



Cherry blossoms are a sure sign of spring in Ireland. Travel column, Page 14.
Judy Enright photo

Authors rue latest BC archive ruling

After the US Supreme Court declined to consider an appeal filed on behalf of Ed Moloney and Anthony McIntyre that the justices take up a lower court's refusal to grant them legal standing in their efforts to block an attempt by the police in Northern Ireland to gain access to their interviews with IRA activists that have been archived at Boston College, the two men issued a statement, which reads in part:

"We began this fight almost exactly two years ago and all along the campaign has run on two tracks, one legal, the other political. The legal track has almost come to an end but the political campaign continues.

"In recent weeks the United States government has been made aware of just how damaging to the political situation in Northern Ireland these in-

terviews could be and how this PSNI (Police Service of Northern Ireland) request has both dubious motives and derives from a broader failure of the parties in the North to agree on a way to deal with the past in such a way as to allow the future to begin...

"All of those involved in this campaign can be assured that it is not over yet."

Commentary

STRONGER THAN EVER

By BILL FORRY
MANAGING EDITOR

The question has been posed dozens of times in the last week from media who descended on our Dorchester neighborhood from all over the world in the wake of the Marathon bombings: What is it about the Richard family — and their Ashmont-Adams community — that is so special?

The truth is that the vibrant, caring community that revolves around families like the Richards of Carruth Street can't be bottled, capped, and shared with the world. Try though we will, that unique chemistry can't be defined on a t-shirt or a Facebook page. It can't even be claimed for all of our neighborhood, because— quite frankly,

it doesn't exist in all, or even in most, of Dorchester.

It doesn't find its genesis in the sacristy of a church, or the gymnasium of a school, or the stacks at the Adams Street library. It doesn't spring from seeds sprinkled amid the fields of Garvey Park or the marshy reeds that line Pope Park, where eight-year-old Martin Richard and his siblings chased balls and birds and flag football belts.

In old Dorchester, life centered around these things: Park benches and pews and three-decker porches where children and their charges congregated and found common bond based on a shared faith, a shared

(Continued on page 3)

After the dancing: A time to take stock

From March 24-31, Boston was host to thousands of Irish dancers — as well as Irish dance teachers, family members and friends — from the US and all around the globe for the annual World Irish Dancing Championships. The competition, which was centered in the John B. Hynes Convention Center and Sheraton Boston Hotel, featured solo and team dancing across many age groups

The Boston Irish Reporter's Sean Smith caught up with several local participants for their perspectives on the event.

At this time last year, Melissa McCarthy of Norfolk was getting used to sporting the title of "No. 1," having finished first at the Worlds in the age 15-16 category. This year, McCarthy competed in the girls under 17 division and came in third.

The question was obvious, but had to be asked: Was she disappointed? The answer was an unequivocal "No."

"I was very excited about the whole experience," she said. "My particular competition was full

(Continued on page 7)



Cate McGrail, president of the Eire Society of Boston, and Seamus Mulligan flank Sister Lena Deevy in a picture taken at a gala salute to the founder and longtime head of the Irish International Immigration Center. A page of photos, Page 17.

Stop paying big bank fees! Switch to Totally FREE Checking at Mt. Washington Bank and start saving today!

Switch to Mt. Washington Bank today
and take advantage of these great conveniences:

- Access to 40,000 Totally FREE Allpoint ATMs - Worldwide.
- 24-hour Driveup ATMs
- FREE Online Banking and BillPay
- Mobile Banking
- 9 convenient locations throughout Boston

With Mt. Washington Bank's **Totally Free Checking** and **Totally Free Business Checking**, you've got choices!

Connecting All Offices 617.268.0379
www.MtWashingtonBank.com
Member FDIC | Member DIF



MAXAM 3-in-1 300psi Air Compressor
& Flashlight



OXO Good Grips Chopper

Sign up now and choose either a Maxam Air Compressor or
OXO Good Grips Chopper - FREE!

Customer purchases checks. We reserve the right to substitute an item of similar value. In the event the value of the free gift exceeds \$10, the bank is required to report the gift on Form 1099-INT. The recipient is responsible for all applicable taxes.



Geraghty ASSOCIATES

PROPERTY MANAGERS

Studio and 1-Bedroom Apartments Available in the desirable Cedar Grove section of Dorchester.

Studios reasonably priced;

1-bedroom units; heat and hot water included.

Short walk to the Red Line.

Free off-street Parking.

Washing Machines and Dryers in building.

Call Michael at 617-364-4000

GERAGHTY ASSOCIATES, INC.
Property Managers
P.O. Box 52, Readville, MA 02137-0052
Tel: 617-364-4000 Fax: 617-364-3157



Irish sessions

Join us at **Gerard's Restaurant** for food, drink, and fun.
Wednesday nights from 6—9



Serving breakfast, lunch & dinner every day of the week
Kitchen open nightly until 10:45 p.m.

GERARD'S ADAMS CORNER
772 - 776 Adams Street
Dorchester, MA 02124
617-282-6370



Subscribe Today to
Boston's Own Hometown Newspaper

BOSTON IRISH REPORTER

A Subscription to the Boston Irish Reporter
Makes an Ideal Gift for Any Special Occasion.
Why Not Order One Today for Yourself,
or for That Special Irish Someone in Your Life?

We accept phone orders with your Visa or Mastercard.
Call 617-436-1222 Or
Fax this order form to 617-825-5516
Order today, and we will send a gift card in your name.
Enclose \$35.00 for each gift subscription.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____


Gift from _____

Charge to Visa _____

Mastercard _____

Card # _____

Exp _____



*“Landfall,” Lithograph by John Skelton (1924-2009)
Matted and framed in custom moulding
measuring 29”x 22”
\$195*

Aisling Gallery & Framing

Art of Ireland

229 Lincoln Street (Rt. 3A)
Hingham, Massachusetts, 02043

781-749-0555
Hours: Tues. - Sat. 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., Sunday noon - 5:00 pm

email: aisling.gallery@yahoo.com
www.aisling-gallery.com

Stronger than ever

(Continued from page 1)

struggle and, typically, a shared ancestry.

It was a strong and potent formula for survival, but it could also prove brittle. Many found cause to leave this place because — strong though it was — it wasn't strong enough to withstand forces of change, upheaval, the gravitational pull of a different place, the promise — often empty — of something better beyond the old neighborhood.

The chemistry that bonds modern Dorchester residents together is stronger than the ones our parents and grandparents knew. It's more lasting because it's leavened with people like Bill and Denise Richard and scores of like-minded couples for whom community is not fixed to a single creed, schoolhouse, or country of origin.

In Ashmont-Adams, the warren of side streets that cradles the Richard clan in its bosom in this time of their loss and grief, the collective identity and spirit of the place have been forged by the people themselves, by thousands of actions, large and small. All of them have been, at their roots, acts of affection: Bus trips to Pawtucket to watch minor league baseball, but mostly to belt out sudsy sing-alongs on the ride home; backyard turkey fry competitions and chili cook-offs; the early June scramble to build a Dot Day parade float, complete with a replica of their beloved Peabody Square clock.

Those who populate this place don't gaze past each other into some suburban mirage in the distance. In one another, they recognize common cause and recall shared victories — signature buildings, thriving restaurants, T stations and convenience stores, bike racks and bike stores, and an old, rusting, four-faced sidewalk clock made new again. They've staggered and stumbled beneath their shared burdens — sudden deaths and stolen wallets, life-changing diagnoses and penny-ante annoyances of city life that screech into earshot like a Mattapan trolley car as the larger troubles fade off into the ether. They've buried neighbors and plotted memorials, but mostly they've celebrated life's simpler pleasures: Little league championships, First Communions, Game 7s, and Super Bowl Sundays.

That's the big secret to their success: The people who live in Ashmont-Adams like each other. They want to live here. They enjoy their time together. They've built a world that is better than the one than they found at the start.

This week, the people came together around the clock in Peabody Square once more. It was telling that their mayor — the only one many of them have ever known — left the barricades of Boylston Street and

The Clock in Peabody Square

2:50
Marathon Monday

The clock was stopped and has been
A motionless presence in our midst
As we remember Martin, Krystle, Lu
And then Sean
And the scores of others who were injured
And the scores of others who ran towards, not away.

Time has stood still since that day
As we have lived in the moment.
Some of those moments have been hard ones:
Waiting for word from the doctors
Asking helplessly “how can we help”
Hugging each other through tears,
because what else can you do?

The clock could stay stopped forever,
But that is not who we are.
We still mourn.
We do not forget.
But the clock must start running again
As Bill and Denise, Janey and Henry,
begin a new race,
on an unfamiliar course.

We wish them the strength, determination, and heart
of a Marathon runner.
Family, friends, neighbors, and complete strangers,
we hold out cups of water and slices of orange
as the clock marks their long journey forward.

And we will be with them all the way.

2:51

2:52

2:53



Vicki Kayser Rugo
Dorchester



Martin Richard was a huge sports fan who wore his favorite Red Sox player's jersey to school the week before Patriot's Day. Denise Richard turned her focus to making the Neighborhood House Charter School's library a top-notch resource for students.
Photos from Richard family, Dorchester Reporter files.



clock last Tuesday, reached into its innards and gave the pendulum a gentle push. That's all it took to set the hands and the gears moving again. The old clock was fixed years ago and — like the community that gave it life again — it's in good working order. Better than ever, in fact.

Boxing takes hold at St. Peter's

Former pros, cops teach kids the ropes

By Eoin Cannon
SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER

After almost disappearing from the youth sports landscape, boxing has made something of a comeback in Dorchester. More gyms are opening their doors to young people, whether they are looking for serious competition or just the skills boxing teaches: discipline, composure, self-defense.

In places where the youth need those skills the most, though, instead of commercial gyms it sometimes takes the old, familiar networks of priests, police, youth workers, and ex-fighters and the commitment they make to passing those values on.

Paul Doyle knows both the before and the after phases of this phenomenon.

He spent his childhood



Alvaro Monteiro, 16, former professional boxer Joey DeGrandis, Jucilino Barros, 17, and Stephen Doran, Boston Police Department Safe Street Team.

Photo by Eoin Cannon

in Mission Hill, and the training he did in local gyms eventually led him to a New England amateur heavyweight title in 1967. A few lifetimes later — a year in the Korean DMZ, a career as a DEA agent with a decade undercover, a book authored in retirement — Doyle now runs a boxing program in the Catholic Charities Teen Center at St. Peter's Church on Bowdoin Street.

Doyle got involved when

the same men who had hired him at the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs in 1971 heard that their friend, Father Richard Conway of St. Peter's, was looking for a boxing coach.

Conway had got wind of some interest in boxing among the youths at the teen center and, after word got around he wanted to start a program, Mark Wahlberg stepped up to donate the initial equipment. Officers of

the Boston Police Department's Safe Street Team started doing some coaching. Then Doyle's friends asked him to help out.

It was going to be a long commute from his home in the suburbs, but when he met Conway, and when he got a taste of the vibrancy in the big old building on Bowdoin Street, he committed. Two years later, the boxing program is a hit at the teen center and Doyle is the lead coach.

‘The Irish Servant Girl in America’ is topic of Eire Society lecture at Fontbonne Academy

Date is Sunday, May 5;
time is 1:30 p.m.

On Sun., May 5, at 1:30 p.m., Fontbonne Academy in Milton, the Eire Society, the Charitable Irish Society, and the Forbes Museum will be presenting Professor Maureen Murphy, who will give a lecture entitled “Hope from the Ocean: the Irish Servant Girl in America.”

Professor Murphy is the Joseph Dionne Professor of Curriculum and Teaching at Hofstra University. She was a senior editor on the prize-winning effort, the *Dictionary of Irish Biography* and has edited new editions of Asneath Nicholson's *Annals of the Famine in Ireland* and *Ireland's Welcome to the Stranger*. Professor Murphy, the co-director of the New York State Great

Irish Famine Curriculum Project, was awarded an honorary degree from the National University of Ireland in 2011 for her work in Irish Studies.

A reception with refreshments and Irish traditional musical entertainment will be held at the nearby Forbes Museum on Adams Street immediately at the conclusion of Professor Murphy's lecture.

Admission is \$15 per person, payable at the door, but those interested in attending are requested to make reservations by calling Barbara Fitzgerald at 617-698-8758 or the Charitable Irish Society voice mail at 671-330-1737.

Dot's (and CM's) Kenny wins McDonough writing award

Dorchester's David Kenny, a student at Catholic Memorial High School, is the winner of the Grade 9 division of “The 2013 Will McDonough Writing Contest.”

Kenny's essay, “Next Statue for The Sports Museum,” will be displayed in the Will McDonough

exhibit located within The Sports Museum until April 2014.

Thanks to the continued support from the Boston Celtics, the contest winners attended the Boston Celtics vs. Brooklyn Nets game on Wed., April 10, immediately following the awards ceremony

held at the TD Garden. The winners watched the game from the press level at the TD Garden and experienced what it's like for writers to cover a professional sporting event. Each winner was also awarded an e-reader.

The McDonough contest is designed to encourage

the development of language and writing skills while incorporating the topic of sports and concepts such as teamwork, respect, and perseverance.

Will McDonough, a *Boston Globe* columnist for 44 years, passed away in January 2003.

The competition, presented by The Sports Museum and sponsored by Bank of America and the *Boston Globe*, is open annually to students in grades 4-12. The Sports Museum received approximately 2,000 entries for this year's contest.



David Kenny
Essay winner

Publisher's Notebook

Taoiseach has commencement date at The Heights

By Ed Forry

Ireland's Taoiseach Enda Kenny will be the commencement speaker and give the commencement address to graduates at Boston College this month, BC has announced. Boston College President Rev. William P. Leahy, SJ, will present Kenny with an honorary Doctor of Laws degree at the May 20 ceremony where 4,400 Boston College students will receive their undergraduate and graduate degrees, according to a statement from the university. BC spokesman Jack Dunn said that Boston College was "delighted to have the prime minister speak at its commencement, given the school's historic ties to Ireland and Northern Ireland. Boston College was founded by a Jesuit from Ulster 150 years ago to serve the sons of Boston's Irish immigrants. Given our connections to Ireland, and Boston College's reputation as America's foremost university in the field of Irish Studies, we are pleased that the Taoiseach will join us for our commencement and receive an honorary degree during our sesquicentennial celebration," said Dunn.

Enda Kenny has been leader of the Fine Gael party in for more than a decade, and was elected Taoiseach in March 2011. He has served in politics for 40 years, and was a member of the Mayo County Council from 1975 to 1995. The Taoiseach's father, Henry Kenny, represented Mayo in the Dail for 21 years until his death from cancer in 1975. That year, Enda Kenny was first elected to the Dail Eireann (House of Deputies) to fill the seat his late father had held. He is a native of Islandeady in County Mayo and a former primary school teacher. Kenny's visit to Boston will mark his second trip to the city in little more than one year. In February 2012, he spent two days here on a trade mission, seeking to attract new investment to his country and speaking at a luncheon sponsored by Enterprise Ireland. Also on that visit, Kenny addressed graduate students at Harvard's Kennedy School.



Enda Kenny

President Kennedy's historic visit to Ireland in 1963.

Dunn said that BC will also present honorary degrees to James A. Woods, SJ, founding dean and namesake of the University's Woods College for Advancing Studies; Wayne Budd, former US attorney and long-time BC trustee; Cornelia Kelley, headmaster *emerita* of Boston Latin School; and Mary Lou DeLong, who has served in several key administrative roles at BC. Boston College also announced earlier this month that former Irish President Mary McAleese has accepted an invitation to become its Burns Library Visiting Scholar, beginning this fall. As Burns Scholar, McAleese will present public lectures during the fall semester while pursuing research in the Burns Library Irish Book and Manuscript Collection. The Irish Collection of Burns Library, the largest and most comprehensive in the United States, includes materials from Nobel laureates William Butler Yeats, Samuel Beckett, George Bernard Shaw, and Seamus Heaney.

Commentary

A classic British conservative – and not a friend of Ireland

By Joe Leary
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

Rarely has a world leader's life been so polarizing as that of former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's. After her death and funeral last month in London, many actually celebrated as others mourned her passing.

She was a hero to the hard-line Unionists in Northern Ireland despite the fact that she signed the Anglo-Irish treaty that ultimately led to peace many years later. Subsequently, she would frequently remark that she had made a mistake and had turned against the treaty.

Her uncompromising attitudes directly led to her refusal to give one inch to prevent the deaths of the ten hunger strikers in Northern Ireland prisons in 1981. For many Irish, this was her most grievous crime. These prisoners, all young Catholic Republican men, were protesting their treatment and could easily have been saved had Thatcher modified her hard-line position. But Northern Ireland was at war with itself, attitudes were frozen, and Thatcher refused to compromise. The ten protesters died in a span of seven months; change finally came but not soon enough to save lives.

The leader of the hunger strikers, Bobby Sands, was the first to die at 27 years old. Ironically, he was elected to the British Parliament in the month before

Joe Leary

he died, taking advantage of an unexpected opening. All this was just too much for the Conservatives, who immediately changed the law to make sure it wouldn't happen again.

In Ireland, the view of many is that Thatcher's unyielding positions with regard to the hunger strikers prolonged the conflict. There was much rioting and turmoil both in the prison and in major Northern Ireland cities. Even today, 32 years later, deep scars remain.

The reactions to the death of Margaret Thatcher are mostly guided by where people stand on the political spectrum, liberal or conservative, and she was the firm leader of Britain's Conservative party. But beyond her British constituency, she found favor for her views from the likes of Dick Cheney and Henry Kissinger here in the United States, both of whom attended her funeral in London.

Much has been made of her friendship with Ronald Reagan when he was our president, but the president alienated far fewer people than the prime minister during their contemporaneous administrations. And when Reagan died there were no celebrations.

Perhaps it was the "war" with Argentina over the Falkland Islands that further encouraged a hardened Thatcher. The islands, set approximately 7,000 miles from London off the coast of Argentina, had been a source of dispute for many years. The Argentines, however foolishly, decided to occupy the islands unilaterally by invading the small British community.

Off the Bench

Mother Ireland is calling, and the Irish are gathering'

By James W. Dolan
SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER

They'll be coming from around the world to celebrate the "Gathering" this summer in Ireland. Those with roots in the motherland are being summonsed home to celebrate their heritage.

"They all look like us," will be the common observation as the Irish convene in the land from which so many departed in the past two centuries. The dialects of America, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand will mix with the musical rhythm of the brogue.

The Irish are a proud people. Some are still trying to get over the fact that Christ did not choose Ireland as his birthplace. Why did he favor the arid deserts of the Mideast over the green grandeur of the Erin Isle?

"Surely it's because we would have treated him better and there'd have been no redemption," one wag observed. "If he was Irish, they'd be hearing confessions at the pub. Come to think of it, they do but without absolution," commented another.

During the diaspora most left grieving. Their ancestors will return with an appreciation of what was gained and what was lost as the Irish spread their unique gifts around the world. With no natural resources to export, Ireland sent its people. Most left willingly but under duress; others were transported on prison ships.

The echo of their grief still resounds in the wind that blows from the sea through the rugged hills and valleys of this majestic land.

On they came with little but their faith, determination, and good humor. Wherever they settled, that country was richer for it. They joined armies, and built canals, railroads, and bridges. As their numbers



Margaret Thatcher

British pride could not allow such an affront even though ownership of the islands was of very little value. More than 1,000 men and women died as the British Navy and SAS troops retook the territory. Thatcher was considered a hero for her role in protecting British sovereignty on the islands.

But her main problems were at home. She became prime minister in May 1979 after the Conservatives won the Parliamentary elections. She faced the Hunger strikers in 1981, the Argentines in 1982, and the Scottish miners and their unions from 1981 through 1985. It is the miners in Scotland and other parts of northeast England who are the most bitter and unforgiving of Thatcher and the Conservatives. She presided over the sale of state assets to wealthy businessmen, closed mines, and initiated a new local tax system that was essentially a flat tax (the dream of the American wealthy).

Thatcher's party has been destroyed in Scotland. When she took over in 1979 the conservatives won 22 seats there. By 1997 the party had lost all of them. Prime Minister David Cameron today has only one Scottish conservative in the House of Commons.

Thatcher was deposed by her own party in 1990 when its leaders, frustrated by the ways and means of the "Iron Lady," forced her to resign. In the end, they were afraid of their own jobs as Margaret Thatcher's brand of government had become too great a burden.

grew, they used their brains as well as their brawn to influence the course of history.

Politics was a natural outlet. Taking care of your own combined with wit and persuasion proved a winning formula for political success. Those achievements translated into opportunities in education and business. With power came assimilation but the Irish retain a strong connection to their motherland, with its natural beauty and music but, most of all, its people.

They spring from a land of contradictions; ruggedly beautiful but forlorn, connected but isolated. There is a sadness swirling from the depths of its troubled history that drink and gaiety can, at least for a time, dispel.

Irish literature and humor erupted from its troubles like some volcanic residue; literature to describe and explain; music and humor to lift spirits. To be Irish is to understand the futility of it all yet know the difference between defeat and surrender.

Faith is the light that makes the darkness bearable. Humor makes it fun. It's what permits the Irish to see the human condition in a way that makes even sorrow and tragedy a source of amusement.

Ireland is a poem that needs to be experienced; a mother in a land of farewells forever mourning her lost children.

So come and enjoy the people who can have a good time and laugh at themselves even when things look bleak. If they can enjoy a party under such circumstances, imagine the fun you'll have at a joyful time like the "Gathering." Slainte!

James W. Dolan is a retired Dorchester District Court judge who now practices law.



BOSTON IRISH REPORTER

The Boston Irish Reporter is published monthly by:

Boston Neighborhood News, Inc.,
150 Mt. Vernon St., Suite 120, Dorchester, MA 02125
news@bostonirish.com www.bostonirish.com

Mary C. Forry, President (1983-2004)

Edward W. Forry, Publisher

Thomas F. Mulvoy Jr., Managing Editor

William P. Forry, Contributing Editor

Peter F. Stevens, Contributing Editor

News Room: (617) 436-1222

Ads: (617) 436-1222

Fax: (617) 825-5516 news@bostonirish.com
On The Web at www.bostonirish.com

Date of Next Issue: June, 2013

Deadline for Next Issue: Wednesday, May 22 at 2 p.m.

Published monthly in the first week of each month.

The Boston Irish Reporter is not liable for errors appearing in advertisements beyond the cost of the space occupied by the error. The right is reserved by The Boston Irish Reporter to edit, reject, or cut any copy without notice.



Lighted candles and flags in hand, thousands gathered at Garvey Park in Neponset on Tuesday night to mourn the deaths of Martin Richard and two others and the injuries to scores more in Monday's marathon bomb attacks.
Chris Lovett photo

'Here I am, part of this. We all are'

BY ADAM FEENEY

I thought I was fine, but as I lay my head down on my pillow last night, the tears started flowing. I think of eight-year-old Martin Richard, who lived on Carruth Street, the same street where my grandparents lived for decades and just a short jaunt from my childhood home on Milton Street. I think of the excitement I had at that age of going "in town" with my mom, taking the T out of my little world of Cedar Grove and into the bustling metropolis beyond.

I think of being a young teenager, considering myself badass for meandering the Back Bay after class at Boston Latin; a young urban sophisticate in my mind swaggering down Boylston and Newbury. I think of my first summer job at the aquarium and the pride I had in showing people from around the world a piece of my city.

I think of Marathon Mondays at BC—the excite-

ment, the revelry. I think of the year I spent hours screaming words of encouragement to runners at the conclusion of Heartbreak Hill; my voice sore and my head pounding from cheering on fellow Eagles, friends, young guys exuberantly doling out high-fives as their adrenaline pumps. I think of the older woman struggling, my words of encouragement unexpectedly receiving a response. "Thank you...thank you...thank you," she said while quickly grasping my hand, her strength wavering but her determination intact—the voices and cheers from the crowd acting as a bulkhead that wouldn't let her slip away.

I received a forwarded e-mail yesterday telling of a BC alumnus, a few years older than me, and his wife having each lost a leg on Monday. He took part in the same OL program I did. He most likely spent his Marathon Mondays at BC the same way, loving every minute of it.

Boston is the only place I'll ever be able to truly call home. I think of the evening spent in the home of a West Roxbury couple, both Duke graduates, hosting me in an informational interview as part of my application there. At one point the wife said, "No matter where you end up, or for how long, when you come back to Boston, it will still feel like home. You come back and it feels like you never left." The husband, not from the area, chimed in and said, "She's right, and she's lucky to be from here."

I've been frustrated with the city, bored of the city, suffocated by it, embarrassed by some of its actions, proud of it, fascinated by it, in awe of its beauty, its history, its heritage. Boston is family and when family hurts, I hurt. I didn't want to make myself part of this. I was safely tucked away in my office in the financial district on Monday afternoon and everyone I know and love was unharmed. But here I am, part of this. We all are.

Adam Feeney lives in Cedar Grove.

A RECEDING GREEN WAVE

BY PETER F. STEVENS
BIR STAFF

For nearly all of the 20th century, the Boston Irish had a lock—even a stranglehold—on the office of mayor. Not until the outgoing Tom Menino followed Ray Flynn in the post was the near-monopoly of old sod descendants truly broken. Now, as

the field to follow Menino takes shape for 2013, a trio of well-known locals with green bloodlines might possibly get back the job once held by the likes of James Michael Curley, John "Honey Fitz" Fitzgerald, John B. Hynes, Kevin White, and Flynn.

The Boston Irish contenders are City Councillor John R. Connolly, State Representative Martin J. Walsh, and **Daniel F. Conley**, the Suffolk District Attorney, a former city councillor from Hyde Park.

Only time will reveal if any of the triumvirate will be sitting where Menino still holds sway, or whether another local stalwart such as City Councillor Felix Arroyo wins, which would make him the first minority to win the mayor's seat. Even if Connolly, Walsh, or Conley pull it off, demographics will make any new Boston Irish mayoral choke-hold unlikely in the future, and their chances for victory will not be as daunting as were those of the city's first Irish mayor, Hugh O'Brien. O'Brien was not only of Boston, but also of Ireland itself. He was sworn in as the city's first Irish-born mayor on Jan. 5, 1885. To many Yankees and Brahmins, his ascent represented a once unthinkable development in a region notable for its antipathy toward Irish Catholics.

O'Brien's odyssey to the top of the heap in Boston politics began in 1832 when his parents emigrated from Ireland to Boston with their five-year-old son. He displayed a considerable intelligence early on, but was yanked from the city's public school system as a twelve-year-old to work as an apprentice to a printer for the *Boston Courier*. A tradesman's future beckoned the youth, lucky that he could escape the low-paying and in-



Hugh O'Brien

secure street sweeping or dockside work so many of his fellow Irish immigrants were forced to take. Young O'Brien, however, set his eyes on a far loftier future—one amid the rarefied circles of Yankee commerce.

Following his stint at the *Courier*, O'Brien took a slot at the private printing firm of Tuttle, Dennett and Chisholm on School Street, learning the ins and outs not only of printing but also of publishing his own paper, the *Shipping and Commercial List*. His publication proved a smash hit among Yankee merchants and Brahmin financiers who depended in any way upon the flow of goods and business news across Boston's docks. The Irish Catholic had garnered quite a feat in making himself indispensable to well-heeled Protestants whose Back Bay and Beacon Hill brownstones generally meant only one thing to immigrants of "the old sod"—backbreaking work as maids or handymen. Brahmins who mocked "Paddy, the hopeless, witty Irishman, given to drink and quick to tears and laughter, who loved nothing more than 'rows and ructions,' and Bridget, the chaste and prudent but comically ignorant serving girl," looked grudgingly

The 2013 mayor's race in Boston reflects how much things have changed since an Irishman first claimed the post nearly 130 years ago

at O'Brien in a different light. Many upscale sorts began to view him as an anomaly—one of the "good Irish."

O'Brien's business value to New England merchants and moguls notwithstanding, the question of how far the ambitious publisher could rise among what historian George Potter termed the "Irish-hating ice-circles of Yankeeland" intrigued local Democratic leaders who ruled the city's Irish neighborhoods. In 1875, the forty-nine-year-old businessman won election to Boston's Board of Alderman, and the watchful eyes of the Irish community noticed when, over the next seven years, even hard-boiled Yankees lauded his "conscientious hard work."

As a self-made man embracing New England traditions of industriousness and self-discipline, O'Brien belied the vicious stereotypes of "Paddy and Bridget" espoused by Brahmins inside their boardrooms, clubs and mansions and by Yankee tradesmen on construction sites and in local watering holes. The burgeoning Democratic luminaries of the Irish community first put O'Brien's political palatability to Yankees to the test in late 1883 by nominating the publisher and alderman as the party's mayoral candidate.

In the weeks before voters hit the polls, many Yankees recoiled against the notion of an Irish-born mayor. Then they attacked his character—but not with the ethnic "ammunition" many Bostonians expected. The *Boston Transcript*, the political conduit of conservative Protestants, did not assail O'Brien's birthplace or his "Papist" religion, but raised allegations of his "junketeering" as an alderman.

On election night, the Irish turned out in force for their candidate, a man whose financial outlook shared more in common with his Protestant and Republican foe, Augustus Man, than with fellow immigrants. O'Brien lost the election, but by a narrow margin.

A year later, the name of Hugh O'Brien once again topped the Democratic mayoral ticket, and enough Yankee voters swallowed misgivings about an Irish-born candidate and helped the immigrant poor sweep him into office. His campaign platform of lower taxes and his demonstrated ability as an alderman to back that promise had proven a fiscal siren song too sweet to resist for many Brahmins.

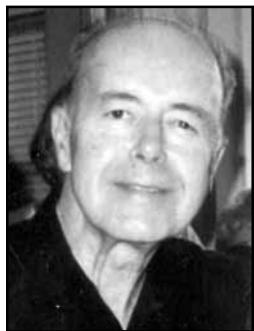
Hugh O'Brien took the oath of office on January 5, 1885, heralding a new political era for Boston and for the region. He wasted little time in keeping his campaign promises of sound spending and lower taxes, worked to improve the city's parks and roads and helped to lay the groundwork of the Boston Public Library, a site where even "Paddy and Bridget" would be allowed to read and study.

O'Brien would hold the office until 1889, winning reelection. Still, not until 1903, when Patrick Collins won the mayor's race, would the Irish dominance of the job begin. Boston has changed greatly in the past two decades with other immigrant groups and minorities beginning to flex their rightful political muscle in the way that the ward bosses once did. Connolly, Walsh, or Conley might well win, but don't expect another historical "green wave" washing over the mayor's office.

Boston Irish Reporter’s Here & There

By **BILL O'DONNELL**

Five Days In April – It was five fever-pitch days glued to the television not unlike the televised national mourning when **John F. Kennedy** was assassinated and buried half a century ago, in November 1963. The recent real-life TV drama was bomb blasts, deaths, and maiming, sprinkled with extraordinary humanity and an end-game manhunt with all the drama of an ad hoc documentary. Fifty years ago we were also linked by television in bidding a somber, tearful farewell to



Bill O'Donnell

a young and glamorous president. This time, what began on Boylston Street at the Boston Marathon finish line was a physical and psychic invasion, an obscenity that shattered Boston and the world for a few dreadful days and proved ultimately that our city, often thought of as cold, austere and a tad too proper, has more than its share of duende and heart. London, New York and cities across the continent echoed that heart in a bonding display

of love and allegiance.

“Boston Strong,” Big Papi, Tom Menino, top Boston cop **Ed Davis**, the first responders, the doctors and nurses at Boston’s world famous hospitals, the Watertown and Boston police, and the anonymous men and women who raced toward the smoking bomb blast to soothe and save the wounded. They all enabled us to get through it.

It was the ecstatic people from the Watertown neighborhood who gathered and cheered when the younger brother, **Dzhokhar Tsarnaev**, was finally flushed out. It was the *Boston Globe’s* full-throated coverage throughout the five days, with special “Terror at the Marathon” sections. It was **Kevin Cullen** leading the charge, along with his fellow columnists and a score of reporters who made the five days tolerable and even understandable.

It was the FBI leading the task force with the round-the-clock vetting of thousands of feet of tapes and still photographs to pinpoint the two bombers and get their likenesses out to the public in astonishingly swift time. At Fenway it was the crowd celebrating “Boston Strong” with **Neil Diamond** flying into Boston on a 4:30 a.m. flight from Los Angeles to lead the fans in his paean to Red Sox Nation, “Sweet Caroline.”

We lost four precious, innocent people to the violence of the two evil bastards who took our nation’s gifts and then spit in our faces. Scholarships, free rides at state colleges, citizenship for one brother, and a life far from the ugly madness in the Chechnya region begot IED-type, backpack-wrapped bombs that ripped apart the victims on Boylston Street. But courage, compassion, kindness, and the resolute spirit of the city of my birth got us through the ordeal and will carry the day come next Patriots Day run and beyond. Count on it!

Maze Prison OK’d For Museum, Peace Centre– The Maze Prison, or, as the IRA knew it, the H-Blocks, has passed yet another planning checkpoint and by virtue of the approval by Stormont’s Planning Minister, **Alex Attwood**, is now on the road to becoming a museum of the Troubles and a conflict resolution center. It has not been an easy or non-contentious process, with unionist politicians expressing fears that the site of the hunger strikers deaths more than 30 years ago will become a “shrine to terrorism.”

The former prison, which housed both republican and loyalist prisoners, closed in 2000 when its prisoners were released under terms of the Good Friday Agreement. The buildings to be conserved are the H6 prison block, the hospital, the emergency control building, and the chapel. The site, outside Belfast, was originally farmland and later an airfield.

Supporters of the site envision it becoming a solid tourist site and an anchor attraction for wider development and the creation of as many as 5,000 jobs. Reconstruction with additions is set to start later this year, officials said.

Ireland’s President No Mere Seat-Warmer – **Michael D. Higgins** was the oldest candidate in the 2011 election to succeed **Mary McAleese** as president. Prior to his election, he had for several decades represented Galway in the Irish parliament. Early in his life he had lived in the US and was a frequent visitor to Boston in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

Constitutionally, the Irish presidency is a ceremonial position and the holder of the office is discouraged, and generally prohibited, from discussing serious government policy issues. Despite the prescribed role, President Higgins is a plain-spoken man who never let politics get in the way of his candor or his conscience.

His most recent speeches have dealt with Europe’s economic policies, which he called “the great flaw of our times” while criticizing the EU’s austerity programs in response to the recession as a “crisis of legitimacy.” Higgins’s speech to the European Parliament in Strasbourg drew repeated and enthusiastic applause.

In a more recent speech, the president again displayed his direct, no-nonsense approach when he was heavily critical of the Irish banks and their reckless behavior that contributed to the crisis that has forced Ireland to seek and receive hefty bailouts from the EU and the IMF.

Rogue Trader Who Lost a Billion Plus Now Advises Debtors–Some readers might remember Barings Bank currency trader **Nick Leeson**, who became

internationally famous in 1995 when he managed to lose \$1.3 billion of his bank’s money betting on risky trades. His trades were responsible for the collapse of his employer after 233 years in business.

Now some 18 years later, after he served a prison sentence, Leeson landed in Galway, keeping himself alive with after-dinner speeches on a topic he is keenly familiar with: risk management. He is in partnership in a Dublin financial services firm that specializes in advising distressed borrowers, at a minimum those who owe at least \$1.3 million. He has a similar business in the North, advising debtors who owe \$6 million or more.

You can’t make these things up.

Ironic Justice Prevails In Galway – In a recent agreement between the Sisters of Charity and the agency, COPE, which specializes in helping victims of domestic violence, a former Magdalen Laundry will become the newest shelter for women and children in need. In days gone past, the laundry housed hundreds of girls and young women who had become pregnant or were stubborn and were incarcerated under harsh conditions in laundries and other institutions run by the Catholic Church and marginally overseen by the Irish government of the day.

The Galway Magdalen Laundry had a capacity of roughly 110 at its peak in the 1950s and was closed in 1984. The Magdalen Laundries over the years had some 10,000 women sentenced to live in laundry locations. Currently, there are about 1,000 former Magdalen residents still living who qualify for indemnity payments for the years they were institutionalized. That award process is active and ongoing.

Did You Know That ... She was known throughout England and Ireland as the “Joan of Arc” of the English prisons? **Sister Sarah Clarke**, a member of the La Sainte Union Sisters, was born in Eyrecourt, Co. Galway, and became a nun in 1939. She spent more than 50 years fighting for prisoner rights in British jails and was a major contributor in helping to free the unjustly convicted Irish men and women involved in what are known as the Birmingham Six, the Guildford Four, and the Maguire cases. All innocent, all ultimately freed.

Russian Delegation Commuting To G8 Summit in the North – The Russian official group that President **Vladimir Putin** will lead at the June G8 summit in Lough Erne, Co. Fermanagh, will not be staying in the North during the conference but instead will be spending overnight at Sligo’s Clarion Hotel. The Russian delegation has block-booked the hotel’s 162 rooms and will make the 130-minute round trip highway commute each day. Some have suggested that security considerations have prompted the Russians to avoid overnighting in the North, or it may be attributed to current diplomatic tensions between Russia and another G8 attendee, Britain.

Opportunists Use Boston Bombs to Dampen Immigration Bill – The surviving brother of the duo that unleashed two devastating shrapnel bombs on Boylston Street during the Boston Marathon had not even been when the anti-immigration drumbeat began. In a shameless attempt to dampen the hopes for comprehensive immigration reform or to possibly skewer the work of the bipartisan Senate group, elements, some from the GOP, have begun questioning a plan to allow millions of immigrants a path to citizenship using the Boston bombings as justification. Rubbish!!!

Sen. **Charles Grassley** (R-Iowa) is suggesting that the terrorist bombings should become part of the debate and several Republican voices have surfaced, sensing a moment in time to seek

some retrenching in the move to reform the present dysfunctional system.

The move to side track or minimize immigration reform is a clumsy political ploy by nativist elements and anti-Obama forces who favor Romney’s discredited “self deportation” and do not represent reasonable public opinion, or so the polls suggest.

Thatcher Passing Roils Britain, Ireland –The late British Prime minister **Margaret Thatcher** was, to deal in understatement, the least liked British leader since **Oliver Cromwell**. A conservative’s conservative, the grocer’s daughter had spine to spare but it was rarely if ever used to enhance civil liberties or democracy, or to bring people together. She destroyed the British miners and their jobs, followed a disastrous policy of privatization, pitted the working class against the privileged, and took immense pleasure in showing the Irish, in virtually all matters, a disdain bordering on a long-nourished prejudice against her neighboring island and its people.

She was an enthusiastic supporter of Apartheid South Africa during its worst abuses, called **Nelson Mandela** “a terrorist”; she championed one of South America’s bloodiest dictators, **Pinochet**, even as he stood indicted by the world court; she thought the Irish in Northern Ireland should be sent off to the Republic in the south if they didn’t like the North; she refused to grant political status to the Irish prisoners and hunger strikers and relented only after ten had died; and she was infamous for calling the Irish (presumably Ireland’s acclaimed diplomatic corps) “all liars” and not to be trusted. Not to leave out the Falklands’ war, where she ordered the sinking of the Belgrano as it was retreating to safety, unnecessarily killing many on the ship.

There was great jubilation over Thatcher’s recent death coming from London, and Derry and Belfast. During her official funeral in London many residents of the British capital, likely some Irish but surely many

Britons, turned their backs as her funeral cortege passed. Long bitter memories surfaced for the so-called Iron Lady, who was unceremoniously dumped by her long-suffering former Tory allies in 1990.

Lahinch Golf Club Losing Members, Revenue – One of Ireland’s premier golf clubs is having some financial problems that are mostly attributable to a troubling decline in dues-paying members – some 500 have been lost in the past few years. The Lahinch club, founded in 1892, had a profit decline of 46 percent last year as well as a decline in overseas club memberships.

However, the famed golf club remains a financially viable enterprise, with a memorable course layout and is in no danger of closing its famed facility.

Seamus Connolly Papers On Exhibit At BC – **Seamus Connolly**, a world renowned Irish musician, performer, and teacher, and the Sullivan Artist-in-Residence at Boston College, has had his papers on exhibit at the Burns Library since the beginning of the year. The papers and material from the long and rich professional life of the ten-time Irish solo fiddle champion are available for viewing at the Burns until May 23. Also on exhibit until later this month with the Connolly material are additional items from the Burns Library Irish collections.

Versatile Actor & Pro Dead At 86–**Milo O’Shea** was the consummate pro, an actor who could play comedy or drama and bring a unique style to everything he touched on stage, movies, or TV. I chatted with Milo on several occasions and he was unfailingly gentle, a bit courtly, and without a hint of the legend he had gracefully grown into. I recall disliking the venal judge character he played in “The Verdict,” shot here in Boston, and after meeting him could hardly believe he was the same man. But that was Milo the actor on film and on stage. A pro.

As Leopold Bloom in “Ulysses,” he set the tone perfectly and to a large extent owned the movie and his character. Milo worked all the time – on Irish television with mutual friends, and on stage, beginning at the venerable Gate Theatre in Dublin. Later he spent most of his time in the US, with his wife, the actress **Kitty Sullivan**. He appeared in the finale of “Cheers,” among other American TV shows.

RANDOM CLIPPINGS

Ireland’s tourism, car rental and hotels are doing something right. Newest polling shows that efforts to bring down prices are working, with most visitors believing that Ireland is a cost efficient value destination. ... Our National Idiot (he has earned the title), **Donald Trump**, had his usual inane comment about the Boston bombers: “Waterboard the suspect,” said The Donald. ... Thought an Irishman might never sit on the British throne. Well, **Prince William**, future king of England, has a certified Dublin ancestor, **Luke White**, who married **Lavinia Spencer** in 1919 and he was the grand-uncle of **Diana**, mother of Prince William. ... It says here that the true test of **Pope Francis’s** papal reign will be how successful he is in cleaning out the corrupt Curia and the cabal cohorts there. Another hot rumor about the new pope: he may close the embarrassing Vatican Bank and God knows that’s overdue. Put it out to bid.

The folks at the JFK50 celebration of his trip to Ireland in June 1963 confirm that **Caroline Kennedy** and her aunt, former ambassador to Ireland **Jean Kennedy Smith**, will travel to Wexford next month for the celebration. ... Former Irish presidents are busy people. **Mary Robinson** has been named as a special UN envoy to the troubled East Congo and **Mary McAleese** is due any day now at Boston College to be a Burns Library visiting scholar. ... Good move by the Bank of Ireland: its UK financial services will be operating in 11,500 post office branches in England. A great fit.

The help of US Sen. **Bob Menendez** (D-NJ) on the BC archives tape case is too little, too late. The Supreme Court has ruled. The horse, sadly, is out of the gate. ... Talks are underway between **Peter Robinson** and **Martin McGuinness** on how to break the hostile deadlock between the two. Is a reconciliation in the works? ... SDLP’s **Alasdair McDonnell** is offering a reform package to get the flag marches and protests resolved. ... Fox Cable News and its propagandists should be ashamed of themselves for insulting the parents of the murdered Newtown children. Who has a better right to lobby the wimpy senators scared to death they may get unelected?

The owners of the Michelin-star restaurant on Baggot Street in Dublin are readying an Irish food line for entry into the US market. ... Jury’s Inn, with 32 hotels in Britain and Ireland, has just connected on a big loan guarantee that they hope may consolidate debt and get the chain back on its footing. ... One in five children living in Northern Ireland are in households below the poverty line. Prompts me to ask where are the billions in British subsidies being spent if not for hungry kids? ... A few years back, **Iris Robinson** (First Minister Peter’s wife) had a psychiatrist friend who claimed he could cure homosexuality. He is now facing charges of improper financial dealings with patients, and substandard patient care. Nothing about gender-bending attempts apparently. ... *The Irish Times* reports that some members of the family of **James Joyce** are having an internal spat about the famed author’s image on a 10-euro coin, with one Joycean relative saying the coin has an error and it all goes back to 1941 and the failure of the Irish state to send a representative to his grandfather’s funeral in Zurich. Long memories and sharp elbows. Wow.

After the dancing: Good time to take stock

(Continued from page 1)

of really good dancers, some of the best around. Just to be in the top three feels like an accomplishment.

“Overall, I was really happy with the three rounds I danced [competitors dance one round in soft shoe, one in hard shoe; the top 50 advance to a third and final round]. I felt good about myself and how I had done, and I’ve always believed that was important.”

McCarthy, who was competing for the seventh time, enjoyed having the Worlds in her part of the world (this was only the second time in the Worlds’ 40-plus years that the event had taken place outside of Ireland): “It was the same experience, but this time more of my family and friends were able to come and watch.”

Competitions haven’t been the only venue for McCarthy’s dancing. She has appeared in “A Christmas Celtic Sojourn” and “Riverdance,” among other productions, and feels her competitive dancing has benefited as a result.

“You need to have the ‘look,’ the stage presence, when you compete,” she explained. “You get to work on that a lot when you’re in something like ‘Celtic Sojourn,’ so I found it very helpful.”

McCarthy is already planning ahead for the Nationals, which take place in July in Anaheim, Calif., but she feels confident about a return to the Worlds.

“Each time you compete in the Worlds, it’s a learning experience,” she said. “I already know I am capable of dancing at a high level, and of reaching the top, so I will never stop trying.”

For the Harney Academy of Irish Dance — where Melissa McCarthy is a student — the Worlds were pure bliss, especially for its ceili dance competitors. Harney teams took home eight titles in all, including five first-place finishes, with one team earning a first and second-place title.

“We were over the moon,” said Liam Harney, the academy’s founder. “It was one of the best performances for a North American studio at the Worlds. I felt so happy and proud for our dancers, and their teachers.”

One factor in the Harney Academy’s success was the fact of the event being held in Boston, Harney said, which enabled more Harney dancers to take part than in years when the Worlds were in Ireland.

Ultimately, though, it was all about talent and ability, as well as those intangible but very real qualities that spur competitors to do their best.

“I think we gained strength within our teams as the week went on,” said Harney. “One team would do well, and that would get the next team going, and the momentum just kept building. With each competition, we were able to make a statement, and our confidence grew and grew.”

Harney praised all his dancers, solo and team alike, but singled out the under-16 girls ceili team for its effort. “It was a huge competition, and they were up against some incredible dancers. They had to compete for two days, and did very well.”

He also gave a nod to the senior (high school/college age) mixed team: “I hoped it would be the essence of a true ceili team. They came together in a big way, with each other and as a team.”

Perhaps the only disappointment for Harney was that because he was serving as vice-chair for the Worlds this year, he wasn’t able to actually watch



Area dancer Melissa McCarthy — who last year won age the girls 15-16 division at the World Irish Dancing Championships — finished third in the girls under 17 division this year: “Each time you compete in the Worlds, it’s a learning experience. I already know I am capable of dancing at a high level, and of reaching the top, so I will never stop trying.”

most of his dancers in action. But he was elated nonetheless at having his home ground be the host site for the competition.

“This was near and dear to my heart. Boston being the host city just never seemed possible to me, so it elevated the whole week.

“One thing I think was particularly significant was it seemed to me that there was far more of a local turn-out to see the competition than in other places. People in Greater Boston really came out for the Worlds.”

Another Greater Boston Irish dance school had an enjoyable time of it at the Worlds, and not just on the dance stage.

The O’Shea-Chaplin Academy of Irish Dance had six soloists place in their categories, and all six O’Shea-Chaplin teams made it through to the finals, four of them getting into the top 10. Another O’Shea-Chaplin dancer,

one-time Worlds champion and “Riverdance” cast member Scott Doherty, performed at the event’s opening ceremony.

What’s more, O’Shea-Chaplin’s founder — and veritable local Irish dance institution — Rita O’Shea-Chaplin was honored throughout the week for her nearly 60 years of contributions to Irish dancing, as dancer, choreographer, and teacher.

“It was a great week for her,” said O’Shea-Chaplin’s daughter, Lisa Chaplin, who also teaches at the academy. “She was up on a stage with Mayor Menino, and all the teachers from Galway [O’Shea-Chaplin’s birthplace] took her out for a treat, and Mary Duffy — who’s the choreographer for ‘Lord of the Dance’ — presented her with an honor. We were so happy to see all the appreciation she was given.”

“It reached greater proportions than I ever could have

imagined — I didn’t think it was all necessary,” said a laughing O’Shea-Chaplin, who also was congratulated by her former teacher, now 89 years old, and 25 former pupils who are now Irish dance teachers themselves. “But I felt very honored, and it felt very much like a culmination of so many years of work.”

Not many others share the same perspective on Irish dancing that O’Shea-Chaplin does, so she has been particularly impressed by its world-wide popularity during the past decade or so, on the heels of “Riverdance” and other productions.

“When I first moved to Massachusetts, there were probably three Irish dance teachers — now there are almost 70 in this area alone. You see other kinds of dance schools offering not only ballet or jazz, but Irish dance,” she said. “And, of course, at the Worlds you can see how big Irish dance has become:

There’s a huge contingency in Africa, South America, as well as Europe, and Russia. They have the same competitions we have. Irish dance is growing and growing. People see it as a focal point for exercise, or a way to build confidence, as well as a part of heritage. And the most important thing is, through Irish dance you have friends for life. There’s something for everyone.”

Like most all Irish dance instructors, O’Shea-Chaplin and Chaplin say they seek to find that elusive middle ground in readying their charges for a major event like the Worlds.

“We talk about the right balance all the time,” said Chaplin. “We want the kids to work hard and do their best, but also to enjoy the experience of being in the Worlds. Some may not have a chance to go there again, after all. And when the Worlds takes place in your hometown, you really want them to savor the moment: We tell them, ‘This is the Olympics.’”

“What I love is when a team of younger kids — like our under-13s, who came in 10th — does even better than you can imagine. You feel so good for them. But all our dancers stepped up, and we were proud of them.”

Added O’Shea-Chaplin: “It’s a great opportunity for positive reinforcement. We tell parents, ‘No matter how the kids do in the Worlds, you’re *their* World.’”

Emily Stewart has been on a journey, literally and figuratively, to the Worlds.

A freshman at Emmanuel College, 19-year-old Stewart — who was featured in the *Boston Irish Reporter* preview of the Worlds in March — moved from California in part to work with Brighton-based Irish dance teacher Attracta Quinn, who runs the Scoil Rince Naomh Attracta. Stewart had come in 11th at last year’s Worlds (her first under Quinn’s tutelage), and entered this year’s competition as the North American champion in her age group.

Competing in the Ladies 19-20 category, Stewart placed fourth.

“I am so happy with the results, and with the progress I’ve made,” said Stewart. “I felt very pleased with how I danced that day; I knew I’d given my best effort.”

Her best effort had to be substantial, Stewart said, because her age category is arguably the most competitive at the Worlds, since most entrants have compiled several years — perhaps a decade or more, in some cases — of training and experience. To be part of that mix was a revelation for Stewart.

“All the top girls were there, and it was so amazing. I remember when I was much younger, seeing the dancers in this age range and thinking, ‘I wish that was me.’ And now, here I am.”

Stewart credited her progress to a number of factors.

“It’s the journey I’ve been on,” she said. “Attracta is a big reason why I got to where I am. Through working with her, I’ve become more competitive, I’ve been getting the experience. The time, the amount of commitment, it’s all definitely paid off.”

“When Attracta and I talked before the Worlds, she told me I was 100 percent ready to go out and perform my best. She had me believing in myself.”

Making the triumph all the more fulfilling for Stewart was the presence of her parents, who came in from California. “Attracta’s family came, too, which was wonderful — they’ve become my second family.”

IMMIGRATION Q & A

Protecting against immigration scams

Q. *I hear that there are a number of scams being practiced on immigrants in the US. How can they protect themselves?*

A. There are indeed many immigration scams, with new ones appearing all the time. The latest one to come to our attention involves a telephone call to an immigrant from someone claiming to be from US Citizenship and Immigration Services. The caller claims that there is some discrepancy in the agency's information on the immigrant, and that there is a penalty that must be paid to clear it up. Next – you guessed it – the caller instructs the immigrant to wire money to an address provided. Real US immigration officers will never ask for money over the telephone, nor will they seek personal financial information such as bank account or Social Security numbers, which can be used in identity theft.

The general principle to remember with regard to telephone scams is that one never should give out sensitive information or send money to anyone. This applies, by the way, to all unsolicited telephone calls, whether they relate to immigration, sales offers, investment opportunities, claims that relatives need money in an emergency, and so on.

It also is important for those seeking immigration benefits to be very careful in dealing with anyone offering application support online. Aside from outright fraud, there also is a large risk that websites will contain outdated or incorrect advice. And beware in particular those sites that are dressed up to look like official government sites, using symbols such as the seal of the United States, the US flag, photos of President Obama, etc. But it is easy to recognize authentic official websites: they always end in the suffix .gov and never .com, .net, etc.

Note also that all government application forms are free. USCIS forms can be downloaded from uscis.gov. Never pay anyone for copies of blank forms. And never pay application fees to third parties; these fees are always paid directly to the government in accordance with instructions on the application forms.

The safest course for prospective applicants is to visit one of our weekly legal clinics as advertised monthly in the *Boston Irish Reporter* for a free, confidential consultation with an immigration lawyer concerning any applications that you are planning to file.

Disclaimer: These articles are published to inform generally, not to advise in individual cases. Immigration law is always subject to change. US Citizenship and Immigration Services and the US Department of State regularly amend regulations and alter processing and filing procedures. For legal advice seek the assistance of an IIIC immigration specialist or an immigration lawyer.

IMMIGRATION LAW

FOLEY LAW OFFICES, P.C.

Attorney John Philip Foley

Permanent Residency & Citizenship • Family & Business Immigration • Labor Certification & Temporary Visas
ALL Nationalities & AILA Members


(617) 973-6448

IIIC

IRISH INTERNATIONAL IMMIGRANT CENTER

4th Annual Business Leaders Breakfast

with Guest Speaker



Senator Elizabeth Warren

Seaport Boston Hotel

One Seaport Lane, Boston, MA

Monday, May 13 • 7:30am

Join us for an engaging discussion on immigration, the economy and current political issues.


Sponsorship opportunities available.

Seats are \$250 each. All proceeds support our legal, wellness and education services to immigrants.


Please register by calling Mary Kerr at 617.695.1554 or by emailing mekerr@iicenter.org.

IRISH INTERNATIONAL IMMIGRANT CENTER

An agency accredited by US Department of Justice



100 Franklin Street, Boston, MA 02110
Telephone (617) 542-7654 Fax (617) 542-7655
Website:iicenter.org Email: immigration@iicenter.org



From left, Michael Lonergan, Consul General of Ireland; Jude Clarke, J-1 IWT Program Manager; Ann-Marie Byrne, Director of Learning Exchange Programs; John Cullinane, CEO, The Cullinane Group; Megan E. Carroll, Esq., Director of Intern Placements J-1 IWT Program; Kim Jorgensen, Program Administrator, Learning Exchange Programs; Ronnie Millar, Executive Director, Irish International Immigrant Center. Photo courtesy IIIC

IIIC Hosts Entrepreneurship Event for Local Irish Students, Graduates

Last month, the IIIC was pleased to host John Cullinane, President of the Cullinane Group, Inc., for a special breakfast presentation for our Boston J-1 Irish Work and Travel visa holders last month. Mr. Cullinane spoke about entrepreneurship and gave these young adults tips and tools to succeed both currently and in their future endeavors. Having founded the first successful software company in the world, he is well-suited to provide quality advice and the participants (and attending staff) came away with a wealth of information.

This event was part of series of talks on entrepreneurship presented to our J-1 IWT participants in varying cities across the US, organized by Megan Carroll, Director of Intern Placements.

The IIIC extends its gratitude to John Cullinane for taking the time to speak to our visa participants.

IIIC Visit to Washington Promotes Comprehensive Immigration Reform

On April 11, IIIC's managing attorney, Jeannie Kain, was in DC to promote comprehensive immigration reform in meetings with Congressional offices from four New England states. As part of the American Immi-

gration Lawyers Association's National Day of Action, she spoke with the offices of Representative Capuano (MA), Representative Kuster (NH), Senator Collins (ME), and Senator Leahy (VT). All were optimistic that immigration reform would happen later this year.

Shortly after this visit, we saw movement on immigration reform with the release of the 844-page "Border Security, Economic Opportunity and Immigration Modernization Act." We expect MIRA, AILA and others to be issuing detailed analyses very soon. IIIC's immigration attorneys and board member attorneys will also be analyzing the proposals.

Please keep in mind that this bill reflects many hard-fought compromises and political calculations, resulting in things that we will not like, but that probably can't be changed significantly. Secondly, this is the first stage of the process, with many amendments to come in the Senate Judiciary Committee markup, on the Senate floor, and when the Senate negotiates with the House on a final version.

We have to remain hopeful and vocal. Please consider getting involved in the various advocacy efforts that will be happening over the next few months. It is important that the voice of Irish immigrants is heard at this time. Please see our website, iicenter.org, for more details

Matters Of Substance Self Care in a Crisis

BY DANIELLE OWEN

Considering all the tragic events that have occurred in recent weeks, we in the IIIC's Wellness services have seen an increase in phone calls and consultations where we have heard people saying they are feeling "overwhelmed" or even "under siege." For some, our sense of safety and security has been compromised. Many people

show signs of stress in this sort of situation and these signs are normal.

Over time, as your life gets back to normal, they should decrease. After a stressful event, it is important to monitor your own physical and mental health and to know the signs of stress in yourself and your loved ones. It helps to understand how you may relieve stress and when it may be time to reach out for help.

We feel that it is important to highlight a key support service that is available right here in Massachusetts to all of us 24/7 without health insurance or referrals. Disaster Distress Helpline (offered via SAMHSA) offers support for anyone experiencing stress, anxiety, and other depression-like

symptoms; common reactions after any natural or human-caused disaster. Call 1-800-985-5990. It's Free. It's Confidential.

Signs of distress may include:

- Sleeping too much or too little
- Stomachaches or headaches
- Anger, feeling edgy or lashing out at others
- Overwhelming sadness
- Worrying a lot of the time; feeling guilty but not sure why
- Feeling like you have to keep busy
- Lack of energy or always feeling tired
- Drinking alcohol, smoking or using tobacco more than usual; using illegal drugs
- Eating too much or too little
- Not connecting with others
- Feeling like you won't ever be happy again
- Rejecting of help.

etc.)

Recognize how your own past experiences affect your way of handling this event, and think of how you handled past events. This is especially true of immigrants who have moved away from home countries affected by violence or natural disasters.

Know that feeling stressed, depressed, guilty, or angry is common after a traumatic event (even if you weren't directly involved)

Talk about your feelings to loved ones and friends often.

Take time to renew your spirit through meditation and/or prayer.

It may take time to feel that you've regained control over your life but with support, it is possible. Be patient with yourself and others. Call Danielle at the IIIC if you need help accessing resources or if you just want to chat at 617-542-7654, Ext.14 or e-mail dowen@iicenter.org. Don't suffer more than you need to. The Distress Helpline provides 24/7, year-round crisis counseling and support. The line also offers wonderful fact sheets offering tips about how to manage these stressful symptoms at disasterdistress.samhsa.gov/disasters/incidents-of-mass-violence.aspx

Danielle Owen is the IIIC's Director of Wellness & Education Services

IIIC

IRISH INTERNATIONAL IMMIGRANT CENTER

LEGAL IMMIGRATION ASSISTANCE

The Irish International Immigrant Center provides free legal support and representation to the Irish immigrant community. Weekly legal clinics are held throughout the Greater Boston area, where you can receive a **free and confidential consultation** with our staff and volunteer pro bono attorneys. For support or information, call us at (617) 542-7654.

Upcoming Clinic Schedule

Tuesday, May 7th
IIIC, 100 Franklin St., Downtown Boston

Monday, May 13th at 6:30pm
The Green Briar Pub, 304 Washington Street, Brighton

Tuesday, May 21st
IIIC, 100 Franklin St., Downtown Boston

Wednesday, May 29th at 6:30pm
St. Mark's Parish, 1725 Dorchester Ave., Dorchester

Phone: 617.542.7654 | Fax: 617.542.7655 | www.iicenter.org

BOSTON IRISH REPORTER

BOSTON IRISH ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT, TRAVEL & MORE

Liz Hanley: 'I don't worry about how all these kinds of music fit together in my life; it's just part of who I am'

BY SEAN SMITH
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

It's easy to get the wrong impression about Liz Hanley.

Watching her play fiddle on a set of reels, or hearing her sing a traditional Irish song like "Bonny Light Horseman" – or a contemporary one, like Robbie O'Connell's "Keg of Brandy" – you can only conclude she was born an Irish musician. And that's not an unreasonable assumption, given that she grew up in that most Irish of Greater Boston communities, Milton, Mass., and that her father, Andy, is a mainstay in the local Irish music scene.

But while her Boston Irish roots certainly played an important role, the 27-year-old Hanley really hit her musical stride when she moved to New York City to attend college. She has stayed there, and is now happily residing in Brooklyn.

What's more, although Hanley seems quite at home sharing Irish tunes and songs at a session (when she's not perform-

ing them on stage), she's also in her element playing with the multi-genre rock band Emanuel and the Fear, or with her new theatrical/musical project, Frogbelly and Symphony.

In the midst of all her non-Irish music activities, however, Hanley has found time to affirm her folk/trad roots with the recent release of her first solo album, "The Ecstasy of St. Cecilia." The 11-track CD includes songs and tunes from the traditional Irish repertoire like the Napoleonic ballads "Isle of St. Helena" and "Bonny Light Horseman," the anti-war "My Son Tim" and "Johnston," a tale of an unfortunate Good Samaritan. Hanley also does compositions such as "Keg of Brandy," "Bodenstown Churchyard" – Thomas Davis' famous musing on Wolfe Tone – Liam Weldon's chilling "Dark Horse on the Wind" and "Sanctuary," poet-playwright Vincent Woods's poignantly bittersweet reminiscences (with a melody to match, written by Mairtin O'Connor) of

his native Leitrim and its "coal pits of misery."

Even given the premise that music and other forms of artistic expression all have an innate personal dimension, there is a definitively autobiographical facet to "The Ecstasy of St. Cecilia," reflected in the CD's musical selections and also its personnel. For starters, Hanley's father co-produced the album and provided fiddle accompaniment and a recitation for the concluding track, "Southwind."

"It was a lot of fun working with my father, and he had plenty of good ideas and suggestions," says Hanley. "I'm glad we were able to record 'Southwind,' since that was something I used to play with him when I was younger."

Another notable guest appearance (on "Sanctuary") is by Mick Moloney, a teacher and mentor for Hanley during her studies at New York University. And throughout, Hanley is assisted by a stalwart trio of multi-instrumentalists Cleek Schrey, Jefferson Hamer, and Eamon



Liz Hanley performing with Sean Earnest at BCMFest in January: "I don't worry about how all these kinds of music fit together in my life; it's just part of who I am." *Michael McNally photo*

O'Leary – the latter two collaborated with Hanley on arrangements – she has gotten to know during her years in New York.

The album's title offers the conclusive explanation to the vision behind the CD, as Hanley explains. "First of all, St. Cecilia is, of course, the patroness of musicians. I was raised Catholic, and when I was confirmed my confirmation name was Cecilia, so that's one connection. 'The Ecstasy of St. Cecilia' is a famous painting by Raphael that depicts Cecilia with all her instruments at her feet, listening in rapture to the music of Heaven.

There is a sense that she is undergoing a transformation and letting go of these possessions, ready to go on to the next stage.

"The songs and tunes on this album are things I've collected over time, from different parts of my life, and in presenting them I am 'letting them go' and moving forward. That doesn't mean I'm done with Irish music, of course. It's just that I have come a certain distance in my life and music, and I wanted to share this good feeling even as I go on to whatever lies ahead."

Hanley began her musical life at age seven playing classical violin,

but her exposure to Irish music through family and friends made a lasting impression. Still, it wasn't until late in high school that Hanley made a decided move to traditional music, the result of attending the Boston Harbor Scottish Fiddle Camp, where she met many other young people with multiple musical interests. The next phase of her development was at NYU, where at her parents' suggestion she made the acquaintance of Moloney, a widely respected performer and scholar of Irish music.

(Continued on page 14)

Steafán Hanvey and Dad Bobbie have The Troubles very well-covered

BY SEAN SMITH
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

Steafán Hanvey likes to joke that during his childhood he was probably "the most photographed boy in Northern Ireland." But given that his father is one of the more prolific, productive photojournalists of the late 20th century, he may not necessarily be exaggerating.

Hanvey, a native of Downpatrick in County Down, is the son of Bobbie Hanvey, whose photographs offer a staggeringly comprehensive look at the people and times of Northern Ireland, especially during The Troubles. In his heyday, Bobbie – now semi-retired – and his camera seemed to be everywhere, capturing the contradictions of everyday life in the six counties, from tragedy to joy, decaying urban landscapes to bucolic countryside, jovial-looking farmers to hard-bitten combatants.

In 2001, the first part of the Bobbie Hanvey Photographic Archives was formally installed at Boston College, in the university's John J. Burns Library, with several subsequent additions.

Steafán Hanvey chose a different mode of artistic expression than Bobbie, as a singer-songwriter (although Bobbie is a noted musician himself). But much like his father, he has come to find that the environment in which he lived most of his life to be an integral part of his muse. So, in the past few years, he has put forth this vision by recording a CD, "Nuclear Family," which is part of a larger project, "Look Behind You," a multimedia presentation about Northern Ireland that utilizes his father's photography as well as snippets from radio interviews Bobbie conducted and other broadcast material.

Last month, Hanvey came through the Boston area to present "Look Behind You" at several venues, including BC, Club Passim, and Bridgewater State University, as part of a North American tour. Interviewed shortly



Steafán Hanvey: "I think the best way I can put it, I have never written about Northern Ireland; Northern Ireland has written me."

before his stop at BC, Hanvey reflected on the evolution of his music and writing, not only as an artistic endeavor but also as a means of comprehending what he, and so many others in Northern Ireland, endured.

"It became evident to me that the story of my family includes a lot of people – not just my immediate family, but the various relationships in my life, and virtually the Northern Irish community," he explained. "It also became apparent that this story couldn't be explained in isolation. My father's photos have told, and continue to tell, the story of my family. So the idea of bringing

(Continued on page 13)

"Once" is coming to Boston The unlikely story that made it big on film

BY R. J. DONOVAN
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

"Once" is like The Little Engine That Could. It first sprang to life as a modest 2006 independent Irish film shot in just 17 days on a shoestring budget of a mere \$150,000. Despite its modest beginnings, it went on to capture the hearts of critics and audiences everywhere. In addition to grossing \$20 million worldwide, the film includes in its score the beautiful "Falling Slowly," which won the Academy Award for Best Original Song.

A stage production, based on the original film written and directed by John Carney, was subsequently developed here in Cambridge in 2011 at the American Repertory Theatre. A run at the New York Theater Workshop followed. After further fine-tuning, the musical moved on to Broadway in 2012, earning eight Tony Awards including "Best Musical."

Broadway in Boston recently announced that "Once" will be prominently featured in its 2013-2014 season. An Irish céilidh come to life, the show's national tour (yet to be cast) will play The Colonial Theatre next January. Meanwhile, the Broadway production is still going strong at the Bernard Jacobs Theatre. Extending its reach even further, "Once" opened in Dublin in February, with another production now playing in London's West End.

Set in a weathered Dublin pub, "Once" is the sweet but emotionally elevating story about the power of music to draw people together. The two main characters are simply called Guy and Girl. Guy is a struggling Dublin street musician who works in his father's vacuum cleaner shop to earn a living. He's been in love, but that

(Continued on page 14)

Irish Cultural Centre's Boston Irish Festival

Once Stonehill... Now Canton

June 7-9, 2013

Three days and three stages of non-stop "rock your socks off"
Celtic music at the largest Irish Festival on the East Coast

Eileen Ivers & Immigrant Soul

Friday, June 7 at 8pm

\$20 in advance | \$20 members | \$25 at the door



Boston Irish Festival FEIS

with Harney Academy of Irish Dance

World Red Head Record Photo

Tug of War Competition

Saturday, June 8

\$10 in advance | \$10 members | \$15 at the door
Children under 12 are Free



Atlantic Steps

5k Road Race, Irish Breakfast & more

Sunday, June 9

\$10 in advance | \$10 members | \$15 at the door
Children under 12 are Free

All day June 8 & 9 non-stop live Irish music,
Kids Village, Irish shopping and much more!

For tickets go to:

www.BostonIrishFestival.info

CELTIC THUNDER CRUISE

NOVEMBER 2-7 | MIAMI
2013 | OCHO RIOS
GRAND CAYMAN
CARNIVAL'S VICTORY

SAIL WITH CELTIC THUNDER!

FEATURING
CELTIC THUNDER SHOWS

Keith Harkin - Solo Gig
Ryan Kelly & Neil Byrne - Acoustic by Candlelight
George Donaldson - Folk Favourites
Emmet Cahill & Colm Keegan with guest Rebecca Harkin
Deirdre Shannon
Sandra O'Hara
The Celtic Thunder Band - Traditional Music
Goitse - Traditional Irish Band
Gaelic Rhythm - Dance Show



TOLL-FREE US
855.5.CELTIC
855.5.235842

WWW.CELTICTHUNDERCRUISE.COM

EACH GUEST
TO HAVE THEIR PHOTO
WITH THE CAST
AND THEIR AUTOGRAPHS



**BY SEAN SMITH
SPECIAL TO THE BIR**

JARLA O'LEONARD
FOXLIGHT

Six of the album's songs are Ó Lionáird originals, two others are his settings of poems by Domhnall Ó Liatháin and the 16th-century religious poet Aonghus Fionn Ó Dáligh, and the remainder are traditional;

The traditional songs, like “Fainne Geal an Lae (Bright Ring of Day)” – supported by O’Raghallaigh (who plays the Scandinavian hardanger fiddle here) and tender acoustic guitar by Neil McColl – O’Carolan’s “Eleanor Plunkett” and the delightful “Goat Song,” carry their own distinctiveness in tone and structure, which helps lend a kind of historical and stylistic perspective

Ultimately, it's the beauty and depth of Ó Lionáird's voice on which the album is built, and he does not come up short, demonstrating not only the durability but the versatility of sean-nos singing – by no means a thing of the past.

The volume of musical genres and styles favored by the band does suit the album concept, as mentioned, but can make for a somewhat uneven listening experience. Perhaps the signal achievement of "The Modest Revolution" is that it serves to redeem journalism as more than the first draft of history or – as more than a few critics claim – the manifestation of political and personal biases; somewhere in all that newsprint are all the elements that help form the basis of the human experience.



**World Famous
Mr. Dooley's
Now in Wrentham!**

céad míle fáilte
1000 Welcomes

**Real Irish Country Feel
Traditional Irish Fare
Live Music &
Entertainment Nightly
Irish Breakfast Daily
Sunday Brunch
Prime Rib Specials**

Mr. Dooley's

Old Irish Country Pub


Mr. Dooley's Private Parties Irish Breakfast Live Music

**OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
MON-FRI 12PM-1AM : SAT-SUN 11AM-1AM
SPACE FOR FUNCTIONS & PRIVATE PARTIES
DINE IN OR TAKE OUT**

**303 SHEARS ST., WRENTHAM MA - TEL: 508.384.3457
WWW.MRDOOLEYSWRENTHAM.COM**

AUTO BODY REPAIRS

(617) 825-1760
(617) 825-2594
FAX (617) 825-7937

Fitzpatrick Brothers
C O R P O R A T I O N

Free Pick-Up & Delivery Service

**150 Centre Street
Dorchester, MA 02124**



A large, rectangular stone monument with a decorative top and a hole for a string. The text on the monument reads: "MILTON MONUMENT COMPANY INC." in large, bold, serif capital letters. Below this, in a smaller, bold, sans-serif font, it says "BRONZE MARKERS • CEMETERY LETTERING". At the bottom of the monument, there is a small plaque that reads "Serving Greater Boston since 1971".

Steafán Hanvey and Dad Bobbie have The Troubles very well-covered

(Continued from page 9) him in as a visual element, to relay this story that I express in my music, really happened organically.

"A lot of Northern Irish writers, like Seamus Heaney and Paul Muldoon, have dealt with The Troubles head-on, no matter how they tried to evade them. I never have written directly about The Troubles – 'Look Behind You' is the closest I've come. 'Look Behind You,' like 'Nuclear Family,' is not meant to be political, but rather a biographical/autobiographical work.

"I think the best way I can put it, I have never written about Northern Ireland; Northern Ireland has written me."

Context is everything when it comes to Steafán Hanvey's music. There are few, if any, overt references in his songs to bombings, shootings, or other incidents associated with The Troubles, nor to personalities great and small in Ulster's history; you won't hear anything that sounds like a Republican or Loyalist anthem, either.

Yet, below the surface, Northern Ireland lingers in Hanvey's songs. He takes a long view of his native land, and invites you to consider what it might mean for someone to have been born, spent childhood, and come of age in such a place and during such a time. What kind of adult do you grow up to be? What mix of angels and demons do you carry

with you? Can anyone else possibly understand what you lived through?

"My father dealt with The Troubles through camera lenses and microphones," said Hanvey, who was born a few months after the tragic Bloody Sunday event in 1972. "He's got all this stuff he can look at and listen to when he thinks about that era. So, with my music and the multimedia project, now I'm looking back. There's no agenda here, no one is right or wrong; I just want to explore my impressions of being a person from Northern Ireland."

At first glance, a song like Hanvey's "Marta's Always Going Home" would seem to have little connection to Northern Ireland or The Troubles. It's a commentary on an unsuccessful romance from Hanvey's past, with a young Polish woman who cautioned him against getting too attached to her; she couldn't promise how long she might stay for any period of time, because at some point she would have to go home.

"It got to be her mantra," said Hanvey. "So I would say to her, 'You're always going home.' I think one of the things about growing up when and where I did was you developed a sense of protective humor. But underneath it all I'm asking, 'Where is home? Is it in Poland, or is it in Ireland?' And when you think about it, what does 'home' mean? Is it a place



Steafán Hanvey presenting his multimedia show "Look Behind You" at Boston College last month.

Sean Smith photo

that nourishes you and prepares you for life in the world, or is it a refuge, where you hide?"

"Into Your Sun," the last track on "Nuclear Family" (which also includes Bobbie Hanvey's photos in the accompanying booklet) has similar contradictions. A soothing viola and woodwind gavottes with Hanvey's gentle acoustic guitar through lyrics that speak of being disconnected and directionless, "completely at odds with your world." He sings, "You showed me how to love myself, forgive myself and then fun began. And away I ran, into your sun." The reprise of that line, however, ends with a chilling coda: "I've got a gun." And then the song gradually comes apart at the seams, with howling, distorted electric guitars and a rising cacophony,

including a heavily reverbed excerpt from a Bobbie Hanvey radio broadcast.

"The idea was to build intensity at the end, to reach a breaking point," said Hanvey. "The song also is an allusion to the explosive nature of the family, of a pressure-cooker existence and where it might lead.

"All of this is tied into what many of us carry around. This is my opportunity, after years of not being able to talk about religion or politics, or things that were happening right in front of me, to deal with it in some way."

"Look Behind You" is a somewhat more direct assessment by Hanvey of Northern Irish life. Much of his presentation concerns the use of language, especially by the media and authorities, to describe, explain or – most of all – normalize the events of The Troubles.

"Controlled explosions' were OK, and murders were OK if they weren't 'sectarian,'" he said. "Bombs were 'made safe' because they were defused. A victim of a bombing or shooting might be described as 'a legitimate target' – in one case, it was a building contractor who had worked with the British, and had sold pizza to a policeman. This is what you would hear on radio or TV almost every hour, every day, every week.

"You would hear phrases for weapons like 'bar-rack-busters' or 'drogue

bombs.' Or descriptions of people like 'hunger striker' and 'prisoner of conscience.' There was a definite vocabulary to The Troubles, and it was all part of the landscape in Northern Ireland."

In "Look Behind You," Hanvey also discusses the role geography and place-naming played in Northern Ireland during The Troubles. "A part of North Armagh which included Lurgan and Portadown became known as 'the Murder Triangle' because of a number of killings there associated with Loyalist gangs that took place in the 1970s.

"And in the years after 1988, if you said 'Ballygawley' – which is in Tyrone – people would automatically associate the name with a bombing of a bus carrying British soldiers, eight of whom were killed, by an IED," said Hanvey, who in this part of his presentation interpolates several photos his father took of the bomb scene. Perhaps the most chilling image shows a crater in the foreground, denoting where the bomb exploded; the remains of the bus lie quite some yards in the distance, showing how far the explosion carried it.

"There has been, of course, an ongoing controversy about referring to 'Derry' or 'Londonderry,'" Hanvey said. "The solution seemed to be to call it both names, with a little dividing stroke in the middle. So, you would

hear 'Derry-stroke-Londonderry' or 'Londonderry-stroke-Derry.' But a journalist, Gerry Anderson, came up with another solution: He would just say 'Stroke City.'"

Hanvey notes that the title "Look Behind You" is open to interpretation as well: It connotes introspection, but also can be a warning.

The admiration Hanvey carries for his father – and Bobbie's steadfastness in showing life in Northern Ireland from literally every angle, as well as from the social and political ones – is obvious. But in expressing that appreciation, Hanvey also raises the seemingly unending question of how much a person may be a product of his or her environment.

"My father had to walk the line in a place where people were obsessed with sides. What would he have done if there had been no Troubles? How would his life, his art, be different? And so, you can also ask, what would I have done if there'd been no Troubles? Would there be a need for this catharsis, this elegy?"

Ultimately, though, Hanvey looks at the "Nuclear Family/Look Behind You" projects as "a nice journey for a father and a son to take. I get to tell his story, which definitely should be heard and seen, even as I try to tell mine."

Steafán Hanvey's website is at steafanhanvey.com

THEY SERVED US. NOW WE CAN SERVE THEM.



Cross Home Plate at Fenway to Help Veterans and Their Families!



RED SOX
FOUNDATION



MASSACHUSETTS
GENERAL HOSPITAL

REGISTER NOW FOR THE
2013 Run-Walk to Home Base
Presented by New Balance
on Sunday, May 4th.

The 9K run or 3-mile walk starts and ends at Fenway Park crossing home plate. Funds raised provide clinical care to veterans with traumatic brain injury or combat stress, and their families.

Participation is limited and advanced registration required.

www.runtohomebase.org

“Once” is coming to Boston

(Continued from page 9) love departed, and now he writes haunting songs based on his loss. As he begins to lose faith in his abilities, an unexpected presence enters his life.

Girl is a Czech immigrant and young mother. She’s direct, abrupt, and fairly humorless. Yet she sees something wonderful in Guy’s music and she encourages him. Inevitably, complications follow.

The show’s book is by Irish playwright Enda Walsh. Music and lyrics are from Glen Hansard and Markéta Irglová, who starred in and wrote the score for the original film.

When Walsh was approached to write the book, the award-winning playwright and screenwriter was resistant initially. However, upon reflection, he saw that the story had elements of “It’s A Wonderful Life” at its heart. In an interview with Playbill.com, he said, “It’s about a guy who’s sort of given up on his life, or in our case, his music. And someone comes around and goes, ‘You know, actually you’re not done yet . . . your music can connect

with people.”

The Broadway production was embraced by critics. *The New York Daily News* said: “‘Once’ is the sweetest and most romantic show on Broadway and proves that not all love stories lead to the bedroom.” (Indeed, there is a happy ending, but it’s not the standard version. And audiences have found that element to be genuinely compelling.)

Chris Jones wrote in *The Chicago Tribune*: “The music, although beautiful, does not come with the usual tricks. There is neither digital scenery nor spectacle -- although I swear I saw the streets of Dublin and the possibilities of the world beyond.”

The back story of the film’s inception is an interesting one. Composer Glen Hansard, now one of Ireland’s most highly regarded musicians, was working as a busker himself on the streets of Dublin when he first met writer John Carney. The two would go on to become members of the musical group The Frames.

As Hansard tells the story, Carney came to him



Steve Kazee and Cristin Milioti of the original Broadway company of “Once.” The national tour of the Tony Award-winning musical comes to Boston’s Colonial Theatre in January of 2014.

Joan Marcus photo

with a short treatment of the film script and asked him to write the music. At the time, the male lead was to be played by Irish actor Cillian Murphy, known for such films as “28 Days,” “Inception,” and “The Dark Knight.” When Carney had trouble finding a suitable female lead for the film, it was Hansard who suggested Markéta, with whom he had previously played music.

As often happens in the

precarious world of indie films, the project suffered a serious setback when Carney lost both Murphy and the film’s producer. At that point, he offered the male role to Hansard, who admits he did not consider himself an actor. The setback and resulting choices, however, would help make the film a hit.

Appearing earlier this year on CBS Sunday Morning, Hansard said that after the film began collecting accolades and

awards, “my thing was immediately to say ‘thanks, thanks, (let’s move on).’ And then when there was talk of it going to Broadway, I remember I was very nervous. And honestly, like I was against it . . . for me, Broadway meant sort of hamming it up. Of course you’re tempted, and you’ve got people whispering in your ear, saying ‘You know, if this does well, you’re going to be like seriously rich.’ . . . (But) that’s not why -- that was never why we did this.”

Reflecting on the careful attention paid to creating the stage musical, he said, “They did treat it with grace. They did treat it with respect. They did get the right people.”

What’s unique with the stage version is that the actors also double as the show’s musicians. In New York, the bar on stage is also used as a bar for audience members during intermission. No word yet on what will happen at The Colonial.

Aside from its many awards, “Once” has proven to be true “audience show,” meaning that word of mouth has proven criti-

cal to its enduring success. Audiences consistently remark on the show’s authenticity.

Walsh has said, “I believe in the rich communal nature of theater. Sitting in a seat and connecting with a story . . . (Audiences are) imagining it, and they’re giving their hearts and their heads to it and just losing themselves in it.”

Broadway in Boston’s upcoming season will also include “A Christmas Story, The Musical,” “Million Dollar Quarter,” “We Will Rock You,” “I Love Lucy, Live On Stage,” and “Flashdance - The Musical” in addition to return engagements of “Wicked,” “American Idiot,” and a re-imagining of “The Phantom of the Opera.”

Season tickets are on sale now. Tickets for individual shows, including “Once,” will go on sale soon.

R. J. Donovan is publisher of *OnStageBoston.com*.

“Once,” January 7 – 19, 2014, Citi Performing Arts Center Emerson Colonial Theatre, broadwayinboston.com.

Liz Hanley: ‘I don’t worry about how all these kinds of music fit together in my life; it’s just part of who I am’

(Continued from page 9)

“Mick was a big influence,” she says. “He runs the Washington Square Harp and Shamrock Orchestra through NYU and encouraged me to join, so that deepened my experience in Irish music. He also steered me to people like Brian Conway, Dana Lyn, Tony DeMarco and others who helped me to learn more about Irish fiddle.”

Says Moloney, “Because of her training, Liz definitely had the chops as far as playing music goes, but not everyone can make the transition from classical to Irish music — and yet she did, almost right away. She was willing to do whatever she could to learn, whether going to sessions or working on performances; she also understood about the importance of being tied into a community when you’re part of Irish music. I’ve been very glad to see

her flourish as she has.”

It was also through Moloney that Hanley made her Irish music recording debut, appearing as a featured performer on “An Irish Christmas,” highlighting the 2011 edition of the annual concert he organizes in celebration of winter solstice. Hanley not only had the opportunity to play fiddle but also to showcase her distinctively unself-conscious and candid vocal style.

That singing was what caught Moloney’s ear when he first got to know Hanley. “Liz had been in a few of my classes, and I knew she was an accomplished musician,” he recalls. “Then she started coming out to the Harp and Shamrock Orchestra meetings, and when I asked if anyone there could sing she put her hand up. When she sang, I was immediately impressed: There was just something very special



“It’s an Irish album in the sense that most of the material comes from the Irish tradition or from Irish songwriters and musicians,” says Hanley of her debut CD. “But I enjoy exploring the common threads between Irish and other kinds of music.”

about her voice. It’s a rare combination to find someone who is that good at playing and singing.”

Hanley’s voice is in equally fine form on “The Ecstasy of St. Cecilia,” whether by itself (“Bodestown Churchyard” and “Dark Horse on the Wind”) or accompanied — particu-

larly on “Johnston,” with its Appalachian-Celtic vibe, and “Isle of St. Helena.” But “Sanctuary” is unquestionably a high point, as she invests the song with a dignified yet profound empathy, helped by Moloney’s bassy backing vocals, a delicate piano played by Brendan Dolan, and a perfectly situated horn trio.

Her fiddling gets the spotlight on two instrumental tracks, a jig medley that combines Jimmy Keane’s “April’s Fool” and the traditional “I Ne’er Shall Wean Her,” and a set of traditional reels, “Crooked Road to Dublin” and “Considine’s Grove.”

“I didn’t consciously explore the threads between Irish and American music,” says Hanley. “I’m influenced by so many styles, including the traditional music of Ireland. It is from this tradition that I chose the songs and tunes, but other styles

that I’ve been influenced by naturally managed to sneak in. Also, the varied backgrounds of the musicians that I collaborated with on this album found their place in the songs as well. I guess you could say the threads spun themselves.”

Hanley says her other musical endeavors, with Emanuel and the Fear and now Frogbelly and Symphony (which includes her boyfriend, Thomas Lebioda), involve a similar affinity for exploration. “These are musicians who also have backgrounds and experience in folk and acoustic, as well as other genres. That doesn’t mean we’re playing jigs and reels, but that there are certain themes or characteristics associated with folk that run through our music.”

As you might imagine, Hanley’s calendar doesn’t have many open spots. If she’s not doing gigs with

Emanuel and the Fear, or with Frogbelly and Symphony — which performed at The Plough and Stars in Cambridge in February — there are always her Irish/folk/acoustic events and activities in New York or elsewhere (she performed locally at BCMFest in January with guitarist Sean Earnest).

“It feels perfectly natural to me,” she says. “I love rocking out with Emanuel and the Fear or Frogbelly and Symphony, but if I can I’ll be quite happy to grab my fiddle and go have tunes at a pub in town. I don’t worry about how all these kinds of music fit together in my life; it’s just part of who I am.”

Liz Hanley will open for The Yanks (Dan Gurney, Isaac Alderson, Dylan Foley and Sean Earnest) on June 19 as part of the “Backroom” series at The Burren in Davis Square, Somerville. See www.burren.com for more details.



Where Exceptional Primary Care Meets Convenience.

Now Accepting New Patients.

Adult & Family Medicine • Pediatrics • OB/GYN
Specialty Care • Pharmacy Services • And more...



What place sports when tragedy strikes?

There has always been a bit of disconnect between the games we play and times of distress. Sports equate with “fun” and are classified as “entertainment.” So when bad things happen, ought the games to be stopped? Are they appropriate when their relative unimportance is resoundingly underscored by the bitter sweep of harsh reality? Should we be happily at play when and where great sadness abounds?

These are hardly questions that drive philosophers daft, merely the stuff of common sense. Yet the answers have not always been clear while consensus remains elusive.

In a society that ascribes far more meaning to athletics than can ever be conveyed by final scores, few have much time even for the questions. Yet they’ve persisted over the last near century and a half that highly structured and organized sport – professional and amateur – has served as the bedrock of our popular culture.

During the deeply disturbing Marathon tragedy there has been widespread insistence that sports helped get us through the ordeal by providing forums where outrage could be vented and resilience demonstrated and spirits renewed and, in the end, resolution celebrated. Once again, the kingdom of sport is mighty happy to take a bow for all that. But isn’t it fair to wonder – once again – if such explanations are not too simplistic and such lofty claims more than a bit exaggerated.

At the least, it renews a time-honored debate. Looking back over the years it is one that has been consistently fascinating.

These questions were first raised during the Spanish-American War at the end of the 19th century when baseball was the only truly organized game in town and the suspension of the National League season was proposed to presumably allow a sharper focus on the vanquishing of our foes. But among our many wars, this one was relatively short, one-

Sports/Clark Booth

sided, and easy, so before the argument could fully develop, it was over.

However, the fact that the season hadn’t been suspended would become a factor in 1917 when America edged into World War I. This time the demand for baseball to shut down was more strenuous. The secretary of war had issued a “work or fight” edict and Newton D. Baker did not consider playing baseball to be “work.” He ordered ballplayers to either enlist in the Army or work in a defense plant. MLB resisted, claiming the Spanish-American War as a precedent.

In the end, a compromise was worked out and it was rather silly. Players were obliged (among other things) to do one hour of daily military drills conducted by Regular Army NCOs on the field before every game. They marched around with baseball bats over their shoulders. It was hardly boot camp, but it satisfied Baker. Among those accused of shirking such meager duty was a young Red Sox lefty-hurler named Babe Ruth. For years after the war the illustrious Bambino and boxing-great Jack Dempsey ranked high among the jocks bearing the stigma of having been accused “slackers.”

There was no such controversy in World War II. Only a month after Pearl Harbor, President Roosevelt declared: “I honestly feel it would be best for the country to keep baseball going. There will be fewer people unemployed and everybody will work longer and harder hours than ever before. That means they ought to have a chance for recreation. Baseball provides a recreation that does not last over two hours and can be got for very little cost.”

If it seems lame now, for baseball, which was, then far and away the nation’s major sport, it was a fabulous endorsement. Moreover, all the games were thus reprieved, with all contributing mightily to the war-effort.

All of which hugely benefited the entire sport’s

industry and set the stage for fabulous growth after the war. But it was also a shrewd move on FDR’s part as an element of war policy. The country had accepted conflict as inescapable but the distaste for foreign entanglements remained strong. Recognizing the war would be long, nasty, and brutally taxing, FDR understood that diversions, distractions, and a sustained sense of the normal would be vital to national morale and believed sports could serve that purpose best. If the quality of the games wasn’t high during the war, it was nonetheless among baseball’s finest hours.

Interesting how different were those times. Pearl Harbor was attacked, you’ll recall, on a Sunday and the terrible news was exploding on radio air-waves across the nation just as the NFL’s weekly games were beginning. With martial law being immediately declared, and troops taking position around government buildings and major industrial sites all over the land, the NFL’s full slate of games merrily continued uninterrupted. Two Sundays later, with the nation mobilizing fiercely, the Bears met the Giants for the championship, with Chicago winning, 37-9.

It’s not just war that has raised the question over the years. Unforgettably, it was the Kennedy assassination in November 1963, that stirred the greatest of the controversies. With the nation totally traumatized, all the games, leagues, and sporting contractors – big and small, professional and amateur – scrambled furiously to adjust. But not the most lordly of the lot, the National Football League.

Equally unforgettable were the pious intonations of NFL Commissioner Palmer (Pete) Rozelle declaring that the dead young president would have dearly wanted the lads to play. So a full slate of games proceeded hideously two days after the president had been shot, even as he lay in state in the Capitol Rotunda,

on the very day before his emotionally shattering funeral. It may have been the only dumb thing Rozelle ever did, but it was no less monumental.

The NFL survived Rozelle’s blunder because football’s sky-rocketing popularity allowed it. But it did whip up a whole new round of fierce debate about whether games remain relevant when grave hardship and/or civic turmoil rears. Five years later, during the tormented spring of 1968 as uproar was flaring in American urban enclaves, the discussion was again bestirred with professional teams again having to adjust.

In subsequent years, as the sports industry boomed on the way to its present humongous dimensions, the discussion would gradually fade. We would have a full-fledged constitutional crisis called Watergate in the early 1970’s and it would have no effect on so much as a period or an inning of any team’s play. And then came “9-11.”

The terrorist attack on New York City in September of 2011 rattled many conventional attitudes, the least important doubtless having to do with how we view the games we play. But in fairness, the role of sport back in that black September was memorable. Moreover, on that terrible occasion, everyone got it right.

Games were postponed

wholesale and schedules turned upside down by all leagues and when they finally resumed, it was with proper deference to the very painful mood of the moment. Ceremonies were touching and dignified as a whole new generation of smart young sports executives demonstrated they fully understood how far beyond the fields of play the games now extend.

The atrocity last week in Boston does not compare in scale or scope to the atrocity back then in New York, although you can tell that to the victims along Boylston Street and their families, if you wish. If “9-11” changed



our world, the Marathon mayhem dramatized how much it had changed, and how random and capricious the carnage can be, and, above all, how mindless is its inspiration.

It is not the first such madness to beset sport. The Munich Olympics some four decades ago has that awful distinction. But has it changed the games irreparably? Soon enough, we’ll find out. Alas!

Burials in
Massachusetts
or Ireland

Gormley

Funeral Home

617-323-8600

2055 Centre Street
West Roxbury, MA

www.Gormleyfuneral.com



Make Dorchester House
your new health center

Looking for healthcare? As a patient, you’ll have access to a diverse multilingual team ready to connect you to our full range of medical services including Primary Care, Prenatal Care, Dental Care, Eye Care, Walk-in Urgent Care, Behavioral Health and HIV Care.

Now Accepting New Patients

Appointments: 617-740-2320
www.dorchesterhouse.org
1353 Dorchester Ave, Dorchester, MA 02122

Dorchester House
Multi-Service Center

795 Adams St. • Dorchester

“President’s Choice”

Serving Lunch & Dinner

Every day,

7 days a week

The Irish Language

by Philip Mac AnGhabhann

This month we will review one of the ways in which Irish can say, “This is my hat”, **Tá seo mo hata**, or “Those are your shoes”, **Tá seo do bhróga**. You recall the words for some the articles of clothing. Remember that Irish makes the word for clothing either singular or plural whereas English makes no difference.

“your clothes.” (one person) **t’éadach**
“your clothes” (referring to a group of people) **ur n-éadaí**

We will get to the method using **ar** in the next column. Right now we will work on the “other way.” There are two ways to show possession in Irish. The one we will now use is to use the “**possessive adjectives**” such as “my”, “your”, and their”.

You have already learned the simple forms before a **consonant**. Now we will study the forms of “**pos- sessive adjectives**” or “**possessive pronouns**” before words beginning with a vowel. Only “my” and “your-singular” is the **m-** or **d-** pronounced; all others are simply /uh/. Remember that the words for “my”, “your” and “his” **lenite** or “aspirate” a fol- lowing **consonant**, others do not. Let’s review the forms and pronunciation before a word beginning with a **consonant**.

Mo chóta /muh HOH-tuh/ “My coat”
Do chóta /duh HOH-tuh/ “Your coat”
A chóta /uh HOH-tuh/ “His coat”
A cóta /uh KOH-tuh/ “Her coat”
Ar gcótaí /uh GOH-tee/ “Our coats”
‘Ur gcótaí /uh GOH-tee/ “Your-plural coats”
A gcótaí /uh GOH-tee/ “Their coats.”

Now here is how to use these before words starting with a **vowel**. Notice the change from **do** “your” to **t’** in “your”.

M’ uncail /MUN-kuhl/ “My uncle”
T’ uncail /TUN-kuhl/ “Your uncle”
A uncail /uh UN-kuhl/ “His uncle”
A huncail /uh HUN-kukl/ “Her uncle”
Ar n-uncail /uh NUN-kuhl/ “Our uncle”
‘Ur n-uncail /uh NUN-kuhl/ “Your-plural uncle”
A n-uncail /uh NUN-kuhl/ “Their uncle”

Here are a few things to remember. First, it’s easy to distinguish between “his/her” and “our”, “you-all”, and “their” in written Irish. But how do you tell the difference in spoken Irish between most of these plurals if all are pronounced /uh/? The same as in Bible reading – context, context, context. There is always going to be some sort of previous reference such as, “Which uncle is yours?” or “Which coats are theirs?”

Second, notice that before a **consonant** “his” **lenites** it but before a **vowel** the reverse seems true, “hers” takes a prefixed **h-** but “his does not.

Irish can emphasize who possesses something by simply suffixing whereas English requires that the possessive adjective be louder – “That’s MY coat” or in cases where you are prepared to draw your “shooting iron”, keeping your voice level and lengthening the **possessive adjective** – “That’s myyyy coat, mister!”

Again, Irish adds emphasis to “my” and “your” differently from the other possessives by attaching –**sa** or –**se** directly to the object in question,

Mo chótasa “MY coat” or **do chótasa** “YOUR coat” and **mo léinese** “MY shirt” and **do léinese** “YOUR shirt”. (Recall that you cannot **lenite** words that begin with the **consonants l-, n-,** or **r-** or words from English that begin with an **h-** such as **hata**.)

To emphasize other **possessive adjectives** you have to add the **emphatic forms** of the **personal pronouns** after the object.

“HIS shoes” **A bhróga seisan**
“HER shoes” **A bróga sise**
“OUR shoes” **Ar mbróga muide**
“YOUR-pl. shoes” ‘ **Ur bróga sibhse**
“THEIR shoes” **A bróga siadsan**

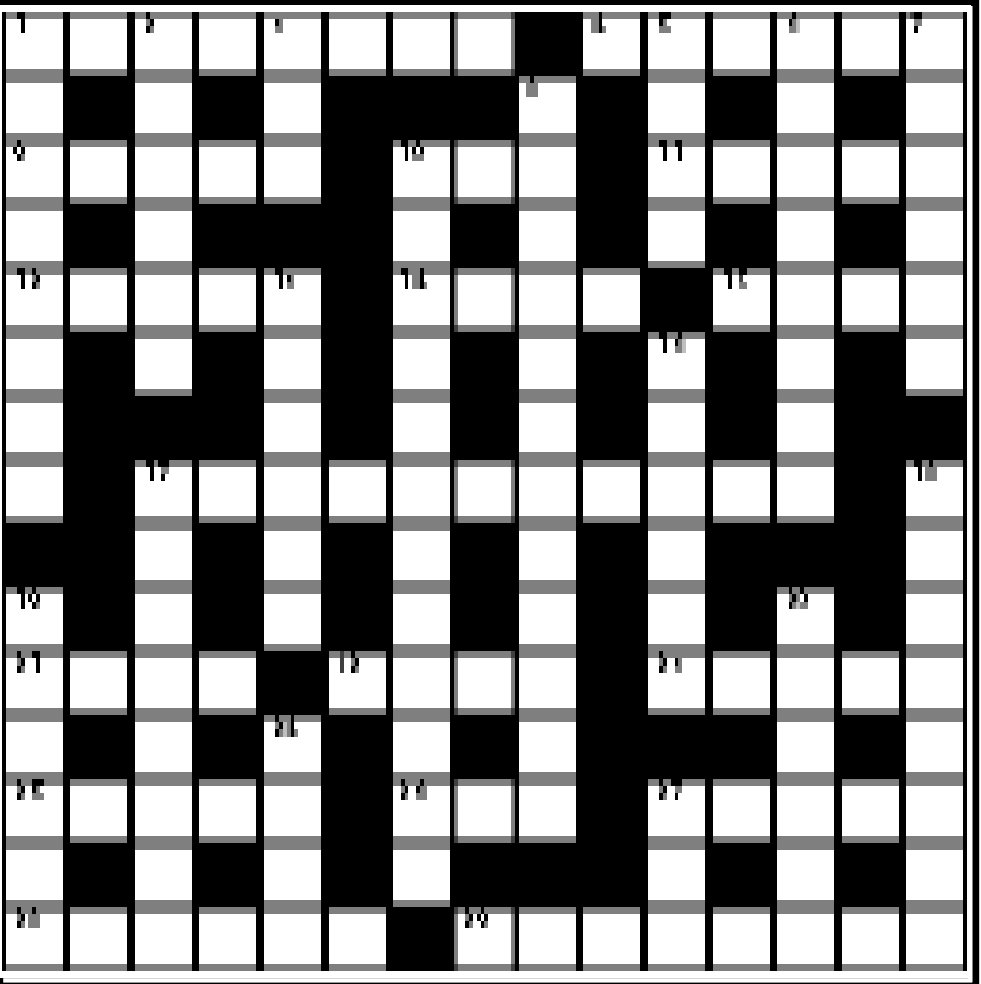
Here is a reminder of words that you have already learned just for review. We will practice them in the next column.

Na h-Éadaí – “Articles of Clothing”			
“coat”	Singular cóta /KOH-tuh/	Plural “coats”	cótaí /KOH-tee/
“cap”	caipín /KAH-peen/	“caps”	caipíní /KAH-peen-ee/
“dress”	gúna /GOO-nee/	“dresses”	gúnní /GOO-nuh/
“jacket”	seaicéad /SHAH-ket/	“jackets”	seaicéid /SHAH-kej/
“shirt”	léine /LEY-nuh/	“shirts”	léinteacha /LEYN-cha-kuh/
“trousers”	treabhsar /TREW-sur/	“trousers-pl”	treabhsair /TREW-seer/
“shoe”	bróig /brohg/	“shoes”	bróga /BROHG-uh/
“skirt”	sciorta /SKER-tuh/	“skirts”	sciortaí /SKER-tee/

Add the word for “hat” **hata** /HAH-tuh/ or “hats” **hataí** /HAH-tee/ and we are ready for the next lesson.

CELTIC
CROSS
WORDS

The Irish
crosswords are
a service of an
Ireland-based
website which
provides Irish
Family Coats of
Arms by email.
You are invited
to visit
www.
bigwood.com/
heraldry



IRELAND IN CROSSWORDS

©-bigwood.com

- ACROSS
1. Cake to start with, but no ham following on the way back in Waterford fishing village where whales have been known to beach. (8)

4. Elk Ike disposed of in attractive Clare resort sheltered from the Atlantic by the Duggerna Rocks. (6)

9. Cut ham in pieces for she who wanted Oisín to stay in Tir na nOg. (5)

10. Mr. Baba seen in Donegal incident. (3)

11. Pins that sound like a scot back in Lusk categorically. (5)

12. Get a rub of this old thing for luck in Tramore licensed premises. (5)

14. The two of them are in Drumshanbo, then. (4)

15. “The — — things a man is ashamed of, the — — respectable he is.” Shaw. (4)

17. A jig can’t run around, but this will take you on a trip around the lakes of Killarney. (8,3)

21. Garden tool, one of those from Mallow? (4)

22. Young creature hidden in Ballinakill ambulance. (4)

23. Fool will moor up facing north. (5)

25. Dish of powdery boiled potatoes is insincere when mouthed. (5)

26. Sunshine lad! (3)

27. Arts graduate so Roman as to be fundamental. (5)

28. Old men get confused as to the megalithic monument, with a fine example in Kilternan, Co. Dublin. (6)

29. The do far out in small East Galway town near Ross Abbey beside the Black River. (8)

- DOWN
1. A burn can meander in sheltered Donegal resort on the shores of Lough Swilly under Slieve Snacht. (8)

2. Len comes over with 26 across, almost. (6)

3. Hurl off this tree? (3)

5. I, to a confused Greek character, of little consequence. (4)

6. Lose control and do this to the traces, that’s one point! (4,4)

7. Shifty eye, ask inside for small Sligo seaside resort near a number of dolmens and ring forts. (6)

8. Brain bent, yet wanders to Co. Wexford Cistercian

- church near Clonmines, having a ruined twin on the Wye in South Wales. (7,5)
10. Bear they beat rears up in Dublin entertainment place burnt down in 1951 and reopened 1966. (5,7)
13. In an informal way chartered accountant leads Saul astray. (6)
16. Disorderly M.C. able to issue instruction not to panic. (2,4)
17. This is made up of unsolicited circulars about milk, Juan. (4,4)
18. Play a sneaky trick on a German night in one of the Ireland’s four green fields. (8)
19. Religious doctor outside the untidy room in Leitrim site of old ironworks on shores of Lough Bofin. (6)
20. Fast musical makes rope tangle around the saint. (6)
24. Piece of computer information inclusively concealed by Templemore establishment . (4)
27. “There’s no such thing as — publicity, except your own obituary.” Brendan Behan (3)

CROSSWORD SOLUTION ON PAGE 19

Irish Sayings

Even a tin knocker will shine on a dirty door.
Every patient is a doctor - after his cure.
“The Windy day is not a day for scallops (thatching).”
“People live in each other’s shelter.”
“The world would not make a racehorse of a donkey.”
“You are not a fully fledged sailor unless you have sailed under full sail,” “and you have not built a wall unless you have rounded a corner.”
“There is no strength without unity.”
“You must live with a person to know a person. If you want to know me come and live with me.”
“Praise the young and they will blossom”
“The raggy colt often made a powerful horse.”
“Age is honorable and youth is noble.”
“Youth does not mind where it sets its foot.”
“Both your friend and your enemy think you will never die.”

ADVERTISEMENT

Photography by
Image Photo Service

• Weddings • Anniversaries

• Banquets • Portraits

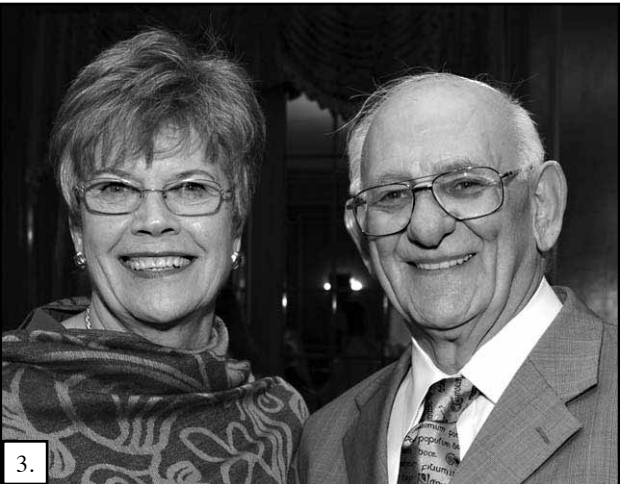
• Reunions

• Groups • Families

• Special Occasions

(617) 291-6609

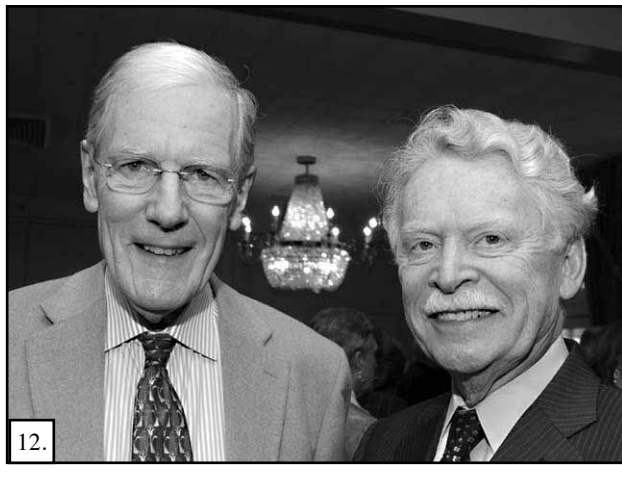
The official photographers of the Boston Irish Reporter



BRETT'S BOSTON
By Margaret Brett Hastings
Exclusive photos of Boston Irish people & events

The Eire Society of Boston observed its 76th anniversary on April 25 with a Gold Medal dinner at the Boston Park Plaza hotel. The 2013 Gold Medal Honoree is Sister Lena Deevy, LSA, founder and recently retired head of the Irish International Immigrant Center.. In honoring Sister Lena, the society described her as “part visionary, part missionar, (she) has led and nurtured an organization now internationally respected and honored for its protean work, largely among the young and under-served.... Sister Lean Deevy is a singular exemplar of the belief that one person can make a difference!”

1.) Cate McGrail, President Eire Society; Sr. Lena Deevy; Seamus Mulligan; 2.) Jim Carmody, Milton; Mary Ellen Langan, Newton and Fr. Wendell Berrill, Hingham; 3.) Connie and Peter Koutoujian, Waltham; 4.) Sheila Dwyer, Westwood; Maria Hill, Milton; 5.) Jeff Flagg, W. Roxbury; John Rattigan, Newton; 6.) Tom Carty, Dedham; Sr. Margaret Leonard, Dorchester; Trish Carty, Dedham; 7.) Scotti Finnegan, Chatham; Mary O'Neil, Newton; Edris Kelley, Marshfield; 8.) Middlesex County Sheriff Peter Koutoujian; Sr. Lena Deevy; 9.) Ed Duffy, Milton; Margaret Flagg, W. Roxbury; 10.) Richard and Beverly Armour, Norwood; 11.) Mari Bartholomew, Quincy; Maureen Connolly, Hingham; 12.) Paul Finnegan, Boston; Patrick King, So. Boston; 13.) Bill, Mary Beth and Barbara Fitzgerald, Milton; 14.) Jim Riley, Weymouth; Catherine Shannon, Scituate.



Traveling People

It’s May, and Ireland is awash in colorful blooms

**By JUDY ENRIGHT
SPECIAL TO THE BIR**

Ireland is literally awash in blooms. Masses of daffodils lined highways in April, yellow flag iris and primrose are everywhere and, in home gardens, the growing season has begun in earnest. All over the country, gardens have opened to the public and, if you are an avid gardener or just an admirer of beautifully designed and planted gardens, this is the time of year for you.

HOUSES, CASTLES, GARDENS

Some 72 properties all over Ireland – North and the Republic – are included in “Houses, Castles and Gardens of Ireland.” Among the listings are the magnificent National Botanic Gardens in the Glasnevin section of Dublin. There you can see the lovely glasshouses and the Great Palm House with plants from around the world.

Also included are Kylemore Abbey and Victorian Walled Garden in Co. Galway, Castlecoote House and Gardens in Co. Roscommon, the Japanese Gardens and St. Fiachra’s Garden in Co. Kildare, the Birr Castle Demesne in Co. Offaly, Castle Durrow Hotel Gardens in Co. Laois, Hunter’s Hotel gardens and Powerscourt House and Gardens, both in Co. Wicklow, Grogan’s Castle Hotel Gardens and the Vandeleur Walled Garden, both in Co. Clare; Fota House Arboretum and Gardens in Co. Cork and many, many more. And, don’t miss Rowallane Garden or the Mt. Stewart House and Gardens, both in Co. Down, or Springhill House and Costume Collection in Co. Londonderry.

Be sure to visit hcg.ie for details.

WICKLOW GARDENS

Wicklow Gardens 2013 will celebrate 24 years of showcasing beautiful gardens open to the public in a county known as “the Garden of Ireland.”

From April through September, there will be 22 gardens on show including a few just outside Wicklow’s border. Each garden is “naturally beautiful, diverse and distinctive in mood and theme.” Due to Wicklow’s temperate climate, a variety of trees, plants and shrubs await the visitor with many private gardens opening exclusively for this annual event. Visit wicklowgardens.com to find out more.

DONEGAL GARDENS

Co. Donegal has an extensive garden trail that this year includes “The Irish Garden for the White House,” in Castlefinn.

Diarmuid Gavin designed the garden that will open at the end of June and replicates a garden being built at the White House in Washington, DC.

Among the gardens on the Donegal trail is Glenveagh Castle and the national park, which is a wonderful place to spend the day, take a guided tour through the Scottish castle, or hike the assorted trails in the park (open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.)

Glenveagh’s last owner was the American Henry McIlhenny, who bought the estate in 1937, restored the castle, and developed the gardens. In 1975, he sold the estate to the Office of Public Works, allowing for the creation of a National Park that was opened to the public in 1984. In 1983, he donated the castle to the state along with the gardens and much of the contents. The castle was opened to the public in 1986.

Garden promoters have partnered with numerous hospitality outlets, including Arnold’s Hotel in Dunfanaghy,



Primrose grow wild off Irish roads. *Judy Enright photos*



A butterfly rests atop a flower in an Irish garden.

Castle Murray House in Dunkineely, Tara Hotel in Killybegs, and more. Visit donegalgardentrail.com for details.

For details on other garden trails and gardens open to the public, be sure to visit discoverireland.com

BURREN IN BLOOM

The 8th Burren in Bloom Festival will be launched on May 5 at 2:30 p.m. at the Burren College of Art in Ballyvaughan with music and a walk. Further events, designed to draw attention to the diversity and beauty of this unique landscape, are scheduled around Co. Clare throughout May and into the beginning of June.

The Festival includes lectures, guided walks, a May 25 marathon, art exhibitions, set dancing and other musical events, a food festival in Lisdoonvarna, and more. There’s a wonderful Art and Craft Fair every Sunday at 10 in St. John’s Hall in Ballyvaughan, too, where I’ve found many treasures, including goats’ milk soap that’s perfect to bring home as a gift.

The Burren is a not-to-be-missed part of Ireland that has limestone pavements, grassland, Arctic, Alpine and Mediterranean plants and flowers, Celtic ring-forts and Megalithic tombs, medieval churches and castles. There are many pubs (we especially like McDermott’s in Doolin and had a great lunch at Cassidy’s in Carran) and you can find other excellent restaurants and comfortable accommodations throughout Co. Clare. For more information, visit burreninbloom.com

RHODODENDRONS

Brilliant pink rhododendrons cover the Vee Valley above Clogheen, Co. Tipperary, between mid-May and the middle of June each year. The blooming season is short and depends on the weather and, since this year’s cold delayed many plants, probably later in May would be the best time to see this flowery show.

Sadly, even though the flowers are gorgeous, the plants are incredibly invasive and are eradicated to prevent them from depriving other plants of light and water and ultimately killing them. Rhododendron growing wild in Ireland are Rhododendron ponticum, a species not native to the country that was introduced to the Vee Valley area in the 1960s and has since taken over the entire mountainside, killing off nearly every other plant that previously grew there.

Groundwork, a voluntary environmental group, was established in 1981 to organize Rhododendron eradication work camps and help to conserve Ireland’s last remaining fragments of native woodland. Today, Ireland is the least

wooded country in Europe and has only small and scattered remnants of that native woodland remaining.

For the past 32 years, Groundwork has attracted people from all over the world to join rhododendron clearance work camps each summer in Killarney National Park. There are no work camps scheduled for this year, however.

Groundwork has also focused on removing ponticum from Glenveagh National Park in Co. Donegal.

SHEEP

We groaned about our March weather in New England with so much snow and loss of power, but farmers in Northern Ireland and Wales suffered all of that in a two-day storm plus the loss of thousands of sheep, lambs, cattle and calves.

A story by Dan Keenan, in *The Irish Times* on April 16, quoted the Department of Agriculture as saying that 18,000 sheep (13,797 new season lambs) and more than 500 cattle (200 calves) died after being caught in the two-day snowstorm. Drifts buried some while others starved or froze to death in isolated fields that farmers couldn’t reach because roads were blocked. We heard tell of one farmer who brought his sheep under cover but the weight of the snow caused the barn roof to collapse and all were lost. Conditions were said to be the worst in 50 years.

Seeing the green fields in the Republic now filled with black-faced sheep and their lambs is so comforting; to me, this is Ireland as it is meant to be. I love seeing the sheep on hillsides and don’t mind when they wander the roads – so long as they don’t dart out in front of my car. Sheep are not only an integral part of the landscape, but, for many, also an integral part of the country’s economy.

Hopefully, the Northern and Welsh farmers will be able to recuperate from these very sad losses.

March was reportedly the coldest on record with the highest winds in five years. Dublin Airport reported the coldest mean temperatures since 1942 and, on March 12, Markree in Co. Sligo was colder than Russia’s average daily temperature over the same period. The sun only peeked out for 58.9 hours during the entire month of March – the least amount of sunshine since 1996.

But then April arrived and there has been sun aplenty with some showers sprinkled in to assure that the hills and fields are at their greenest for the spring and summer visitors – and farm animals – to enjoy.

PLASTIC BAGS

About 10 years ago, Ireland began charging in grocery stores for plastic bags, which encouraged shoppers to bring their own bags. England followed suit this spring and will now charge for plastic bags. That’s great news for the environment.

We recently heard that Manchester-by-the-Sea and Brookline have banned plastic bags. Wouldn’t it be nice if other cities and towns did the same?

MUSEUM OF COUNTRY LIFE

Until June, an exhibit at the Museum of Country Life, Turlough Park, Co. Mayo, will focus on 63 early photographs of Dr. Charles R. Browne, a medical doctor and anthropologist, taken along the west coast of Ireland in the 1890s. The museum is in the grounds of Turlough Park House, on the N5, eight miles east of Castlebar, and is free and open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, 2 to 5 p.m.

Browne undertook physical surveys

of people for Trinity College in Dublin. The surveys were mainly carried out in Co. Mayo (Erris, Clare Island, and Inishturk), Co. Galway (Aran Islands and South Connemara) and Co. Kerry (Dunquin and the Great Blasket Island.)

The photographs convey details about clothes, customs, housing, and modes of transport. In the surveys, Dr. Browne measured and classified humans and “racial types.” Alive or dead, the head of the Irish peasant was a source of intense interest to Browne and his colleagues.

Sounds like an interesting exhibit. For details, contact museum.ie/en/intro/country-life.aspx

DOGS

The Irish Independent ran a story recently by Michael Brennan, deputy political editor, saying that Transport Minister Leo Varadkar plans to consult the Road Safety Authority about securing dogs in cars with seatbelts. There are no rules here or in the US about restraining dogs despite the fact that a large dog can inflict severe injuries on passengers and itself in a collision. Might be something for us to think about.

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Coming to Ireland this spring or summer?? There’s certainly plenty to do and lots of fun places to go.

If you’re in the Westport, Co. Mayo area, be sure to stop by Westport House for a day of fun for the entire family. There’s an adventure activity center and a pirate adventure park and you can visit the historic Westport House with its original artifacts and artwork, gardens, tearooms and gift shop. See WestportHouse.ie for more.


From Friday, May 3, to Sunday, May 5, Castlebar, Co. Mayo, will hold a sports festival with cycling, paracycling, a women’s 10K mini-marathon (walk, jog or run), adventure sports on Lough Lannagh, and more. For details, visit mayosports.ie

Love the races? Ballinrobe, Co. Mayo, has a series of horse races planned including May 27 and 28, June 25 (Ladies Day), July 22 and 23, August 12, 27 and Sept. 24. For more, contact ballinroberacecourse.ie

For more information about things to do and places to go in Ireland, be sure to visit discoverireland.com or stop into any of the many tourist offices across Ireland. Enjoy your trip whenever you go and be sure to visit your favorite travel agent or go online to get the best prices.



Yellow flag iris grow wild in the Irish dampness.



PHILLIPS CANDY HOUSE
— Celebrating 85 Years —

Order Online at
phillipschocolate.com
or call 800.722.0905

- Delicious Handmade Chocolates
- Custom Corporate Gifts
- Handmade Phillips Cookies
- Favors for All Occasions
- Gift Baskets & Towers

818 Morrissey Boulevard • Boston | South Shore Plaza • Braintree

When in Paris . . . with Oscar Wilde

By THOMAS O'GRADY
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

PARIS – I am sitting in a café/bar called Le Comptoir des Saints-Pères in the area of the so-called Left Bank of Paris known as Saint-Germain-des-Prés. I am keeping an eye out for the spirit of James Joyce who, according to Ernest Hemingway, ate regularly at this address in the 1920s when it was a bit more fashionable and when it was known as Michaud's. Hemingway sets the scene in his memoirsque narrative *A Moveable Feast*: "It was where Joyce ate with his family then, he and his wife against the wall, Joyce peering at the menu through his thick glasses holding the menu up in one hand; Nora by him, a hearty but delicate eater; Giorgio thin, foppish, sleek-headed from the back; Lucia with heavy curly hair, a girl not quite yet grown; all of them talking Italian."

The Paris of Joyce and Hemingway has been thoroughly documented by scholars and tour guides, and devoted readers of those literary giants can follow them virtually step by step through the streets of their adopted city. In fact, in the Shakespeare and Company bookshop, named after Sylvia Beach's bookshop that published Joyce's *Ulysses* in 1922, I recently picked up a copy of *The Paris of Joyce & Beckett* by Brian O'Shea and Sean Donlon and also a copy of *Walks in Hemingway's Paris* by Noel Riley Fitch. I have visited many of the locations identified and mapped in those books, including rue Cardinal Lemoine, the remarkably unremarkable street where Joyce lived in 1921 while completing *Ulysses* and where Hemingway also took an apartment shortly after he first arrived in Paris in December of 1921. Not long after the publication of *Ulysses*, the paths of those two masters crossed and their lives overlapped, and in *A Moveable Feast* Hemingway describes a chance encounter with Joyce on Boulevard Saint-Germain: "He asked me to have a drink with him and we went to the Deux-Magots and ordered dry sherry although you will always read that he drank only Swiss white wine." Les Deux Magots is still a going concern. I had a *café allongé* there a couple of days ago.

Given all the attention paid to Joyce and Hemingway by devotees and fanatics, I am a bit surprised that there is no equivalent book-length "Guide to Oscar Wilde's Paris." Born in Dublin in 1854, Wilde visited Paris frequently during his lifetime and died here in 1900. Unlike Joyce and Hemingway, he is buried here. (So is Samuel Beckett.)

Back in 2005, I attended a performance at Dublin's renowned Abbey Theatre of a critically acclaimed production of Wilde's dramatic masterpiece *The Importance of Being Earnest*. The production, which featured an all-male cast, included a prologue that is not part of the original play script. It involved an actor (the brilliant Alan Stanford) playing the part of Oscar Wilde himself, abject and adrift in Paris, being asked to devise an entertainment for his friends there. So this framing device was plausible enough—and it also had a bit of magic to it, as suddenly, with just a slight adjustment of costume and coiffure, the character of Wilde morphed into the character of Lady Bracknell. And so the play proper began.

But that prologue continued to lend flavor to the production, as it cast Wilde as an artist whose sheer and



Oscar Wilde

unabashed wit in his writing, and also in conversation, ultimately can be seen as a mask for his true self—a lonely and conflicted figure, even a lost soul. And that is the version of Wilde that I have been thinking about as I have been walking the streets of Paris, tracking the last dark days of his life in the City of Light.

The best account of that life is Richard Ellmann's biography, published in 1987. So, having re-read the last couple of chapters of that book, I found myself standing on rue des Beaux-Arts, a narrow street, now lined with high-end art galleries, that runs along the edge of Saint-Germain-des-Prés from the École nationale supérieure des Beaux Arts down to the left bank of the Seine, the river that glides through the center of Paris like the Liffey through Dublin. Wilde died in l'Hôtel Alsace on that street. Aptly enough, given that Wilde reportedly declared during his final weeks that "I am dying beyond my means," the Alsace is now a four-star luxury accommodation known simply as L'Hôtel. Wilde's connection to the place is acknowledged by a medallion next to the front door and, higher up on the front wall, by a stone plaque mentioning that he died on the premises. (There is also a plaque recognizing that renowned Argentinian writer Jorge Luis Borges lived in the hotel for an extended period in the 1970s and '80s).

Wilde's death, from cerebral meningitis, according to Ellmann, was slow and painful. Bedridden for most of his final two months, he managed a stroll one evening that gave him occasion to utter to an acquaintance these famous not-quite-last words: "My wallpaper and I are fighting a duel to the death. One or the other of us has to go." That same evening he imbibed absinthe, his longtime drink of choice, which exacerbated his condition. He would die a month later, on November 30th, but not without further drama in the form of a deathbed conversion to Catholicism. Much earlier in his life, Wilde had declared: "Catholicism is the only religion to die in." Summoned to his bedside twenty-four hours before he expired, Rev. Cuthbert Dunne, an Irish-born member of the Passionist order of priests based at St.

Joseph's, the only English-language church in Paris, baptized Wilde "conditionally" and administered the sacrament of Extreme Unction.

On December 3rd, Fr. Cuthbert officiated at Wilde's funeral Mass in nearby Église de Saint-Germain-des-Prés. The interior of that church, dimly lit and austere yet also a serene place to sit and reflect, seems to fit with the end of a life summarized thus by Richard Ellmann: "During the first period he was a scapegrace, during the second a scapegoat." (Probably Wilde would appreciate that today a small garden next to the church holds a sculpture by Pablo Picasso honoring the memory of Guillaume Apollinaire, a short-lived poet who dominated the Parisian literary scene just a decade or so after Wilde's death. Philosopher René Descartes, famous for his declaration of "Cogito ergo sum" — "I think, therefore I am"—is interred inside the church.) Wilde's funeral was attended by a small group of friends who exited the side door of the church to follow the hearse to his first burial place, the Cimetière de Bagneux in Montrouge, Hauts-de-Seine, in south suburban Paris.

But in 1909 his remains were re-interred in Cimetière du Père-Lachaise, the largest burial ground within the city limits of Paris. He keeps distinguished company there: legendary lovers Abelard and Heloise, beloved chanteuse Edith Piaf and jazz violinist Stéphane Grappelli, novelist Marcel Proust and the aforementioned poet Guillaume Apollinaire, American authors Richard Wright and Gertrude Stein, Polish composer Frédéric Chopin and Italian painter and sculptor Amedeo Modigliani . . . and, of course, Jim Morrison, iconic singer of the American rock band The Doors. Morrison's gravesite may be the only rival to Wilde's as a place of essential pilgrimage for the hundreds of thousands of visitors that Père-Lachaise draws annually. No doubt, the lines from Wilde's poem "The Ballad of Reading Gaol," cut as an epitaph into the back of his tombstone, prophesy the nature of some of those who pause at his final resting place:

And alien tears will fill for him
Pity's long-broken urn,
For his mourners will be outcast men,
And outcasts always mourn.

Carved from a twenty-ton block of stone by celebrated sculptor Sir Jacob Epstein, the tombstone—an anatomically correct nude male "flying demon-angel," as Epstein described it—was initially deemed indecent by French authorities and covered with a tarpaulin. Over the past century it has been vandalized, and in recent years it has been defaced by admirers of Wilde leaving lipsticked kiss marks on its surface. In 2011, officials at the cemetery constructed a glass case around the gravesite: now the glass is smeared with kisses. In death, just as in life, peace has not come easily for Oscar Wilde.

Thomas O'Grady is Director of Irish Studies at the University of Massachusetts Boston and in the spring of 2013 a Visiting Scholar at the American University of Paris.

Earning Mom's approval

By MARTIN MCGOVERN

I usually see my mother twice a year. From Boston, I head home to Dublin for

Commentary

five days in the spring and the fall to spend time with my parents who, despite the challenges of age and health, retain considerable zest for life.

On a recent visit, I had an early breakfast with my father, as is our routine. Then, before heading out for the morning, I checked on my mother, who was still sleeping. Sneaking over to her, I planted a kiss on her cheek, which woke her up a bit. However, as she came to life, she did not speak. She just

stared at me and I sensed something was not to her liking.

To break the ice, I said, "So, you have nothing to say to me before I head out for a bit. No, 'Good morning, my handsome son.?' " Remaining silent, she kept me in focus, but exercised one of her fingers in a circular motion.

"What does that mean, Eleanor?" I asked, using her Christian name, as I have done since I was in my 20s. She twirled her finger again and, finally, I heard a faint voice issue a firm order, "Turn around."

"A command? That's your morning greeting to me?" I inquired. "Go on," she said dismissively. Obedient, I turned around, still clueless as to

what was bothering her.

Then, with more strength in her voice, she piped up, "You have no arse in those trousers." I said, "Even with a nice wake-up kiss, that's the best I get?" But she was not done with me. "No, that hat looks terrible on you," she exclaimed.

So Eleanor did not approve of my baggy chinos or baseball hat, which she regarded as "silly." Mercy

of mercies, my sweater passed muster. Still, when your mother hits you with such a one-two punch, you reel. Muttering and mumbling, I retreated in a bit of a huff.

A 56-year-old man, I felt like a boy in short pants and directions of old echoed in my ears: Tuck in your shirt, comb your hair, and please tie your shoe laces.

Over the course of the morning, however, my snit passed swiftly, and I actually got a chuckle recalling my mother's cheeky sarto-

rial put downs. And, in my heart of hearts, I knew her critique had merit. Not every baseball hat suits me and some of my pants do swim on me.

Yet, what stuck with me is that my mother, at 78, is still insisting I look "respectable" upon leaving the house. Yes, she chided me in her cheeky way, but there is also a maternal reassurance in that embrace.

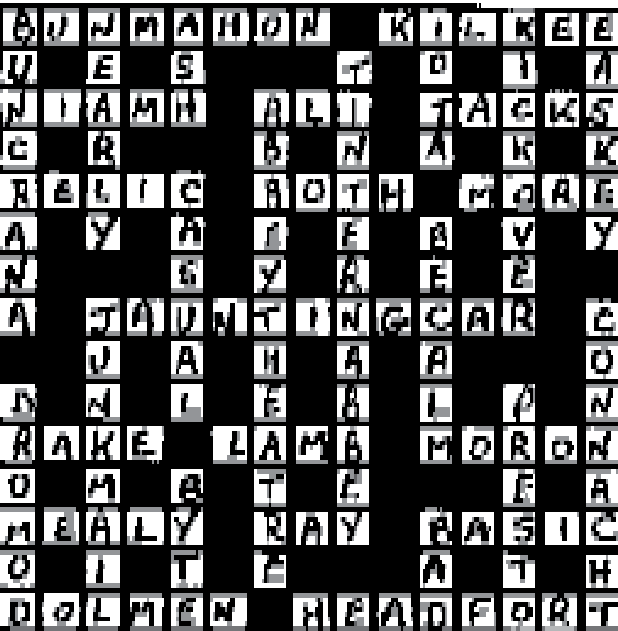
A day or so later, Eleanor stopped midway as

I helped her maneuver into the car. Something caught her eye. She looked down, lingered a second, and then turned to me. "Martin, those are lovely shoes." Her candor works both ways.

Bingo! With my mother's approval secured, a little jolt of elation coursed through me.

A Weymouth resident, Martin McGovern is the Director of Communications at Stonehill College.

PUZZLE SOLUTION FROM PAGE 17



CARROLL

Advertising Company, Inc.

Large Format Printing

Billboards • Banners

1022 Morrissey Boulevard, Dorchester

617-282-2100

carrolladvertising.com

Looking to buy
in the
Boston Area?

Or perhaps your looking for
that getaway out in the Berkshires.



Jack Conboy

Exclusive Buyers Agent

781-799-7706

JackConboy17@gmail.com

From the Berkshires to Boston

Reliability • Integrity • Trust

Calling all Flynns, O'Malleys and Schweitzenburgs.

No matter how much, or how little, Irish you have in you, you're invited to come and experience The Gathering Ireland 2013. The year-long celebration of Irish culture promises a trip like none other. You can immerse yourself in countless festivals and events, incredible music and art, exhilarating sports, and there are thousands of ways to connect with your family, friends and Irish roots. If you've ever wanted to come "home" there's never been a better time to do it.

Don't miss this once in a lifetime chance. Be part of it.

ireland.com



Ireland