BY SEAN SMITH
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

Irish Fest: Stars will come out to shine; an occasion to salute Rising centenary

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ALL ROADS LEAD TO CANTON

Deadlock over: Fine Gael's Kenny back in as Taoiseach

BY SHAWN POGATCHNIK
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DUBLIN – Irish Taoiseach Enda Kenny won a narrow re-election last month on his fourth try, ending 70 days of deadlock and forging a novel but fragile minority government containing independent voices.

Kenny received 59 votes, with 49 against, in the 166-member parliament — by far the fewest ever received for a winning premier in Ireland, a nation used to coalition governments with stable majorities. Speculation mounted on how long this government might survive.

In his victory speech, Kenny appealed to opposition lawmakers to “work in partnership together to build a better Ireland. It will be a real test of our democracy, of our character and, indeed, of this house — a test I am convinced we will pass.”

Kenny had governed Ireland for the past five years atop a two-party government sporting the strongest majority in Irish history. But voters were angered by the several years of austerity that underpinned Ireland’s 2013 exit from an international bailout and shifted support to socialist protest parties and maverick independents in the Feb. 26 election.

Kenny’s centrist Fine Gael party, though weakened, retained its top position in the Dail. But its coalition ally in the left-wing Labour Party was decimated, leaving Kenny & Co. without a viable majority partner.

Now, Fine Gael will stay in government only with external support from its age-old enemy, Fianna Fail.

Those parties have never shared power since Ireland’s 1920s independence from Britain, when the two took opposite sides in a fratricidal civil war. Fianna Fail rebuffed Kenny’s weeks-long effort to form a majority coalition.

Last month’s breakthrough became possible once Fianna Fail accepted a compromise plan to support legislative votes from outside government ranks on a case-by-case basis through late 2018.

Kenny had lost three previous leadership votes as Fianna Fail’s 44 lawmakers blocked his nomination. (Continued on page 9)

By Sean Smith

Special to the BIR

It has gone by different names over the years, but the Irish Cultural Centre of New England’s annual festival — now known as Irish Fest Boston — is set to celebrate its silver anniversary on June 4 and 5 at the ICC campus in Canton with a line-up that includes international performers such as The Wolfe Tones, John McDermott, Andy Cooney, the Cunningham Family, as well as numerous Boston/Massachusetts acts.

Irish Fest Boston also will feature other Irish-related arts and culture, and family/children-oriented entertainment and activities.

This year’s festival will mark the centenary of Ireland’s 1916 Uprising, and the commemorative theme will be reflected in several new songs to be performed by The Wolfe Tones. One of the most enduring and popular Irish folk and ballad bands, the Dublin-born group — co-founders Brian Warfield and Noel Nagle, and longtime member Tommy Byrne — has for five decades played its repertoire of traditional, historical, topical, and rebel songs, and humorous ditties throughout the world. Their extensive discography includes 16 studio albums, three live albums, and 40 singles, among them “Flight of the Earl” and “Streets of New York,” which were No. 1 hits in Ireland.

In 2014, they released their 50th anniversary box set containing six CDs and three DVDs. Although retired from full-time performing, they have periodically reunited for special events, such as the 1916 Uprising centenary.

The Wolfe Tones will be the closing act on Stage 1 both nights of the festival.

Born in Scotland and raised for most of his childhood in Canada, John McDermott has nonetheless advanced the legacy of the Irish tenor in popular music throughout a long career that stretches back to the early 1980s. Working at a full-time newspaper job, McDermott started out performing at company parties, then began singing the national anthem at professional sporting events.

(Continued on page 18)

Above: The Wolfe Tones’ appearance at Irish Fest Boston will include a special presentation of music to commemorate the Easter Rising centenary. Below, at left, Liz and Yvonne Kane will bring their smiles to the stage, and, at right, the groundbreaking Cunningham Family will surely delight with their exciting brand of sean-nos (old-style) dance.

Above: The Irish Cultural Centre of New England will feature the Wensleydale 1880 and the Stephen’s Bluegrass Bands, as well as the popular band The Wolfe Tones. (Continued on page 9)

On May 13, the Wolfe Tones will perform a special presentation of music to commemorate the Easter Rising centenary at the Irish Cultural Centre of New England in Boston.

The Guns N’ Roses concert at the Boston Garden on June 4 made headlines for a number of reasons, but many local fans were upset by the price of the tickets. As tickets sold out quickly, ticket resellers began charging exorbitant prices.

On June 5, the Irish Cultural Centre of New England will hold the annual Irish Fest Boston, featuring a variety of musical acts, as well as food and games for the whole family.

The main stage will feature performers such as The Wolfe Tones, John McDermott, Andy Cooney, the Cunningham Family, as well as numerous Boston/Massachusetts acts.

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An old pub on Dot Ave. takes on a new look

by Bill Forry

Editor

Dorchester’s newest restaurant, the Lower Mills Tavern, will officially open its doors next week, just in time for Dorchester Day. It’s worth the wait.

The Reporter was given a chance to peek inside and sample a beer or two during a private, pre-opening event hosted by co-owner Ken Casey, the front man for the Dropkick Murphy’s, and his business partner, Brian O’Donnell, a Milton native who lives in Lower Mills and was there to open the new eatery. O’Donnell’s wife, the acclaimed interior designer Taniya Nayak, came up with the concept for the space, which sought to brighten and modernize what had become a tired-looking watering hole. The trio has succeeded in transforming the former Lower Mills Pub into a welcoming, cozy neighborhood hangout that feels hip without a hint of pretension.

“It was really important to get the right team,” said Nayak, who has designed restaurants all over the world. “We wanted the Lower Mills Pub to be there for people, and we wanted it to feel a part of Lower Mills, but we didn’t want it to feel like it was putting itself out there.

This is the third joint venture for Casey and O’Donnell. After operating Central Bistro and McGreevy’s, an Irish-themed sports bar on Boylston Street, they are moving on from Boston to open another restaurant at the Ink Block in the city’s South End.

The Lower Mills project, which last fall, has enjoyed overviews and meetings with the local civic association, which approved the plans for the renovation of the pub in April 2015. But the Casey-O’Donnell team did not acquire the property until late last year, the sale having been prolonged by a licensing issue stemming from a decades-old dispute over the ownership under the previous management. In January, the new owners transferred the old pub’s liquor license to their South End project, then sought and acquired a new license for the Lower Mills space.

Renovations went into high gear over the winter. Nayak says her husband would sometimes walk over to the space from their Milton home, pick up a jack-hammer, and pound away on the demolition work himself. “This place feels like our baby,” she said. “We put so much into it, and so much care. [Brian’s] dad would come in and help with the work. It’s very much a family place for us.”

Last weekend, during a private event that included patrons of the old pub, Nayak said she was elated that the feedback was positive. “It needed a little update, it needed a change, but part of my design MO is making sure there’s always a tie back to something.”

In this case, Nayak and the team seized on a vintage mural that pre-dated even the old pub. The colorful mural ad was painted on the side of an adjacent building and was left intact when the pub was built next to it, likely in the 1940s.

The mural now serves as a perfect backdrop for the bar. “It was the greatest thing,” said Nayak. “We found out that we had a few inches more mural to expose. We didn’t have to do much to it. We gave it a good scrub-down, but the colors are so vibrant, it was a no-brainer.”

Nayak added her own touches elsewhere: tufted leather booths that are favored by O’Donnell and Casey in their other pubs. Large windows that swing open in warm weather line the Dot Ave frontage and let natural light pour into what was once a darkened space, but which now has room for 91 customers.

“It gives that nice, cozy pub feel. You want to sit down and not get up.”

Nayak went to great lengths to find the right vendor to install a throw-back hexagon-shaped tile mosaic — with the initials LMT — that greets visitors at the entrance. Casey was content to leave the finer design touches to Nayak. “I haven’t seen an idea of hers that I didn’t like,” said Casey, who is recorded on an album with his band and prepping for a month-long tour in Europe that starts next week. “We’re very fortunate to have her involved. What she did was just right: It’s a nod to the old place and also a fresh look to it.”

Casey has been as impressed with the menu, which is coming together under the direction of 26-year-old Colton Wood, formerly of the Ashmont Grill and Loco.

“I came in for tastings a few times and the food was way better than I expected. You know, when we started, we just planned simple pub fare in the McGreevy’s style, but this has now become a legit awesome restaurant.”

The tavern is still hiring and training staff, and the owners are careful to note that the menu has opened yet, despite some private events that included a visit from a prominent neighbor, Mayor Marty Walsh.

Casey joked: “I’ve never had a black bean burger in my life, and I’m not the type of person that it is awesome.”

The tavern has also turned to its neighbors down the block to help design a signature dessert: The Ice Creamsmith teamed up with Colton to create an ice cream sandwich that Casey proudly dished out to friends last Sunday.

Despite the lack of a traditional stage, the tavern will still find room for music “a couple of nights a week,” said Casey. “If you take a space that’s already small and put it in a kitchen where there wasn’t one before, you run out of space pretty quick.”

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UPCOMING EVENTS & CONCERTS AT THE ICC

June 7th: The Kane Sisters will play in the Irish Cottage at the ICC. Tickets $20 in advance/ $25 on the door

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www.irishculture.org

August 19th: SHARON SHANNON will play LIVE at the ICC Concert Tent.
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- ICC Golf Tournament
- Helena Byrne Irish Storyteller & Singer

July 16th: EMISH "High powered Irish-Americana Folk Rock". Tickets $15

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Logan-to-Cork route bid mired in dispute

By JOE LEARY

Special to the BIR

Recent parliamentary elections in Northern Ireland and in the Republic of Ireland created a political instability not seen in many years. Unfortunately, this comes at a time when the two parties that have historically been in opposition are about to form a new government. The United Kingdom leaving the European Union is a distinct possibility.

The British have scheduled a vote on whether or not to withdraw from the EU on June 23 in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. The outcome is critical of a major impact of such a vote, virtually every country in Europe will have new laws that may create many new problems to solve (including a new way to voukay over "Brexit").

In the Republic, voters elected a parliament without a clear winner, requiring a year or more to complete the negotiations to allow the formation of a new government. The participation will be another major threat to the peace process.

The vote to install the new government was 59 to 49, with a number of seats left open that joining with Fine Gael. Any serious argument between the two major parties will bring about a new election, which can cause a new election to be held. Most experts feel this could happen anytime while predicting the current agreement will last only a few months. The situation is not a threat.

The challenges presented by the UK leaving the EU are those that we have already dealt with, in dealing with Northern Ireland and the border between the two countries. The government, in the stumr Assembly to reduce that chance fairly smoothly. The DUP, and its new leader, was considered the big winner in the North as she replaces Peter Robinson, the DUP's outgoing leader who had taken over from Ian Paisley a few years ago.

Joe Leary

Off the Bench

Wall between US and Mexico ‘too costly’ says Trump. “I’m proposing a minefield”

By JAMES W. DOLAN

Special to the Reporter

President Donald Trump, in that his long-promised plan for a huge wall along the United States-Mexico border now appears more costly than he expected, has been looking to other means of reducing illegal immigration across the border. Instead, he proposed a simpler solution—a minefield.

“Countersniper stations, a minefield,” Trump said while giving assistance at the border. “I mean, you have to think of the border as a natural deterrent, but not a minefield. How many of us even remember the border of the natural beauty of the United States?”

“An effort to reduce costs, I will tell you, will be to sponsor various sections of walls. For a licensing fee, they could have signs in those areas showing their support for the project. Also under consideration is a reality TV show called ‘Border Survival,’ in which desperate illegals try to cross the minefields into the United States. Perhaps we will allow wagering on various contestants as they start out from Mexico. Commercializing the entry attempts might mean that the country pays for the border.”

James W. Dolan

Political turmoil as Ireland awaits the vote on Brexit

By JOE LEARY

Special to the BIR

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James W. Dolan
**HIGH PERFORMERS IN THEIR SPHERES**

The revolutionary Thomas Meagher, and the golfer Christy O’Connor, Sr. deserve acclaim for the lives they led.

**BY PETER F. STEVENS**

The “Imperial Irishman,” indeed. Some lives splash across a larger-than-life canvas. Such a saga is that of Thomas Francis Meagher, whose 1846 New York City speech about the Irish in the British Empire was a seminal moment in Irish history. Meagher was an Irish nationalist, Irish Republican, and Irish-American political leader.

Meagher’s words were perhaps the first major betrayal of British rule by an Irish Catholic, it has been argued. This is because his 1846 speech was a “political declaration of Irish independence,” according to historian Francis Costello. Meagher’s vision for Ireland was... (Continued on next page)

Some in US see exit from EU as threat to progress in North

**BY FRANCIS COSTELLO**

A vote by a majority in Britain in the upcoming (June 25) referendum to exit the European Union poses a serious challenge to a North-South economic strategy in the view of several US commercial and political leaders, Democratic and Republican alike.

Each of those interviewed has shown a long-standing commitment to building peace and stability in the North that would give some pause to those seeking to minimize the impact of a “Brexit” from the EU.

Computer software pioneer John Cullinane, a frequent visitor to Northern Ireland who served as an advisor to the Clinton Administration and to virtually all US commercial and political leaders, Democratic and Republican alike, believes “there would be some pause to those seeking to minimize the impact of a ‘Brexit’ from the EU.”

Cullinane, who played an influential role in persuading a number of US companies to locate in Northern Ireland, noted that in the United States there was a great deal of interest in the European Union because it would create “instability really or actually.”

In a statement to the media, Ireland’s finance minister, Michael Noonan, said the vote to leave the European Union would create “instability really or actually.”

Cullinane, who is president of Cullinane Consulting in the Boston area, expressed concern about what he said was a “return to a land border on this island, offering only anodyne comment that “sensible arrangements” would be made.

Ironically, a vote to leave the EU could play into the hands of those seeking to stoke up tensions in Northern Ireland. That is why to many it has been especially perplexing that “Irish Golf” somehow started with a bright star whose first name is Rory, O’Connor, Sr., and the role of the European Investment Bank in developing Northern Ireland rather than going forward.

“The importance of the EU in helping to spur markedly increased commercial activity in the region is very evident,” said John Cullinane, chief executive officer of the European Investment Bank Group, in a statement to the media.

The scale of EU investment across a range of social, educational, and infrastructural projects has been significant. “The scale of EU investment in Creapital and its first two ventures in Northern Ireland has been impressive,” said John Cullinane, chief executive officer of the European Investment Bank Group, in a statement to the media.

“Irish golf legend.”

Some lives splash across a larger-than-life canvas. Such a saga is that of Thomas Francis Meagher, above at left. In many ways, Meagher’s story embodies the quintessential struggle of immigrants escaping oppression to seek a better life in America. As the Great Famine ravaged Ireland in the 1840s, the handsome, well-educated Irishman unleashed his fiery oratory against the British rule that the empire was a land of... (Continued on next page)

Some in US see exit from EU as threat to progress in North
BIR gives hundreds of books to ICC library

The Boston Irish Reporter has donated more than 300 books and videos to the Irish Cultural Centre of New England in memory of the late BIR publisher Mary Casey Forry.

“Over the 26 years that we have published our Boston Irish Reporter, our newsroom has gathered hundreds of works relating to Ireland, many of which we have reviewed in our pages over the years,” said Ed Forry, Mary’s husband and current publisher of the BIR.

When the BIR relocated to new spaces at 150 Mt. Vernon Street, Forry and his staff took stock of their large collection and decided that it deserved to be shared with the larger audience the cultural centre will provide.

“Many members likely don’t realize that there’s a veritable treasure trove of works available in the ICC library,” he said. “I hope that our donations will encourage others to look at their own home libraries and decide to share some of their collections with the greater Boston Irish community.”

Dave Barrett, a volunteer librarian who leads a team of other volunteers in maintaining and cataloging the growing collection at the ICCNE library, thanked the Forry family for the donations.

“Ed Forry and his late wife, Mary Casey Forry, have been great supporters of the Irish Cultural Centre for decades,” he said. “That support has been felt quite strongly in our library, where Ed and Mary have donated hundreds of books. We are indebted to the Forrys for their kind support.”

— KERRA MURRAY

Immigration Q&A

Applying for US citizenship? Still time to vote in Nov.

Q. I have had a green card and have been eligible to apply for US citizenship for quite some time, but I keep putting it off. I would like to vote in the November presidential election. Is there still time?

A. If you file your application for US citizenship now, there is a good chance you will be sworn in as a US citizen in time to register to vote in the Nov. 8 presidential election. The current processing time for naturalization cases at the Boston USCIS field office is about 4-5 months. If you live outside of Massachusetts, you can check the current processing time for your USCIS field office here: https://egov.uscis.gov/cris/processTimesDisplay.do.

In Massachusetts, the deadline to register to vote in the presidential election is Oct. 18. However, if you are sworn in as a US citizen after that date but before the election, you can still register up until 4 p.m. on the day before the election. To do so, you will need to go to the election department in your city or town hall on the day before the election. You will need to present your green card as identification to receive yourNaturalization Certificate, which we have reviewed in our pages over the years,” said Ed Forry, Mary’s husband and current publisher of the BIR.

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— KERRA MURRAY

John Mossy Walker, Ed Forry and Dave Barrett.

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(Continued next page)
2006, for example, a new Medicaid regulation went into effect which states that cases are available only to US citizens. As of July 1, 2006, individuals with lawful permanent status but who remain outside the US are not eligible for Medicaid. Also, US citizenship is for life, and US citizens cannot lose their citizenship even if they commit a crime. As of July 1, 2006, the IIC provided Sarah with her immigration status. Sarah Connor is a senior at Tufts University, majoring in International Relations and Political Economy. She has always been available to answer any questions she had, which made the visa application process much easier.

Most importantly, the IIC was very helpful in the job search process—she met a resident there, and they invited her to networking events which were sometimes organized by the Boston communities, public transportation and events organized by the center, she met with fellow J-1s.

Before her one-year visa is up, Sarah hopes to spend her remaining time exploring those parts of Boston she has not yet visited. She also plans to travel around a bit of the country during her last two weeks here. The IIC wishes Sarah best of luck in her future endeavors and knows that she brings home a treatise on what she has learned from her interning experiences from America!

The IIC helps Irish graduates who are on their one-year, internships in the US communities by informing them if they have any openings, please contact Paul Peil at ppeil@iicenter.org.

**Applying for US citizenship? Still time to vote in Nov.** no restrictions on the amount of time US citizens can remain permanent residents, whereas legal permanent resident must be renewed every two years.

**Government Benefits:** Some federal and state benefits programs have been scaled back and in some cases eliminated for legal permanent residents. A new, federal law, the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act (IIRIRA), dated June 8, 2006, for example, a new Medicaid regulation went into effect which states that cases are available only to US citizens. As of July 1, 2006, individuals with lawful permanent status but who remain outside the US are not eligible for Medicaid. Also, US citizenship is for life, and US citizens cannot lose their citizenship even if they commit a crime. As of July 1, 2006, the IIC provided Sarah with her immigration status. Sarah Connor is a senior at Tufts University, majoring in International Relations and Political Economy. She has always been available to answer any questions she had, which made the visa application process much easier.

Most importantly, the IIC was very helpful in the job search process—she met a resident there, and they invited her to networking events which were sometimes organized by the Boston communities, public transportation and events organized by the center, she met with fellow J-1s.

Before her one-year visa is up, Sarah hopes to spend her remaining time exploring those parts of Boston she has not yet visited. She also plans to travel around a bit of the country during her last two weeks here. The IIC wishes Sarah best of luck in her future endeavors and knows that she brings home a treatise on what she has learned from her interning experiences from America!

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New Government Regains A-Grade Credit Rating - Even as the new minority government led by Enda Kenny is being put to the test, the family has helped to repatriate six sons and daughters - helped to create the Kevin Sands Family Trust. The book, written by the family, has helped to repatriate the family's Newry home, has helped to create the Kevin Sands Family Trust. The bank, written by the family, has helped to repatriate the family's Newry home, has helped to create the Kevin Sands Family Trust.

Bill O'Donnell

After expenses for bringing Kevin home, the family had another idea. They decided to spend that money to repatriate Irish sons and daughters and was not put to rest. But one thing the family has done quite ready for prime time.

Dissident republicans to mainland Britain from "moderate" paramilitary groups had upgraded the threat level from "low" to "medium." Early security service warnings from MI5 and others are out despite the addition of the SDLP, and with Ulster Unionists to his itinerary in Ireland when he visits there in 2018.

John Sullivan, a Dublin native born in 1881, was a member of the Centenary Committee who spearheaded a Presbytery celebration of the centenary of the Presbyterian Church in New Zealand until his mid-thirties when he took up studies to be a Roman Catholic priest. At 66, he was ordained a Jesuit.

Having worked in the past with a number of agencies out of Ireland are Travel Bug in Castletown, Co. Mayo, and Irish American Work Adventures (AWA) as registered with Fine Gael.

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The Lord Mayor of Dublin has urged the government to file an application for expansion and preservation of the Moore Street battlefront and its economic plans.

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Spreading the word about the Glasnevin Cemetery Museum

By Peter F. Stevens

The Glasnevin Cemetery Trust and Tourist Ireland are proud of an array of new features, tours, and sites that have made Glasnevin Cemetery one of Dublin’s most popular tourist destinations.

As a meeting held recently at the Boston College Club in Boston, Ann Kilconey, the Trust’s sales and marketing director, described how Glasnevin, in the city’s Northside at Finglas Road, is truly “both the guardian and storyteller for over 1.5 million people” (the number of men, women, and children who repose there). Kilconey and Jean McCluskey of Tourism Ireland have been spreading the word about Glasnevin here in the US.

Glasnevin’s mission is one that strives to make the stories of those laid to rest beneath the simplest stones and those of the man whose crypt is housed within a spectacu larly large round tower: Daniel O'Connell opened Glasnevin Cemetery, Prospect Cemetery Museum, Finglas Road, Dublin 11, tel. 01 882 6550; glasnevinmuseum.ie; museum@glasnevintrust.ie). Associated Press writer Matt O’Neill contributed from Dublin, Ireland.

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“Donald Trump clearly called climate change a dential candidate has. Rising seas threatening this time to keep out the massive wall along the Mexican border, has re- posted to Twitter to express skepticism that human activity is caus- ing the world to warm, raising sea levels as soil polar ice caps melt. He has also said he would seek to “renegotiate” the global accord to cut climate-warming carbon emissions agreed to by President Barack Obama in December.

The concept of global warming was created by and for the Chinese in order to make U.S. manufacturing non-competi- tive,” Trump tweeted in 2012.

“The entire country is FREEZING - we desper- ately need a heavy dose of global warming, and fast! Ice caps sizes reach all time high,” Trump tweeted in 2014.

Environmental groups pounced on the applica- tion as evidence of hy- poocrisy.

“Donald Trump clearly cares more about the fate of his golf courses than the health of the millions of families already affected by the fact of global warming,” said Adam Beitman, a spokesman for the Sierra Club.

“President-elect Trump clearly cares more about the fate of his golf courses than the health of the millions of families already affected by the fact of global warming,” said Adam Beitman, a spokesman for the Sierra Club.

April 21, 2016 – from one focusing on history and featuring such unique touches as the Padrão Pearse O’Rahoon Recom- mentation to others that provide personal connections to the final resting places of the men and women who have carved out Ireland’s past and present.

One of the most popular attractions at Glasnevin Gardens, a spectacular 19th-century site that visitors reach via the gate at the wall framing the far side of Glasn- evin Cemetery, Prospect Cemetery Museum, Finglas Road, Dublin 11, tel. 01 882 6550; glasnevinmuseum.ie; museum@glasnevintrust.ie). Associated Press writer Matt O’Neill contributed from Dublin, Ireland.

“Thank you to everyone who has attended our events or shown your support through donations. We are very grateful for your continued support.”

On May 1st, the museum will be open on Monday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and on Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The museum will be closed on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

For more information, please contact the museum at museum@glasnevintrust.ie. Visitors are welcome to visit the grounds without prior arrangement. The museum is free to visit.

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Greenhills celebrates by giving back!

To commemorate our 25 years, we will donate $1000 on the 25th of each month to a local charity.

Here's to 25 more years in Dorchester/Boston

780 Adams St., Dorchester, MA • 617-825-8187
www.greenhillsirishbakery.com
Mon.-Sat. 5 a.m. - 6 p.m. • Sun. 6 a.m. - 2 p.m.
**Entertainment Schedule**

**Saturday, June 4**

**Main Stage**
- 11:00  Ciaran Nagle & Tara Novack
- 12:00  Matthew O’Donnell
- 1:00  Andy Cooney
- 2:30  The Whistlin’ Donkeys
- 3:30  The Cunningham Family
- 4:00  John McDermott
- 5:30  Fenian Sons
- 6:30  Inchicore
- 7:30  Devri
- 8:30  The Wolfe Tones

**Traditional Tent**
- 12:00  The Cunningham Family
  - Sean-nós dance workshop
- 1:00  Claire Egan/Eoin O’Neill
- 2:30  Beocht
- 3:30  Bartley O’Donnell
- 4:00  Cunningham Sound
- 5:30  Marian Ui Cheide
- 6:30  Stuart Peak & Friends
- 8:30  Open session
- 11:00  Close

**Stage Two**
- 11:00  Jinty McGrath
- 12:00  Rare Ould Times
- 1:00  Ireland’s Jolly Tinkers
- 2:00  Boston’s Erin’s Og
- 3:00  Boxty
- 4:00  Erin’s Guild
- 5:00  Gobshites
- 6:00  Colm O’Brien
- 7:00  Danny Gill & The Old Brigade
- 8:30  Close

**Main Building**
- 12:00  Jive Lessons - Niall Maguire
- 1:00  Set Dancing 1 - 4
- 2:00  Set Dancing
- 3:00  Jive Lessons - Niall Maguire
- 4:00  Silver Spears
- 5:00  Erin’s Melody
- 8:00  Close

**Sunday, June 5**

**Main Stage**
- 10:30  Sunday Mass
- 11:30  Boston’s Erin’s Og
- 12:30  Devri
- 1:30  Pauline Wells
- 2:00  The Whistlin’ Donkeys
- 3:30  John McDermott
- 5:00  The Cunningham Family
- 5:30  Inchicore
- 7:00  The Wolfe Tones
- 9:00  Close

**Traditional Tent**
- 12:00  The Cunningham Family
- 1:00  Cunningham Sound
- 2:00  Claire Egan & Eoin O’Neill
- 3:00  Beocht
- 5:00  Dennis Galvin & friends ceili
- 9:00  Close

**Stage Two**
- 12:00  Curragh’s Fancy
- 1:00  Boxty
- 2:00  Silver Spears
- 3:00  Colm O’Brien
- 4:00  Matthew O’Donnell
- 5:00  Ciaran Nagle & Tara Novack
- 6:00  Jinty McGrath
- 7:00  Close

**Main Building**
- 12:00  Jive Lessons - Niall Maguire
- 1:00  Set Dancing 1 - 4
- 2:00  Set Dancing
- 4:00  Jive Lessons - Niall Maguire
- 4:00  Erin’s Melody
- 6:00  Noel Henry’s Irish Showband
- 8:00  Close

**DJ Sean O’Toole**

**Irish Fest Boston House DJ**

**Main Stage**

**Saturday Dance Performances**
- 1:30  Dunleavy, Boyle & Connolly School of Irish Dance
- 3:30  Haley School of Irish Dance
- 5:30  Hansen Reohane School of Irish Dance
- 4 p.m. on  Jive lessons

**Sunday Dance Performances**
- 12:50  Heavey Quinn Academy of Irish Dance (Stage Two)
- 2:50  Greene O’Leary School of Irish Dance (Stage Two)
- 6:35  Reane O’Brien Academy of Dance (Main Stage)
- 4 p.m. on  Jive Lessons with Erin’s Melody and Noel Henry’s Irish Showband in the Main Building

**Tug of War • 3:00 • Field B**

**Free Bus Shuttle Service**
will leave on the hour starting at 10:00 a.m.
from the Quincy Center T Station
(Pick Up/Drop Off – Hancock Street Side – Spot #4)
Braintree T Station (Pick Up/Drop Off – Spot #8)
Broadway’s Ciarán Sheehan is Billy Bigelow in “Carousel”!

By R. J. DONOVAN
Broadway’s Ciarán Sheehan will be in town from June 9 to June 19 to kick off Reagle Music Theatre’s 45th summer season with Rodgers & Hammerstein’s “Carousel.” The classic musical tells the challenging love story of Julie Jordan, an innocent New England mill worker, and Billy Bigelow, a swaggering carnival Barker. Ciarán stars as Billy opposite Boston’s own Jennifer Ellis as Julie.

The Dublin-born actor-singer-producer made his Broadway debut in “Les Miserables” – mentored by legendary producer-director Hal Prince (“Evita,” “Cats”) – and subsequently starred in more than 1,000 performances of “Phantom of the Opera,” both on Broadway and in Toronto.

His credits include roles at The Irish Repertory Theater and in Frank McCourt’s “The Irish And How They Got That Way,” “Finian’s Rainbow,” and “Curtains” (with James Corden), to name a few. He produced and starred in a sold-out run of “The Molly Maguires” at the Kirby Center in Pennsylvania.

As a solo artist, the charismatic Sheehan has sold out Carnegie Hall at the National Concert Hall in Dublin, opened the dedication of the Irish Hunger Memorial in New York City, and served as music services for Beate Hiden at the request of Vice President Joe Biden. He also has three PBS musical specials under his belt.

In contrast to his success on stage, Sheehan has faced his own share of darkness. He was sexually abused as a boy. He later suffered a near death experience. Admirably, he has come through it all to survive, succeed and help others with their own pain.

While “Carousel’s” rich score boasts songs like “June Is Busting Out All Over” and “If I Loved You,” Billy Bigelow comes with a rough edge and Sheehan finds him to be a fascinating, multi-layered character. In a phone interview from his suburban New Jersey home, he said, “To me, he’s sort of a wounded innocent. . . . In some ways, I know this guy really well. . . . If you could answer for a lot of things was my flat. So I understand his response to things. He’s almost like a god who functions for the world. He really has no skill set other than music and theater.”

Billy falls in love with Julie, but romance is new territory for him. Sheehan said, “Billy’s life has been bouncing around as a carnival Barker. He doesn’t know what’s going on with the hero of the scene (Jenn and I have) is so beautiful, so right, so hopeful. There’s no fear and shy. I let my golden chances pass me by. . . . and I think that’s his story. That fear of being honest. That fear of communication.”

“His was only music in his life. His aunt was ‘The Girl With The Golden Voice’ on Irish radio. His uncle, a dairy farmer in Limerick blessed with a tenor voice, serenaded his cows with ‘Till There Was None Again, Kathleen.’ Sheehan sang in the church choir.

Despite this, he never considered music as a career. At Rutgers, he majored in electrical engineering, which he hated. So he quit school, joined a heavy metal band, and moved to the Jersey Shore. There, on a fateful Sunday night in 1988, he was in a horrific car crash that was so devastating, he recalls his spirit pulling out of his body and witnessing an afterlife scene from above the scene. “It was a real wake up,” he said. “I was an awfully young man. I was doing a lot of drinking and a lot of fighting and a lot of women and I lost a lot of everything. When I got hit, I remember thinking I had totally wasted the life I’d been given.”

Realizing how fast life can flash by, he reevaluated his personal journey and decided to study acting. A chance meeting on the subway brought him to the Irish Repertory Theater. He volunteered around the theater, made friends, and was eventually asked to participate in the reading of a new play, “Grandchild of Kings.” Based on Sean O’Casey’s autobiographical novel, which was written by Hal Prince, whom Sheehan had never heard of.

At the time, he said, he was working as a security guard. “To be honest, I wasn’t a lot of fun. I was a bit of a loner. I didn’t know who Hal Prince was. I think that’s why I’d get along so well together . . . I wasn’t terrified by him . . . He became quite the mentor to me.”

“Now I’m trying to game for anything that potentially will help anyone,” he said. “For me, it’s about finding a place for forgiveness. Not necessarily for that other person, the person. For yourself. It just gets too damn heavy to carry.”

He says letting go of the shame can bring a fuller, more settled life.

“I’ve done some really cool things,” the fluffy, 20-something singer says. “I was playing the Phantom or selling out Carnegie Hall, but I was also playing in a small room in a cellar on the upper west side of Manhattan and suddenly I’m getting to face some truth, and getting to do some wonderful things for other people. The music makes me sing.”

R. J. DONOVAN is editor and publisher of onestageboston.com.

The June calendar:
Irish/Celtic events

In addition to the Irish Cultural Centre of New England’s IrishFest Boston (separate story), the June calendar includes a rare visit by the fiddling England’s IrishFest Boston [see separate story]. That fear of being honest. That afraid and shy. I let my golden chances so rich. (We sing) ‘longing to tell you, but . . . In some ways, I know this guy really well. . . . If you could answer for a lot of things was my flat. So I understand his response to things. He’s almost like a god who functions for the world. He really has no skill set other than music and theater. His was only music in his life. His aunt was ‘The Girl With The Golden Voice’ on Irish radio. His uncle, a dairy farmer in Limerick blessed with a tenor voice, serenaded his cows with ‘Till There Was None Again, Kathleen.’ Sheehan sang in the church choir.

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The Woodchoppers, built a following of their own with two acclaimed albums, “The Well-Tempered Bell” and “Side by Side,” which showcased their highly developed union fiddle playing.

On the bill with the Kane Sisters at the June 8 Reagle Fiddle Club fundraising gala, June 11 at 7 p.m., will be Pat Connor and Eoghan O’Sullivan, whose birthplaces represent two distinguished Irish music traditions: Connemara-born O’Sullivan’s classic “press-and-draw” technique on two-row button accordion is renowned of his native Cork and its Slibh Luachra tradition. See burren.com/Buckerseries.html.

Connor and O’Sullivan also will play a solo concert on June 12 at 3 p.m. in Medway at 235 W. Foster Street. E-mail Lisa Coyne at lisa.coyne@ecobostonmusicschool.org for details or to RSVP.

The Meatheglin Fiddlers and the Sligo Fiddlers will perform on June 11 at 8 p.m. in the Canadian American Club of New England (202 Arlington Street in Watertown). A highlight of the event will be the New Boston Scottish Fiddle Club, directed by Neil Pearlman, which will perform several sets and play with the special musical guest, the Ecoboston Festival Gala also includes a session, silent auction, cash bar and light refreshments. There is a requested donation of $25, $10 for persons under 18. For tickets, go to brownpaperickets.com/event/2543155. Information about the Ecoboston Music Series can be found at bostonirish.com. The Notlob Music series for this month includes two fiddlers, both with Boston/New England roots, representatives of the traditional and contemporary Irish, Scottish, Québécois, New England, and classical influences of Irish music, songs and pieces.

The Woodchoppers, built a following of their own with two acclai...
Lúnasa's Crawford believes the band's 'marriage of sounds' undergirds its staying power

By SEAN SMITH

The June calendar

For all the band members’ other activities, “there’s no better vehicle for what we do than Lúnasa,” says Crawford. Crawford photo

Lúnasa’s Kevin Crawford, left, and Cillian Vallely performing at Boston College this spring. For all the band members’ other activities, “there’s no better vehicle for what we do than Lúnasa,” says Crawford. Crawford photo

I had no expectations: It was literally just for six weeks,” he said. “When the tour was over, everyone went back to what they were doing. There were a few one-off gigs in 1997, and then we were invited back to Australia – by that time we were calling ourselves Lúnasa – and I said, ‘Well, I’ll ride it as long as I can.’ We’d put together a sound I was really interested in, so it seemed a good fit.

There’s even some ambiguity surrounding their first album, most of which was recorded live during the formational period: The original was released on their own label and to limited record company arrangements around the world, but the “official” version was released in 1998 through Compass Records.

Recording projects have in fact come to be the fulcrum on which Lúnasa turns. At a certain point, when the band members have accumulated enough ideas (and time), they gather to work them out in the studio. And thus, they've become pretty adept at knowing when the time is right to release another album.

“Most of our work together seems to go into making an album,” said Vallely. And then when the band prepares to tour and sell the album, “you learn everything from listening to yourself on the recording.”

“We’d put together a sound I was really interested in, ‘Lúnasa’ – and I said, ‘Well, I’ll ride it as long as I can.’”

By Matt Smith

“Where we were concerned, the timing was good, because our arrangements, our production, and our approach to the music had some elements in common with the Riverdance mixture. So, we had come up with six or seven songs with which we could have a pretty serendipitous period to be an Irish musician.”

“With the start of the band’s third decade nearing, Crawford and Vallely have reflected on the proximity of Lúnasa’s beginnings to the splash “Riverdance” made when it became a worldwide phenomenon at around the same time. Unquestionably, they say, the show – which returned to Boston last month on its 20th anniversary tour – raised the profile of Irish music as well as Irish dance, and so the mid-to-late 1990s was a pretty serendipitous period to be an Irish musician.

“But at the time, I don’t think we were thinking anything as popular as this could wind up being exploited and imitated, so we worked hard to fashion our own identity and stay true to what we were doing. Because if you’re passionate about what you do, and you stick to your values, you’ll find your niche. I think people who have liked our music appreciate that, and so we’ve always had die-hard followers.”

Vallely put it simply: “The reason Lúnasa has lasted,” he said, “is because it’s been successful. It’s been successful in that we’ve been able to create a sound that we can continue to build on and be creative with, and it’s been successful in that people have responded positively to what we’ve done. So long as this all keeps happening, so will Lúnasa.”

The stage calendar continues with Tommy Makem, Derek Warfield and the Young Wolfe Tone, Willie Nelson and Little Feat, among others. A few years ago, he formed a trio with the late Tim O’Brien (guitar) and Chrisney (double bass) that incorporates Celtic, English and original music.

Boston native Mari Black, who performs June 13 with her World Fiddle Ensemble, brings the musical globe with a repertoire that includes Irish and Scottish tunes, as well as Argentine tango. She’s won honors such as Glendullanish Scottish Fiddle Champion, Canadian Maritime Fiddle Champion, US National Scottish Fiddle Champion, Canadian Novelist Fiddle Champion, and first place at the American Protege International Fiddling Championship. Competition.

Both concerts will take place at the Arts at the Armory Café, 191 Highland Avenue in Somerville. For information, see nellotmusic.blogspot.com.

Celtic Woman, now celebrating its new album, Destiny, on an 85-city North American concert tour, will appear at Lowell Auditorium on June 23 at 8 p.m. The tour features an entirely new production showing both the concerts and their renowned singing capabilities.

“This tour,” she said, “is because it’s been successful. It’s been successful in that we’ve been able to create a sound that we can continue to build on and be creative with, and it’s been successful in that people have responded positively to what we’ve done. So long as this all keeps happening, so will Lúnasa.”

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supported by an excellent tag-team duo of guitarists in Tim Edey and Stevie Dunne, as well as fiddler/pianist Teresa Clarke. He powers through some fine medleys of slipjigs (“The Peacock Followed the Peacock” with a Scottish pipe tone on “Labour Song.”)

The album also affirms Egan’s mastery as a producer/arranger, as those who’ve observed his work as music director for “A Christmas Celtic Sojourn” know – if not for you, then the next in line. It could serve as the basis for a good TV series a la “Deadwood” or “The Litter and the Leaves” and two versions of the traditional song “LANigan’s Ball” – but are equal adept at a more nuanced, lyrical indie approach that doesn’t rely on blasting ears off heads: “Ballads,” “Year of the Rat” and “Devil’s Son” are good examples.

The band’s trad leanings are apparent in “No More Stones” (which begins with a crisp strathspey from fiddler Jack Buchanan), “The Devil’s Daughter” (with guitarista Carlos Nunez feed) and “Congress” – a take on the Irish reel of the same name, with some fleet-fingered flat-picking by guitarist Trevor Lewington. And the Latin-flavored “One Last Drink” highlights the charm and mellifluence of their vocals (Buchanan on lead).

For those who don’t know, “Shamrock City” is/was a multi-media production based on the tragic, and controversial, end. Most all of the lyrics and music were written by Egan, co-founder Seamus Egan’s great-great uncle, Michael Conway, who immigrated from Ireland to Montana in the early 1900s to seek his fortune, only to meet a tragic, and controversial, end. Most all of the lyricists and music were written by Egan, co-founder Seamus Egan’s great-great uncle, Michael Conway, who immigrated from Ireland to Montana in the early 1900s to seek his fortune, only to meet a tragic end. Most all of the lyricists and music were written by Egan, co-founder Seamus Egan’s great-great uncle, Michael Conway, who immigrated from Ireland to Montana in the early 1900s to seek his fortune, only to meet a tragic end. 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The Robert F. Kennedy Children’s Action Corps hosted a dinner on May 20 at the Kennedy Library & Museum to honor individuals “who truly embrace” the legacy of the late US Sen. Robert F. Kennedy and “work tirelessly to better the lives of children and their families.” The 2016 Embracing honorees were: Joseph E. Corcoran, Corcoran Jennison Companies; the Dropkick Murphys leader Ken Casey; Thaddeus Miles, director of community services at MassHousing; and Francine T. Sherman, clinical professor and director of the Juvenile Rights Advocacy Program at Boston College Law School.

Pictured are: 1.) Leslie E. Harris, Roxbury; Evelyn Miles, Virginia Beach, Va.; Donna Santos, Esther Santos, Hyde Park; 2.) Tom Lyons; 3.) Della Francis, Dorchester; 4.) Ken and Jennifer Casey, John Burke Hingham; 5.) Todd and Martha Golub, Newton; 6.) Neil and Pat Jones, Hingham; 7.) Larry and Hope Zabar, Swampscott; Congressman Joseph Kennedy; 8.) Gil Sullivan, Canton; Joe Corcoran; 9.) Ella Pinderhughes, Brookline; Jasmine Waddell, Cambridge; 10.) Ginny Doyle Milton; Eileen Casey, Hingham; 11.) Fran T. Sherman, Newton; Ned Loughran, Winchester; Ronna Benjiman, Newton; 12.) Kyle Saunders, Beacon Hill; Gaetan Daphnis, Milton; Joe Corcoran, Milton; 13.) Phil and Mary Chaves, Arlington; Jen and Merit McIntyre, Haverhill; 14.) Jennifer Casey (Mrs. Ken); Stephen Casey, Walpole; 15.) Congressman Joe Kennedy, Ken Casey.

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

Provided by Brian W. O’Sullivan, CFP, CLF, CFP

Just what is “comprehensive financial planning”? If you invest in your retirement, will you no doubt hear or read about it – but what does that phrase really mean? Just what does comprehensive financial planning entail, and how does it benefit our clients or investors request this kind of approach? While the phrase may seem ambiguous to some, it can be simply defined.

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

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

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

What makes this kind of planning so necessary? If you aim to build and preserve wealth, you must play "defense" as well as "offense." Too many people see building wealth only in terms of investing – you invest, you "make money," and that is how you become rich.

Basing decisions on a plan prevents destructive behaviors when markets turn unstable. Impulsive decision-making is what leads many investors to buy high and sell low. Buying and selling in reaction to short-term volatility is a day trading mentality. On the whole, investors lose ground by buying and selling too actively.

A comprehensive financial plan – and its long-range vision – helps to discourage this sort of day trading mentality. On the whole, investors buy high and sell low. Buying and selling too actively is a destructive behavior when markets turn unstable.

Think of a comprehensive financial plan as your compass. Accordingly, the financial professional with whom you work to create and refine the plan can serve as your navigator on the journey toward your goals.

Brian W. O’Sullivan is a registered representative of and offers securities, investment advisory and financial planning services through WML Investors Services, LLC. Member SIPC. Supervisory Address: 101 Federal Street, Suite 800, Boston, MA 02110. He may be reached at 617-479-0075 x331 or bousullivan@financialguide.com.

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

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By Doug Fraser

Cape Cod Times
CHATHAM, Mass. — Back in 2007, James Caple was captivated by a story about Boz Sauve’s attempt to row across the Pacific Ocean after she had successfully rowed from the Canary Islands to Antigua.

Caple realized he and Sauve had a similar background. A management consultant and project manager providing information and software to financial institutions, Caple is a software engineer who rowed in college, completed an Ironman triathlon and the Marine Corps Marathon, but really wanted to test his mettle on a solo trans-Atlantic row.

“I was just smitten with the idea at that point and I thought, ‘If she could do it, why not me?’” he said.

Caple, 47, bought a rowing story from a builder on Cape Cod. He brought it back to his home in Alexandria, Virginia, and attempted a long-distance row to Tangier Island in Chesapeake Bay, but everything went wrong. A second attempt, this time rowing with a friend, was not only successful but enjoyable.

“IT occurred to me I’m probably best with a partner,” Caple said, standing beside his girlfriend and rowing partner, Cindy Way, at the Ryders Cove boat ramp Wednesday afternoon.

Way and Caple are preparing to make what they hope will be the first successful west-to-east Trans-Atlantic row by a mixed pair. They are aiming at a 100-day crossing beginning May 24.

Way, 41, who works for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in Maryland, also has a competitive streak. She started the rowing bug at Taber Academy in Marion and has been a competitive horse rider, run in sprint triathlons, and rowed for the Alexandria Community Rowing club, where she met Caple. In the 2016 Trans-Atlantic Kayak Spirits, both rowed in a grueling 28.6 mile race, with Way taking the gold in the women’s division and Caple, 47, who once trained for a spot on the U.S. national rowing team, winning bronze in the men’s.

The couple has been preparing for their first ocean crossing for nearly a year. “I told me about the sport of ocean racing, which I didn’t even know existed, and I thought it was the most amazing thing in the world,” Way said. “I love the ocean, everything about it, and what better way to mesh everything, the beauty of nature, the sport of rowing, than to go across the ocean and really live.”

Both have taken a leave of absence from their jobs. They used savings and credit cards for the $85,000 to $100,000 needed to finance their trip, including $50,000 for a 24-foot-long boat they initially made for long distance rowing that has been used in successful Atlantic crossings. It has an enclosed section for storage in the bow and one for sleeping and refuge in storms in the stern. It’s equipped with satellite communications and plotting, as well as a dehumidifier unit to prevent fresh water. A New Hampshire company will supply them with vital weather forecasts and hopefully route them around the bad stuff.

“It’s good pedagogy,” Caple said about the vessel.

Although neither has any open ocean experience, they sought the advice of experts like the boat builder, Justin Adkin, and Savage, who is serving as their adviser and mentor on the trip.

“I think we have the book knowledge, we just need the real experience,” Caple said.

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Couple to attempt to row from Chatham, MA, to Dingle, Ireland

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Bountiful color makes Ireland sparkle in springtime

BY JUDY ENNIGHT

SPECIAL TO THE BIR

Imagine waking up to the word in Ireland these days—brilliant color from the blue of the sky and occasional blue skies to flowering plants, trees, and bushes whose colors pop when sunshine hits the earth for the first time of the year, and along the roadside.

Flowers flourish on the Emerald Isle—especially in the nearly tropical south and present a mixed palette of yellow (gerbera and irises), pink, white and red (rhododendrons), white (wild garlic), orange (caffeine), and most other colors in the flower world throughout the year.


garden Trail

With that in mind, Garden Trails are available in nearly every county thanks to local gardeners offering their gardens for a handprint for public viewing.

Donegal's Garden Trail (donegalgardentrail.com), which is celebrating its 10th year this year, is one of the many garden trails in Carlow, Connewarre, Connemara, Cork, Clare, Co. Donegal, Derry, Kilkenny, Limerick, and other counties. Many of these private gardens and trails have websites and can easily be found online including: myirelandgardens.com, donegalgardentrail.com as well as many more on the websites of the National Trust of Northern Ireland.

If you want to see something different, you might consider going to Lough Erne (lougherdgardingens.ie), in the region of Fermanagh, Northern Ireland, or The Peel (secretgardensofsligo.com) in County Sligo and in the Dublin (loughderggardens.ie), in the Region of Carlow, Ireland and Loam, just off Eyre Square in Galway.


tourism

There are interesting tourist opportunities to see many gardens near Lough Erne (lougherdgardingens.ie), in the region of Fermanagh, Northern Ireland, or The Peel (secretgardensofsligo.com) in County Sligo and in the Dublin (loughderggardens.ie), in the Region of Carlow, Ireland and Loam, just off Eyre Square in Galway.


tourism

If you're hungry in Ireland, it's your own fault! There are many fine dining and casual dining options in lots of different areas and the Irish Restaurant Association of Ireland just gave out their 2016 awards, which can be found from more than 70,000 online resources.

Dublin's Luna restauraunt on Drury Street won the Most Original Concept Award. The All-Ireland Best Restarters Award went to Apricot Kitchen, a landmark Asian-themed restaurant.

Enda McEvoy of Loam, Gaillimhe, Co. Galway (loam.ie) won Best Chef in Ireland and Loam, just off Eyre Square in Galway City, won best restaurant in Ireland.

Best restaurant in Lein-

Blue poppies in gardens at Bruckless House, Co. Donegal.

The 8th annual Percy Banaghan, The Castle -

garden Trail in Clifden, Clarenbridge and Renvyle, Galway, Ireland. The event is part of the Galway International Oyster and Seafood Festival.

The 2016 best beach restaurants in Ireland are: The White Room at The Ballynahinch Hotel, Connemara, Co. Galway; Mc'Doermott's Pub and Roadside House, both in Doolin, Co. Clare; and the Bistro at Cavan Royal Hotel, Cavan, Ireland.

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Singer-songwriter Colm O'Brien will be among many Boston and Massachusetts acts at IrishFest Boston. For tickets and other event details and updates, go to the festival website at irishfestboston.com.

Tips on genealogy session at ICC June 25

By Kiera Murray

The Friends of Irish Research will present The School of Irish Genealogy at the Irish Cultural Center on June 25 at 1 p.m.

Primary sources like newspapers have also been digitized and made available on FamilySearch, he says, so users can better understand their ancestors’ lives in historical context.

FamilySearch is particularly useful to those hoping to obtain dual Irish-American citizenship, because it provides access to the documents they need, like birth and marriage certificates, to present to the consulate. Before digitization, these documents may have been impossible to retrieve. Or, a person may not have known they existed at all.

For those hoping to claim dual status, Robert Murphy will be speaking on how to go about it, guiding attendees through the steps and providing insight into various idiosyncrasies they may encounter when dealing with the Irish government. Murphy was born in Massachusetts but was able to become an Irish citizen because his grand-father was born in Innishannon, Co. Cork. To gain citizenship, a candidate must have a parent or grandparent who was born in Ireland. He or she will need a grandparent’s birth and baptism certificates, parents’ birth certificates and marriage certificate, and his or her birth certificate. Each document is necessary in order to trace the candidate’s history back to the parent or grandparent.

These all must be original documents, while programs like Family-Search can confirm their existence, the person still has to send away for the original, physical documents.

While citizenship does provide tangible benefits like voting, retirement options, and educational opportunities, Murphy has found that many who pursue it are looking for more than just faster airport queues. An Irish passport can represent a familial connection and patriotism that people have felt for a long time.

For many, in other words, it’s not so much obtaining citizenship as retaining it, he said.

“The application could be considered an act of mending ties, he said.

“Many of the people who left Ireland because they wanted to,” he said. “Those people in the 19th century didn’t leave on their own accord. They were forced out. And the Irish have a very deep conscience. They like to right what they consider to be wrongs.”

For many, in other words, it’s not so much obtaining citizenship as retaining it.

Prior registration is preferred to guarantee that attendees will receive all necessary materials. For information and registration, interested can contact Murphy at irishresearch@gmail.com.
This month’s “irregular” verb is *teach* (eacher, go). Don’t worry, we are almost done with “irregular” verbs – at least in the three tenses that we have had so far, the Habitual Present, Definite Past, and the Future. *Teach* (go) is “irregular” in all three of these tenses.

In the Habitual Present tense, *teach* drops the -agh and the “stem” is simply *-te*.

*“I teach English and math.”* goes on the line.

Note that the Subject Pronouns *I*, *you*, *he*, *she*, *it* “you-all” and “they” are required to clarify *teach* unless “go” has already been expressed in an immediate conjunction with a Subject such as *Teach Nora go Doire*. *Teach* (go) is understood. Since *I* and *we* have distinctive endings, *mú* and *muid* are not required.

The Definite Past, corresponding to our “went,” is truly “irregular”, *chuaigh* (go) has some forms that don’t use *-te* at all.

Here are a few Irish phrase that use forms of *teach*:

1.) *“Teach go Doire.”*
2.) *“Nuair a bhraictear deoch,”* *Nuair* is understood. Since *I* and *we* have distinctive endings, *mú* and *muid* are not required.

The Habitual Past tense is similar to the Habitual Present but here the “stem” to which suffixes are attached is *rach*. *Rachaidh RAHA-ee*. *Rachaidh* (go) has some forms that don’t use *-te* at all.

Here are a few Irish phrases that use forms of *teach*:

1.) *“Chuaigh m’fhionnghracht air Bhaile.”* *Bhaile* is understood. Since *I* and *we* have distinctive endings, *mú* and *muid* are not required.

As you may have guessed, in addition to its basic meaning of traveling away from the speaker or to describe motion from one place to another, *Teim* is used in a number of idioms. *English* “go” has some forms that don’t use *Teim* at all.

Here are a few Irish phrases that use forms of *Teim*:

1.) *“Teim go Doire.”*
2.) *“Nuair a bhraictear deoch,”* *Nuair* is understood. Since *I* and *we* have distinctive endings, *mú* and *muid* are not required.

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The Definite Past, corresponding to our “went,” is truly “irregular”, *chuaigh* (go) has some forms that don’t use *-te* at all.

Here are a few Irish phrase that use forms of *teach*:

1.) *“Teach go Doire.”*
The pipes, the pipes are calling.

So are your cousins, the festivals, the sessions, the peat fires, the people and the pubs...

You've plenty of reasons to come home to Ireland this year already - and we have lots more. Take Dublin: always invigorating and full of surprises and this year plays host to a series of special events for the commemorative year of Ireland 2016. From Dublin, head for Ireland's Ancient East - a journey through 5,000 years of history, culture and legends. All combined, of course, with wonderful festivals, culinary delights and the warmest Irish welcome.

Sound good? Then make plans today to visit family and friends. Because if you listen closely, you can hear them calling.

Find out more at Ireland.com