearney (BC).

**Tues., April 12, 3-5:15 pm**
Devlin 101:
The Illustration & Stained Glass of Harry Clarke; an informal tour of the Harry Clarke materials followed with a lecture by Kelly Sullivan (NYU).

**Thurs., April 21, 5 pm**
Connolly House:
Dr. Ronan Fanning will speak on “Eamon deValera, A Will to Power” followed by a launch of that book.

For further information on these and other Irish Studies events go to: www.bc.edu/centers/irish/studies/calendar.html
Greenhills Bakery marking 25 years with monthly donations

BY BILL FORRY  EDITOR

Greenhills Irish Bakery in Dorchester's Adams Village is marking a quarter-century in business this year with a hometown focus. The Martin Richard Foundation, named in memory of the eight-year-old Dorchester boy who was killed in the 2013 Boston Marathon attack, received a $1,000 check donated to the foundation by Dermot and Cindy Quinn of Greenhills Irish Bakery.

Dermot Quinn and Cindy Quinn opened their Adams Corner store in 1991, but their business began in 1990 when Dermot started making brown breads in his South Boston apartment using his grandmother's secret recipe from County Offaly.

“I had never had anything like it,” said Cindy, who met Dermot at a downtown Boston pub. “Then I tried making it and it came out a little better and that got under his skin,” she laughed. “How could this Yankee make better brown bread that I can, he asked.”

Dermot started selling his signature breads to a South Boston butcher a half-dozen at a time in 1990. He realized he had a truly viable product when he unloaded hundreds of breads—at $1.00 per loaf—during an Irish festival in the Catwalks in ‘91.

They rented a kitchen in Southie for a while and built up a book of more than 40 Boston-area stores and restaurants that bought breads weekly—including their current neighbors, Gerard’s Adams Corner.

The couple opened their own Adams Corner store in July 1993, naming it after the Irish Pub. Their own owner, Tom Stenson, gave them a sweetheart deal. “Tom was the man who gave us a break,” recalled Dermot. “He gave us the first six months for an unbelievable discount, almost for nothing.” (They later moved across Adams St. across to Gerard’s business.)

In August 1993, the couple took a two-week hiatus to get married and enjoy a honeymoon. Today, they have four children, some of whom have worked part-time at the business, including their daughter Aoife, who is now a third-year law student at UC Berkeley in California. Their son Jack, a student at BC High, has plans to make the business a franchise someday.

“Rough days and good days. We still haven’t lifted up our head. It’s just been the foot to the pedal ever since.”

These days, Greenhills is known as a full-service café, featuring an array of Irish bread and scones, cookies, cakes and pastries, sausage rolls, beef stew and a full boiled dinner every Thursday (and every day during the week of St. Patrick’s feast). The couple’s brand is known all over the Irish diaspora and beyond. But they are particularly grateful to the neighborhood crowd that turns up as early as 5 a.m. every day for coffee, tea, and breakfast.

“Thank you to all the neighborhood doughnuts and the people in the neighborhood who come and bring us business. It’s an appreciation to the neighborhood.”

Mayor Walsh, Cardinal O’Malley will travel to Knock Shrine in July

By Jennifer Smith

Mayor Martin Walsh and Cardinal Sean O’Malley will travel to the Knock Shrine in Ireland this July with Cardinal Sean O’Malley, a return to his roots and site of great personal significance, according to the mayor’s office told the Reporters.

“I am delighted to be joining Cardinal O’Malley as part of the pilgrimage from Boston to Knock Shrine for the rededication ceremony of our Lady Basilica, a shrine which has personal meaning for not only myself but Irish people everywhere,” Walsh said in a statement. “This visit will highlight the strong economic and cultural ties that Boston shares with the West of Ireland. I look forward to participating in this historic event and continuing to work to strengthen our connections with Knock and all of Ireland.”

Walsh traveled to the Emerald Isle in 2014, his first international trip as mayor of Boston, for 10 days across the country of his family’s origin. “I was born in St. Margaret’s Hospital,” Walsh said at the time. “My home is Dorchester, Massachusetts. But I am also from Roscommon and of Connemara.”

John Walsh and Mary O’Malley were born and raised in the southern parts of Connemara, in Galway, where their son is a beloved figure and emblematic of the deep ties between Ireland and Boston.

The Shrine at Knock is always a priority when Walsh is in Ireland, though he does not always have the chance to pass through County Mayo. He visited the Marian shrine as a child with his parents while he battled cancer, and he credits the site for a large part of his recovery and his faith.

Knock is believed to have healing powers, originating from an apparition said to have occurred on Aug. 27, 1879.

Legends tell of the Virgin Mary, St. Joseph, St. John the Evangelist, and the Lamb of God appearing on its 40th anniversary, Sat. July 16, according to the shrine website.


Members of the Youth Board of Directors of the Martin Richard Foundation gratefully acknowledge a $1,000 check donated to the foundation by Dermot and Cindy Quinn of Greenhills Irish Bakery.

The Youth Board’s next project will be producing Easter baskets for homeless kids in Dorchester.

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WEAR A SHAMROCK TODAY
WEAR A SHAMROCK EVERYDAY
SMART CELEBRATES ST. PATRICK’S DAY

HAPPY ST. PATRICK’S DAY
FROM AER LINGUS
Grant me a sense of humor, Lord,
the saving grace to see a joke,
to win some happiness from life,
and pass it on to other folks.

– Irish Blessing from
Sen. Linda Dorcena Forry
and Family

Don’t miss the St. Patrick’s Day Breakfast
on Sunday, March 20, 2016
WATCH LIVE ON NECN – 10 am- 12 noon
www.firstsuffolkpartnership.com
Green is very much in use for St. Patrick's Day

By Ed Forry

The stunning success of theGalway/Dublin Irish Hurling match at Fenway Park last Saturday offers a prelude, as well as a boost at this time of year for our overall tourism. As-market research suggests, the increase in tourism is especially beneficial for the people who, 30 to 50 years from now, will be guiding the country's future.

Tourism Ireland has launched an educational system that produces first-class citizens, and aggressive businesswomen and men will help to shape this country's place in a competitive changing world. The eagerness of cities and countries not only in Ireland but around the world to join in this celebration underlines the strength of the diaspora. The eagerness of cities and countries around the world to get involved and join our St. Patrick's celebrations.

In the last seven years of Tourism Ireland's Global Greening initiative, the number of landmarks going green has increased every year in Ireland and around the world. This year in particular the list of landmarks going green for St. Patrick's Day has more than doubled. Tourism Ireland's Global Greening initiative is an excellent example of the potential of tourism to bring together people everywhere to promote Ireland worldwide. From tourism perspective, it is a unique and enjoyable way of getting people from all over the world to plan their annual holidays.

On the seventh year of Tourism Ireland's Global Greening initiative, the manager of Tourism Ireland, Paschal Donohoe, said: "St Patrick's Day presents a unique and wide opportunity for Ireland all around the world to get involved and join our St Patrick's celebrations. In searching for the most efficient way to enhance primary school science learning, the Partnership began working with one of the oldest philanthropic organizations in Ireland – the RDS. The RDS helps to support Ireland's primary school science teacher training, and science teaching materials.

The Irish American Partnership and its donors have been supportive since the program began and this year they took their support one step further when they announced that they would provide a total of $78,000 to support the RDS Primary School Science Fair in Limerick. Over the past three years the Partnership has invested in excess of $60,000 in supporting the RDS Primary School Science Fair in Limerick. The funds have been used to encourage and facilitate interest in science, support and engage teachers and students in primary science programs. The program includes the support of the teachers and the families of the students.

The desire for self-determination, the ability to control your own destiny. It's also what so many immigrants found, look for in Ireland. This is where we were going to go, this is the place that describes the projects the students (aged 7-12) will be involved in this year. The Partnership's nation-wide EMC Club. The Partnership's nation-wide EMC Club. The Partnership's nation-wide EMC Club. The Partnership's nation-wide EMC Club. The Partnership's nation-wide EMC Club.


By Peter F. Stevens

In mid-February 1920, people had gathered around a simple gravestone in New Bedford cemetery where a tall, thin, bespectacled man bent down to lay a wreath in front of the marker. Etched on the face of the stone was the name of “George S. Anthony,” once captain of the whaling bark Catalpa.

Eamon de Valera placed the wreath, straightened and peered solemnly, almost reverentially, at that name on the memorial. The famed Irish rebel, after his daring escape from Britain’s infamous Lincoln Prison, had come to plead his homeland’s cause to America in 1919 and 1920. A living symbol of Ireland’s rebels, for in 1875, he had risked everything of a reckless path to lead the daring mission to rescue six Fenian prisoners away in 1913, held a special spot in the hearts and minds of Ireland’s rebels.

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Happy St. Patrick’s Day

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Get Your Way to Your New Career

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TO PURCHASE WITHIN U.S. BEFORE GOING ON SALE IN EUROPE

COLLEGEFOOTBALLIRELAND.COM
The Popes And Their Special Friends – The news that broke recently about Pope John Paul II's close relationship with a Polish-born American philosopher, Andrew Greeley, has been a topic of public interest. Greeley, who was almost entirely a stranger to the Vatican, was allowed to write a biography of Pope John Paul II. The book, "La Popessa," has caused a stir as it explores the special relationship between a pope and a woman. In 1918, at age 23, Andrew Greeley met a young woman named Mairi Holden in Poland. They became friends for over three decades until his death. One of the key points of the book is that it presents a new perspective on the papacy, showing the pope to be more approachable and relatable than previously thought. The book also sheds light on the Vatican's policies and practices, revealing the role of women in the Church. The story of that deeply personal friendship is a testament to the spiritual and intellectual connection that can exist between a pope and a woman. Andrew Greeley's research and interviews have provided a new dimension to our understanding of the Vatican's inner workings.
Permanent residence via marrying a citizen
Wrong way, right way(s)

Q. I’m a US citizen who is engaged to be married to a person from Ireland. He is here now and we want to live in the US after we’re married. Can he just come here on a tourist visa and apply for a green card during the marriage, or get married, and apply for a green card? Or can we get married in Ireland, after which he comes to the US on the visa waiver, then files his application?

A. Emphatically no in both cases. This is a fundamental mistake that is not at all obvious to people who don’t know the ins and outs of the relevant immigration law, and it happens quite frequently. The problem is that a visa waiver (also known as an N-160 for non-temporary visas) is granted on the basis of what the law calls “non-immigrant intent,” that is, the person traveling honestly intends to stay in the US for no longer than the period allowed by US Customs and Border Protection at the port of entry. On the other hand, someone enters with temporary permission but who actually intends to stay in the US – to apply for a green card or in some other reason – has “immigrant intent.” So the immigration authorities would conclude that the person had committed “visa fraud,” which, generally speaking, renders him ineligible for benefits such as permanent residence and indeed subjects him to removal from the US and a ban to entering this country from abroad in the future.

Therefore, no, there are two basic ways to get legal permanent residence for your future husband without legal problems. In general terms, they are:

1. The fiancé visa. You, the US citizen, file a petition with USCIS for your fiancé, and if approved, the visa waiver (the N-160 form) is issued. He can then enter the US, and apply for the green card. Assuming that your relationship is still going strong when he arrives, you can get married, and USCIS will grant the green card.
2. The fiancé(e) visa. You, the US citizen, file a petition with USCIS for your fiancé, and if approved, the fiancé(e) visa is issued. He can then come to the USA, and apply for the green card. Assuming that your relationship is still going strong when he arrives, you can get married, and USCIS will grant the green card.

Samuel Lockhart

Immigrant Center as a potential J-1 Intern Work & Travel Visa sponsor got and in touch with me. We were extremely helpful with the application process and were always at hand to answer any questions or concerns I had.

My internship offered me the opportunity to study how a hormone that is deficient in diabetes contributes to cardiovascular disease. I learned a range of research techniques to formulate and answer scientific questions, and I have been fortunate enough to present my work at international meetings. I also have benefited from the host of exceptional medical talent I met in Boston, and have had the opportunity to attend and present at multiple presentations by world leaders in the field. I am hopeful that these relationships will evolve to establish collaborative study later in my career.

Nearing the completion of my internship, I began to apply for jobs that I could start following the completion of my medical degree in June. I applied to an academic foundation post and was invited to interview in December. There were greater than fifteen shortlisted candidates from the US and Ireland, all with strong academic credentials, so it was really tough. This month, I got the news that I secured my first post and will begin in September.

I have no doubt that the training and experience I received during my internship here played a key role in ensuring my success. I have provided me with the basic skills and confidence that I need for a successful research career. I cannot thank the IICF enough for their support and help in making my applications and for the continuous guidance they provided me during my time in Boston. Boston is awash with Irish talent. The intern research program run by the IIICF has helped me meet a student who is a PhD candidate in this city. I hope I can take back what I have learned, improve in the use I make of this experience, and help us continue to lead the way in biomedical research.

The IICF helps Irish graduates find paid or volunteer work in the United States. If you have any questions, please contact Paul Pelan at ppelan@iiicenter.org

Matura Healey

Business Leaders Breakfast - April 28

Don’t miss the Irish International Immigrant Center’s 7th Annual Business Leaders Breakfast on Thursday, April 28, from 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. The featured speaker this year will be Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey, who celebrated her first year in office in late March. In these words, “I love my job! I got excited every time I walked into our office, every time I sat with my team to tackle big issues, every time I am in the community, and with the people who make this state the most welcoming place to live, work, and raise families.

Since taking office, Healey has tackled issues touching the lives of residents across Massachusetts including the opioid and prescription drug abuse epidemic, escalating health care costs, worker’s rights and student loan costs. Her office has assisted with the rollout of several policy initiatives that the Center has supported including the Earned Sick Time Act and Domestic Workers’ Bill of Rights. Healey is an advocate for a more equal and inclusive workforce and culture, and has taken active steps to ensure that all residents are treated fairly.

Join us for an engaging discussion on immigration, the economy and other issues facing Massachusetts and the United States. For reservations or further information, please contact Mary Kerr, Development Associate, at 617-695-1554 or at mkerr@iiicenter.org

Matters of Substance

Mindfulness tips to help with easing stress, anxiety reduction

By Gina Kelleher

The practice of mindfulness is a worldwide phenomenon that has significant mental and physical benefits for all of us. Simple mindfulness is the gentle effort to be present in the moment. We’re living in a world where it’s not normal to multitask while being distracted with our phones, computers, and tablets. People feel stressed and overloaded, with too much to do and not enough time to do it. This can lead to a sense of time passing by in a blur, without much enjoyment or appreciation of what truly is important to us.

Mindfulness practices help us notice when we’re worrying about the past (can’t change that) or future (hasn’t happened) and bring us back to the present. Doing any of these can reduce the effects of stress on the mind and body that increases levels of sadness, anxiety, and mindlessness.

For people struggling with anxiety, depression, or addiction, mindfulness can increase awareness of negative thought patterns, physical responses, and unhealthy behaviors associated with these conditions. By accepting these reactions, the opportunity for change can be reduced or eliminated over time.

The following are some simple mindfulness practices that are easy to incorporate into our busy lives:

• Guided breathing: This is one of the easiest and most effective ways to reduce worry, stress, anxiety, and cravings. Inhale through your nose to the count of four. Exhale through the count of seven. Exhale slowly through your mouth for the count of eight.

• Repeat five times or more to feel calm and centered.

• Meditation: This allows you to take a break from thoughts and feelings that can lead to a sense of peace and calm.

Guided Meditation

Some people prefer to meditate to a voice. There are many that you can buy in bookstores, or even available online (YouTube) to listen to during your daily commute, rain, bed, or as needed. There are great free apps you can download to your phone or tablet that offer冥想工具的选项 to help you feel better. Headspace or Insight Timer are two that I recommend to my clients.

Listen to music: For those who do not sit still, music notes and sounds brings help reduce blood pressure and heart rate.

Go outdoors: Take a short walk outside, preferably where there are trees and grass. Appreciate these and other things in nature can lead to a sense of peace and calm.

Practice gratitude: Take some time at the end of the day to reflect on five things that you made happen in the day. Reflect on what you are grateful for.

Join us for a discussion on immigration, the economy and other issues facing Massachusetts and the United States. If you have any questions, please contact Paul Pelan at ppelan@iiicenter.org.

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Immigration Q&A

An agency accredited by US Department of Justice
100 Franklin Street, Boston, MA 02110
Telephone (617) 542-7654 Fax (617) 542-7655
Website: iiicenter.org Email: immigration@iiicenter.org

Business Leaders Breakfast - April 28

Maura Healey

Immigrant Center

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**EATING AND EMOTION**

**Dr. Bernadette Rock**

**Health eating for healthy weight**

The vast majority of us were born with the instinct to know when we are hungry and when not to stop, but many end up losing part of that essential skill. What have you “learned” along the way that gets in the way of your ability to eat when you’re hungry and stop when you’re satisfied? Is it the rules of a diet, your “all-or-nothing” eating habits, using food as a comfort, a way to escape, or a way to distract yourself from what’s happening within and around you?

Unfortunately, many of us have been fooled into believing that there is a solution out there somewhere. Take a moment to add up all of the money and time you’ve wasted on diets that didn’t lead to lasting change! It is staggering to think about how much time in our lives has been lost to us as we tried the same things over and over again. I know, because I did it, too. And these days, most people know that diets don’t really work, so they call them “clean eating” or a “lifestyle change” instead. Either way, if you are still obsessed with what you should and shouldn’t eat, it is still a diet.

A healthy relationship with food is about finding what works for you and your own body, which also may be different at different times in your life. Can you make choices that serve you? - think of your core concepts of healthy eating, such as a delicious whole-food meal, really enjoying it, and feeling satisfied. I’m not a fan of strict rules around eating. Instead here are some guidelines. Think of them as your North Star:

1. Eat when you are hungry – but not too hungry!
2. Eat sitting down in a calm environment. This does not include eating in the car!
3. Eat without distractions, such as TV, newspapers, anxiety-producing conversations.
4. Eat until you are satisfied, not full or stuffed to the gills.
5. Mix up the intention of being in full view of others.
6. Eat with enjoyment and pleasure. Managing your environment is also crucial to managing your eating. There are some very practical steps you can take to support yourself:

**Put it away** – As soon as you get home from the grocery store, put everything away in a proper place, such as the fridge or cupboard. Leaving anything out can trigger you visually to just “grab a piece of that” on the counter. When you get out something to eat when you are hungry, make sure everything goes back in its place so that you won’t mindlessly take some more because it’s right there.

**Close the kitchen** – This is a mental state that you want to be in, especially in the evenings. Clean up dinner leftovers and dishes right away and get out of the kitchen. If you can, even turn off the lights so you have a visual reminder. Of course, it is okay for the kitchen to be open again in a few hours, you allow yourself to intentionally get something to eat. But others times when possible even try to avoid walking through the kitchen to get to another room.

Out of the kitchen – Our kitchens tend to become command central for the whole household. Letters, phone chargers, etc., often end up on the counter or on the table. Find another place in your house to be the central location for all those miscellaneous items so you don’t have another reason to go in the kitchen and possibly “grab a little something” in the process.

**Bernadette Rock and her daughter Keela.

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**Ireland’s Prime Minister Enda Kenny prepares to cast his vote at a polling station at St Anthony’s School in Castlebar, Ireland, Friday, Feb. 26. Ireland’s voters were deciding Friday who should lead their economically rebounding nation for the next five years, with polls suggesting the outcome could be a hung parliament. Brian Lawless/PA via Associated Press**

**Irish vote leaves parties befuddled; Historic coalition? Another election?**

**ASSOCIATED PRESS**

**DUBLIN** – Lawmakers in Ireland are expressing a sense of shellshock and division over whether the country’s next government should be a historic alliance of age-old foes — or whether there should be a second election.

With two-thirds of voters declared in the race to fill a 158-member parliament, the new political landscape looked like the most fractured in Irish history. The two perennial centrist heavyweights — governing Fine Gael and opposition Fianna Fail — remained virtually neck and neck, with Fianna Fail winning 47 parliamentary seats and Fine Gael 48.

Analysts forecast that Fine Gael would finish a few lawmakers stronger than the party’s political nemesis, Fianna Fail. But neither would be able to form a parliamentary majority with any other single party, only each other.

Voters disgusted by Ireland’s 2008 economic collapse, 2010 international bailout, and the years of austerity deemed necessary to repair the damage threw their support in the Feb. 26 election to a dizzying array of anti-government voices. For the first time in Irish electoral history, the combined popular vote for Fianna Fail and Fine Gael slid below 50 percent.

The two parties evolved from opposite sides of the cut-throat civil war that followed Ireland’s 1922 independence from Britain. Between them, they have led every Irish government — and have never shared power with each other.

But neither side has ruled out forming a partnership if government stability requires this. Few workable alternatives look available in a parliament increasingly crowded with untested micro-parties and maverick independents hostile to both establishment parties.

The nationalist Sinn Fein party finished in third place with a somewhat disappointing 13.8 percent share of the popular vote. But both Fine Gael and Fianna Fail have ruled out cooperation, citing Sinn Fein’s ties to the outlawed Irish Republican Army.

Leading lawmakers in both Fianna Fail and Fine Gael said Sunday they cannot see how two parties so long committed to tearing each other down can form a united Cabinet that survives for months, never mind for five years.

They forecast that coalition talks could take weeks to get going, and failure would force Ireland to hold a second election. Ireland hasn’t experienced back-to-back elections amid a finely balanced parliament since 1965.

“There’s a sense of wilder first of all. We’re a long way from sitting down together and talking about what our next options are,” said Regina Doherty, a re-elected lawmaker for Meath northwest of Dublin.

Finance Minister Michael Noonan, speaking from an election count center in his native Limerick, said: “We may all be back here again very shortly.”


Recounts over disputat ed results in Ireland’s complex, multi- round system of proportional representation mean that all winners wouldn’t be confirmed until Mon., Feb. 29, at the earliest.

The new parliament is scheduled to convene March 10 to elect a prime minister.
The Eagles of Boston College will kick off their 2016 football season in Dublin on Sept. 3 against the formidable Yellow Jackets of Georgia Tech. The game in Aviva Stadium will mark the BC team’s second visit to Ireland; in 1988 the Eagles defeated, 38-24, in front of a crowd of 42,000 in the old Lansdowne Road stadium. It is expected that 25,000 fans will travel from the US and Europe to take in the event this fall.

The Aer Lingus College Football Classic is an encompassing event. With thousands of US and European travelers coming to Ireland, a number of other events will surrounding the game itself, including: Dublin City Fanzone, a Boston College pep rally, a Georgia Tech pep rally, pre-game tailgates, business and academic forums, networking events, a president’s lunch on game day, and social outreach/service projects in local communities.

Aviva Stadium is located in Dublin. It has a capacity of 51,700 and 48,000 for American football. It was built on the site of the former Lansdowne Road stadium, which was demolished in 2007. It is home to the Irish Rugby Football Union and the Republic of Ireland national football team.

The game is being organized by a new entity called Irish American Events Limited (IAEL), a joint venture between Corporate.ie and Anthony Travel, both of which have been involved in the recent college football games in Ireland.

Warren Zola, the executive director of the Boston College Chief Executives Club, has announced that it will sponsor the inaugural Boston College Chief Executives Club Global Forum in Dublin on Sept. 2. “Both Boston College and the city of Boston have deep roots in Ireland,” said Zola. “Given the history and tradition, it seems only natural to re-engage these two communities, and to do so by strengthening those business communities.”

The forum will include a panel discussion on a relevant issue of the day, such as the use of technology in developing a global economy. Past CEO Club speakers will join current members in an audience of prominent business leaders from Ireland, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

“Boston College began as a small commuter school for Irish immigrants, and today is recognized as a leading global university,” said Zola. “Likewise, the Boston College Chief Executives Club is growing from the country’s premier speaking forum to one recognized on the global stage. I am thrilled to take advantage of this incredible opportunity on behalf of our members, and to continue to promote the prestige of the Carroll School of Management.”

Neil Naughton, chairman of the Irish Steering Committee and deputy chairman of the Glen Dimplex Group, noted that Irish sponsors of the game see the Aer Lingus Football Classic as a means to develop connections and relationships between the Irish and New England business communities. In this setting, he said, “the Boston College Chief Executives Club luncheon will be eagerly anticipated by the business community in Ireland.”

Happy St. Patrick’s Day
State Representative
Kevin G. Honan
Allston-Brighton

Please come and celebrate
Dorchester’s Tenth Annual
St. Patrick’s Day Brunch
Saturday, March 19, 2016, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Blessed Mother Teresa Parish Hall
800 Columbia Road, Dorchester
Special Guests Governor Charlie Baker Mayor Martin J. Walsh
2016 Dorchester Hall of Fame Inductees
Jim Rooney
The Honorable Marie St. Fleur
The Honorable W. Paul White
All proceeds to benefit Mary Ann Brett Food Pantry
Blessed Mother Teresa Parish
617-436-2190

$100 per person
Reservations will be held at door
Co-Chairs

Dr. Larry Ronan and Jim Brett

Blessed Mother Teresa Parish Hall
800 Columbia Road, Dorchester
The Rev. James T. O’Reilly OSA Division Eight
Ancient Order of Hibernians
Lawrence, Massachusetts

“145 Years of Dedication to Religion, Heritage, Charity and Community”

Irish Heritage Month, March, 2016
Lawrence, Massachusetts

Preserving and Fostering our Heritage and Culture
Sona Feile Padraig ort.

The Centennial Anniversary of the 1916 Easter Rising
Tuesday, March 1, 2016
IRISH FLAG RAISING
Across from City Hall – Common St. @ 11 a.m.

Wednesday, March 2, 2016
LAWRENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY - South Lawrence Branch, 135 Parker Street, Lawrence, MA: Open House 10 am – 1 pm Showcase of Irish Books, CD’s and DVD’s – All Month (Monday, Wednesday, Saturday 10 am – 5 pm) Sponsored by Division 8 & the Irish Foundation (FREE) – Handicap Accessible

Sunday, March 6, 2016
23rd ANNUAL CLADDAGH PUB ROAD RACE 11 a.m. (rain or shine) # 2 of the Wild Rover Race Series - For more information: runtheclad-dagh.com

Sunday, March 6, 2016
WHITEFUND LECTURE - OPENING RECEPTION and EXHIBIT - “A Pictorial Exhibit of the 1916 Easter Rising” with featured guest speaker, Michael Quinlin, who will speak on “Massachusetts and the 1916 Irish Rising” at Lawrence Heritage State Park Visitors Center, 1 Jackson St., Lawrence, MA @ 2:00 pm Sponsored by the White Fund & Division 8 AOH (FREE) – Handicap Accessible

Saturday, March 12, 2016
THE 145TH ANNUAL SAINT PATRICK’S DAY BANQUET AND DANCE at the Lawrence Firefighters Association Reliefs’ In, One Market Street, South Lawrence, MA: Traditional Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner with dancing to the Jolly tinkers from 6 pm – 11 p.m. – Awarding of the Richard Cardinal Cushing and Irishman & Irishwoman of the Year Awards. For more information please contact Charles Breen at 508 328 0323. sponsored by Division 8 AOH – Handicap Accessible

Sunday, March 13, 2016
Honor Molloy, Dublin-born, Brooklyn-based writer, actor and director, will talk and read from her lyrical book, “smarty Girl, Dublin savage”, an autobiographical novel set in 1960s. her father John, a seventh generation Dubliner, was a wildly successful actor and scoundrel king of the city, who did his best to destroy his family, while her mother tried to save it. Honor Molloy has received fellowships from the national Endowment for the Arts, Rackliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard, and the Pew Foundation, Reading at Lawrence Heritage State Park Visitors Center, 1 Jackson St., Lawrence, MA @ 2 pm Sponsored by Division 8 AOH & the Irish Foundation (FREE) – Handicap Accessible

Tuesday, March 15, 2016
IRISH FILM FESTIVAL at Lawrence Heritage State Park Visitors Center, 1 Jackson St, Lawrence, MA @ 10:00 a.m. Sponsored by Division 8 AOH & the Irish Foundation. (FREE) – Handicap Accessible

Thursday, March 17, 2016
HAPPY SAINT PATRICK’S DAY – OPEN HOUSE – Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinners & Corned Beef Sandwiches & music at the Claddagh, 399 Canal St., Lawrence, MA.

Friday, March 18, 2016
47th ANNUAL SAINT PATRICK’S DAY LUNCHEON at the Lawrence Firefighters Association Relief’s In, One Market Street, South Lawrence, MA: Traditional Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner with entertainment by the Silver Spears Irish Show Band at NOON. Awarding of the Honorable John E. Fenton Citizenship Award - For more information please contact Jack Lahey @ 603 898 7766. Sponsored by Division 8 AOH – Handicap Accessible

Friday, March 18, 2016
OPEN HOUSE – Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinners & Corned Beef Sandwiches & music at the Claddagh, 399 Canal St, Lawrence, MA. For information call 978 688-8337.

Saturday, March 19, 2016
OPEN HOUSE – Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinners & Corned Beef Sandwiches & music at the Claddagh, 399 Canal St., Lawrence, MA For information call 978 68-88337

Saturday, March 19, 2016
SAINT PATRICKS DAY PARADE 1:00 pm for more information visit their website www.lawrencestpatsparade.com, or email them at information@lawrencestpatsparade.com

Sunday, March 20, 2016
Derek Warfield & the Young Wolfe Tunes - For further information please contact Jack Lahey @ 603 898 7766. Sponsored by Division 8 AOH & LAOH

Thursday, March 23, 2017
Readings and Excerpts from “Bad Times”, a graphic novel about the Great Hunger Institute at Quinnipiac University Hamden CT and John Walsh, artist, “The Bad Times”. The “Bad Times” (An Drochshaol) is a graphic novel about the Great Hunger. Professor Kinealy and John Walsh will speak on their just published book at Lawrence Heritage State Park Visitors Center, 1 Jackson St., Lawrence, MA 2:00 pm Sponsored by Division 8 AOH & the Irish Foundation. (FREE) - Handicap Accessible For more information about the “Bad Times” please visit the website: http://www.badtimesgraphicnovel.com/

Saturday, November 12, 2016
Sona Feile Padraig ort.

IRISH HERITAGE MONTH IS SPONSORED BY THE ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS DIVISION 8, DIVISION 8 LAOH AND THE IRISH FOUNDATION OF LAWRENCE

Irish Heritage Month is supported in part by a grant from the Lawrence Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Cancellation of Events For information on cancellation of AOH & LAOH & Irish Foundation events, please contact the AOH/LAOH Cancellation Line @ 603-893-5802

For information on AOH Membership, please write to: Division 8 AOH Organizer, PO Box 1407, Lawrence, MA 01842 or e-mail our organizer @ mark.alaimo@gmail.com.
Southie parade, breakfast set for Sun., March 20

(Continued from page 1)

“It looks to be a record-sized parade, Duross said. The previous record for Boston parade units was 142, he said, but they anticipate about 150 to march this year. In the mix will be 32 marching bands, up from the 20 to 25 the parade usually features, he said.

Joining military and veterans groups from across the country for a second year will be Boston Pride and the LGBT veteran group OUTVETS. Elected officials who had previously boycotted over LGBT exclusion are expected to march again this year.

“We were thrilled with the positive response from parade-goers last year as Boston Pride marched through the streets of South Boston,” said Sylvain Bruni, president of Boston Pride, in a statement announcing their participation. “There are many members of Boston Pride who are veterans and of Irish descent and being able to march in the South Boston St. Patrick’s Day Parade for the second year is a great accomplishment for us all,” he said.

If all goes as anticipated, participants should line up along Dorchester Avenue by 11 a.m., with the parade set to kick off at 1 p.m.

Earlier that day, state Sen. Linda Dorcena Forry will host the traditional St. Patrick’s Day breakfast at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center. The event, which doubles as a political roast and pre-parade celebration of Irish-American culture, will be televised live on New England Cable News beginning at 10 a.m.

Checking the calendar for St. Patrick’s parades

Cape Cod: Sat., March 5 at 11 a.m.

Walpole: Fri., March 11 at 11:15 a.m.

Newport, RI: Sat., March 12 at 11 a.m.

Worcester: Sun., March 13, at noon.

Lawrence: Sat., March 19, at 1 p.m.

Abington: Sun., March 20, at 1 p.m.

So. Boston: Sun., March 20, at 1 p.m.

Scituate: Sun., March 20, at 1 p.m.

Dublin, Ireland: Thurs., March 17, at noon.

(Courtesy BITA (Boston Irish Tourism Assn.).)
Obama declares Irish-American Heritage Month

The following was released by the White House on Feb. 29:

By the President of the United States

A Proclamation

Hailing from the other side of the generations of Irishmen and women have helped shape the idea of America, overcoming hardship and strife through strength and sacrifice, and family. You know the undying belief that tomorrow always yields a brighter day, Irish Americans: Optimistic, hardworking, what defines our country, and they have long embodied the truth at the heart of our promise -- that no matter who you are or where you come from, America is big enough to make it if you try.

And let us pay tribute to the extraordinary Irish-American Heritage Month, we recognize the Irish people's contributions to our country's dynamism, and we reaffirm the friendship and family ties between our two nations. For centuries, sons and daughters of Erin have come to America's shores, adding to our rich vibrancy and putting their full hearts into everything they do. From building our country's cities as preeminent architects and earning laborers to building our national character as people of great joy and cherished culture, Irish Americans have endured intolerance and discrimination to find a place for themselves and their children here in the United States. While remembering the great Irish Americans of the past, we celebrate what forms the foundation of the lasting Irish-American story -- a shared embrace of American fairness and dignity, and a mutual quest to secure a freer and more peaceful future.

And let us look forward to continued collaboration, friendship, and partnership between our countries.

Now, therefore, I, Barack Obama, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim March 20 as Irish-American Heritage Month. I call upon all Americans to observe this month with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-ninth day of February, in the year of our Lord two thousand sixteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-second.}

BARACK OBAMA
Youth will be served – again – at ‘St. Patrick’s Day Celtic Sojourn’

BY SEAN SMITH

Special to the BIR

Overall, the 2016 edition of “A St. Patrick’s Day Celtic Sojourn” has made a point of featuring performers representing the younger generation of Irish, Scottish, and other Celtic music and dance traditions. And there’s even more of a “youth movement” to this year’s show – the 11th edition – which will take place on March 19 at 8pm at the Tsongas Center in Lowell, and 20 in Sanders Theatre at Harvard University in Boston on March 18.

The 2016 line-up includes Providence’s The Outside Track, a “pan-Celtic” band with Irish, Scottish, and Cape Breton influences; Newfoundland traditional ballad singer Matthew Byrne; Boston-based uilleann piper Joey Abarta; and 13-year-old Haley Byrne; Boston-based uilleann piper Joey Abarta; and 13-year-old Haley Richardson, already established on the big and upcoming fiddler.

National Heritage Fellowship winner Kevin Doyle and the Miller Family; a generation of Irish, Scottish, and other Celtic music and dance traditions; and then some. The show’s director, while Vermont guitarist-vocalist Keith Murphy will once again serve as music director.

Those attending the “Celtic Sojourn” shows who love the experience are the friendships and collaborations that result from “Celtic Sojourn,” and I’m sure there will be plenty to come from this year.

Although they’ve been together for a decade, The Outside Track remains a potent symbol of the Celtic music scene’s fountain of youth. They’ve released four albums, including the recent “Light Up the Dark” [see this month’s CD reviews] all to great acclaim, and have been lauded for both their instrumental and vocal work. Co-founders Allie Abarta (harp) and Fiona Black (accordion) from Scotland are at the heart of the band, along with long-time Irish guitarists Cillian Ó’Dálaigh, and their new colleague, lead vocalist and flute and whistle player Teresa Horgan from Ireland. There’ll be a bit of local flavor for The Outside Track’s “St. Patrick’s Day Celtic Sojourn” appearance, as Greater Boston’s Emerald Rae stands in for their regular fiddler Mairi Rankin, a Nova Scota native who supplies the Cape Breton side of the band’s personality.

“The Outside Track really typifies, in a very exciting way, the versatility you see in the more recent generations of Celtic musicians,” says O’Donovan. “They care deeply about the tradition, and its roots, but they also can shift more in the US, including in Lowell last year as part of the first “Summer Celtic Sojourn” show. So he returned to his bosses and put in his notice. "It kind of freaks me out," says Byrne with a laugh.

(Continued on page 20)
Time again to laugh it up in ‘A Little Bit Of Ireland’

BY R. J. DONOVAN

SPECIAL TO THE BIR

When the first approach, it’s time for Reagle Music Theatre’s annual celebration, “A Little Bit Of Ireland.” The 18th edition of the heartfelt homage to all things Irish plays three performances on March 12 and 13 at Robinson Theater in Waltham. Conceived and directed by Bob Eagle, Reagle’s producing artistic director, the production features a cast of 100 with music, dance, and a touch of blarney, all backed by a live orchestra.

Maintaining the show’s long standing tradition, the company includes Broadway couple Sarah Plister and “Phantom of the Opera,” “Show Boat!” and Rick Hilsaacke “Phantom of the Opera,” “Billy Elliot” and a longtime resident of Waltham, Walker studied at UMass Amherst and Boston University and taught Advanced Placement History at Waltham High for many years.

What do you remember about the beginnings of the Irish Revue? How did it all start?

A. At that time, “Riverdance” was really big . . . Liam Harney’s, who’s in the show, was doing his own show called “Celtic Fusion,” and Bob recognized that there was a need for a show that tapped into what was the rage at the time, but also tapped into the roots of a lot of people in Greater Boston and the greater New England area.

Q. From the beginning, the show has showcased some stunning artists, hasn’t it?

A. Bob said, “I’d like to create a character.” Originally in his mind he thought maybe it would be like Hal Roach, that type of comedian. But I wanted to develop my own character. So I kind of thought of my mother. I kind of thought of my uncles . . . I wrote some of my own stories and developed this character . . . He’s a knowing comedian. He understands. He’s not a fool . . . almost like an all-seeing humorist. The audience sometimes knows what’s coming, they can kind of figure it out. But they can’t figure out how he’s going to get there.

Q. Do you understand your Mom was quite an entertainer herself?

A. My mother’s family was from Cork . . . My mother, from my earliest recollection, had the ability to dance and sing. She was a wonderful piano player and had a tremendous wit . . . She started off in local shows. She actually did vaudeville in Ireland. She also had an affinity to do accents, which I picked up. Did you ever perform with her?

Q. I was on stage with my Mum when I was 8 years old . . . She had all these accents down and she would tell all these stories . . . She was a triple threat on stage . . . I really kind of modeled myself, inspirationally, after her. I think of her a great deal inspirationally, after her.

Q. How much do you vary your material each year?

A. Your material each year? Who do you work. Whom do you look forward to seeing in the show?

Q. Your mother would be quite proud of your stage work.

A. Toward the end of her life – this is not a sad story – I said, “Mum, of all the roles I’ve done, which one did you like best?” She looked up and had the little half-Irish lift and she says to me, “I liked when you played St. Joseph.” And I said, “Mum, I didn’t say anything.” And she said, “That’s the whole idea.”

R. J. Donovan is editor and publisher of onstageboston.com.

Reagle Music Theatre’s “A Little Bit Of Ireland,” March 12 & 13, Robinson Theater, 617 Lexington Street, Waltham. Tickets: reaglemusictheatre.com or 781-891-5600.

The Massachusetts Harp Ensemble, led by Judy Ross, performs in “A Little Bit Of Ireland.”
tions to performing, he has also helped to organize events—such as a regular series of ceili dances in Jamaica Plain—and taught at the music school of the Comhaltas Ceoltoirí Éireann Boston branch. Abarta also has toured frequently, including with Mick Moloney and the group The Green Fields of America.

“The great Seamus Ennis used to say that it took 21 years to make an uilleann piper—seven years learning, seven years practicing and seven years playing—and where Joey is concerned, I think Seamus was onto something,” O’Donovan says. “Joey is a powerful piper, and he just gets better and better every time I hear him. We’re so lucky to have be part of our music community in Boston.”

Haley Richardson, a protegé of renowned Sligo-style fiddler Brian Conway, has already amassed several Mid-Atlantic Fleadh and All-Ireland titles, appeared with notable Irish music personalities such as The Chieftains and Mick Moloney, and released an album, “Heart on a String,” accompanied by her older guitar-playing brother Dylan. Last spring, she made an appearance at The Burren Backroom series, as part of a trio with Dylan and their friend, uilleann piper Keegan Leesel.

“One thing that really comes across with Haley,” says O’Donovan, “is that she has a true connection to the music. There are many young players who are technically brilliant, yet they don’t, or can’t, put their heart into their playing. Haley does, and that’s why she is a delight to listen to.”

Kevin Doyle, a virtuoso of old-style traditional Irish step dance and American tap dance, has been a frequent performer at Boston-area events, including “A Christmas Celtic Sojourn” and BCMFest. The Miller Family—Ruby May, Evelyn, and Samuel—have been dancing and competing since childhood with the Goulding School of Irish Dance in Medford and Cranston, RI, and have also appeared at events and venues around Rhode Island, notably the Blackstone River Theater.

“Dance is being given a big turn in the spotlight for this year’s show, and in Kevin and the Millers we have some extraordinary talent,” says O’Donovan. “Kevin is just amazing: He’s been at it for decades and still has that infectious joy and showmanship to his dancing. The Millers bring an extra dynamic, in that they frequently perform as musicians and vocalists, so they have a sense of themselves as both dancers and artists.”

Keith Murphy is a highly respected musician and singer of New England and Newfoundland folk traditions, and an integral part of “St. Patrick’s Day Celtic Sojourn” since becoming the show’s music director in 2012, O’Donovan says.

“His musicality is stunning, but his skills in arranging and organizing are equally laudable. What you want from a music director is a leader who’s a good coach, and who can get the best out of people; that’s what Keith is—someone who has the respect of every musician he comes into contact with. He has really brought a lot to the show.”

For ticket information and other details about “A St. Patrick’s Day Celtic Sojourn,” see wgbh.org/celtic.
May you be poor in misfortune,
Rich in blessings,
Slow to make enemies,
Quick to make friends.
But rich or poor, quick or slow,
May you know nothing
But happiness
From this day forward.
– An Irish Proverb

The Boston Irish Film Festival will take place over four days from Thurs., March 10, to Sun., March 13, at the Somerville Theatre, Davis Square. Special guests will include the well-known Irish comedian and actor Pat Shortt, who will be on hand for a retrospective of some of his film work. Included in this program is the feature "Garage" by the 2016 Oscar-nominated director Lenny Abrahamson as well as the comedic short film "Spaceman Three" by Hugh O'Connor. Shortt will give some behind the scenes commentary on both films.

Thurs., March 10 – 7:30 p.m. Best Feature, “You’re Too Ugly” (81 min). Director Mark Noonan in person. Plays with Best Short: “More Than God” (14 min). Director Kev Cahill in person. 10 p.m. – Reception at Orleans

Fri., March 11 – 7:30 p.m. Director’s Choice feature, “Older Than Ireland” (77 min). Director Alex Fegan and Producer Garry Walsh in person. Plays with Director’s Choice Short, “City of Roses” (9 min). Director Andrew Kavanagh in person. 10 p.m. – Reception at Davis Square Theatre.

Sat., March 12 – 12:30 p.m. New Irish Shorts Program 1 (126 min). 1 p.m. – “A Doctor’s Sword” (80 min). 3 p.m. “Taste: What’s Going On Live at The Isle of Wight” (78 min). 3:30 p.m. – “Unbreakable: The Mark Pollock Story” (80 min). 6 p.m. – “Garage” (85 min). Plays with “Spaceman 3” (12 min). 6:30 p.m. – “Being AP” (103 min). 9 p.m. – “My Name is Emily” (94 min). Plays with “Big Bird” (10 min).

Sun., March 13 – 1 p.m. – New Irish Shorts Program 2 (77 min). 2:30 p.m. – “After 16” (108 min). 3 p.m. – “Michael Collins” (133 min). 4:30 p.m. – “The Women’s Council – Women of the Revolution.” Plays with “A Night of Storytelling.” 6 p.m. – “An Klondike” (113 min). Plays with “The Mayor of Boston, My Son”(25 min). 8:30 p.m. – Closing party at The Burren.
Burlington youth, 14, wins Reynolds scholarship

By Sean Smith
Special to the BIR

Liam Murphy, 14, was recently announced as the winner of the Larry Reynolds Memorial Scholarship, which supports young people in the Greater Boston area who are involved in Irish traditional music.

A resident of Burlington and a budding flute, whistle, and uillean pipes player, Liam is the second recipient of the scholarship; fiddler Audrey Bulger was the inaugural honoree.

The scholarship, supported by donations, is named for the late Larry Reynolds (1932-2012), co-founder of Boston’s Reynolds-Hanafin-Cooley branch of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann and a major figure in Boston’s Irish music history.

Applicants for the scholarship must be under 21, play music at an intermediate to advanced level, be members of the Reynolds-Hanafin-Cooley CCE, and participate in and “contribute to the Irish music/dance/song/culture and community of New England,” according to CCE Boston.

Scholarship candidates should also demonstrate “an earnest dedication to advance traditional Irish culture,” and the capacity “to benefit from participation in and contribution to the Reynolds-Hanafin-Cooley branch. Through Realta Geala, Liam has had the opportunity to study with musicians such as Torrin Ryan, Lisa Coyne, Caroline O’Shea, Jimmy Noonan, Kathleen Conneely and Patrick Hutchinson.

“Let’s put into words what exactly I like about the music,” says Liam thoughtfully. “I like the rhythm a lot. And then there are those certain notes you play that just hit you a certain way, and you feel really good.”

As enjoyable and rewarding as his individual lessons have been, Liam says one of the most important facets of his Irish music development is being a member of the school’s Realta Geala ensemble, directed by Conneely and Sean Clohessy (and previously Christian Stevens). Through Realta Geala, Liam has had a couple of memorable and enlightening experiences: The group earned a trip last summer to Ireland’s national music competition, the Fleadh Cheoil, held in Sligo; Realta Geala also has been part of a “Trad Youth Exchange” with a group of similar-age musicians in County Clare.

“I’ve really enjoyed being in Realta Geala, and having the chance to go to the All-Ireland and take part in the Trad Youth Exchange,” he says. “It’s been great because you make a lot of friendships and other connections through Irish music; no matter how different we might be, the music is something we share.”

If Liam is grateful for the care and attention his teachers have shown him, they are equally happy to have worked with him.

“Liam’s been a pleasure to teach,” says Conneely. “He learns by ear, and picks up things almost immediately – he’s got a passion about the music you don’t see often in young musicians.”

Adds O’Shea, “Liam’s one of those kids who you can immediately tell ‘has it’ – he has a great innate musicality. Learning music by ear comes naturally to him, and he soaks up whatever you throw at him. It’s been great to see his progress, and I know he’ll definitely go far with music.”

Liam Murphy
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About the Irish American Partnership
The Irish American Partnership seeks to empower the next generation of Irish leaders by supporting educational initiatives through direct grants to primary schools, science teacher training, university access scholarships, and employment training programs. The Partnership provides grants for visiting leaders from Ireland to speak in the US, connecting Irish students with their heritage and promoting economic development through tourism, trade, and cultural exchange.

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Joe Cormier, master fiddler, dead at 88

By Sean Smith

The passing of one of its finest and most beloved members: the fiddler Joe Cormier, who died on Jan. 31 at the age of 88.

Born Laurent Joseph Cormier in Cheticamp, a small fishing village on the northwest coast of Cape Breton Island in Nova Scotia, Mr. Cormier was a widely admired embodiment of his birthplace’s distinctive musical tradition whose fiddling won him a National Heritage Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts in 1991.

A longtime resident of Waltham, Mr. Cormier was a familiar, and welcomed, figure at ceilidhas, concerts, festivals, and other gatherings through-out Greater Boston, including at the Canadian American Club of Massachusetts in Watertown; an important locus of Cape Breton music and dance activities.

He released two albums for Rounder Records in the 1970s, the first Cape Breton fiddler to record for a US label (he also made several other recordings in later years). He was a regular at the National Council for the Traditional Arts “Masters of the Folk Violin” tour in 1984.

Mr. Cormier subsequently attracted a far larger audience of admirers, through a musical goodwill tour of China, Hong Kong, Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Korea in 1982, and the National Council for the Traditional Arts “Masters of the Folk Violin” tour in the US during 1988-89. In 1997, he appeared as part of Boston’s popular Midsummer Reels show.

Janine Randall, a friend and frequent piano accompanist for Mr. Cormier, says that his passing represents the end of an era in Cape Breton music. “Joe was the last of those great pioneering Cape Breton fiddlers, like Buddy MacMaster and Sissy Keough of the Island. It’s important to realize that, for these guys, music was not just a career choice. None of them said, ‘I’m a musician,’ because that’s not how they thought of themselves. They all had full-time jobs. Joe was an electrician himself. So being able to have music as part of your life was all the more special to them.”

Mr. Cormier was known for his repertoire, which included some French as well as Scottish and Cape Breton tunes – he was often accompanied by Cajun fiddlers and other Francophone musicians at festivals – and for the particularly strong rhythm characteristic of his playing. Still, as his Randall recalls, it was the Scottish tradition that seemed to be foremost in Mr. Cormier’s store of music; in fact, one of his albums was titled “Scottish Violin Music from Cape Breton Island.”

“Most of what he played was Scottish music you’d find in written collections, like J. Scott Skinner tunes,” she says. “He’d mention his French/Acadian heritage, but Scottish was a large aspect of his playing. He was a beautiful player. He’d play these intricate, lovely tunes – like Johnny Cope’ or ‘Neil Gow’s Lament for the Death of His Second Wife’ – and instead of endless hours spent in the key of D or F, you’d hear him do tunes in B-flat or F – quite advanced.”

Raised in a musical household, he took up fiddle at age 5, and at age 14 was accorded the honor to which Cape Breton musicians aspire – playing for a parish hall dance. He later studied with distinguished Cape Breton musicians Angus Chisholm and Wintoon “Scotty” Fitzgerald, and began making the round of Cape Breton’s numerous dance halls.

Mr. Cormier immigrat-ed to Waltham in 1962, and quickly became a fixture in the area Cape Breton community, through the French-American Victory Club as well as the Canadian American Club. He retained strong ties with his homeland, organizing a sextet of Cape Breton master fiddlers, later called the Cape Breton Symphony, which performed on Canadian television. Despite his electrician job, he always made time to bring his fiddle along to the ceilidhs and “kitchen junkets” where were the lifeblood of the Cape Breton ex-pats.

Randall says Mr. Cormier “never had a bad word for anyone” and was attentive to his personal and professional relationships, so often inextricably linked. Explaining to her a mis-communication he had with one of his other Canadian contemporaries, Randall recalls, Mr. Cormier said, “I didn’t get into this business to make enemies.”

Toward the end of his life, Randall says, Mr. Cormier, in observing the widespread popularity of Scottish, Cape Breton and other Celtic music, seemed wistful about not having been able to devote more of his time to performing.

“You got the sense he wished he was younger, so that maybe he could’ve taken that other path and been a full-time profes-sional musician,” she says.

“Joe was my first love,” says J. P. Cormier, his wife, Norma, their children, Ricky, Denise, Lenny, Michele, Alan and Andy, five grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews – one of whom, J. P. Cormier, became a successful musician in his own right and frequently incorporated with his uncle.

Happy St. Patrick’s Day
May Luck be your friend and if it takes you to Ireland you are lucky enough!

Photography by Image Photo Service

By Brian W. O’Sullivan, CFP, CFC, CLU

What is enough? If you’re considering retiring in the near future, you’ve probably heard or read that you need about 70% of your end salary to live comfortably in retirement. This esti-mate is frequently repeated … but that doesn’t mean it is true for everyone. It may not be true for you. Consider the following factors:

Health. Most of us will face a major health problem at some point in our lives. Think, for a moment, about the costs of prescrip-tion medicines, and recurring treatment for chronic ailments. These costs can really take a bite out of retirement income, even with a great health care plan.

Heredity. If you come from a family where people frequently live into their 80s and 90s, you may live as long or longer. Imagine retiring at 55 and liv-ing to 95 or 100. You would need 40-45 years of steady retirement income.

Portfolio. Many people retire with investment portfolios they haven’t reviewed in years, with asset allocations that may no longer be appropriate. New retirees sometimes carry too much risk in their portfolios, with the result being that the retirement income from their investments fluctuates wildly with the vagaries of the market. Other retirees are super-conserv-ative investors: their portfolios are so risk-averse that they can’t earn enough to keep up with even moderate inflation, and over time, they find they have less and less purchasing power.

Spending habits. Do you only spend 70% of your salary? Probably not. If you’re like many Americans, you prob-ably spend 90% or 95% of your income. Will your spending habits change drastically once you retire? Again, probably not.

Will you have enough? When it comes to retirement income, a casual assumption may prove to be woefully inaccu-rate. You won’t learn how much retire-ment income you’ll need by reading this article. Consider meeting with a qualified financial professional who can help estimate your long-term needs and plan for short-term and long-term expenses.

Brian W. O’Sullivan is a registered repre-sentative of and offers securities, investment advisory and financial planning services through MML Investors Services, LLC, Member SIPC (www.sipc.org). Supervisory Address: 101 Federal Street, Suite 800, Boston, MA 02110. Tel: 617.439.4389
various artists, “Songs of Separation”

When future historians write about the 2014 Scottish Referendum, perhaps at least one will mention that Scotland’s failed attempt at independence from England inspired a memorable recording project, this collaboration between 10 female Scottish and English folk musicians that explores the many dimensions of the word “separation” – not only political, but also physical, emotional, philosophical, even ecological; for good or bad, intentionally or unconsciously, permanently or temporarily – and how our experiences with it are more the basis for union than division.

The result is an album that succeeds on multiple levels – concept, realization, production and, most of all, passion and imagination.

“Songs of Separation” also represents a prolific coalition of generations, established performers alongside perhaps less familiar – at least in the US – but equally gifted ones: Jenny Hill (who conceived alongside perhaps less familiar – at least in the US – Bay Area folkies Katryna Nields and Lauren Newton); Polwart’s soulful eloquence on the traditional rhythmic vocalisms of a 19th-century Danish ballad poem of a girl-turned-mermaid – includes a mystical harp and an undercurrent of handclaps, percussion and rhythmic vocalizations.

Most of all, “Songs of Separation” is about diverse voices: Polwart’s beautiful, legato on the traditional language from the Shetland Islands. Between them, the participants muster guitar, accordion, melody, banjo, flute, harp, percussion, plus a glorious assortment of fiddles, viola and string bass that provide a rich fundament for the musical and lyrical ideas to take root – one minute the persona of a ceilidh band, an Edwardian-era parlor quartet the next, and then a modern string orchestra. The creativity and variation in arrangements is marvellous to behold. “London Lights” is a traditional Scottish song sprung from music hall pathos – abandoned single mother desperately seeking redemption and/or shelter – but here is filtered through a doo-wop backing (Askew taking the lead), yet without irony or scorn; Rheingans’ “Soul and Soul,” which draws upon landscapes and legends, as if to suggest that union is possible as well as necessary, the playing of a girl and swallow singing strings; the backing for “Sea King” – Young’s adaptation of a 19th-century Danish ballad poem of a girl-turned-mermaid – includes a mystical harp and an undercurrent of handclaps, percussion and rhythmic vocalizations.

The album’s coda is its penultimate track, “Over the Border,” which uses that most sorrowful of Scottish songs, “The Flowers of the Forest,” as the starting point for a meditation on war and conflict, with the original 18th-century lyrics by Jean Elliot (about the Battle of Flodden between the Scots and English) modified in 1914 by a group of Knaresborough Forest,” Frederic William Moor’s “The Flowers of the Forest” and scattered throughout are aural snippets of Egg life: a thunderstorm, rain, and birdsong. The latter is presented by MacLennan and Polwart encouraging us to consider the positive way forward that separation can foster – finding courage and strength, as they softly put it, “out in your own way home.” (Read more about “Songs of Separation” online.)

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Matthew Byrne: A fresh sound from Newfoundland

(Matthew Byrne: A fresh sound from Newfoundland (Continued from page 18) left tradition — with such songs as "Claudie Banks," "The Jolly Ploughboy" and "Plains of Waterloe," — that for Byrne is not only an attribute of his native land, but a family legacy as well. "Matthew is one of those special performers who can play with a singer and bring something together: an extraordinary voice, great guitar-playing, and a whole bunch of good songs you would never think of hearing. WGBH-FM radio's Brian O'Donovan, creator and host of "St. Patrick's Day Celtic Sojourn," thinks establishing an acquaintance with Boston, and Massachusetts, seems an entirely natural progression. "Historically, there was always a line of shipping between Newfoundland and 'the Boston States,' as they were called in my day in Canada. So I think singing songs about Newfoundland, and about sea-faring, provide a strong connection."

Where connections are concerned, Byrne has a particularly meaningful bond with his music, because it evokes family history. "Both my parents are from 'vesselled' communities — these were once fishing villages that have now ceased to exist. Dad was a singer and guitarist who recorded an album, and Mom was a song collector as well as a singer, and between them they had a huge repertoire that included songs from my grandmother, my great-uncle and great-untle. My mother recorded and wrote down songs from the home and her neighbors, and I'm so grateful she did."

For him, those songs consist of a kind of "story" about the people, and the time and place in which they lived. The ballads all tell a story, of course, in a style that is uniquely Irish. And by keeping these ballads alive, this way of telling a story becomes a story in and of itself."

Not surprisingly, then, music was a facet of Byrne's life from the beginning. "My brother and I were humming traditional melodies before we could talk," he says. "It felt very natural for me to start playing the music when I was older, whether on my own or sometimes with my brother." This musical heritage helped Byrne find his voice as a singer, literally and metaphorically, early on. "For me, it's always been that combination of a beautiful melody with a beautiful story — whether it's about love or going to sea — which draws me to a song. I've never tried to pigeon-hole myself, and I inherited that from my mother: I've gone through her collection, and she would have some rare variation of a ballad no one else had ever come across, but she'd also have something like 'The Wild Rover,' which everyone knows. "I love being able to bring a song to an audience that perhaps is unfamiliar to them, and then go into a song they're more likely to know. By the same token, I'll do a song that's a couple of centuries old, but I also like singing a contemporary one like 'True Love Knows No Reason' (written by Norman Blake)."

Two defining experiences for Byrne come in a span of two years. In 2009, he became a member of The Dardanelles, a group of young Newfoundland musicians that set out to bring their native tradition to a wider audience. They played at major festivals around Canada, such as Winnipeg, Vancouver and Mariposa, and also did some tours in the U.S., UK and Australia. For Byrne this was "a way to get on the radar" as a performer, and to get a taste of what a musical career might be like. A year later, he released his first album, very aptly titled "Ballads." I had a collection of songs that I'd been singing since I was knee-high, and just felt I wanted to bring them into a studio and see what happened. Once I did, I realized that they were all ballads, and that just crystallized for me my feeling about the music and how I approached it."

So four years later, when Byrne decided he wanted to do another recording, he had a very useful point of reference. "With 'Ballads,' my mindset had been that I wanted to make an album as a personal achievement, and who cares where it goes from there," he explained. "So there was desperately minimal marketing or publicity for it. With the second album, I knew I wanted to establish myself more as a guitarist, with a breadth of styles, different tunings, and so on, but also make a more concerted effort to market it and build an audience."

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also is an accomplished “old style” step dancer. Keane is one of the finest accordion players of his generation – Italy’s Castagnari accordion company created a line of signature instruments named for him – and has performed and recorded with numerous leading figures in Irish music. The concert, which is free, will be held on BC’s Brighton Campus in the Theology and Ministry Library, beginning at 6:30 p.m. See the Gaelic Roots website bc.edu/centers/irish/gaelicroots for more details.

• Aoife Clancy – a member of Ireland’s famous Clancy family and long-time New England resident before she moved to North Carolina – will make her return to the region when she appears at the Coffeehouse Off the Square in Hingham on March 19 at 8 p.m. Clancy began her musical career in her teens, singing with her father Bobby Clancy of the Clancy Brothers, and went on to perform at various festivals and concerts around the world where she has become known for her passionate vocals and diverse repertoire. Clancy was a member of the pioneering Irish-American all-woman band Cherish the Ladies, and since then has done a number of collaborations – including with Robbie O’Connell and Donal Clancy as The Clancy Legacy – in addition to her solo work. For ticket information and directions, see oldshipchurch.org/coffeehouse-off-the-square.html.

• On March 19, the day before the equinox, the One World Coffeehouse in Essex will present “To Welcome in the Spring” with Aine Minogue. A native of Tipperary now living in the Greater Boston area, Minogue is widely recognized as a premier Irish harpist and singer who conveys the lyricism and richness of Irish music, mythology, and poetry. Minogue also is attuned to the traditions, rituals, and celebrations associated with the ancient Celtic world, and often presents special concerts that evoke a particular season or major theme – such as the arrival of spring. The concert will begin at 8 p.m. See oneworldcoffeehouse.org for more details.

• March 9 sees a Boston-area return appearance by The Alan Kelly Gang, led by namesake Alan Kelly, an innovative piano-accordionist who has played with such luminaries as Matt Molloy, Arty McGlynn, Nollaig Casey, and his fiddle-playing brother John. The band, whose members also include Steph Geremia (flute, vocals), Kevin McGuire (double bass) and Murdo “Yogi” Cameron (mandola, accordion); vocalist Ellen MacDonald imbues the songs, in Scottish Gaelic, with a full emotional range. The concert will begin at 8 p.m. See the Gaelic Roots website bc.edu/centers/irish/gaelicroots for more details.

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Kind Regards,
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Real Estate Agent

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Marcia Garcia Alves
Real Estate Agent

The Alan Kelly Gang – at The Burren Backroom series on March 9.

Henri Perrot photo
ble bass) and Iwan MacPherson (guitar, mandolin, vocals), is renowned for its energetic performances and varied repertoire that includes not only Irish but Scottish, Breton, American and other influences.

Boston-based Irish sean-nós dancer Kieran Jordan will hold an "Irish Dance Party" on March 23 to celebrate the launch of her new instructional DVD, "Musical Feet, Volume 2: The Next Step" [read a Boston Irish Reporter story about the DVD at http://bit.ly/1NH5E8A]. Jordan will be joined by special guests Michael Tubridy and James Keane – who are performing March 22 at Boston College’s Gaelic Roots series, as noted above – and The Vox Hunters (the duo of Armand Aronin and Benedict Gagliardi, who appear on the DVD), as well as dancer Kevin Doyle and bouzouki player and vocalist John Coyne plus a multitude of dancers including her own dance company.

All Backroom shows start at 7:30 p.m. See burrencom.com/Backroom-Series.html for more information.

• Kieran Jordan also will perform "Little Gifts," a celebration of the creativity in Irish dance and music, on March 11 and 12 at Green Street in Cambridge. Jordan and her colleagues and former students Jackie O’Riley, Rebecca McGowan, Kristen Kelly, Hannah Pelton, Amanda Carey, Lauren Milord, and Sumantia Jones – who performed with The Burren’s owners and colleagues and former students John Coyne and John Connolly – will perform, with music by Burren staff along with MacPherson, Tubridy, Keane, and other special guests, for traditional tunes, ballads, stories and dancing. There will be four shows, at 1, 3, 5 and 7 p.m., all of which will include a traditional Irish meal of corned beef and cabbage or Guinness beef stew with soda bread (a vegetarian option is also available), followed by Burren Shamrock Cake. For reservations, go to brownpapertickets.com/event/2508135. [Read the Boston Irish Reporter story on "The Fiddlers of Inishbofin" at http://bit.ly/12c9FyP.]

• The week of St. Patrick’s Day will be quite the event one for The Burren’s owners and guiding spirits, Tommy McCarthy and Louise Costello, who are celebrating the pub’s 20th anniversary. On March 16 and 18-20, McCarthy will debut "Another Fiddler of Inishbofin," the sequel to his 2013 play "The Fiddlers of Inishbofin." This romantic comedy, performed by Burren staff along with McCarthy and Costello, has been developed by playwright Peter Holm and introduces new music and musicians to continue the story of the goings-on – musical and otherwise – on the isle of Inishbofin. Proceeds from the show will go to the Cancer Care Leaside Clinic. For tickets, go to brownpapertickets.com/event/2508175. [Read the Boston Irish Reporter story on "The Fiddlers of Inishbofin" at http://bit.ly/12c9FyP.]

• McCarthy and Costello also will hold their annual St. Patrick’s Day party at The Burren on March 17, during which they will be joined by Robert Elliot and Seamus Noonan, as well as other special guests, for traditional tunes, ballads, stories and dancing. There will be four shows, at 1, 3, 5 and 7 p.m., all of which will include a traditional Irish meal of corned beef and cabbage or Guinness beef stew with soda bread (a vegetarian option is also available), followed by Burren Shamrock Cake. For reservations, go to brownpapertickets.com/event/2508130.

• New England fiddler-singer-songwriter, has been a traditional singer from the island of Inishbofin. Proceeds from the show will go to the Cancer Care Leaside Clinic. For tickets, go to brownpapertickets.com/event/2508175. [Read the Boston Irish Reporter story on "The Fiddlers of Inishbofin" at http://bit.ly/12c9FyP.]

• The trio of Gordon Belsher and his family will be at the Canadian American Club of Massachusetts in Watertown on March 12 at 8 p.m. for a concert and dance. Wood is an award-winning Prince Edward Island fiddler noted for melding his traditional style with rock-and-roll energy, and his appearances with The Chieftains, Shania Twain, and former "Riverdance" star Jean Butler, among others. Belsher has featured his guitar, mandola, bodhran and vocals on two CDs, both nominated for the Roots/Traditional Solo Record category of the Year category of the East Coast Music Awards. See canadianamericanclub.org for more details.

• On March 26, notbly Music will present Trí Seachtá (Irish Gaelic for “three stories”), the trio of Mai Herron, Nancy Hewitt and Kyle Carey, at the Armory Cafe in Somerville. Herron is a traditional singer from the northwest of Ireland who has performed in numerous Irish/Celtic festivals, including last fall’s Dorchester Irish Heritage Festival; Hewitt, a Boston-based singer-songwriter, has been greatly influenced by Irish music and songs; Carey, who lived in Boston for a couple of years, studied Scottish Gaelic and uses many traditional themes and influences in her original songs. The trio combines ancient sounds of Ireland and Scotland with more modern music from Ameri- ca. See triseachtainmusic.blogspot.com for information and reservations.

• Boston-area Irish trio Ceol Corvus will play a free concert on March 5 at 3 p.m. in the Belmont Public Library Assembly Room. The band (Emily Peterson, concertina and whistle; Steve Levy, banjo, mandolin, bouzouki and vocals; Sean Smith, vocals, guitar, bouzouki and bodhrán) has performed at various local festivals and concerts, including BCMFest, the Club Passim Campfire Festival and Irish Cultural Centre Boston Irish Festival. See belmont.lib.ma.us.

• Emmet Cahill, an award-winning 25-year-old Irish tenor who performed with the Irish phenomenon Celtic Thunder, has embarked on a solo career. He will be performing at the Irish Club Social Club of Boston on Fri., March 18, at 8 p.m. Last year, he performed in sold-out shows in over 30 cities across the United States and he expects 2016 will be his "busiest and most exciting year yet" with touring and the release of his official debut album.
It’s March, and we all know what that means

BY JUDY ENRIGHT
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

It’s March and Ireland is full of green, with plenty of cold and stormy winter. It is, of course, St. Patrick’s time when everyone is Irish, regardless of their heritage.

ST. PATRICK’S FESTIVAL

From March 17th to the 20th, Dublin celebrates Ireland’s main man with the annual St. Patrick’s Festival, conceived to develop a major annual international festival and to promote the national holiday over which the ‘owner’ of the festival, the Irish people, would stand proud. It sets out to reflect the true Irish and achievements of Irish people on many national and world stages.

The first festival happened a year later – on March 17, 1996 - and lasted for just one day and night. But it was so much fun and so well received that it has since grown into a four- or five-day event in and around Dublin city, Connolly and a month-long outstanding parade on the 17th that draws marchers from around the world. The festivities also include a fun fair, walking tours, street theatre, music, dancers, and food.

From March 16 to 19, an Irish Craft Beer and Whiskey Village will showcase the very latest beers, ciders, gins, and whiskey offerings as well as artisan food and entertainment.

Lots of different types of events are planned, including the annual Irish Day Prawn Festival in Howth from March 17th to 19th, and Howth’s restaurants, bars, and cafés will offer pride in place specialties and the Festival Food Village will have a range of Dublin Bay Prawn dishes.

This is a wide-ranging festival with something for everyone. For more information, check out stpatricksfestival.ie. And don’t forget that no matter where you go in Ireland this month, there will no doubt be some sort of celebration honoring St. Patrick. So be sure to check with the tourist board wherever you are to get dates and details.

THE RISING

There’s a lot to do in Dublin and Ireland in addition to the St. Patrick’s festivities, including events and exhibits commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Easter Rising of 1916.

Among the commemorative events is an exhibit called ‘Rising’ at the National Photographic Archive in Meeting House Square, Temple Bar. This is the National Library of Ireland’s flagship exhibit for the centennial and showcases the library’s extensive collection of images of events and locations and the men and women of the Rising during Easter Week 1916. See the library’s website, nli.ie for more details.

For other activities, exhibits, commemorations, and attractions in Dublin, visit dublin.com or ireland.ie.

LONGUEVILLE HOUSE

Longueville, near Mallow, Co. Cork – will celebrate St. Patrick with a “Green with Envy” weekend from March 16-19. The house is an accommodation group called The Great Fish Houses of Ireland. Included in these properties are hotels, country houses, B&Bs, and guest houses that have met stringent standards, have the premises, fishing, facilities, and staff to offer a complete angler’s holiday.

KYLEMORE ABBEY

Kylemore Abbey in Connemara, formerly a girls’ school that closed in 2010, signed an agreement last year with the Catholic University of Notre Dame in Indiana, for mutual cooperation on an educational mission at Kylemore.

Americans have made huge contributions to Kylemore Abbey in Connemara over the years, including Airl and Alice Fuller of Winchester, MA, who are recognized with this plaque in the gardener’s bothy.

If you book a night or weekend at Longueville House, you’ll be very near one of my favorite Irish attractions, the Donkey Sanctuary in Liscarroll, Mallow, Co. Cork. It’s the most amazing facility and has rescued nearly 5,000 donkeys since it was founded in 1987. The Sanctuary also re-homes donkeys; it had 340 rehomed around Ireland as of December and was looking for homeowners who could take a pair to open up space at the Sanctuary for more rescues.

Paddy Barrett, his father, and his grandfather all worked over many years to rescue, help, and improve conditions for Ireland’s often forgotten donkeys and mules. Paddy, whom we met at the Sanctuary several times, retired in 2014 after 27 years of service. We wish him a long, healthy, and happy retirement.

Visiting the Sanctuary is great fun and an interesting outing. There are lots of walking paths that meander past fields of donkeys, and it’s a great place to take kids as well as adults. To learn more about the Sanctuary’s wonderful work, hours, and more, visit donkeysanctuary.ie.

KYLEMORE ABBEY

Ireland is about six weeks ahead of us weather-wise so if you fly from Boston in the flurry of a March snowstorm, you’ll land at Shannon or Dublin to the joys of green grass, spring daffodils, tulips, and such. Those are just a few things that make Ireland so appealing in the spring.

If you enjoy flowers and gardens, there are many magnificent private gardens all over Ireland that are open seasonally to the public. One of our favorite spots is the Donkey Sanctuary, six-acre Victorian walled garden at Kylemore Abbey in Connemara.

A bit of background: Benedictine nuns, who operated an internationally renowned girls’ boarding school in Ypres, Belgium, fled to Ireland when their abbey was destroyed during WWI. They settled at Kylemore nearly 100 years ago, reopened their boarding school, and established day schooling for local girls. The school closed in 2010, but Kylemore Abbey is open for local girls, and in July, 2012, Kylemore Abbey opened a new monastery for the Benedictine community.

Notre Dame for construction of a new monastery for the Benedictine community. The monastery was completed in 1999 and has since won many national and international awards and much praise. The monastery is located on the Wild Atlantic Way.

The entire property has been refurbished and extended over the years and includes the biggest tourist attraction on the Wild Atlantic Way. Visitors of all ages can tour the castle and grounds, visit the outstanding craft and gift shop, have a tea or lunch in the cafe or tea room.

The Victorian walled garden, glasshouses, and other structures have been neglected by several previous owners of the years and had fallen into total disrepair. In fact, the glasshouses had actually collapsed and only brick foundations remained. But in 1996, the Benedictine community began restoring the property, the monastery, and other structures.

The garden reopened in 1999 and has since won awards and much praise. Kylemore, under the leadership of Abbess Sr. Maire Hickey OSB, has developed a new monastery for the Benedictine community. The monastery is located on the Wild Atlantic Way.

There’s a lot going on at Kylemore and a visit is highly recommended. For more information, visit kylemoreabbe.com.

We hope that wherever you go in Ireland and whatever you choose to do, you will have the trip of a lifetime. Be sure to check online for travel deals with Aer Lingus and other carriers that serve the Emerald Isle.

And have a wonderful St. Patrick’s Day.
Another of Fiddler & Nishbofin
Scandalous Romantic Comedy Sequel

The Burren
Music Pub Restaurant

Story & Music by Tommy McCarthy,
Written & Directed by Peter Holm

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@ 7:30PM &
March 20th @ 5:30PM

Tickets $30 - available at BURREN.COM
or at The Burren on night of the show (if available)
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Cordially invite you to attend the
279th Anniversary Dinner
Response to “The Day We Celebrate” and Guest Speaker

Diarmaid Ferriter
Professor of Modern History
University College, Dublin


Omni Parker House Hotel
60 School Street
Boston, Massachusetts

Thursday, March 17, 2016

Cocktail Reception at 6:00 p.m.  $175 per person
Dinner at 7:00 p.m.  RSVP
Black Tie Optional  March 11, 2016
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wishes you a

HAPPY ST. PATRICK’S DAY
ON ST. PATRICK’S DAY, TAKE TIME TO REMEMBER THOSE WHO CAME BEFORE

Boston’s Irish have created a Memorial Park to the Irish Famine. Located downtown on the Freedom Trail at Washington and School streets, it is a place to pause and remember our ancestors and all they suffered.
When St. Patrick set foot in Ireland in the 5th century AD, he faced an uncertain future for a little-known country. War-raging Celts were scattered in tribal groups over the island ruled with iron might by five provincial kings. Kenten dolmens and ancient ruins dominated the landscape. Even the Roman conquerors of Britain had not ventured this far—apart from the odd traveler or adventurer.

As with most backdrops, St. Patrick's phenomenal success as a Christian missionary seems all the more incredible. By the end of the 15th century, Ireland had become a Christian nation.

Perhaps Patrick's elevation into sainthood was therefore inevitable. Among the countries with centuries-old traditions of celebrating St. Patrick's Day were the United States and Australia, but less obviously France and Argentina and even the Caribbean island of Cuba. Nowadays it is also celebrated in countries such as Russia and Japan.

In Britain—Ireland's closest neighbor and its biggest visitor market—the Trojan efforts of someone named Patrick have established March 17 as a day of celebration for British and Irish alike.

**Who was St. Patrick?**

The man who took Ireland from being a waiting ship in a dream—and made his way back to Britain. According to Patrick, he had another dream of monumental importance. It is, The Voice of Ireland called to him to return to that country as a Christian missionary. As a result, he went to France, some say, studied to become a Christian and a missionary at the monastery of Auxerre, near Paris, and later was ordained a priest. In 432 AD, he was named Bishop of the Pope to Ireland to take up where a previous missionary Bishop, Palladius, had left off.

**Where is he buried?**

A tombstone in the grounds of Down Cathedral in Downpatrick is supposed to mark his grave. But there are serious doubts. Patrick is almost certainly buried somewhere in County Down but it is thought that the Norman nobleman John De Courcy brought his body back to France. Deciding to visit his uncle in Tours, he had to cross the River Loire. Here he had no obvious means of doing so, but he found that his cape was made an admirable raft. On reaching the other side, he hung his cape out to dry upon a hawthorn bush. Despite it being the middle of winter, the bush instantly burst into bloom. Fact: to this day, the hawthorn blooms in winter in the Loire Valley and St. Patrick's day has two font days there—one on March 17 and the other on Christmas Day.

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**Separating fact from fiction in the story of St. Patrick can sometimes be tricky. But the legends are much oftener than not for speak for themselves.**

**St. Patrick is supposed to have driven the snakes from Ireland. Certainly, there are no snakes in Ireland. But neither are there any in New Zealand and there is no record of St. Patrick ever having visited there! Moreover the Graeco-Roman writer Suidas recorded the fact that Ireland was snake-free a good two hundred years before St. Patrick was born. The story that Patrick banished the snakes seems quite simply to have been invented in the 12th century by a monk named Jocelyn, whom the wife of the Norman John De Courcy brought to her husband's court in Downpatrick.**

**What is a shamrock?**

The reality is that a shamrock is a form of clever - Trifolium repens, Trifolium pratense or more rarely Trifolium hybridum, to give its botanical pedigree—and only looks different from what one might expect because it is picked so early in spring. It is not true that the word 'chequered' is derived from a word meaning shamrock—otherwise the shamrock should have been popular at the time the word 'chequered' first appeared. It means fairly obvious—by naming it for a further 12 days. **B. Shapley**

**What is the connection with St. Patrick's Day?**

Legends that say in explaining the three-on-one principle of the Holy Trinity to a pagan king named Langhaire (pronounced Leary), St. Patrick used the free-leafed shamrock—a convenient teaching aid. Four-leafed shamrocks are obviously not rare. They cause severe theological problems, but there is no such name on any map of Roman Britain. The date of St. Patrick's Day is determined by the calendar and not by the availability of shamrocks, so Patrick never really existed. What is meant by "drowning the shamrock" is that it seems fairly obvious—by naming it rather than by identifying it. **B. Shapley**

**Sites Associated with Saint Patrick**

Not far from the ancient capital of the kingdom of Leinster, lies the great Cathedral of Down Cathedral, with the Mountains of Mourne in the background. As the mortal remains of St. Patrick.

A large simple granite slab marks the grave where he takes his eternal rest alongside Ire- land's other two patron saints, Brigid and Colmcille, reputedly buried here in 525 AD. It is fair to say that rival claims for St. Patrick's last resting place exist and derive from the same confusion as it were. Apart from claim- ing Patrick as their own, the Catholic Church has had a history for which the word 'chequered' is much too kind—relying heavily on a tradition discredited by an earthquake, pillaged by the Danes, destroyed or destroyed against the English, it then lay in ruins for the best part of a thousand years.

Today it is hard to imagine a more tranquil or picturesque spot with its views across the river Quoile to the mainland in the north of Inch. About a mile north-east of Downpatrick, at the mouth of the Quoile, is the ancient city of Fiddler's Burn), is the village of Saul where St. Patrick began his mission to Ireland circa AD 432, and where he died. **Tourism courtesy Tourism Ireland.**
• The Charitable Irish Society will hold its 279th Anniversary St. Patrick’s Day Dinner on March 17 at the Omni Parker House Hotel in Boston. The occasion will mark a return for the Society to this historic hotel, an appropriate way to mark the centenary of the Easter Rising of 1916 and the many Charitable Irish Society events held at this venue in the past. The featured speaker, Diarmaid Ferriter, Professor of Modern History at University College, Dublin, will discuss the meaning and legacy of the Rising. Professor Ferriter is the author of five books on modern Irish history, including his most recent, “A Nation and Not a Rabble: The Irish Revolution 1913-1923.” He is a frequent commentator on Irish television and radio and writes a weekly column for The Irish Times.

• Old Sturbridge Village will celebrate St. Patrick’s Day with an Irish-themed weekend of song, stories and history during its Celtic Celebration weekend March 12-13, from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Daytime activities include Irish music, step dancing, stories and more. The Irish band Full Gael will give a concert at 7 p.m. on Sat., March 12 (Not included with OSV daytime admission; concert tickets are $12 per person; $10 for Old Sturbridge Village members). Full details of the weekend’s many activities and performances are available at osv.org.

• March 6 will be Irish Family History Day all day. NEHGS & the Ulster Historical Foundation present a day of lectures, discussion, and more, exploring your Irish heritage. At the Courtyard Marriott Hotel, 275 Tremont St., Boston. For registration information: shop.americanancestors.org.

• Beidh Failte Romhat Anseo! You will be welcomed at the Irish Social Club in West Roxbury on Sun., April 10, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. to mark the 100th anniversary of the 1916 Rising. The event will include speeches, including the Proclamation, and live Irish music. For more, call 857-719-6979.
May the leprechauns be near you,
To spread luck along your way.
And may all the Irish angels,
Smile upon you St. Patrick’s Day.

Happy St. Patrick’s Day!

Geraghty ASSOCIATES
PROPERTY MANAGERS

May the leprechauns be near you,
To spread luck along your way.
And may all the Irish angels,
Smile upon you St. Patrick’s Day.

Happy St. Patrick’s Day!
The Irish Social Club in West Roxbury hosted a lecture and reading by Boston author Ronan Noone on Sunday, February 21. The program was jointly hosted by the Eire Society of Boston. The ISC continues to host programs and Sunday evening dances as part of its mission to promote Irish culture in the city.

Pictured are: 1.) Paul Doyle, Weymouth; Ronan Noone, Weymouth; Tom Carty, Dedham, President, Eire Society. 2.) Ronan Noone, Weymouth. 3.) Mary Mulvhy Jacobson, West Roxbury; 4.) Catherine O'Neill, Dorchester; Bill and Cathy Smith, West Roxbury; 5.) Dave and Mary Barrett, Stow; 6.) Paul Doyle, Weymouth, John McGuire, Roslindale; 7.) Bill Fitzgerald, Milton; Ann Doherty, Milton; 8.) Michael and Susan Donlan, West Roxbury; 9.) Mary MacMillan, Newton Lower Falls; Robin Tagliaferro, Providence, RI; 10.) Bill and Celia Sheehan, West Roxbury.
The word for “Saint” in Irish is Naomh /neev/. Therefore, I can greet you with, “Happy Saint Patrick’s Day!”, “Day Happy St. Patrick.” Lá sona Naomh Pádraig!

Over the past several months we have been reviewing the Irish “irregular verbs” of which there are only eleven plus the copula, “joining” verb. Is. Some are “irregular” in two or three of these we have had so far, the definite past, present, and future (bi “be” and “abair”, “talk”). Others are “irregular” in only one tense, usually the definite past (cluín/chois, “hear”). One is truly useful for beginners in only one form, beir “born”, rughadh /ROOH-uh/ or rug /roos/ as in the queries, “Where were you born?” or “When were you born?”

The most complicated of these so far has been déan, not because its forms are complicated but because of all the many idioms or uses that may be made from it.

Rinne an líné as lion: “The shirt was made of linen.”

English verbal nouns and adjectives – “I was reading” or “reading glasses” – words we use to call “gerunds” and “participles” always end in –ing. Not so in Irish where each one must be learned separately. Abair, for example, has a verbal noun in ra “saying” while déan is déanamh, “doing” or “making”.

Here, again, are the verbal Irish for the Irish irregular verbs that you have had so far. Understand that there is no verbal noun for the two verbs be”, Bi and la, of course, is used to make the “progressive”, going on “while something else is happening as in, “She was talking when Bill dropped dead.”

abair “speak, say” rá Bhi sí ag raí naoir … “She was talking when …”

beir “born, laying” bheith Tá an cearc ag bheith an ugh. “There is an ear lying on the head.”

chúist “hear, listen” tú an ngaisir /KOOG-ssh/ “you are listening.”

dean “do, make” déanmh Tá Nóra ag déanamh tae. “Nora is preparing tea.”

fáil “fail, do” feic “see” feicítear nó lena feic sé. “He is being seen.”

The irregular verb we will have next is faigh “get, find”, pronounced /faah/. It is irregular in the definite past and future tenses, perfectly regular in the present tense – if one remembers to insert a “-e” – to keep the rule that a consonant must be bracketed by vowels of a similar quality even if one is not pronounced. Fne old rule of Irish, Broad to broad and slender to slender.”

Déarfaimid “I will do” in place of déan “do” and –mar “be”, bi (be). “We will speak” in place of beir “join”.

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Come celebrate St. Patrick’s Day with a special concert of traditional and contemporary Irish music, song and dance.

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