A towering, saintly presence on Croagh Patrick, Co. Mayo

Liz Carroll, fiddle in hand, is ready for St. Patrick’s Day Celtic Sojourn

By Sean Smith
Special to the BiR
Make no mistake, fiddler Liz Carroll is proud to have grown up in Chicago, and has always enjoyed playing in and around her hometown. But she’s more than happy for the opportunity to spend time in Boston.

“When people ask me, ‘Where are the best sessions?’ I answer, ‘Well, Chicago – but oh, those sessions in Boston…” laughs Carroll, whose past performances in the Boston area include the ICONS Festival, The Burren, and “A Christmas Celtic Sojourn.”

Carroll will return to the area this month for the 12th annual “A St. Patrick’s Day Celtic Sojourn” production, which takes place March 15-18 with shows at the Hanover Theatre in Worcester, Cabot Theatre in Beverly, and the Zeiterion Performing Arts Center in New Bedford, before closing out with a matinee and evening performances in Sanders Theatre on the Harvard University campus.

The 2017 “A St. Patrick’s Day Celtic Sojourn” cast also includes Irish singer Karan Casey and her band, local fiddle-harp duo Jenna Moynihan and Mairi Chaimbeul, and guitarist-singer Keith Murphy, the show’s music director. Siblings Ruby and Sam Miller from Rhode Island will be the featured dancers.

Irish minister for youth coming to Boston for the month’s festivities

Dr. Katherine Zappone, Ireland’s Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, will represent the Irish government in Boston this month, continuing the long tradition of a high Irish government official coming to the United States during the festive St. Patrick’s Day celebrations.

During her visit, the minister will be an honored guest at several local celebratory events, including the March 15 Irish Network/Boston reception at Fenway Park, the Irish American Partnership breakfast March 17 at Boston’s Seaport Hotel, and state Sen. Linda Dorcena Forry’s political breakfast March 19 at the Boston Convention Center.

The American-born Minister is a native of Seattle, Washington, and holds a PhD from Boston College. She was appointed to her post last year. She was nominated to the 24th Seanad Éireann by Taoiseach Enda Kenny in 2011, and was elected to Dáil Éireann for the Dublin South West Constituency last February 2016. A former Commissioner with the Irish Human Rights Commission (2002-2012) and a former CEO of the National Women’s Council of Ireland, she has spent her life campaigning on social justice issues working to ensure that everyone is treated equally with fairness and justice.

A month of parades aplenty (Page 3); Music and dance events abound (Pages 18, 19)

I work in Hollywood but I keep my money in my hometown—Kevin Chapman

Check out City of Boston Credit Union – visit CityofBostonCU.com

Membership open to anyone in Suffolk or Norfolk counties.
Cork Airport is now transatlantic. Fly straight from TF Green Providence with Norwegian, or choose Boston Logan via Reykjavik with WOW Air. It's kinda a big deal, Cork's your gateway to The Wild Atlantic Way and Ireland's Ancient East.

FROM $189 ONE WAY WITH WOW AIR

FROM $99 ONE WAY WITH WOW AIR
**Boston Irish**

Looking ahead:

**the March parades**

Sunday, the 19th at 1 p.m. — Boston's St. Patrick's Day Parade will kick off from Broadway Street to Route 28 in South Yarmouth. Celebrate the history of the parade, the parade route, parking restrictions, and how to get there.

**Salute Irish**

Saturday, the 4th at 11 a.m. — Cape Cod – Yarmouth. March starts at the intersection of Long Pond Drive and Route 28 in South Yarmouth. Info: 508-362-7299, capecatidapatapam.com.

**By Bill Forry**

Editor

State Sen. Linda Dorcena Forry will host the traditional St. Patrick's Day breakfast at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center on Sun., March 19. 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. It is the fourth consecutive year that Sen. Forry — elected in 2013 — will host the event, which features a line-up of state elected officials, including US Senators Elizabeth Warren and Ed Markey, Gov. Charlie Baker, Mayor Martin Walsh, Congresswoman Stephen F. Lynch, and Rep. Nick Collins, among many others.

A crowd of about 600 is expected for the breakfast, which features live music, a full breakfast, and a wide range of appearances by the state's leading politicians. The breakfast serves as a warm-up for South Boston St. Patrick's Day Parade, organized by the South Boston Allied War Veterans Council. The route will follow its traditional course 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 Avenue to end near Andrew Station.

If all goes as planned, participants should line up along Dorchester Avenue by 11 a.m., with the parade set to kick off at 1 p.m. NECN's live coverage of the parade will air from 12:30-3 p.m.

A scene from last year's breakfast.

Don West photo

**BOSTON IRISH REPORTER**

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March 2017

**Sen. Forry hosts pre-parade breakfast on March 19**

The Irish American Partnership (IAP) will honor its retired president, Joe Leary, at its annual St. Patrick's Day Breakfast on March 17, the Feast of St Patrick, at the Seaport Hotel in South Boston.

The breakfast is a celebration of Irish heritage and highlights the IAP’s work supporting education and community development programs in Ireland, North and South. President Emeritus Leary will be cited for his estimable work furthering the partnership’s mission during his presidential tenure from 1988 to 2016.

Joe and his family, brother Kevin, and sisters Mary and Elizabeth were recipients of the Boston Irish Reporter’s 2016 Boston Irish Honors in honor of their tireless philanthropic work.

In recognition of Mr. Leary’s commitment to peace in Northern Ireland, proceeds from the March 17 breakfast will benefit the RDS Primary Science Fair’s expansion into Belfast.

The breakfast will also feature special guest Katherine Zappone TD, Minister for Children and Youth Affairs.

**The Irish Atlantic,’ exhibit opens to the public on March 10**

The Massachusetts Historical Society will launch a seven-month-long exhibition entitled “The Irish Atlantic” with a presentation and reception at the Society’s headquarters (1154 Boylston Street near the Fenway) on Thurs., March 9, at 6 p.m.

The exhibition itself, a free event, will be on view from March 10 through Sept. 22.

The essence of the showing, according to the Society, is an exploration of 175 years of Irish in Boston from the founding of the Charitable Irish Society in 1737, through famine relief efforts led by Capt. Robert Bennet Forbes at the helm of the Jamestown, to a mass migration movement, decades of community and institutional building, and a rise in political power.

Co-sponsored by the MHS and the Forbes House Museum, “The Irish Atlantic” programming will include a number of discussions:

• “The Mission of the Jamestown” (6 p.m., March 27);
• Moving News, Affecting People – The Irish Famine’s Trans-Atlantic Circulations (5:15, March 28);
• “Make Your Own Comic: The Irish Atlantic” (9 a.m., to 4 p.m. workshop on April 20 that will be open to K-12 educators; $25 per person fee).

The Jamestown heads for the Atlantic.

*The Irish Atlantic,’ exhibit opens to the public on March 10*
Flying to Ireland? Let’s count the ways

By Ed Forry

The competition for flights to Ireland this summer is really heating up. The US government, under the “Open Skies” agreement—negotiated with the EU that allows near unlimited access to each other’s skies—has permitted Air to launch new transatlantic flights from Ireland to the United States. This is all good news for any Brit who is in the market for their first flights in July, using TF Green Airport in Providence. When that schedule is activated, there will be a half dozen flights per day to the US, all originating in Ireland by Air.

• Aer Lingus, the Ireland-based airline, offers daily service from the National Gateway Logan to both Shannon and Dublin.

• Delta Airlines will begin daily seasonal service to Dublin from New York’s JFK airport, with change of planes (and available seats) on July 1.

• Other options, although not as convenient, are London flights offered by several legacy airlines, including British Air, Delta, and Virgin Atlantic, with connections to New York’s JFK airport. For the year, western Massachusetts and Connecticut travelers were forced to endure skipped flights from Bradley International in Hartford.

Beginning this summer, NAI will offer as many as 12 flights per week from Boston, Logan to Belfast, although not from Logan. Europe’s fastest-growing airport is Belfast/George Best, outside of London, which has a large international airport, designated in the UK as “London City.”

In a carefully crafted marketing move, the airline recently bought a full page ad in the Boston Globe the week of July 4 advertising just one of its many offerings. The offering sold out within hours.

Aer Lingus reserve flights have been anticipated locally for some time, last year the talk had been that the flights would be between Cork and Boston. There was that enthusiasm at the time for a “spoke and spoke” system. Cork when NAI began its first flights, and flights to the states. The low-cost airline will begin its first flights to Boston on June 15.

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Joe Leary

Northern Ireland tribalism is a unique force that has created a near-permanent division amongst its people. This artificial state, set up and controlled by the British government, the Unionists forcefully rejected the idea. Instead, they elected the last Assembly, and the first direct rule from London. The balance of power is changing with the Protestant population decreasing and the Catholic population increasing. Of the six Northern Ireland counties, four now have Catholic majorities. And Northern Ireland’s Catholic population is increasing. Of the six Northern Ireland counties, four now have Catholic majorities. And Northern Ireland’s Catholic population is increasing.
History abounds around the breakfast table on the Saint’s day

By Peter F. Stevens
BIR STAFF

There is no denying that the event is literally part of Boston’s turf— that’s not a point of view, but a simple fact. At the 2017 St. Patrick’s Day Breakfast in South Boston, state Sen. Linda Dorcena Forry will once again command center stage at the annual event. She has put her own stamp on the tradition since her first stint, in 2014, as the host of the much-ballyhooed event. She has scored a political, cultural, and gender “hat trick” of what was long a case of the Boston Irish “boyos” ruling the podium. As a woman, a Haitian American, and the first non-Irish American male to run the show, Dorcena Forry continues to turn three stereotypes of the breakfast on their heads.

If you ask many in these parts how long the breakfast has been a tradition and how it has been run, and by whom, the answers might run from “always” to “since the first parade” (officially in 1901). Many people also assume that the event has always been a “political roast.” The actual answers are murkier. In fact, a case can be made that the annual breakfast started as a dinner or banquet.

South Boston’s St. Patrick’s Day Breakfast owes a historical nod to the Charitable Irish Society. The venerable organization can lay virtually undisputed claim to the first St. Patrick’s Day event not only in Boston’s history, but also in America’s. It was also the first to feature food and drink. On March 17, 1737, in the heart of Puritan Boston, 26 men gathered to commemorate a decidedly improper Bostonian fast, followed the St. Patrick’s Day parades organized by the Ancient Order of Hibernians, which numbered some 8,000 members in Boston alone by 1900. Bands, organizations, refreshments—all were handled by the Hibernian Entertainment Committee. In the hands of Ward 17 boss “Peach Jacket” Maguire and other Boston white whigs, fun, festivities, and pride in Irish roots ruled the city on March 17.

In March 1901, the blare of bands and the vibrations of marchers’ feet peaked above South Boston’s streets in the first official, city-sanctioned South Boston St. Patrick’s Day Parade. In the wake of the march came post-parade celebrations. Dignitaries in natty overcoats and top hats, figures such as Mayor Thomas Hart, stepped from the open, horse-drawn carriages in which the city’s “high and mighty” had ridden in the parade and dashed into venerable Faneuil Hall for an official St. Patrick’s Day banquet.

According to John Allisne in his “History of the St. Patrick’s Day Breakfast,” the first public mention of the gathering came in March 1869 in the South Boston Gazette. At the Bellevue Hotel, Mayor George Hibbard hosted an 11 a.m. breakfast before the parade, with the revelers including local and state politicians and military officers. Still, the breakfast was not held in 1910-1911, so it had not become an annual event, and certainly not one paid for by the city, as Hibbard’s event had been. Interestingly, no speeches had been made nor jibes exchanged at the 1869 gathering. Only when the city appropriated funds for the breakfast was it held between 1910-1920. Five years later, in 1920, a St. Patrick’s Day breakfast bore a strong resemblance to today’s repast. Allison notes that the gathering featured “Himself”—Mayor James Michael Curley—making a “witty speech” in which he leveled barbs at friends and foes alike. E. Michael Sullivan then stood and sang “The Wearing of the Green.”

Of the 1925 gathering, Allison writes: “Those traits identify this breakfast as a very close ancestor of today’s event. However, it was still not an annual event. By World War II there was no mention of a breakfast.” In March 1945, the Boston Gazette related that supporters of Mayor John Kerrigan wanted to hold a breakfast reception for him before the Southie parade. In a move that would seem incomprehensible today, Kerrigan mixed the idea because he “did not want any political demonstrations.”

From 1951 to 1960, the pre-parade meal was a luncheon—actually two luncheons. The City Council luncheon, hosted by the mayor, was held at the South Boston Athletic Club, and state officials attended an affair at Dorgan’s Old Harbor with Senator John E. Powers serving as host. Eventually, Powers’s event superseded the mayor’s, with the papers anointing him “St. Patrick’s Day toastmaster,” a precursor to the role that William Bulger would later take to a whole new level of wit and rhetorical flourishes.

Because John Powers ran the show at Dorgan’s, all the subsequent sitting senators of the First Suffolk District followed suit. That “suit” was long filled by Irish-American men named Powers, Moakley, Bulger, Lynch, and Hart. Now, Sen. Dorcena Forry hosts the St. Patrick’s Day breakfast, continuing to write a new and fitting chapter in the annals of Boston.
A Sudanese mother who adopted five orphans from her war-torn country and a veteran of Boston’s busing crisis stood alongside US Sen. Ed Markey and Congressman Joe Kennedy III on Tues., Feb. 21, as they pledged to confront the president’s immigration agenda and other Trump administration actions. With Congress in recess, the Democrats spoke at a Downtown Crossing locale nearby pivotal spots where Bay Staters rejected the British yoke, undermined the federal Fugitive Slave Act and enshrined marriage equality into law - a geographical fact referenced by the state’s junior senator.

Standing steps from a monument commem-oring the Irish Famine, which spurred migration from the island nation to Boston, Markey noted the proximity of other sites of historical significance as he urged the crowd to “fight” the agenda of President Trump. “It was here just three blocks away that the American Revolution began, rising up against tyranny, against discrimination,” Markey claimed. Speaking to reporters after his speech, Markey endorsed emulating “peaceful revolutions” that came about through public activism.

US Rep. Joseph Kennedy used the occasion of the rally to have a conversation with a young girl in Spanish. He said the new Trump administration policy “targets children the same way it targets hardened criminals.” The president has said he took action to protect the public from terrorism, and he wants to build a wall to help enforce existing laws barring unauthorized entry into the country.

Non-politicians who joined the speaking program told stories about their struggles with ethnic strife. Sadia Mohamed, a Chelsea resident who is the mother of six, including five orphans she adopted, told reporters she came to the United States in 2008 from the Darfur region of Sudan, the scene of what is widely recognized as a genocide perpetrated by government-backed forces. Sudan is among seven Muslim-majority countries that Trump had targeted in a controversial executive order barring travel by non-citizens to the United States. The order was subsequently blocked by federal courts.

Mohamed is a naturalized citizen who works at Logan Airport as a wheelchair assistant, according to a spokesman for 32BJ SEIU, a union working to organize airport workers. Four of Mohamed’s children are also citizens, one has a green card and another is in the process of obtaining a green card, according to the union. "Massachusetts will persist, but when necessary we will resist, and we will be a special place," Markey said.
Happy St. Patrick’s Day

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 Proverb

from
Sen. Linda Dorcena Forry
and Family

Don’t miss the St. Patrick’s Day Breakfast
on Sunday, March 19, 2017
Telecast live on NECN – 10 am- 12 noon
Live streamed worldwide at NECN.COM
Eire Society

Gold Medal Dinner and Award Ceremony
Saturday, April 29 2017, 6pm
Hyatt Regency Boston

Colm Tòibìn, 2017 Gold Medalist

The Gold Medal is given to a person or persons who exemplify the best of Irish culture and ideals.

The Gold Medal Dinner and Award Ceremony will feature a presentation by Colm Tòibìn.

Tickets for the Gold Medal Dinner are $150.00 per person. Make checks payable to the Eire Society and mail to: Ms. Cate McGrail, Event Chair, 105 Beech Street, #1, Belmont, MA 02478. Tel. 617-739-6484.

Email: events@eiresociety.org
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

Irish Quotes & Quotations

“The Irish seem to have more fire about them than the Scots.”
– Sean Connery

“The Irish do not want anyone to wish them well; they want everyone to wish their enemies ill.”
– Harold Nicolson

“Ireland is a peculiar society in the sense that it was a nineteenth century society up to about 1970 and then it almost bypassed the twentieth century.”
– The author John McGahern

“Though the pen is mightier than the sword, the sword speaks louder and stronger at any given moment.”

“I had that stubborn streak, the Irish in me I guess.”
– Gregory Peck

“When I get a very generous introduction like that, I explain that I'm emotionally moved, but on the other hand I'm Irish and the Irish are very emotionally moved. My mother is Irish and she cries during beer commercials.”
– Retired U.S. General Barry McCaffrey

“Dublin was turning into Disneyland with super-pubs, a Purgatory open till five in the morning.”
– Joseph O’Connor, “Two Little Clouds”

“For the Irish I have a fondness, not of the past, but of the future.”
– W.B. Yeats

“Every action of our lives touches on some chord that will vibrate in eternity.”
– Sean O'Casey

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Whether it be a matter of personal relations within a marriage or political initiatives within a peace process, there is no sure-fire do-it-yourself kit.
– the poet Seamus Heaney

“Every action of our lives touches on some chord that will vibrate in eternity.”
– Sean O'Casey

“Everywhere I go I'm asked if I think the university stifles writers. My opinion is that they don't stifle enough of them. There's many a best-seller that could have been prevented by a good teacher.”
– Flannery O'Connor

Eire Society cites Tòibín for its 2017 Gold Medal Award

The Eire Society of Boston has announced that Colm Tòibín, novelist, short story writer, playwright, journalist and literary critic, is the winner of the society’s Gold Medal award for 2017. Tòibín will receive his award at a ceremony on Sat., April 29, at 6 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Boston, where he will offer a presentation.

“We are particularly pleased to present the 2017 Gold Medal to Professor Tòibín,” says Thomas W. Carty, president of the Eire Society of Boston. “His accomplishments have vaulted him to the forefront of the Irish literary scene. His direct and thoughtful positions on matters of social importance make him a visionary spokesperson for the citizenry of Ireland and its worldwide diaspora.”

For more information on the Gold Medal Dinner and Award Ceremony contact Cathleen McGrail, Event Chair, at events@eiresociety.org or call 617-739-6484.

Irish Hearts for Orphans Benefit Dance
Sunday, April 9, 2017
Marriott Boston Quincy

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

Paintings of Ireland by Mary Mc Sweeney

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University of Massachusetts Amherst – Boston – Dartmouth – Lowell – Amherst (Amherst College)
Announcing Trump's New Tariff Plan: Bad for Ireland

By Bill O'Donnell

The current tax plan is expected to be a game changer for all industries, especially for those enterprises planning to leverage existing operations or expand their operations in the United States.

A recent analysis by the Boston Consulting Group estimates that the new tax policy would benefit American businesses by reducing their costs, thereby boosting their competitiveness.

The plan would also provide a significant tax advantage for multinational companies, which could lead to increased foreign investment in the United States. This would be a welcome development for the Irish economy, which relies heavily on foreign direct investment.

However, there is concern among some segments of the population that the tax plan could have negative implications for certain groups, such as low-income families and small businesses. There is also a risk that the tax plan could lead to increased income inequality.

Overall, the new tax plan presents both opportunities and challenges for Ireland's economy. It will be important for the government to carefully consider the potential impacts of the plan and develop strategies to mitigate any negative consequences for vulnerable populations.

Bill O'Donnell


two major ways that the border could raise the cost of doing business in Ireland are: 

1. Higher costs for inputs and outputs: The new tax regime could increase the cost of importing goods and services from Ireland, which would affect businesses and consumers alike. This could lead to higher prices for goods and services in Ireland.

2. Reduced access to talent: The new tax regime could make it less attractive for skilled workers to come to Ireland to work. This could lead to a decline in the number of skilled workers available to Irish businesses.

The new tax regime could also have implications for Ireland's international competitiveness. If Ireland becomes less attractive as a location for businesses, other countries may be more likely to invest there instead. This could lead to a decline in Ireland's share of foreign direct investment.

In conclusion, the new tax plan presents both opportunities and challenges for Ireland. It will be important for the government to carefully consider the potential impacts of the plan and develop strategies to mitigate any negative consequences for vulnerable populations.
An agency accredited by US Department of Justice
One State Street, 8th Floor, Boston, MA 02109
Telephone: (617) 542-7654  Fax: (617) 542-7655
Website: iicenter.org  Email: immigration@iicenter.org

IIC immigration legal assistance
The Irish International Immigrant Center provides free legal support and representation for those living in the United States who need and qualify. You can receive a free and confidential consultation with staff and volunteer attorneys. We are located in Greater Boston area.
For information, call us at (617) 542-7654.

Upcoming Clinic Schedule
(Clinics are in the evening. Please call for more information.)

TUESDAY, MARCH 14
Dorchester Library
1730 Dorchester Avenue, Dorchester

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29
St. Mark’s Parish
725 Centre Street, Dorchester, MA 02124

The Irish International Immigrant Center's immigration attorney talks about the process of immigration. Join us to learn more about your options. Contact us at 617-542-7654 for more information.

No strict rules; a few guidelines
Dr. Bernadette Rock

The vast majority of us want to be kind and demonstrative in our ability to know how to love and when to step back, but over time many of us lose part of that essential skill. What have we learned along the way that gets in the way of our kindness? When have we stopped being kind and started being coldly unresponsive?

A healthy relationship with food is about finding what works for your unique body, which also may be different at different times in your life. Can you always eat what you want? No, but can you choose to eat what you want and perhaps spare yourself some caloric intake?

Put it away—As soon as you get home from the grocery store, put everything away in a proper place. You will be better equipped to avoid leaving something on a counter or table. This will help you stay organized and prevent you from eating unhealthy foods.

Reorganize—Our kitchens can tend to become catch-all areas for the whole household. Letters, phone chargers, etc. can easily end up on the counter or table. Find an organized place in your home to be a central location for all those miscellaneous items so you don’t have another reason to go in the kitchen and “grab a little something”.

Close the kitchen—the 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.

Matters of Substance

An Important Lesson: Self-Compassion

Rachel Reisman, LCSW, Wellness Director at the IIC, rreisman@iic.org; 617-542-7654 or check at iicenter.org

As you do things for others, take a few moments to remind yourself of a few intangible but powerful things. You can take away from your life what we call self-care, self-compassion, and mindfulness. Being kind to oneself is extending the same recognition that we are not perfect and all experience challenges.

When we remind ourselves that everyone, regardless of age, status, or emotion, is human and experiences chapters of hardship and vulnerability, we feel kinship with others. When we Franciscan feelings and don’t judge them, just let them be, we manage them better. It’s when we fight hard to avoid them or judge ourselves, that we feel strong emotions to begin with that will end up inviting in anxiety and depression, internal conflict, and poor relationships.

As we remember to cultivate our love, in whatever way it’s shared or expressed, and the meaning it has to each of us, let us not forget to tend to our first love, respect and compassion for oneself.

Norwegian Air plans routes from Providence to 3 Irish cities

The low-cost carrier Norwegian Air Shuttle is promising to boost traffic at smaller airports on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean when it starts service to Europe this summer from Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New York. Norwegian Air announced on Feb. 23 that it’s opening new flight crew bases and plans to hire pilots and flight attendants at Rhode Island’s T.F. Green Airport and Stewart International Airport in Newburgh, New York, about 60 miles north of New York City.

Year-round flights from those airports to Edinburgh, Shannon, and Cork, in Ireland celebrated the move as a boon for family vacationers, business travelers, and local jobs and tourism.

"Everyone would rather fly out of here than schlepp to Boston," said Rhode Island Democratic Gov. Gina Raimondo, speaking that morning at a news conference at the airport in Warwick, just south of Providence. "This is about an hour’s drive from Rhode Island."

Norwegian Air’s move creates the first year-round international flights for the Rhode Island airport, following last year’s expansion of runways, building hotels, and making a commitment to hire new flight crew bases on Feb. 23 that it’s open.

The Transportation Department approved the foreign air-carrier permit for Norwegian Air International.

The company won permission from the Obama administration in December for its disputed expansion, arguing it would augment well for prospects for tourism from the US to Ireland in 2017.

Service to Dublin from Providence, begins on July 2 with five weekly flights; Service to Shannon from Providence begins on July 3 with twice-weekly flights. Year-round service to Cork from Providence will start on July 1 with three weekly flights, and service to Belfast from Providence will be twice-weekly from Providence as of July 2. Days of operations from Providence will change between summer and winter 2017/2018 winter season.

Two days of ‘bualadh bos’ at the Harvard Club, Boston: March 10, 11 (5-8 p.m.)

In the Irish language, the phrase “bualadh bos” is used to express applause, and it’s likely there’ll be plenty of hurrahs at the Harvard Club on Commonwealth Avenue in Boston on Friday, March 10 (5 p.m.-8 p.m.), and on Sat., March 11 (same time) when The Irish Writers Centre, Poetry Ireland, and the Consulate General of Ireland will present some of Ireland’s finest contemporary writers in history of Boston, the Harvard Irish America. Tara Bergin, poet and Bard of the Celtic Dulcet Howard, Nick Laird, Lisa McInerney and Stephen Sexton will join in conversation with local champions of the Boston arts world as they explore novel insights into Irish literature today.

On Saturday at 3 p.m., Paul Howard of million-selling Ross Fairly fame will chat with the Boston Globe’s Kevin Cullen about rugby, life, journalism, fake news, and the world we live in today.

This is a free ticketed event and you can secure entry by registering your interest at EventBrite by Fri., March 3.

Bualadh Bos is being produced by the Irish Writers Centre, Poetry Ireland and the Consulate General of Ireland and is augurs well for prospects for tourism from the US to Ireland in 2017.

Please come and celebrate
Dorchester’s Eleventh Annual
St. Patrick’s Day Brunch
Saturday, March 18, 2017, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
St. Theresa of Calcutta Parish Hall
800 Columbia Road, Dorchester
Special Guest Speaker Charlie Baker
Mayor Martin J. Walsh
2017 Dorchester Hall of Fame Inductees
Bill Brett
Kevin O’Brien
St. Margaret A. Leonard, LSA
Edward F. Smith, Sr.
All proceeds will benefit Mary Ann Brett Food Pantry
Blessed Mother Teresa Parish
617-436-2190
$100 per person
Reservations will be held at door
Dr. Larry Roman and Jim Brett
Co-Chairs

Congressman & Mrs.
STEPHEN F. LYNCH

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March 2017

BOSTON IRISH REPORTER
The Irish American Partnership
Supporting Education in Ireland, North & South

Cordially invites you to attend our annual

St. Patrick’s Day Breakfast

Honoring Partnership President Emeritus
Joseph F. Lacey, Jr.

Friday, March 17, 2017
8:00 a.m.

The Seaport Boston Hotel

Keynote Speaker
Katherine Zappone TD
Minister for Children and Youth Affairs

To make a reservation, visit www.ishelp.org/events/stpatricksboston
or contact Therese Murphy at therese@ishelp.org

About the Irish American Partnership
The Irish American Partnership works to empower the next generation of Irish leaders by supporting educational initiatives and community development programs in Ireland North and South through direct grants to primary schools, science teacher training, university access scholarships, and employment training programs. The Partnership also provides forums for visiting leaders from Ireland to speak in the U.S., connecting Irish-Americans with their heritage and promoting economic development through tourism, trade, and cultural exchange.

25 Beacon Street Suite 801 Boston, MA | (617) 728-9707 | www.ishelp.org | info@ishelp.org
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AUTHORIZING QUINCY COLLEGE TO
CONFIR BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

YOUR VISION WILL ENHANCE OUR MISSION AND INCREASE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THOSE WHO LIVE AND WORK IN OUR COMMUNITY.

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The Rev. James T. O’Reilly OSA Division Eight
Ancient Order of Hibernians
Lawrence, Massachusetts

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

Irish Heritage Month, March, 2017
Lawrence, Massachusetts

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

Wednesday, March 1, 2017 IRISH FLAG RAISING
Across from City Hall – Common St. @11 a.m.

Saturday, March 4, 2017
THE 146TH ANNUAL SAINT PATRICK’S DAY BANQUET
AND DANCE at the Reliefs’ In, One Market Street, South
Lawrence, MA. Traditional Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner with
dancing to John Connors & the Irish Express 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 5, 2017
24th ANNUAL CLADDAGH PUB ROAD RACE 11 a.m. (rain
or shine) - For more information: runthecladdagh.com

Sunday, March 5, 2017
OPENING RECEPTION and EXHIBIT - “A Pictorial Exhibit
of the Leaders of the 1916 Easter Rising” with local author,
CHRISTOPHER KLEIN who will talk about his book, “John
L. Sullivan “ at Lawrence Heritage State Park Visitors Center. 1
Jackson St, Lawrence, MA @ 2:00 pm Spongor by Division 8
AOH (FREE) – Handicap Accessible

Saturday, March 11, 2017
SAINT PATRICK’S DAY PARADE 1:00 pm for more information
visit their website www.lawrencestpatsparade.com, or email
them at information@lawrencestpatsparade.com

Saturday, March 11, 2017
OPEN HOUSE – Corned Beef Sandwiches & entertainment at
the Claddagh, 399 Canal St., Lawrence, MA.

Sunday, March 12, 2017
WHITE FUND LECTURE – ELLEN B. ALDEN, local author
will discuss her book, “Yours Faithfully, Florence Burke” at
Lawrence Heritage State Park Visitors Center, 1 Jackson st., Lawrence, MA @ 2 pm Sponored by Division 8 AOH (FREE)
- Handicap Accessible

Wednesday, March 15, 2017
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 – Spon sor ed by
Division 8 (FREE) – Handicap Accessible

Friday, March 17, 2017
HAPPY SAINT PATRICK’S DAY – OPEN HOUSE – Corned
Beef Sandwiches & entertainment at the Claddagh, 399 Canal
St., Lawrence, MA.

Friday, March 17, 2017
47th ANNUAL SAINT PATRICK’S DAY LUNCHEON at the
Reliefs’ 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

Sunday, March 19, 2017
DAVID D. MCKEAN, local author will discuss his most recent
book, “Lowell Irish” at Lawrence Heritage State Park Visitors
Center, 1 Jackson St., Lawrence, MA @ 2 pm Sponsored by
Division 8 AOH (FREE) - Handicap Accessible

Wednesday, March 22, 2017
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 – Sponsored by
Division 8 (FREE) – Handicap Accessible

Saturday, March 25, 2017
IRISH FILM FESTIVAL at Lawrence Heritage State Park
Visitors Center, 1 Jackson St, Lawrence, MA @ 10:00 a.m.
Sponsored by Division 8 AOH (FREE) – Handicap Accessible

Sunday, March 26, 2017
AN IRISH MUSIC LECTURE/CONCERT - Music at the
Steinway: Stories at the Lectern - performed by Terri Kelley at
the Lawrence Public Library, Sargent Auditorium, 51 Lawrence
St., Lawrence, MA @ 2 pm Presented by the Friends of the
Lawrence Public Library & Division 8 In loving Memory of
George Dexter Kelley (FREE) – Handicap Accessible

Wednesday, March 29, 2017
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 – Sponsored by
Division 8 (FREE) – Handicap Accessible

IRISH HERITAGE MONTH IS SPONSORED BY THE ANCIENT ORDER
OF HIBERNIANS DIVISION 8 and DIVISION 8 LAOH
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.
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
By Sean Smith
Special to the BiR
Blame it on Gaelic Roots.
During its time, Boston College’s famed summer school and festival provided inspiration and direction for many a young, or even not-so-young, person with an interest in traditional music. So it was in 2003 when 12-year-old Katie McNally came to Gaelic Roots to build on her nearly two years of fiddle lessons, which up to that point had mainly centered on Irish music.

But that week, a funny thing happened: McNally listened to fiddlers from other traditions, like the Scottish/Shetland style of Catriona MacDonald and David Greenberg’s Cape Breton style, and found herself getting hooked.

“I think what dawned on me that week at Gaelic Roots was that all the fiddle tunes that I thought were ‘cool’ were actually Scottish,” recalls McNally, a Westford native now living in Somerville. “As a fiddle player, I’m pretty obsessed with melodies, and I think the drama of Scottish tunes has always been really striking to me.”

That summer, McNally began taking Scottish fiddle lessons from Hanneke Cassel, and quickly immersed herself in the Boston-area Scottish music community. And over time, McNally also became a regular at the Canadian-American Club in Watertown, the hub of the local Cape Breton community, becoming equally adept in the distinctive fiddle style – related but not identical to Scotland’s – of the island.

It was only fitting when McNally returned to BC and Gaelic Roots – now an academic-year concert series – earlier this year to perform selections from her recently released second album, “The Boston States,” a paean to her Cape Breton experiences and friendships. Recorded in Cape Breton, the album features McNally with pianist Neil Pearlman and violist Shauncey Ali, and guest appearances by Finlay MacDonald on border pipes, percussionist Cathy Porter and step dancer Wendy MacIsaac, who doubled as producer.

Prior to the Gaelic Roots concert, McNally (along with Pearlman, who was her accompanist for the event) settled in to reflect on the making of “The Boston States” and her continuing growth as a musician and composer since her debut recording, “Flourish,” four years ago – and indeed, since that summer nearly 14 years ago when she first acquired the taste for Scottish and Cape Breton music.

“There’s definitely a nod to the past – but then again, aren’t we all doing that when we play traditional music?” she said of the new album. “‘Boston States’ is the name that Cape Bretoners and other people in the Canadian Maritimes have used for generations to refer to Massachusetts and New England in general. The Boston area has been home to many people from Cape Breton, so there’s a strong connection that has existed for decades. I thought it was important to touch on this, especially as the older generations are passing on.”

At the same time, McNally said, she was conscious about her identity as an American playing Scottish and Cape Breton music yet with a demonstrably contemporary approach, one shaped by her tutelage under fiddlers like Cassel as well as her attendance at fiddle camps (including the one at Boston Harbor), where there is much opportunity, and encouragement, to experiment with different styles. McNally’s formative musical experiences also have included playing in the fiddle ensemble Childsplay and as part of the all-female quartet Long Time Courting, and touring with Galician (Continued on page 21)
Greenhills is celebrating St. Patrick’s Day all month long

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Calendar of Celtic music, dance events

March 2017

March is typically the mother lode for Irish/Celtic music events in Greater Boston and Eastern Massachusetts, and this year is no exception. Here’s a look at some of the month’s happenings:

• Popular entertainers Phil Coulter and Andy Cooney once again team up for their “Celtic Crossings” show, an evening of “Irish warmth, spirit and culture” presented through music and dance, on March 4 at 7 p.m. in the Berklee Performance Center.

• Boston-area and New England performers will be in the spotlight at “Irish Music Night” on March 18 at 8 p.m. in Medford’s Chevalier Theatre.

• The Irish Cultural Centre of New England will have a busy day of it on March 18, beginning at 4 p.m. with a family ceilidh led by Cait Bracken, and music by Dennis Galvin, Nathan Gourley and Laura Fedderson. The event will feature well-known participatory dances such as the Siege of Ennis, Walls of Limerick and Kerry Set. Then at 7:30 p.m., the center hosts a concert by singer Niamh Parsons, accompanied by guitarist Graham Dunne. Parsons, from Dublin, began her professional career in 1990 and is regarded as among a select group of performers who helped establish a new, high-profile role for women in Irish music. She has six studio albums and one live album to her credit.

• On March 25 at 7:30 p.m., singer and storyteller Helena Byrne will make a return visit to the center. Her musical credits include appearances with James Teague, Moya Brennan, and Bob Geldof, and collaborations with Kila co-founders Fódhla and Niamh O’Leary. Byrne has also been active in the theatrical realms, and is founder of the Break-Away Project Performance Company, which promotes ties between Irish and American artists and encourages the development of new theater and music. Last year, Byrne released the CD “Seal,” a collection of stories and reminiscences of Ireland.

Go to irishculture.org for prices and other details on these events.

• The Burren Back Door, an Irish-American quintet that has gained a strong regional following via its appearances at New Bedford Folk Festival and elsewhere, comes to two area coffeehouses: the Old Shop Coffeehouse in Rockport (oldslooffeehouse.org) on March 3, and Circle of Friends Coffeehouse in Franklin (circlefolk.org) on March 4. RUNA uses elements of bluegrass, flamenco, blues and jazz into its mainly Irish-Scottish repertoire.

• The Bombadils – the duo of Canadian Luke Fraser (guitar, mandolin, vocals) and American Sarah Frank (fiddle, banjo, vocals) – will open for RUNA at the Old Shop.

• The Burren Back Door will host Téada, regarded as one of the best traditionally-
Quebecois quartet Le Vent du Nord plays at Club Passim March 30.

Kevin Burke, one of the most influential fiddlers in the modern Irish music revival, comes to the Backroom on March 15. Burke’s Sligo-style playing has become famous through his stints with The Bothy Band, Patrick Street, Open House and the Celtic Fiddle Festival, as well as his various other collaborations.

Another legend of the Irish revival, Robbie O’Connell, rounds out the Backroom slate for the month on March 22. O’Connell has strong musical roots in his family, as a nephew of the Clancy Brothers, and toured with them for almost two decades while also working with other musicians such as Mick Moloney, Seamus Egan, Jimmy Keane, and Eileen Ivers. All the while, he’s cultivated a career as a masterful singer-songwriter whose works like “Keg of Brandy” and “Hard to Say Goodbye” have been widely covered.

O’Connell also appears at the Coffeehouse Off the Square in Hingham on March 18. See oldshipchurch.org/coffeehouse-off-the-square.html.

All three events begin at 7:30 p.m. For tickets and other details, go to burren.com/Backroom-Series.html.

• The Burren also will hold its traditional St. Patrick’s Day celebration on March 17 featuring music, dance and storytelling with Burren composer in residence Tommy McCarthy and Louise Costello, joined by Robert Elliott and Seamus Noonan plus special guests. Show times are at 1, 3, 5, and 7 p.m.; an Irish meal is included. Go to burren.com.

• Ronan Tynan, widely acclaimed as “America’s Irish Tenor,” will perform at the Tilden Arts Center in West Barnstable on Cape Cod on March 19 at 3 p.m. Born in Dublin and raised in Kilkenny, Tynan has toured internationally and sung at such landmark events as the state funeral for Ronald Reagan, the Belmont Stakes, benefits and memorial services for 9/11 first responders, and the inauguration of Boston Mayor Martin Walsh. He has released five albums as well as a DVD of his motivational speaking. For tickets and other show information, go to bluedogshoware.com.

• On March 9, Club Passim in Harvard Square welcomes Acadian trio Le Vent du Nord, comprising the LeBlanc sisters, Emmanuelle (whistles, ocarina, keyboards, jaw harp, percussive dance, vocals) of Magdalen Island, Pascal Miousse (accordion, piano, percussive dance, vocals) and Pastelle (accordion, piano, keyboards, jaw harp, percussive dance, vocals) of Prince Edward Island. Their music, which encompassed traditional Acadian-French songs and instrumental as well as their own compositions, is steeped in the culture and history of the Canadian Maritimes.

Club Passim will host a preview show for this year’s New England Folk Festival Association (NEFFA) on March 19 that will include the Vox Hunters. The duo of Armand Aromin and Benoit Gagnon is well-versed in— but by no means limited to—Irish traditional music. Their performances are typified by driving dance tunes with fiddle, concertina, banjo and tin whistle, car-piecing harmony singing, and good humor. Also on the bill will be an energetic Fortunate Rogue and Gogoski.

Locally based Scottish-American duo Jenna Moynihan and Mairi Chaimbeul will hold a CD release concert on March 20. Eupate New York-born fiddler Moynihan met Chaimbeul—a harpist from Scotland’s Isle of Skye—when they were students at Berklee College of Music, and built a partnership around the fusion of Scottish and Appalachian-style music, with elements of classical and jazz. Opening for the quartet of Lechmere, Accord, a Phoenix-based “chamber folk” string sextet that blends traditional and contemporary Scottish and other Celtic instrumental music with classical influences.

Moynihan and Chaimbeul also are appearing in this year’s “A St. Patrick’s Day Celtic Sojourn”— see story elsewhere in this issue.

Le Vent du Nord, a leading exponent of Quebecois music, takes the Passim stage on March 30. The quartet of Nicolas Bouliere, Olivier Demers, Rejean Brunet and Simon Beaudy has continually shown energy and creativity over its almost 15 years of existence. Their most recent album, “Tuit,” shows the band incorporating contemporary material—some of it of their own compositions—alongside the traditional.

For showtimes, tickets and other information, go to passim.org.

• The journey of a young, 19th-century Irish woman’s journey to America is the subject of “Them-selves: An Immigrant’s Story,” presented by the John F. Kennedy Library and Presidential Museum on March 11 at 10:30 a.m. The interactive performance includes storytelling and traditional Irish music and dance. For details, go to kblibrary.org.

• The Reagle Music Theatre of Greater Boston will present “A Little Bit of Ireland” this weekend on March 11 and 12. The theater’s annual celebration of St. Patrick’s Day—conceived and directed by Reagle’s producing artistic director Bob Eger—features a cast of 100 and a live orchestra, with Irish music, dance and comedy. For tickets and information, see reaglemusictheatre.com.

— SEAN SMITH
**Happy St. Patrick's Day**

Corcoran Jennison is a national real estate, development, management, and hospitality company headquartered in Dorchester.

For more information visit our websites

[corcoranjennison.com](http://corcoranjennison.com)  
[cjapts.com](http://cjapts.com)  
[cmjapts.com](http://cmjapts.com)
American songbook or jazz standards – from the latter, McNally displays a throwback, old-school boogie-woogie-inspired accompaniment, with its unique Cape Breton piano man venturing beyond the conventional dynamics – the fade-in of the instruments suggesting continuity – until McNally and Pearlman take the lead, the fiddle and piano becoming more jazz-flavored variations; finally, there’s a flourish by McNally and Ali that acts as a segue into the second reel, “Black Horse.”

Another set begins with a strathspey, “The Fir Tree.” McNally takes this as Scottish, with a Cape Breton setting – that came from the repertoire of Lamey, segueing into “The Black Horse,” one of McNally’s originals, “Batimore,” in which McNally and Ali trade off the melody and variations, fueled by Pearlman’s syncopated backing. For contrast, the strathspey “Donald John the Tailor” was arranged with the piano and fiddle working in tandem – a very satisfying presentation.

Garland (version) of that and I said, “This is so much fun.” We’ve been a member of the Reagle family for while, this being our first year in “Little Bit of Ireland.”

Q. As a child, were you surrounded by music? What was that like?

A. My Dad was a professor at Mt. Holyoke for 34 years . . . he was teaching anything and everything. My Mom was a piano instructor at Mt. Holyoke as well, for about 8 years. She does private piano lessons now. There is a lot of piano four hand concerts together. Our music studio was down on the lowest level of our house. And from as very, very little, I was very, very, very, very young I was hearing classical music through the heating vents.

Q. The production standards are always incredibly high at Reagle. What will you be singing during your spots in the Irish revue?

A. The first song I’m going to be doing is “Come Back To Erin.” . . . I love these songs, they’re absolutely beautiful. Another thing, “Ireland” – I believe that’s going to be with the harps and Ali. And then there’s some fun stuff – the “St. Patrick’s Day Parade” song. And of course “The Irish Blessing” in Act Two. Very, very, very much of the show is played on the University Theatre, 617 Lexington Avenue, Waltham. Info: 781-891-5600.

Soprano Mara Bonde Ricker

Soprano Mara Bonde Ricker is the soprano Mara Bonde Ricker at the Opera House March 11 & 12.

Q. Did you ever join in?

A. Oh, gosh . . . In terms of the jazz standards, I am enamored of Harold Arlen’s “Come Rain Or Come Shine.” It’s one of my favorite things to sing. I absolutely love it. Sometimes you find a piece that just fits you. It’s kind of like trying on clothes and seeing what works and what doesn’t. It’s kind of like finding your voice.

Q. If you could invite anyone, past or present, to sit in the front row at Reagle and hear you sing, whom would you choose?

A. The first person who I would invite into my life . . . is Elisabeth Garfield. I regret that I never had a chance to sing live. I absolutely adore her. I know everybody else does too, but when I hear that sound, she makes me mad.

R. J. Donovan is editor and publisher of online-stageboston.com

“Little Bit of Ireland,” March 11 (2 & 7 p.m.) and March 12 (2 p.m.), Robin Street, Waltham. Info: 781-891-5600.

Your approach to building wealth should be built around your goals & values

Provided by Brian W. O’Sullivan, CFP, CMC, CLU

Just what is “comprehensive financial planning,” and what is it that you as an investor need to know? You will not doubt hear or read about it — but what does that phrase really mean? Just what does comprehensive financial planning entail, and what should investors request this kind of approach? While the phrase may seem ambiguous to some, it can be simply defined.

Comprehensive financial planning is about building wealth through a process, not a product. Financial products are everywhere, and simply putting money into an investment is not a gate-way to getting rich, nor a solution to your financial issues.

Comprehensive financial planning is holistic. It is about more than “money.” A comprehensive financial plan is not only built around your goals, but also around your core values. What matters most to you in life? How does your wealth relate to that? What should your wealth help you accomplish? What could it accomplish for others?

Comprehensive financial planning considers the entirety of your financial life. Your assets, your liabilities, your taxes, your income, your business — these aspects of your financial life are never isolated from each other. Occasionally or frequently, they intersect. Comprehensive financial planning recognizes the interrelation and takes a systematic, integrated approach toward improving your financial situation.

Comprehensive financial planning is long-range. It presents a strategy for the accumulation, maintenance and eventual distribution of your wealth, in a written plan to be implemented and fine-tuned over time.

What makes this kind of planning so necessary? If you aim to build and preserve wealth, you must play “defense” as well as “offense.” Too often people see building wealth as a quest of investing — you invest, you “make money,” and that is how you become rich.

It is about more than “money”. A comprehensive financial plan is holistic.

“Comprehensive financial planning is about building wealth through a process, not a product. Financial products are everywhere, and simply putting money into an investment is not a gate-way to getting rich, nor a solution to your financial issues.”

Liz Carroll, fiddle in hand, is ready for St. Patrick’s Day Celtic Sojourn

(Continued from page 1)

Carroll has been one of America’s most promi-

...
The road isn’t going to rise up to meet you all the way over there in America, you know.

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By SEAN SMITH

Gailfean, "Won’t You Come Out Tonight?" • In a perfect universe, all legendary attempts at super-sizing traditional music would get to play together in an infinite number of different bands that would each release at least one album. As we know all too well, the universe isn’t perfect, but here is the latest “super group,” if you will, with three All-Ireland champions: Sligo’s Kevin Crawford, as well as a pair of hornpipes, are highlights, as is his composition “Crazy Glass” and “Interence”), as well as a pair of hornpipes. But it does get some things right here and there. (gai

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Che bello.

Che bello.

Che bello.
Ireland holds back little when it comes to the Saint’s day

BY JUDY ENRIGHT

SPECIAL TO THE BIR

St. Patrick’s Day, when everyone, everywhere is Irish regardless of ancestry or nationality.

And, Ireland, where the patron saint’s day was once celebrated in a somewhat more somber and spiritual manner, now pulls out all the stops with fun festivities, parades, and other lively celebrations all over the country — some of which go on for a week or more.

Dr. felin FESTIVAL

Of course, the epicenter of Ireland’s celebration is Dublin where St. Patrick’s Festival this year promises some hundreds of artists, musicians, dancers, poets, and performers in a program that runs from March 16 to March 18 with more than 30 announced events scheduled. The theme for this year’s festival is “Ireland Your Way” to celebrate the Irish as a culturally diverse, complex, and beautiful people. Dublin poet and playwright Stephen Doherty was commissioned to write a poem, “My Ireland,” to reflect that theme.

The four-day event annually attracts more than 100,000 people from abroad and is high-lighted by the St. Patrick’s Day Parade, and other lively celebrations the entire country — some of which go on for a week or more.

Dublin events.

There is even a mystery surrounding the city center to Swords, where is Irish regardless of ancestry or nationality.

Harvey’s Point Hotel in Co. Donegal was recently named Ireland’s best hotel as well as 10th best in Europe in TripAdvisor’s Travellers’ Choice awards. Harvey’s also finished fourth in the “best service” category and second in the “most romantic” category.

In the luxury hotel category, the Killarney Park Hotel, Pillo Hotel in Killarney, Co. Kerry, was named Ireland’s best, while Pillo Guest House in Dingle, Co. Kerry, was named Ireland’s best family hotel.

Unlike other hospitality awards, the TripAdvisor awards are based on feedback from actual guests over the past year.

If you’re on the East Coast, Achill Island in Co. Mayo, is a beautiful place and is well worth the drive up to the island and then back down the coast. It’s a very special time of year so don’t miss out on the festivities.

St. Patrick’s Centre

The festival opens with the parade high-lighting includes Galway Arts Centre, Colors Street Theatre, An Taibhdhearc, and Galway Theatre Festival with community groups such as Foroige, GAA clubs, Amnesty International, and The Russian Culture Club presenting a picture of the city’s mix of cultural and ethnic diversity.

Cork City’s Festival, with the theme “Cork — A City of Community, Culture, & Commerce,” in-cludes a parade on March 16 and varied events that run through to March 19. For more details see corkcityfestival.ie, cork.ie, and discoverireland.ie/southwest.

Cork’s Festival, with the theme “Cork — A City of Community, Culture, & Commerce,” includes a parade on March 17 and varied events that run through to March 19. For more details see corkcityfestival.ie, cork.ie, and discoverireland.ie/southwest.

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Described as “Boston’s first lady of contemporary Irish dance” by a Boston Globe arts critic, Kieran Jordan, Irish dance performer, instructor, and choreographer, hosted an open house on Sun., Feb. 26, at the unveiling of her dance studio in Hyde Park. Among the guests were Ireland’s Consul General Fionnuala Quinlan and her husband, Ravi Ganti.

1.) Kieran Jordan outside her new dance studio, 1310 Hyde Park Ave, Cleary Square; 2.) Dan Adams and Karyl Adams, Whitman, Vincent Crotty, Dorchester; 3.) Samantha Jones, Jamaica Plain; Joey Abarta, Roxbury; Jackie O’Riley, Ruxbury; 4.) Madeleine Frasca, Melrose, Bill DeRusha and Hannah DeRusha, Medford; 5.) Jackie O’Riley, Kieran Jordan; 6.) Mary McDonald Roslin- dale; Leticia Rojas, Lauren Milord, Jamaica Plain; 7.) Fr. Jack Howard, Boston College; 8.) Sean Clohessy on fiddle and John Coyne on bouzouki were joined by Oisin Hannigan and Sean Clohessy.
On Dorchester Heights on March 17, 1776, many of Washington's troops had 'green bloodlines'

By Peter F. Stevens

BIR Staff

When 17th March calls March 17th “St. Patrick’s Day” or “Evacuation Day,” the Irish can lay claim to both celebrations. Many men bearing surnames of “the old sod” were nestled behind bristling cannon that peered down from Dorchester Heights on that day in 1776, the redcoats, or “Lobsterbacks,” were seeing Boston aboard Royal Navy vessels straining to haul anchor and hightail it out of the harbor – which lay directly under the Rebels’ heavy guns.

Commanding the Patriots was George Washington, who held a deep regard for Irish-born troops serving in his ranks. He placed such a high estimate upon their proven combat abilities that he honored that most cherished of Irish dates – St. Patrick’s Day – in an era when the Irish, especially Irish Catholics, were hardly a favorite of many colonists.

On that March 17, Washington was well aware that it was a holy day for the Irish, and that many were planning a nighttime at Bunker Hill and had just helped to drug those cannon on the Dorchester slopes. He acknowledged both facts in ordering that the password of the day be “Patrick.”

Washington also conferred another tip to his cornered hat to Patriots with Irish surnames as the British troops boarded their transports. On that momentous day, he had General John Sullivan countersign the dispatch making “Saint Patrick” the army’s official watchword. The son of an Irish schoolmaster who had emigrated from Kerry or Limerick to Berwick, Maine, in 1723, Sullivan was one of many Rebels who either hailed from Ireland itself or were the sons of native-born Irish.

In 1776, as one of Washington’s most trusted officers, Sullivan had long recognized the Rebels’ need for heavy artillery to enforce the siege of Boston. Washington had received, on Dec. 17, 1775, a letter from Colonel Henry Knox, an Irish man of lineage noting that the heavy artillery so sorely needed by Washington was available at Fort Ticonderoga in upstate New York, a Brit- ish fortress that had been captured by Rebel Ethan Allen and his Vermont Green Mountain Boys.

Knox, who had been sent to New York on a mission, wrote: “I hope in sixteen or seventeen days to present to your Excellency a noble train of artillery, the inventory of which I have enclos’d.” According to the historian James Bernard Cullen, “Colonel Knox kept his word. With an enterprise and perseverance that elicited the warmest commendations, he brought, over frozen lakes and almost impassable snows, more than 50 cannons, mortars, and howitzers. With this train in place, Washington strengthened his position and planned to make a more decisive move against the enemy.”

“Colonel Knox was of a family that originally came from near Belfast. His career was a brilliant one. He commanded the artillery corps, and the effective work of his guns at Trenton, Princeton, Germantown, and Monmouth made him distinguished among the American generals. He was born in Boston, July 25, 1750.”

Also among the native-born Irishmen in Wash- ington’s ranks near Boston on that March day, was Colonel Stephen Moylan, the dashing commander of Moylan’s Dragoons. Born in Cork, Moylan was the brother of the Roman Catholic bishop of that city, who, in 1776, was permitted to travel to the American camp in January. He wrote to his uncle, “Everything thaws here except old Pat. He is still as hard as ever crying out for powder-powder-ye gods bless us powder!”

Cullen notes: “Moylan Street at the Highlands ob- scuresly keeps his memory among us.” Throughout the Revolution, Moylan proved one of the Continental Army’s most daring and resourceful officers, as well as a personal favorite of Washington.

While Irishmen eagerly joined the Rebel cause out of a desire both for independence and a chance to settle historic scores with the British, the Crown encountered pronounced difficulty in recruiting the Irish in Ireland and in the Thir- teen Colonies to don the scarlet tunic of the Brit- ish army and march into battle beneath the Union Jack against Washing- ton’s troops.

One of Washington’s generals, Arthur Lee, another officer with Irish ancestors, wrote the fol- lowing to Washington: “The resources of the country – that is to say, England – are almost annihilated in Germany, and their last resource is to the Roman Catholics of Ireland; and they have already experienced their unwillingness to go, every man of a regiment raised there last year having tied and bound. And most certainly the Irish Catholics will desert more than any other troops whatever; and the law has been landed in America.”

An event proving George Washington’s ongoing respect for both the Con- tinental soldiers born in Ireland or Irish immigrants unfondled with his St. Patrick’s Day proclamation of March 16, 1780. At his desk in his army’s encampment at Morristown, New Jersey, Washington signed the following General Order:

“The General congrat- ulates the Army on the very interesting Proceedings of the Patriots of Ireland, and the Inhabitants of that Country, which have lately been communicated, not only as they appear calculated to remove those heavy and tyrannical op- erations on their trade, but to restore to a brave and generous People their ancient Rights and Free- dom, and by their opera- tion to promote the Cause of America. Desirous of impressing on the minds of the Army Transactions so important in their Nature, the General di- rects that all Fatigue and Working Parties cease for land or sea, the 17th, a day held in particular Regard by the People of that Nation. At the same time he orders that as a mark of the Pleasure he feels on the occasion, he will cause large Bunting and the Celebration of the Day will be attended with the least Rioting or Disorder. The Officers to be at their Quarters in Camp, and the Troops of each State Line, to be kept within their own encampment.”

For the army’s “sign” of St. Patrick’s Day of 1780, Washington’s words and the passwords “Patrick” and “Shelshel” (a scholar notes that the latter term re- ferred to “one of the his- toric personages of Ireland”).

One look at the muster rolls of the Continental Army proves the Irish presence on March 17 at Dorchester Heights and throughout the Revolu- tionary War. They wit- nessed what their country- men on the “old sod” could only dream of: the British in full flight.

Today, 241 years later in Boston, March 17 fittingly marks both St. Patrick’s Day and Evacuation Day – the celebration alike of Ireland’s venerated saint and the day the Redcoats departed Boston for good.
For Ireland, it marked the full onslaught of the Famine.

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**Disastrous response**

By the end of June 1847, the British government ceased all public-works sites as Prime Minister Russell decided that simply “keeping the people alive” superseded everything else. The new policy intended for the Irish to be fed for free through the Soup Kitchen Act, spearheaded by local aid organizations and paid in large part by taxes on Irish landlords and merchants. Once again, the British government’s response proved disastrous.

The Famine was bankrupting landlords whose tenant farmers could not pay their rent. Few people could pay merchants, and shops closed everywhere, the businessmen and their families joining the starving peasants on the streets. At the soup kitchens, demand for outstripped supply; in Killarney, only one soup kitchen existed and it had to contend with more than 10,000 people. The soups themselves — rancid meat, coarse corn, and often-rotting vegetables in boiled water — caused bowel and stomach woes for the lines of men, women, and children clutching small pots or bowls in hopes of getting soup before the pots were empty. Eventually, kitchens began to issue a four-ounce slice of bread and “stirabout,” porridge consisting of corn meal, rice, and water. Some three million Irish fought to survive on such skimpy rations throughout the summer of 1847, malnutrition and disease still claiming thousands of victims with each week.

A **‘coffin ship’ on starvation**

In a perverse turn, the fall 1847 potato harvest was not blighted, but yielded only a quarter of the pre-Famine crop. Cash-hungry landlords, large and small, decided to turn farm servants to cattle and sheep to plant, but in order to do so, they had to move off the tenant farmers clinging to their meagre plots. The answer was eviction on a massive scale. The Irish Diaspora was about to swell to unprecedented levels as desperate Irish faced a choice of “coffin ships” carrying them from their country or starving to death. In “Black 47,” hundreds of thousands had perished and many thousands of the living were boarding ships barely seaworthy that were bound for Boston.
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We are delighted to announce our Annual St. Patrick’s Day party, which is fast coming upon us! This much anticipated members-only event will be held on Wednesday March 15th, at Fenway Park! As always, there will be Irish music, dancing and cheer, special guests, and more! We will also host an open bar and hors d’oeuvres throughout the evening. Members are welcome to purchase one additional ticket for a guest.

If you are not a member, then sign-up before tickets sell out.

Become a member now irishnetworkboston.net/membership/

About Irish Network Boston

Irish Network Boston (IN Boston) is a business, cultural and social network with membership encompassing Irish-born, Irish-Americans, and friends of Ireland in the Boston area – the capital of Irish America. IN Boston is part of a national network in the United States of Irish networks from across the country under the Irish Network USA (IN USA) umbrella.

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All of us at Carney Hospital wish you and your family a very happy and healthy St. Patrick’s Day

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Vietnamese - Tôi có thể sử dụng dịch vụ của tôi cho quý vị.

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EU doesn’t want hard Irish border after Brexit

BRUSSELS — The head of the European Union’s executive commission says he does not want a “hard border” between Northern Ireland and member state Ireland once Britain has broken away from the bloc.

EU Commission president Jean-Claude Juncker said Feb. 23 that the commission and “the Irish government will work closely together during the whole process of the Brexit negotiations. We do not want to have hard borders.”

Once the divorce proceedings are complete, possibly sometimes in 2019, the EU could in theory have a hard border with the U.K. through Ireland. Northern Ireland is part of the U.K.

Irish Prime Minister Enda Kenny says that because of the specificities of the British Isles and the Northern Ireland peace accord there was agreement not to go back to a hard border that would restrict travel. (AP)

Employment tops 2 million for 1st time since crash

DUBLIN — Statistics show the number of people in Ireland with a full-time job has topped 2 million for the first time since the country’s property-driven economy suffered a calamitous crash in 2008.

Tuesday’s figures from the Central Statistics Office say unemployment has fallen to 6.8 percent, an 8 1/2-year low, while the number of people with full-time employment has climbed 3.3 percent to 2.05 million, approaching the peak levels of Ireland’s lost Celtic Tiger boom. (AP)
Irish filmmakers light up Sundance screens, then set up in Somerville

By JENNIFER SMITH

On the heels of a small but strong showing for films with an Irish focus at the 2017 Sundance Film Festival, a slew of Irish films will light up the screens in late March at the 17th annual Irish Film Festival based in Somerville.

From inspiring documentaries about a physically limited filmmaker and an idyllic prep school in County Meath to the visceral transformation of a soft-spoken farmer into a vengeful-driven vigilante, the Emerald Isle was well-represented at the Park City, Utah, film fest in January.

Three films with Irish connections were featured in the mountain town’s annual festival, which selected 113 films from 13,782 submissions from the United States and abroad.

• The rich and moving documentary “It’s Not Yet Dark” tracks the Irish filmmaker Simon Fitzmaurice’s triumph in the face of a crippling motor neuron disease. Directed by Frankie Fenton and narrated by Colin Farrell, who steals passages from Fitzmaurice’s memoir, the film leans into sentimentality and chronicles the subject’s physical decline and immense courage.

In his early 30s, at the peak of his critical success and personal happiness, Fitzmaurice began to worry about his future. Able to breathe, move, and speak on his own, he was nonetheless able to use technology attuned to his gate to express himself through writing and directing.

• “In Loco Parentis” is a gentle documentary focused around the Headfirst preparatory school in Kells, County Meath. A scene from “In Loco Parentis,” a documentary that turns its lens on the Headfirst preparatory school in Kells, County Meath.

While they are bolstered by a possessive and supportive atmosphere, her directorial hand is light, for the most part avoiding dramatic expository moments in favor of a clear-eyed look at the cycle of arrivals, growth, and departures that have marked nearly half a century of the aging Leydens’ creative monitoring of their young charges.

• A fatalistic, violent, and sharply-directed revenge film, “Bad Day for the Cut,” is writer-director Chris Baugh’s offering set in Northern Ireland about a soft-spoken, middle-aged farmer who becomes a vigilante after the murder of his elderly mother.

Donal, played by Nigel O’Neill, lives with his frail mother Florence (Stella McCusker) on their small farm. Generally at ease with a life put on pause so he can care for his mother, Donal’s relatively peaceful existence is upended when he discovers his mother dead in the parlor, apparently the victim of a vicious home invasion.

Florence, it turns out, had secrets of her own, and the film unwinds a tale of older generations’ sins coming back to haunt their offspring. As the bodies pile up, O’Neill’s grounded humanity and inventive uses for household items blunt the edge of increasingly brutal displays of violence that which fully merit the film’s inclusion in Sundance’s edgier Midnight section.

Locally, the Irish Film Festival will host its melange of “It’s Not Yet Dark.”

Benefit set to help combat Alpha-1 genetic condition

The Celtic Connection will host a fundraiser to benefit the Alpha-1 Foundation on March 4 at the Boston Marriot-Newton Hotel. Alpha-1 is a genetic condition that affects the lungs and may cause liver damage in infants, children, and adults. The disease has been found to be especially prevalent in those of Irish descent.

Many Irish and Irish-Americans are like carriers of the disease. Those suffering from Alpha-1 are often misdiagnosed with emphysema or COPD, and have usually exacerbated their symptoms through tobacco use.

Testing is available for carriers of Alpha-1, and the people from the Celtic Connection are eager to spread the word about awareness, treatment, detection, and prevention. They invite you to join 400 guests at the 7 p.m. dinner. Tickets are $50 per person.

For more information on Alpha-1, visit Alpha1.org.

Irish filmmaker Simon Fitzmaurice, the focus of “It’s Not Yet Dark.”
This month we are going to review the Conditional tense. In addition, recall that the Definite Past is a single point in time while the Habitual Past extends over a period of time.

Suppose Liam worked in a pub for several years. Glanadh Liam an orlú nuair a dhóiridís duine a neodh. “Liam used to clean the floor when someone spilled wine on it.” Both of these verbs are in the Habitual Past since Liam worked as a pub keeper for some time. Glanadh sí an orlú eis doínt a gásir an bainme. “She cleaned the floor after her child spilled the milk.” Both of these verbs are in the Definite Past since it was a one-time accident.

By now you should be able to recognize the Habitual Past when you see it written:

D’ólaíim /DAWL-eeen/ “I used to drink”
D’óta /DAWL-tah/ “You used to drink”
D’óladh /DAWL-uh/ “He, she, it used to drink”
D’ólamis /DAWL-uhmheesh/ “We used to drink”
D’óladis /DAWL-uhjheesh/ “They used to drink”

Verbs of two syllables drop the second syllable in the Past Habitual tense. If the second syllable ends in a consonant, the vowel(s) of that syllable is are dropped but the consonant remains. An example is the verb imir. “play a game or with a toy. English “play a musical instrument or composition” uses a different verb in Irish, synonymous with “sing”.

The “root” of imir becomes im. Similarly a verb like “open”, oscail, becomes oscail. Remember that the “third person” singular (he, she, it) ending for two syllable verbs is -(e)oidh pronounced eek.

Verbs that begin with vowels do as they did in the Definite Past, lenite or “artificially with” and then attach the proper endings as in the example of d’. The Habitual Past is sometimes called the “Imperfect” because it has no ending, has no definite end in terms of time, therefore it is not “perfected”.

Now recall the Conditional Verb Tense. This is one which can be used as the second part of a two clause sentence – one which has two verbs and usually, but not always, begins with “if”, “whether”, etc., Dá is always followed by the Conditional or the Habitual Past tenses.

Dá implies uncertainty, either in future time with the Conditional tense or in the past with the Habitual Past: “I will go if you will go” with me” will use the Conditional. “I used to go to town if she would go with me” will use the Habitual Past.

Another word for “if” is màí and must be followed by the Present or Definite Past Tenses. “He drank the beer if she drank it” would use màí while “if he will drink the beer if she will drink it” would use dá since the speaker is not sure she would drink the beer or she hasn’t if she all used to drink it.

Here is the Conditional tense preceded by dá. The Conditional will lenite or “artificially lenite” by using D’ if the word begins with a vowel or F. The endings vary so I chose two verbs to illustrate. The “dummy vowels” are underlined and italicized:

Cuir, “put” or “plant”: Ceannaigh, “buy” or “purchase”

... dá chaithfín ... if I put ... dá chaithnión ... “... if I buy”
... dá chaithfín ... if you put ... dá chaithnión ... “... if you buy”
... dá chaithfadh ... if he puts ... dá chaithnóidh ... “... if he buys”
... dá chaithfadh ... if you put ... dá chaithnóidh ... “... if you buy”
... dá chaithfadh síbh... if you put ... dá chaithnóidh ... “... if you buy”
... dá chaithfadh ... “if they put ... dá chaithnóidh “if they buy”

Verbs on the left are traditionally called “Type 1”; verbs on the right are “Type 2”. Good dictionaries will tell you which they are. Most of the verbs in this course are “Type 1”, including the important verb, bi. We will see more of the verb bi in the Conditional in next month’s Irish column.

Other than ceannaigh “buy” or “purchase” you have bailliúg “collect”, “pick” or “gather” and imir “play” as “Type 2” verbs – and that will all in this course. You will have use for “stab” or other Type 2 verbs.

Your “chú” as to when you hear or see the Conditional is that it will (1) almost always follow dá, more rarely when “én uair eir cá huiarr”, and (2) when you hear or see the “if” in the verb ending. The English version of the Conditional often adds the auxiliary “will” such as in an exasperated husband telling his wife, “I will go shopping with you if you will only buy something.”
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