

Brockton's
Sen. Kennedy,
voice of passion,
is dead at 63

STATE HOUSE NEWS SERVICE

Sen. Thomas Kennedy, a Brockton Democrat and fixture at the Massachusetts State House for more than three decades, passed away on Sun., June 28, according to his family. He was 63 and, an acquaintance of the family said, had been undergoing treatment for cancer and died of complications related to the disease.

Sen. Kennedy, who was selected for the Irish Honors Award for Public Service by the *Boston Irish Reporter* in 2011, was a member of the Brockton City Council before joining the House in 1983. He won election to the Senate in 2008 where he most recently served as co-chair of committees on Election Laws, Consumer Protection, and Professional Licensure.



Sen. Thomas Kennedy

In a Facebook post after her brother had died, Mary Kennedy Bardsley wrote: "Our hearts are broken... May you be raised up on eagle's wings, dear brother Tommy...oh how we loved you so...! Rest in peace."

In the Legislature, aides remember him as having a passionate voice and prominent role in helping to preserve gay marriage in Massachusetts, and noted that he lived just long enough to see it be-

come legalized across the country.

"On behalf of the members of the Senate, we are deeply saddened by the passing of Sen. Tom Kennedy," Senate President Stanley Rosenberg said in a statement. "He was a great friend, colleague, and public servant. He devoted his life to serving the people of his community and was proud of his working class roots. His voice will be missed in the Senate. Our hearts and prayers go out to his friends and family."

The youngest of four children of Robert and Mary (Cruise) Kennedy, Sen. Kennedy was a proud resident of Brockton's historic Ward 2 in the center of the city who lived in the Cruise family homestead in the house his Irish immigrant grandparents purchased before World War I.

He was educated by the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth at St. Patrick's School and the Sisters of St. Joseph at Cardinal Spellman High School, graduating in 1969. He then entered the Missionary Congregation of the

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Mediterranean mission:
the Irish Navy pitches in

The ceaseless turmoil in the Mideast is wreaking havoc, human and governmental, across the Mediterranean Sea as migrants, most of them in overcrowded boats, are streaming away from North Africa in search of asylum in European countries.

A number of countries have heeded a call from the European Union to patrol the waters where the migrant craft are crossing. As of late June, officials estimate that some 60,000 refugees have put to sea this year, with some 2,000 dying en route, according to the United Nations, as countries like Italy and France, facing domestic unrest over migration, keep trying to figure out what to do with the unexpected inflow.

The Irish Navy has been a key player in the ongoing patrol-and-rescue operation. The accompanying photos, provided to the Associated Press by Irish Defence Forces, show Irish sailors in action on June 6, offloading migrants and tending to a baby in arms aboard the Irish Navy's *Le Eithne*.

For more on *Le Eithne's* mission, see Ed Forry's Publisher's Notebook on Page 4.



Denis O'Brien's latest move: Haiti's first Marriott

By BILL FORRY
EDITOR

The Marriott Port-au-Prince, which officially opened its doors last week after a "soft" opening period of three months, is far more than just a symbol of Haiti's post-earthquake recovery. It's a living, breathing, job-creating economic engine in a neighborhood of Port-au-Prince that sorely needs exactly that: jobs, vitality and the promise of further development to come.

It's no accident that the hotel was built right next to Haiti's

tallest office building, the corporate headquarters of Digicel. The telecommunications giant now boasts the lion's share of the Caribbean's mobile phone market. And it's founder, Denis O'Brien — the Irish-born business mogul who has been in the headlines in Ireland lately — is also a well known and popular figure in Haiti.

O'Brien is the individual who agreed to pump \$48 million into the hotel's creation. Marriott, of course, is the other key partner, having invested a considerable

sum in fortune and time to manage their first Haitian hotel.

The Marriott is already making a major impression in this still-developing country, which has slowly been pulling itself up from the rubble and trauma of the January 2010 earthquake that killed more than 230,000 people — many of them right in the capital city. The hotel is hosting regular conferences, including trade shows aimed at attracting new investment and builders into the country.

It was O'Brien who, at the urg-

ing of former US President Bill Clinton, made the leap of faith to commit the dollars and manpower for the project two years ago. And it is O'Brien who sought to build the hotel in Turgeau, a section of the capital that is not currently known as a magnet for tourists.

On a recent visit to Haiti, O'Brien explained to the Reporter that the idea of siting the Marriott here was no accident.

"There's no point building where everyone else is building," explained O'Brien. "Why would

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The Irish students killed in the balcony collapse: Eoghan Culligan, Nick Schuster, Lorcan Miller, Eimar Walsh, and Olivia Burke, all 21 years old and friends from South Dublin. The sixth fatality was Irish-American Ashley Donohue, 22, of California.

‘Rotted’ balcony beams seen as cause of student deaths in Calif.

ASSOCIATED PRESS
BERKELEY, Calif. – The balcony collapse that killed six college students here on Tues., June 16, appears to have been caused by rotted wooden beams, Berkeley’s mayor announced shortly after the tragic mishap as the victims’ heartbroken loved ones began arriving in California from Ireland. Mayor Tom Bates said investigators believe the wood was not sealed properly at the time of construction and was damaged by moisture as a result. He said that appears to be the prime cause of the tragedy. “More than likely, it was caused by rain and water damage that was caused to the support beams,”

Bates said. The crowded fifth-floor balcony broke off an apartment building during a 21st-birthday party held by visiting Irish college students, spilling 13 people some 50 feet onto the pavement below. In addition to the six killed, seven were seriously hurt. Berkeley building inspectors also determined that another balcony at the apartment building was “structurally unsafe and presented a collapse hazard,” and ordered it demolished. Two other balconies were red-tagged, or declared off-limits. Across the Atlantic, flags flew at half staff around Ireland and the country’s parliament suspended normal business

as the nation mourned the dead: Ashley Donohoe, 22, of Rohnert Park, California, and Olivia Burke, Eoghan Culligan, Niccolai Schuster, Lorcan Miller and Eimear Walsh, all 21 and all from Ireland. “They were in the prime of their lives,” said Bernadette Prendiville, principal of the high school from which Burke and Walsh graduated. “They had a successful time in school, went about their work quietly and had everything going for them, everything ahead of them.” **Cardinal O’Malley leads mourning in Boston** The archdiocese of Boston held a vigil and Cardinal Sean O’Malley said a Mass of Remembrance for the Irish students killed in



Boston’s Cardinal Sean O’Malley memorialized the students with a Mass of Remembrance at Holy Cross Cathedral on June 22. Irish Pastoral Centre photo

Berkeley a week earlier. The service was held June 22 at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, followed by a reception where social workers were available. A book of condolence was available to sign before the Mass, but those who were unable to attend can sign it at the Irish Consulate in Boston.

IIIC offers condolences to families of J1 students

Youth and death – two words when paired together call to mind the most unimaginable heart-ache. It was with profound sadness that on June 16 we learned of the terrible news that occurred overnight in Berkeley, California - the death of six young students and the injuries to seven others.

The last of the funeral services have now taken place in Ireland and most of the injured students have returned home to continue medical treat-

ment there. For several, the road to recovery will be long and hard. All of those directly involved will never forget the details of the tragedy. The staff of the Irish International Immigrant Center (IIIC), along with the Irish Pastoral Centre in Boston, have been supporting Irish J-1 summer students for many years as they land in Boston seeking employment, accommodation, and a good experience in the United States. The four-month J-1 Summer Work and Travel Visa program has been around since 1961, and thousands of young Irish men and women have enjoyed wonderful summers in Boston, and on the Cape. The J1-IWT program is a one year program that is available to Irish university students, and recent graduates, but the visa is tied to internships in the students’ area of study. There are currently over 1200 Irish J1-IWT students in the United States. The IIIC sponsors and supports 260 of these students. This year, hundreds of J1- Summer Irish students recently arrived in Boston – many of whom are visiting the US for the first time, and all of them are of similar ages and backgrounds to those in California. The students visit our Center daily, and our staff and interns provide a comprehensive range of information and welcome services. We provide Irish tea and biscuits hoping to be a home-away-from-home, safe place for them. Just like those young people in California, our J-1 students eagerly anticipated the wonderful experience of living and working in America during the summer recess. We listen to their success stories about finding the perfect job or apartment and, yes, we listen to their problems too and try to help where we can. The aim of the IIIC J-1 program is to ensure a safe, successful, and enjoyable summer for all of the students. IIIC executive director Ronnie Millar says: “the J1-ers are good, young men and women who remind me of my nieces and nephews from back home. They all want to work, and experience America in a good and positive way. These days, their No. 1 chal-

lenge is to find affordable accommodation in Boston. Many of them came to our Memorial Mass for the Berkeley tragedy, and were obviously saddened about what had happened.” Despite this tragedy and the grief it has brought, each summer will continue to bring the best of Ireland’s young people to these shores and society here is all the better for it. Youth offers the promise of happiness yet this tragedy is a sad reminder that life is a lot more fragile than we dare to think. We ask that you keep the victims, their families, and friends in your thoughts and prayers. Finally, we wish to extend our gratitude to all the staff at the San Francisco Irish Immigration Pastoral Center who have, since the tragedy, worked day and night to help the J1’ers and their families. An account has been established to raise funds for the students affected by this tragedy and their families. For further information, and to make a donation, go to: gofundme.com/J1tragedyfund



Mourners outside a church in Dublin remember the students. AP photo

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The Irish Navy: Life-saver on the high seas



Rescue at sea aboard the Eithne.

By Ed Forry

The Irish Navy is playing a major life-saving role in the rescue of thousands of men, women, and children among a wave of refugees seeking asylum in Europe from the chaos in the Middle East.

The LE Eithne, the flagship of Ireland's Naval Service, is very familiar in Boston; it has made several visits here, most recently in July of 2009 during the Tall Ships celebration. The Eithne was deployed to the Mediterranean in late May to participate with other nations in a humanitarian rescue operation that in the first four weeks has rescued thousands from sinking vessels. The migrants are fleeing from Libya and other coastal areas of North Africa, paying smugglers in desperate attempts to reach safe haven across the Mediterranean.

At the end of June, the Irish Navy reported that a total of 2,729 people had been rescued since then the Eithne began search and rescue (SAR) operations on May 28. I learned about the heroic deeds through postings on the Irish Navy's Facebook page, where updates appear daily. On one day in late June, the Irish sailors did five SARs, and were returning to port with 496 men, 92 women, and 6 children on board.

An Irish naval commander who has helped to rescue hundreds of migrants has said the scale of the human tragedy is "unprecedented." According to a BBC report, the Eithne's captain, Lt. Cmdr. Eric Timon, said the humanitarian rescue has been "relentless." The BBC report said that "the numbers of people fleeing Africa for whatever reason... casting themselves adrift on unseaworthy vessels in the hope of rescue or the hope of reaching European shores, it's quite extraordinary. Many of the migrants have spent days at sea without water and are in very poor health when rescue boats reach them."

The captain described how the Eithne responded to a distress call on Monday, June 22, from "an inflatable craft approximately 50 miles northwest of the coast of Libya". Little did the ship's company know that there was going to be a further two distress calls and seven hours later they had rescued over 500 people, including 20 children."

The migrants were transferred from their sinking boats to the safety of the Irish ship. In a statement, the Irish Naval Service said the Eithne rescued 104 migrants from the inflatable craft at 05:16 on June 23 and was immediately re-tasked to rescue a further 362 people from a barge 50 nautical miles northwest of Tripoli. Within 45 minutes of the barge rescue, the crew saved 53 migrants from a small fibre-glass boat. Timon said crews worked hard to ensure there was no panic during rescue missions because it was a very dangerous situation for the migrants.

"First of all, these vessels are sinking; that's the number one thing. So these people are quite scared. We need to reassure these people, first of all, that they are going to be saved and not to panic, and to control that is very important. ... Many of these people have never seen the ocean, let alone been cast adrift on it. So they have sea sickness, which has a dehydrating effect, which is also compounded by the hot sun in the Mediterranean. As soon as we get them on board the ship, they're medically screened by our staff on board and they're given additional medical attention if necessary. They are also given water, food, and clothing before being taken to a port of refuge.

"We've come across other vessels where we've given them water and that's the first water they've seen for days," the captain said.

Parades, bonfires, and hope are the themes in the North

By Joe Leary
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

Despite the refusal of hardliners on both sides to embrace the peace and new spirit of cooperation in Northern Ireland, there are hopeful signs of change.

The signing of the Good Friday agreement in 1998 has nearly eliminated the bombings and sectarian killings that took place 20, 30, and 45 years ago.

Though the horrendous and divisive so called "peace walls" still separate and divide communities, Nationalists and Unionists are able to communicate and get along. Even the politicians, when out of the public eye and behind closed doors, are able to laugh and agree with each other.

It is very hard, however, to erase the hurt and sadness of the years past. This month, on July 11 and July 12, we will witness towering bonfires and "in your face" parades taking place all over Northern Ireland celebrating a Protestant army's victory over a Catholic army 300 years ago. The Unionists call this "preserving our culture"; the Nationalists call it continuous insulting behavior.

How bad was it years ago?

On May 17 1974, Unionist paramilitaries decided to attack the Republic of Ireland, exploding large bombs in Dublin that killed 33 civilians and injured 300 more. The bombings were the deadliest attack of the "Troubles." Most of the victims were young women, and there was a five-month-old child.

The Nationalist/Republican paramilitaries also committed killings and bombings, focusing their attacks mostly on the British army and local police forces. It was a desperate time in Irish history. Does the resentment against such acts ever go away?

Such was the anger that British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher refused to stop the ten hunger strikers from dying in a prison protest against British rule.

But all of that essentially stopped after the Good Friday agreement was approved on May 22, 1998. On that day 94.3 percent of the voting public in The Republic of Ireland and 71.1 percent of the voting public in Northern Ireland accepted the agreement. It was a great achievement by good-hearted men and women on both sides.

Unfortunately, a few members of Nationalist/Republican paramilitaries, now known as dissidents, have refused moves towards peace, and committed occasional violence. Just as unfortunately, some Unionists continue to refuse to accept the new diverse society and continue protesting and asserting their ascendancy.

This month, on July 11, towering bonfires, some subsidized by the government as community activities,

will be set alight, 50- to 100- foot pyres in the name of the Protestant king's victory hundreds of years ago. The smoke from these tire-filled towers will be around for many days.

The next day, July 12, is the big day. The Orange Order, a group of approximately 80,000 anti-Catholic men and women, will conduct parades throughout Northern Ireland. These parades are the cause of substantial trouble. They are a source of frequent rioting, severe injury, and expensive policing costs. There are not just three or four of these parades; there are hundreds of them during the summer. Many Catholics I have known simply leave Northern Ireland, taking their families on vacation to avoid any problems.

One Orange Order Parade marches by St Patrick's church in Belfast. Three years ago, band members stopped to urinate on the church steps as they passed by. Many bands will play and sing famous anti-Catholic songs, insulting the pope with obscene language.

In an effort to control a march in North Belfast, the Parades Commission has prohibited the playing of music in front of Catholic churches, and for this year a band must stop playing 43 meters before and after passing the church. Hardline unionist DUP politicians started screaming. Nigel Dodds, a former Paisley follower who is reputed ready to take over after current First Minister Peter Robinson leaves, screamed the loudest at any restrictions.

The feelings go so deep that a Unionist group has set up a permanent protest site in North Belfast. Manned 24 hours a day by unionist protesters, it has been there for over two years and is referred to in the Belfast newspapers as the "Twaddell Camp." According to the police it costs hundreds of thousands of British pounds annually to prevent trouble at the site. That is money that could be used to help solve some of Northern Ireland's budget problems.

How does all this happen when the vast majority on both sides want to simply live their lives in peace?

Is it because no one is able to take on the troublemakers? Is it because one side is waiting for the voters to take action? Is it because the London government does not care to get its hands dirty? It is hard to believe that after all these years, government leadership is still allowing such divisiveness.

Let's watch and see what happens this year on July 11 and July 12.



Joe Leary

Building bonds across the oceans

By Charlot Lucien

A nine-foot-tall statue of the abolitionist Frederick Douglass, the first such tribute to Douglass in Europe, was in Boston last month, on display at the Museum of African American History on Beacon Hill at an event aimed at building awareness for the monument and its ties to Boston, Ireland, and Haiti.

The sculpture, created by the renowned Anglo-Irish sculptor Andrew Edward, is dominated by the passionate, resolute facial expression of the then 27-year-old Douglass. On hand for the event was the author and activist Dan Mullan, who was touring the US to promote the statue and the connection between Douglass and one of the most revered Irish statesmen, the abolitionist Daniel O'Connell (1775-1847).

Douglass is linked to both Ireland and Haiti, although his visits to these former European colonies took place decades apart. In 1845-1846, Douglass, then just 27, visited Ireland for a speaking tour against slavery. Almost 50 years later, at age 71, he went to Haiti, and stayed there for two years on a controversial mission: As an ambassador to facilitate the sale of a portion of the world's first black republic.

Over the years, Mullan, who lives in Paris, has built an interest in advocating for civil right causes in Haiti and various countries in Africa, Europe and Haiti. He is the co-founder of the Frederick Douglass Ireland Project and a member of the French-Haitian Reparations Initiative. His lecture at the Museum of African American History and the National Center for Race Amity was entitled "Douglass and O'Connell: Two Men Yearn for Freedom." It was preceded by a segment from the upcoming (its release is scheduled for next year) public television documentary "An American Story: Race Amity and the Other Tradition," featuring Douglass's first trip to Ireland where he met O'Connell and was triumphantly received by abolitionists in Dublin, Belfast, and Cork.

Mullan's presentation included a moving and powerful segment on Haiti. His traditional view of Haiti, through the lenses of poverty, disaster and political instability, was shattered after he read Frederick Douglass's eloquent speech on Haiti at the Chicago Fair of 1893 where he spoke about the first black republic in the world — and the second republic in the Western Hemisphere after the US. Mullan became intrigued about

Haitian hero and leader Toussaint Louverture in light of a quote by Douglass:

"His high character, his valor, his wisdom, and his unflinching fidelity to the cause of liberty are an inheritance of which his people should be proud," Douglass said. "His lot, however, is not singular. Men are often loved least by those they have served best."

Mullan, now a member of the French Reparation Initiatives, is on a mission to promote the concept of reparations, which, according to his thinking, should involve not only France, but also other nations that collaborated to impose a blockade on Haiti to prevent the spread of black rebellion in the US and Europe. This collaboration locked Haiti's economy out of the international trade and over 122 years, from 1825 to 1947, forced its government to agree to the payment of 150,000,000 francs (about \$21 billion in today's currency) as payment to French settler-victims of Haiti's wars of independence. While the concept appears to be a long shot, there have been recent precedents, with countries such as Italy paying some \$5 billion to Libya for its 21 years of occupation.

Douglass's contributions to abolition took an international turn with his appointment later as the first black US minister and consul general to Haiti. This episode offers further evidence of the complex choices he had to make in his life: To criticize or to defend Abraham Lincoln? To try to reclaim part of Haiti as a colony for emancipated American citizens, or help to protect the sovereignty of the first black republic against imperialist tendencies?

In his autobiography, the "Life and Times of Frederick Douglass: From Slave to Diplomat," which was first published in 1845 and updated in his later days in 1892, he devotes a good chunk of the last chapter to explaining his mission in Haiti and fending off attacks from the white media in New York whose editorialists accused him of being "soft on the black republic" and failing to force the Haitian government of Florvil Hyppolite to sell the Mole St Nicolas as a naval base.

Many scholars and historians have concluded that Douglass's fateful encounter with Anténor Firmin, Haiti's most prominent intellectual, anthropologist, and minister of Foreign Affairs was instrumental in preventing the conclusion of the "sale," which would have made Haiti's Mole Saint Nicolas what is today known as the Guantanamo Bay base in Cuba.

After showings in Boston and Nantucket, the Douglass statue was headed to. For more information, visit the Center for Race Amity, Wheelock College, at douglassoconnellmemorial.org.

Charlot Lucien is a contributing editor to the Boston Haitian Reporter.



The Douglass statue.



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PRESERVATION, PROGRESS, OR BOTH?

Keely’s ‘Prayer in Stone’ – Holy Trinity Church – due for a secular facelift

By PETER F. STEVENS
REPORTER STAFF

Would architect Patrick Keely be spinning in his grave at the changes awaiting his magnificent Holy Trinity Church? Or would the Tipperary-born builder understand that times change, and be grateful that his artistic vision will remain at least partly intact on the South End corner that the church has graced since 1877?

Developer David Goldman and his company, New Boston Ventures, purchased Holy Trinity Church, at 136 Shawmut Avenue, from the archdiocese of Boston. Although the church cited severely declining attendance as the reason for the sale, the moves came amid other sales of church property in which the money went to paying damages incurred from the abuse scandal.

The Boston Redevelopment Authority has granted the developer permission to redesign the edifice, dubbed the “German church” because it tended to the rising numbers of German immigrants in the 19th century, and rectory into at least 33 boutique condo units. Much of the church’s interior will be demolished and an 8-story, 58,000-square-foot modern steel-and glass structure will rise on the site. The developer has assured the city that Keely’s graceful spire and classical architecture will remain a highlight. Perhaps, but it raises the time-old issue of progress versus preservation.

Patrick Keely understood progress. His soaring churches and cathedrals – including nearby Holy Cross Cathedral – still soar above the landscape from the East Coast to the Mississippi, in places like New York, Charleston, Chicago, and Milwaukee.

He was lauded by his eulogist for how he changed the social, religious, and architectural landscape of Boston and beyond: “The largely Irish congregations who in their native country were forced to attend Mass on an open hillside, a rock serving as an altar, and with men on guard to watch for the coming of soldiers were quite content with a space for the altar and a roof over their heads. Keeley [*sic.*] was able and gave them more...”

While Keely’s early years in the town of Thurles in Tipperary remain murky, historians speculate that his family was fairly well off. According to town records, the Keelys lived in a home “that had been occupied as a convent by the Presentation sisters and which had been built by a wealthy distiller named McCormick.



Holy Trinity Church, Boston

Apparently young Patrick received the education available to boys that were expected to be tradesman and mechanics.”

Keely immigrated to Brooklyn in 1842 and initially made his way as a carpenter. In an era when master builders devised their own construction plans, the lines between architects and gifted tradesmen could become blurred, and tradesmen without formal academic training nonetheless designed and built structures. Still, the formal practice of architecture was taking shape in America as young Keely started his career.

His presence in Boston began in earnest in 1851, when he tackled the renovations, rebuilding, and enlargement of the Church of Saints Peter and Paul in South Boston. The granite Gothic Revival church had been designed by Gridley J.F. Bryant in 1843 and completed in 1845, but had been heavily damaged in

a fire in 1848. Keely, hired to restore and expand the structure, completed his work in 1853.

The impressive results of his renovations on the South Boston church led to numerous commissions from the Boston archdiocese, and Keely oversaw the construction of his houses of worship from blueprints to spires. More than twenty of his churches still stand in the South End, Dorchester, East Boston, South Boston, the North End, Charlestown, Roxbury, Hyde Park, Brookline, and many other Massachusetts cities.

After his death, in 1896, his sons and son-in-law continued the firm of Keely and Houghton. Their projects including St. Margaret’s Church in Dorchester (1899–1904) and St. Mary’s School in Charlestown (1901–02).

While the hundreds of churches Keely designed testified to his skills, his cathedrals – his vision on a grander scale – cemented his reputation as one of the greatest neo-Gothic architects of the era. Some of his smaller churches were built on such a scale that they were nearly cathedrals themselves. In 1884, the University of Notre Dame bestowed its second annual Laetare Medal on Keely for “changing the style of ecclesiastical structures and modified architectural taste in this country.”

In Boston and beyond, Patrick Keely’s reputation for getting his designs right and rendering them with the highest professionalism and integrity led to an admiring adage among tradesmen: “It must be true since Mr. Keely says it is.”

This past spring, the architect James Alexander, leader of Holy Trinity’s redesign team at Finegold Alexander + Associates, told *Boston Globe* correspondent Dan Adams “You could tear it [Holy Trinity] down and start over, which would be a tragedy. You’d lose the details, the social and religious history. But re-using it as it was, with the shape of the roof and the square footage, it just wouldn’t generate the return.”

One can only hope that Alexander and his associates do not forget another sort of return. Every time that anyone with even a passing interest in Boston’s history stops and looks at Holy Trinity, the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, or any of Patrick Keely’s churches, they view the literal landscape of Keely’s genius and his historical impact. The toniest of condo developments pales in comparison.

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EATING AND EMOTION Dr. Bernadette Rock

Feel the hunger and find the balance

BY BERNADETTE ROCK
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

Ever feel so hungry that your lack of food causes you to become angry? It's a state that's defined as "hangry." Ever feel "hangry" when food service is slow in a restaurant? Hunger and feeling hungry seem to draw negative connotations. My online clients tell me that hunger reminds them of images of the Great Famine, of being deprived, of not having enough food as children. Or indeed of Bono advocating an end to world hunger.

Given that hunger is associated with panic, emergency, and famine, it's hardly surprising that we often avoid it. When was the last time you felt hungry before you reached for food? Or listened for that gurgling or growling sound before you ate? We only need to eat for stomach hunger, but often we eat by the clock, when someone offers us food, or simply because food is available. When you eat for these reasons you're listening to external cues that have little or nothing to do with stomach hunger. Here are some familiar examples:

For some online clients constant snacking and grazing between meals means they avoid feeling empty or hungry. We're caught in all-day food cues. Food manufacturers have ensured that it is now easier than ever to never feel hungry, with snacks such as yogurt drinks and packaged sandwiches to be eaten on the go.

Year of overeating and dieting can also put you out of touch with hunger. Eating for anxiety and stress or emotional eating can result in a whopping 80 percent of our eating. Emma, a 36-year-old mother, noticed that she was confusing feelings of anxiety in her stomach with hunger. She also associated the emptiness in her stomach with loneliness and so ate to avoid the emptiness and hunger.

Many parents feed their children with a deliberate focus on quantity, so they are "well-fed" and don't feel hungry. Perhaps they're transferring their own anxieties about hunger. Don't rush to feed your kids even if they say they are hungry. I remind my 8-year old daughter, "it's ok to be hungry. Your dinner will be ready in an hour, so you can wait."

Scale it Back

One of our goals in the Heyday program is to make deliberate and mindful choices around eating, as opposed to being mindless and feeling out-of-control around food. It's good to allow yourself to become familiar with feeling hungry. Just don't wait until you're starving or feel ravenous, or you might end up eating everything around you. Online participants often ask, "how much is enough?" This hunger scale gives a good indication.

1	2	3	4	5	6
Starving	Hungry	Empty	Satisfied	Full	Stuffed

Satisfied or almost full means enough. It's different from being full. Nor does it mean feeling uncomfortably full or stuffed to the gills. Eating just enough means leaving some room in your stomach. It means being aware of your stomach and eating, and this is easier to do when you eat slowly. If you're struggling with weight, then getting in touch with hunger is a crucial. So the next time you eat, can you wait until you are feeling a little hungry? Can you get comfortable with the discomfort of feeling hungry? The Great Famine is over, and I often reassure clients, "There will always be enough food and you can eat again the next time you're hungry." We live in a part of world where food is in plentiful supply. So be selective, be picky- exactly what you were warned not to be as a child!

Have a Heyday

Send your comments or questions to hello@heydayworld.com. Let us know if you would like to trial the online program at heydayworld.com

Wishing you good health,
Dr. Bernadette Rock, PhD



Bernadette Rock and her daughter Keela.

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: iiicenter.org Email: immigration@iiicenter.org

IIIC welcomes new staff

The IIIC is pleased to welcome aboard its new Wellness Director, **Gina Kelleher**. Gina is a native of Galway and obtained her undergraduate degree from UCG. She came to the US to attend UMass Boston where she received her



Gina Kelleher
Wellness Director

master's in education degree in Counseling Psychology in 1992. Gina is a Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor, and Certified Addiction Specialist.

Gina has enjoyed an exciting career as a clinical supervisor/substance abuse counselor in area hospitals such as Saint Elizabeth's and Brigham and Women's Faulkner Hospital. Most recently, she worked for The Massachusetts Department of Health Smokers' Helpline providing confidential counseling services to Massachusetts residents who needed assistance to end their tobacco use.

Gina is thrilled to have the opportunity to work with the Irish community at the IIIC as Wellness Director. She defines wellness as "the comprehensive physical, emotional, and spiritual well being of a person. Sometimes illness, sadness, isolation, loneliness, or anger can put an individual's wellness "wheel" out of balance. There are effective ways to deal with these problems and I invite anyone who needs some help to contact me and drop by for a cup of tea and a talk."

Gina enjoys dancing and Zumba fitness training and has recently become a fan of MassMouth, a non-profit, volunteer-prun organization promoting the art of storytelling, the oldest of art forms, and the foundation of all

of the performing arts. Gina recently attended a "story slam," a competition in which participants share a five-minute story. "We all have stories to tell. Part of the enjoyment of hearing people tell theirs is being reminded that no matter where we're from or how varied our backgrounds are, we can connect based on our common feelings" said Gina.

Deirdre McCann, our new Irish Outreach Coordinator, started at the IIIC in May. A native of Co. Kildare, she completed her undergraduate studies at the Institute of Technology in Sligo. From there, she trained as a science teacher at the University of Roehampton in London. Deirdre came to the United States in 2012 and has been living in the Boston area since April of 2013. She is an avid sports fan, always watching Gaelic or American football. But her true passion lies in rugby. She is currently a coach with the North Shore Youth Rugby Club in Salem.

Says Deirdre: "I am delighted to call this wonderful city of Boston my home. I am so excited to be working as the Irish Outreach Coordinator at the IIIC and am thrilled to be in the community meeting people. If you run in to me, please don't hesitate to say hello!" To contact Deirdre, please call 617-542-7654, Ext. 32.

IIIC Updates

Legal Clinics –Tues., July 7, and Tues., July 21, at the IIIC, 100 Franklin St. Lower Level, Downtown Boston. Entrance is at 201 Devonshire Street; Mon., July 13, at The Green Briar Pub, 304 Washington Street, Brighton Center; Wed., July 29, at St. Mark's Parish (School Hall), 1725 Dorchester Avenue, Dorchester.

The Paid Sick Time Law – Last November, Massachusetts voters approved Ballot Question 4 -"Earned Sick Time for Employees." The law took effect on July 1 and it will be enforced by the Office of the Attorney General.

Some questions and answers:

Q. How much paid sick time is a company required to offer? **A.** Businesses with 11 or more employees will be required to offer up to 40 hours of paid sick time per calendar year. Businesses with fewer than 11 employees will be required to offer up to 40 hours of unpaid time to workers each calendar year.

Q. How and when is mandatory sick time earned? **A.** An eligible employee will earn a minimum of one hour of sick time for every 30 hours worked. Employees will begin to accrue this earned sick time on their date of hire, or on July 1, 2015, whichever date is later. Exempt employees will earn paid sick



Deirdre McCann
Outreach Coordinator

time based upon the assumption of a 40-hour workweek, unless their normal workweek is less than 40 hours, and in that case, their paid time would accrue based upon their normal workweek. Employees may begin to use earned sick time on the 90th day after hire.

Q. For what reasons may an employee use earned sick pay? **A.** An eligible employee may utilize earned time to care for a physical or mental illness, injury, or medical condition, or to attend routine medical appointments for him/herself or one of the following relatives: child, spouse, parent, or parent of a spouse. Earned sick time may be taken to address the physical, psychological, or legal effects of domestic violence. An employee must make a good faith effort to notify the employer in advance if the need for the earned sick time is foreseeable.

Q. Are employees permitted to take earned sick time in less than full workday increments? **A.** An employee will be able to use earned sick time in increments as small as one hour, or the smallest increment or the smallest unit that employer's payroll system allows for taking time off.

Q. Will earned sick time carry over from one calendar year to the next? **A.** Employees will be able to carry over up to 40 hours of earned unused sick time to the next calendar year, but may not use more than 40 hours in a calendar year.

Q. Is an employer required to pay earned but unused sick time at the time of an employee's termination? **A.** An employer will not be required to pay employees for earned unused sick time at the end of their employment.

Immigration Q&A

Birth records a must for green card applications

Q. I am applying for legal permanent residence in the US. Do I have to submit a birth certificate with my application? I lost my copy, so I would have to get another one from the town where I was born.

A. Yes, you definitely need to submit a copy of your certified birth record (assuming such a record exists) as part of the application package for legal permanent residence. It is certain that US Citizenship and Immigration Services will not process your application without this document. (Birth records are required for a number of other types of immigration applications as well. This information applies also to those applications.)

Information regarding the specific procedures for obtaining birth certificates usually is available from the embassy or consulate of the country concerned. The record must contain the following information:

The person's name; date of birth; place of birth; names of both parents (if known); and an annotation (stamp, seal, signature, etc.) by the appropriate authority indicating that the document is the official record or an extract from the official records.

Irish citizens should submit the "long form" version of Irish birth certificates.

As to unobtainable birth certificates: Your birth record may be unobtainable for a number of reasons, such as: Your birth was never officially recorded; your birth records have been destroyed; the appropriate government authority will not issue the document.

In such cases, you should try to obtain a certified statement from the appropriate government authority in your home country stating the reason why your birth record is not available. With the certified statement, you must submit what the US immigration authorities call "secondary evidence." For example: A baptismal certificate that contains the date and place of birth and parents' names (providing the baptism took place within two months after birth); an adoption decree for an adopted child; a sworn affidavit from at least two persons, preferably including the applicant's mother, stating that they have personal knowledge of the date and place of birth, parents' names, and the mother's maiden name.

An affidavit must be signed in the presence of an official authorized to administer oaths or affirmations in the relevant country.

If you have any difficulty obtaining the proper evidence regarding your birth records, or if you have any other questions concerning immigration law, visit one of our weekly clinics for a free, confidential consultation.

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 frequently amend regulations and alter processing and filing procedures. For legal advice, seek the assistance of IIIC legal services staff.



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Claim your Heritage. Apply for Irish Citizenship today!

If your parent or grandparent was born in Ireland, you are eligible to become an Irish citizen. Our attorneys will help locate your documents and file your application. Contact Foley Law Offices to begin your citizenship application at (617) 973-6448.



IRISH INTERNATIONAL IMMIGRANT CENTER
EDUCATION SERVICES

CITIZENSHIP CLASS



Are you interested in becoming a U.S. Citizen?

Citizenship classes at the Irish International Immigrant Center will prepare you for the naturalization exam and interview. Study the questions that will be asked, learn what to expect during your interview, and gain confidence that you will pass the exam and be on your way to U.S. citizenship. Tutoring is also available.

For more information, call Sarah at (617) 542-7654 ext. 36 or visit the Center between 9:00 — 5:00 weekdays.

Made possible by the MA Office of Refugees and Immigrants

WHAT:
CITIZENSHIP CLASS

WHERE:
Irish International Immigrant Center
100 Franklin Street, LL-1
Boston, MA
(Enter at 201 Devonshire St)

WHEN:
July 9th - August 13th
Thursdays, 1-3 PM OR 6-8 PM

CONTACT:
Sarah Chapple-Sokol
Education Coordinator
Phone: 617-542-7654, ext. 36
Email: sarahcs@iiicenter.org

FEE: \$30

EDUCATION SERVICES



Matters of Substance

When Tragedies trigger feelings of loss

By GINA KELLEHER
IIIC WELLNESS DIRECTOR

Our hearts go out to the families, friends, and loved ones of the Irish students who lost their lives so suddenly and tragically in California last month. All death is difficult, but unexpected loss, with no chance to prepare or say goodbye, is especially hard to bear.

Factors that can make the situation worse are that the victims were young and in the prime of their lives and their grieving family and friends were thousands of miles away in Ireland. They are going to need so much support and kindness and I have no doubt that they will receive an outpouring of this from their families, friends, and neighbors.

We have seen this story many times on TV, in newspapers, and in social media, so people may find themselves being reminded of losses or sadness in their own lives, which in turn can trigger feelings of grief, regret or anxiety, even many years after the event. It's normal for these feeling to re-emerge when hearing about tragedies like this in the media. It's

also natural to want to avoid such painful feelings, or to numb them.

People frequently use alcohol, other substances, or addictive behavior such as gambling, overworking, and shopping to block these feelings, but unfortunately, this just prolongs and even adds to the suffering. The pain needs to be faced in order for the healing to occur. These feelings need to be externalized or expressed in some way but that doesn't have to be done alone or all at once.

For many, it really helps just to be listened to without the other person trying to advise you or cheer you up. You don't have to suffer alone with any painful issue you may be experiencing, be it grief, loneliness, alcohol/ drug or relationship problems. Feel free to reach out to Gina at IIIC Wellness services to talk on the phone or in person. We are conveniently located in downtown Boston. Call 617- 542 7654, Ext. 14 (W) or 617-459-8857 (Cell). You can also send your questions in confidence to gkelleher@iiicenter.org

Boston Irish Reporter’s Here & There

NY Times Student Deaths Article “A Disgrace”

– What should have been a straight-ahead story of the accidental deaths of six young Irish students here on J-1 student work visas was badly botched by the New York Times last month. In the Times story of the collapse of an apartment balcony in California that killed the six students and badly hurt seven others, the Times focused on student partying and the “raucous life in a college town at night” before it moved onto the lead: the tragic loss of life of students who were celebrating a twenty-first birthday party on a balcony possibly flawed in its construction. The possibility that there were faulty materials in the balcony that had been further weakened by weather and overcrowding is also being investigated.



Bill O'Donnell

Not only did the story essentially and cruelly overpower the fact of the deaths of the young students by citing two incidents elsewhere with other students that zeroed in on wrecked apartments and visiting student misbehavior, but it also went on to call the J-1 visa program “a source of embarrassment for Ireland.” This surely comes as

news to the Irish government and program officials who have been fully supportive of the program links with Boston and other US cities.

Back in the 1990s, I worked with scores of students on work-study programs that came to Boston from Irish venues, north and south, nationalist and unionist. They came from Belfast, Dublin, Derry, Letterkenny, and other places. The students were welcomed into the homes of Boston-area host families and split their duty schedules between relevant college courses and work that reflected their future work specialities. In all the time I ran these programs we had just one young man who was sent home early. He had come to the states from Ireland with a drug addiction problem and returned home for medical attention. In the main, these were great young people, eager, curious, hardworking, and a credit, to Ireland and their respective programs. I loved working with those young people.

The New York Times apologized for its misguided coverage of the balcony tragedy following a barrage of critical stories about the report. The article, however, remained for a time on the newspaper’s website.

I recall writing in a previous column about a San Francisco apartment that was wrecked by several J-1 visa student renters. What I recall well was a media follow-up to that San Francisco incident that detailed a number of students and other program participants showing up to work, volunteering and actively cleaning, repairing, and repainting the wrecked apartment, in essence apologizing for the bad behavior of program colleagues who did the damage and had returned to Ireland.

That important “good news” aftermath of the San Francisco apartment assault was not mentioned in the Times article. A negligent omission! Ireland and the young people who come here representing Ireland north and south deserve far better at the hand of one of America’s most prestigious journals.

Good News from Sundance for “The Peacemaker” – Pdraig O’Malley is the “Peacemaker and James Demo the director of the documentary film that chronicles the five-year struggle to get O’Malley’s amazing odyssey onto film and into theaters. The update from director Demo is that “The Peacemaker” has been selected to work with the 2015 Sundance Documentary Edit and Story Lab. This is a real plus for Cambridge director James Demo and Professor O’Malley.

Demo reports: “This is an incredible opportunity for us to work on the film with some of the most accomplished and talented people working in documentary film today.” He went on to thank the backers who have generously supported the film. “We would not have been able,” he says, “to keep working these past months – to get the film ready in time – without our Kickstarter backers.”

The Kickstarter program is part of what is referred to as crowdfunding, a collection of more than 1,000 websites that enable entrepreneurs or anyone with an idea or a product to conduct online pledge drives. According to Parade magazine, “internet users annually spend some \$10 billion to help bring new ideas to life.” In addition to “The Peacemaker,” Kickstarter funded more than 22,000 ideas in 2014 while creating 270,000 jobs along the way.

Bertie, Far from Leinster House, Raps Lenihan – You can take former Taoiseach Bertie Ahern out of his familiar surroundings at Government Building, but you can’t make him forget his old enemies, dead and gone may they be. In a new documentary, Bertie, who worked closely with Brian Lenihan when the latter served as finance minister during the height of Ireland’s horrific financial crisis, has a few less-than-choice words to say about his onetime colleague, who bore the brunt of Ahern’s bristling leadership style as he was fighting and losing a lethal battle with cancer four years ago.

On the program, Bertie, who never liked sharing the limelight, unwrapped his personal distaste for Lenihan, saying “He was difficult, to be honest. I’ve seen it over the years – the more intellectual they are, the more work they don’t want to do.” Maybe, one might suggest, it was the terminal cancer that sapped his strength.

The political commentator Olivia O’Leary was quoted

in the Irish Independent as saying of Ahern: [He] didn’t like Brian Lenihan, he didn’t like the fact that Brian played Wagner in the car and knew about art.”

You can’t put words in someone’s mouth, but given the heroic two-front battle that Brian Lenihan was waging in the last days of his life – his cancer and his central role in protecting Ireland’s fiscal credibility – it would not be inconceivable that Bertie Ahern might throw a bouquet or two to the deceased and his family. But, apparently, any grudge, no matter how petty, is fair game for comment when you’re king of the Northside, with an obscenely fat pension and scores still to be settled.

The North is Undergoing Stormy Times – On the political front, there is a growing consensus that the state structures in Northern Ireland are foundering, chiefly over the unfinished business of welfare reform and an increasing crescendo of disaffection by leaders there. Everywhere one looks at the troubled North there are calls to do something to resolve the destructive status quo.

America’s special peace envoy, Gary Hart, has warned Northern leaders that US investment in Northern Ireland is conditional on political progress. The former US senator is bluntly saying that US patience with the North’s politics is “fast running out.” Ireland’s Foreign Affairs Minister, Charlie Flanagan, has voiced serious fears that the North’s institutions are near the brink of collapse. “There is a great risk that the current impasse will result in the collapse of the institutions which would be very grave and serious,” he said.

Added to the gathering instability is the heightened concern that Martin McGuinness, the North’s Deputy First Minister, might resign and bring down the Stormont self-rule government if Britain takes back powers over the welfare issue. That is a very real possibility, insiders concede.

In a late June meeting of the British-Irish Council in Dublin, First Minister Peter Robinson warned that unless the December welfare reform agreement is implemented in relatively short time, the Northern assembly would have no future. Sinn Fein has backed off earlier commitments to tough welfare cuts, with McGuinness saying he wants to see the Stormont House Agreement implemented but conceding that difficulties remain, pointing to the Tory-led welfare cuts in the North over the past four years. Stay tuned.

NOTABLE QUOTE

“Let me put it in context. I just said: ‘Had there been no Paisley, would there have been the Troubles?’ Probably not. That is not the same as saying that he caused the Troubles. That’s not saying that [Paisley] bears a unique blame for it. ... I’m saying that he was a very significant factor in creating them. To go back to the very start: Who were the people responsible for all the bombings in 1968, the bombings of the power supplies and all the rest of it? They were Paisleyites.” –David Trimble, former Ulster Unionist Party leader, 1988 Nobel Peace Prize joint recipient with John Hume.

Wall Street Journal Overstates Cost of Fed Regulations – The Wall Street Journal, which prides itself on getting it right in news stories, failed badly on editorials describing federal regulations as being a “hidden tax” costing trillions, with each US household pitching in \$15,000 every year. The WSJ, using questionable sources that the Washington Post Fact Checker described as “misleading” and “unbalanced, repeated the reportedly biased and hugely flawed charges for three years running, 2012-2015. These and other charges were revealed by Media Matters research and reported last month.

Other organizations such as Public Citizen, concurred with the research, calling the Wall Street Journal editorials on the subject “a terribly inaccurate and unrealistic guess.” NYU’s Michael Livermore said the editorials on federal regulations was “more an opinion piece than it is an analysis.”

The Journal editorials were based largely on annual reports by a conservative think tank called the Competitive Enterprise Institute. Hardly balanced journalism!

Major Travel Guide Lauds County Kerry – In its Best in Europe 2015, Lonely Planet, a respected and popular guide, described in glowing terms the Irish county we know as the Kingdom. In a listing of its Top 10 destinations to visit in Europe it ranked Kerry as a close second to Kent, England, and ahead of the Black Forest, Budapest, Ibiza, Spain, Normandy, and the Austrian Alps.

As a grandson of Kerry’s Flaherty clan, I have spent many memorable moments in the Kingdom, from the Killarney Lakes and the Ring of Kerry to North Kerry’s coastal scenic wonders like Ballybunion & Ballyheigue, and Bantry Bay in south Kerry.

Orange Order Opens East Belfast Museum – Former Irish President Mary McAleese was on hand last month for the official launch of the Orange order’s new interpretive centre, or museum, at Belfast’s Schomberg House. McAleese spoke briefly but candidly about the differences culturally between herself and her family and the Orange Order: “We haven’t always shared this space...this island happily with each other; we have decided we want to share it happily for the future.”

Those, and others, were generous, healing words by the former president and maybe they will generate the type of good will and understanding that neighbors should share, but it will take a giant leap of trust for Catholics – myself included – to warm up to the traditionally virulent anti-Catholic stance championed by

the Protestant Order.

The Orangemen, especially their leadership, want the Order to move into the mainstream, to play a role in the benefits that come with tourism and in the marketing of the history and heritage of the Order, which was founded in 1795. Anti-papist sentiments reach far back into the origins of the Order, and its members have a somewhat dubious history of associating with loyalist paramilitary groups. There are many seemingly insurmountable obstacles to a genuine coming together, but a new era of enhanced respect and civility, if possible, can only help.

Loyalists and British Government Ties Strong – A television documentary by RTE outlines in often graphic detail the widespread collusion between loyalists in the North and British government security forces during the Thatcher years and beyond. The film, aired late last month, claims that a member of the loyalist gang responsible for the 1974 Monaghan and Dublin bombings that killed dozens said that the purpose was to start a civil war. The RTE film also features former police Ombudsman Naula O’Loan testifying that senior British government officials in 2003 attempted to pressure her into halting her investigation into newer murders involving collusion.

O’Loan’s investigation, reports the Belfast Telegraph review of the documentary, uncovered shocking levels of collusion between police officers and serial killers, and that Special Branch officers gave killers immunity and aided other murderers in escaping criminal charges.

The collusion was far wider than originally thought and involved the British Army, MI5 Intelligence, and the Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC) police.

Irish Flagship Aids Migrants in Mediterranean – Twice in less than 24 hours the Irish naval ship LE Eithne was in the right place at the right time, which was 30 miles off Libya in the Mediterranean where a boatload of seagoing migrants were saved by the Irish Navy. Some 300 people escaping from the Mideast war zone were taken onboard by the Eithne as they were trying to cross to safety in the south central section of the sea. Just a day earlier the Eithne reacted to a radio alert that there were five vessels in potential distress about 35 miles off the coast of North Africa. The Irish ship rescued some 200 migrants and got them safely to land.

RANDOM CLIPPINGS

Boston College football returns to Ireland in September of 2016. This is the second Irish jaunt for the Eagles who will play Georgia Tech in Dublin’s Aviva Stadium on Sept. 3, 2016. ... Maybe the exodus is slowing. Over half of those training to be doctors in Ireland plan to stay in Ireland and practice there. ... The big news is Pope Francis’s climate encyclical, but notice that Francis has named an auditor general for the Vatican who will ride herd on the often casual fiscal affairs of the Holy See. ... Joe Klein, Time magazine’s super columnist did a nice piece on former Maryland Governor Martin O’Malley, who is picking up some attention for his straight-talking campaign. Only 52, he’s sharp, experienced, and refreshing. ... The hottest commodity in the airline business seems to be the Irish. Two Irishmen have moved from Ryanair and Aer Lingus to try to pull Malaysia Airlines out of its malaise. And British Airways recently hired another Irishman as their new CEO.

Ireland loves to tax the so-called sin products. Alcohol and tobacco are the most expensive in the EU. ... Over the past five years there have been some 1,200 incidents of illegal fuel laundering and waste dumping from the North into wee Louth where officials have their hands full trying to protect Irish waterways. ... Fox News, first in hyperbole and faux reports, has taken on the American poor as it aims to shame seniors and the disabled for not working. Shameless pandering to comfy listeners. ... The critical question in Ireland today is: Will Irish workers overseas come home now that the employment crisis is easing. Irish recruiters are heading Down Under looking for job seekers wanting to come home. ... One of our favorite fugitives struck out in a Boston bankruptcy court. Anglo’s David Drumm is doing some heavy lawyering up in hiring top legal talent Tracy Miner for his appeal. Meanwhile the Irish government is getting hot in its attempt to extradite Drumm.

Ireland, New Zealand, and Israel have been designated a “stand out” digital countries by the Harvard Business journal. ... Liam Neeson, busy making millions with derring-do movies, has called for the famous “Quiet Man” cottage in Maam, Connemara, to be restored to its former glory. ... Belfast’s gifted singer, Van Morrison, has finally agreed to a knighthood which will happen when the next Queen’s honors comes around. He will turn 70 next month. ... Lst month, the Dublin City Council came up with a plan to alter the city centre by restricting private cars and taxis to make it more useable for pedestrians. It would cost \$165 million. ... If you have a gift card, or gift voucher, as they are called in Ireland, all the expiration dates will be scrapped under a proposed reform of Irish consumer law. ... Waterford-born academic Louise Richardson has been named the new vice-chancellor, or chief executive, of Oxford University, making her the first woman to lead that institution. ... “Stairwell,” a book of poems by Michael Longley, and “Blue Sonoma,” by Jane Munro have won the 2015 Griffin Poetry Prize in Toronto, each being worth \$70,000. And ain’t it nice to see less struggling by deserving poets wherever.



BRETT'S BOSTON

By Harry Brett
Exclusive photos of Boston Irish people & events

The Irish Social Club in West Roxbury hosted its 70th Platinum Anniversary Celebration on Saturday evening, June 27, 2015. The event featured singers Andy Cooney and Deirdre Reilly, and a performance by the Heavey-Quinn School of Irish Dance. A raffle to raise funds for the club featured premium tickets for the U2 concert later this month at TD Garden.

1.) Andy Cooney; 2.) Karen and Michael Gormley, W. Roxbury; 3.) Teresa and Jim Kelly, Westwood; Marjee Delaney Fitzpatrick, Arlington; 4.) Jennifer and Alex Tschumakow, Frederick Gillis, W. Roxbury; 5.) Athena Eyster, Somerville; Seamus McWeeney, Brighton; Bridget Ryan, Wakefield; 6.) Mary Coppinger, Cathy Coppinger and Deidre Ross, W. Roxbury; 7.) Tara McKeown, W. Roxbury; Kelly Bavis, Brookline; Kelley Secord, Dedham; 8.) Bob and Eileen Cecca, Medfield; 9.) Matt and Siobahn Mac Donald, Dedham; 10.) Maureen and Bill Bailey, WORL; 11.) Katie Sellitto, Richard Snell, W. Roxbury; 12.) Tom Kilgarrieff, Cape Coral Fla.; Joan Kilgarrieff Shields, Scituate; 13.) Matt O'Donnell, WORL, Lorraine Ryan, Bridget's an Irish Tradition, Norton.

Summertime BCMFest on tap during the month

The first-ever Summer BCMFest and rare appearances by the groundbreaking folk-rock band Steeleye Span and pioneering Cape Breton fiddler Natalie MacMaster are some of the major Irish/Celtic music events taking place this month in and around Boston.

Summer BCMFest – a warm-weather version of the January BCMFest (Boston’s Celtic Music Fest), which celebrates the area’s richness of music, song and dance from the Irish, Scottish, Cape Breton and other Celtic traditions – will be held on July 4 in Harvard Square’s Club Passim (BCMFest is a program of Passim). The festival will begin at 1 p.m. with an afternoon of informal sessions led by some of Boston’s outstanding Celtic musicians, and open to any and all participants wishing to bring along an instrument or contribute a song. The sessions, which go until 5 p.m., are free of charge; lunch will be served from Passim’s recently opened kitchen.

An evening concert, beginning at 7 p.m., will conclude Summer BCMFest. The featured performers, all with ties to the Boston area, will be guitarist Flynn Cohen; uilleann piper Joey Abarta with Danny Noveck and Lind-

say Straw; and the trio Ceol Corvus. For ticket information, reservations and other details, see passim.org/bcmfest.

At 8 p.m. the next day, July 5, Club Passim will host Vishtèn, a trio that explores new vistas in the French-Arcadian tradition, incorporating Celtic and other musical influences. The group, which has appeared at the Burren “Backroom” series and the New Bedford Folk Festival, is known for its driving rhythms and fascinating array of instruments ranging from fiddle, accordion and whistle to synthesizer, electric guitar and percussive dance.

Passim also is sponsoring a free summer concert series at Kendall Center in Cambridge on Tuesdays from noon-1 p.m. Among this month’s performers are Hanneke Cassel, a virtuoso in the American-Scottish fiddle tradition (July 14), and Molly Pinto Madigan, a singer-songwriter whose influences are rooted in the folk ballad tradition of America and Europe (July 21).

For more on Club Passim events, see passim.org.

• Steeleye Span, which will be appearing at Johnny D’s in Somerville on July 24, is one of the most influential bands to



Guitarist Flynn Cohen and uilleann piper Joey Abarta, along with the trio Ceol Corvus, will perform at the first-ever Summer BCMFest July 4 in Club Passim.

Joey Abarta photo by Paul McEvoy



emerge from the 1970s British Isles folk music revival. Their blend of traditional folk music from England, Ireland, and Scotland with rock music styles and arrangements, as well as a lively stage presence, has proven to be enduringly popular. For tickets and other information, see johnnyds.com.

• Natalie MacMaster, whose career spans more than three decades and includes 11 albums and numerous awards and honors, will be part of the festivities at the WGBH/Boston Globe Summer Arts Weekend in Copley Square – she’ll be appearing on July 26. Even as she has brought Cape Breton music to new frontiers, MacMaster has embodied the family roots at the heart of the island’s tradition; she and her husband,

the fiddler Donnell Leahy, have passed along their love of music to their five children, who regularly accompany her on tour. For information on the Summer Arts Weekend, see boston.com/sponsored/extra/summerartsweek-end/main.

• This month’s Burren Backroom series shows will feature The Duhks, a Canadian band whose adventurous roots-based, “punk”/new wave sound integrates elements of French-Canadian and Celtic traditions (July 8); the Jeremy Kittle Band, headed up by Kittle, a versatile fiddler who suffuses his forays into Irish and Scottish music with jazzy, improvisational riffs as well as bluegrass, classical and other styles (July 22); and singer Frances Black, from one of Ireland’s most-



Above: Fellswater will appear as part of the notloB Music series on July 11 in Arlington.

loved musical families, who will be appearing with her children Aoife and Eoghan Scott – both emerging singers in their own right (July 29). Go to burren.com/backroom-series.html for information.

• The Celtic quartet Fellswater will perform on July 11 at 8 p.m. in the Park Avenue Congregational Church in Arlington as part of the notloB Music series. Fellswater plays arrangements of instrumental music from Scottish, Irish, Breton, and Canadian traditions, as well as its own compositions, on fiddle, whistle, flute, guitar, bouzouki, and smallpipes. The band has performed at BCMFest, the New Hampshire Highland Games and Blackstone River Theater, among other places, and released two recordings.

• On July 21, notloB Music will present a concert by Scottish fiddler Alistair McCulloch with Boston-area guitarist

Eamon Sefton, at 8 p.m. in Carriage House of Violins, 1039 Chestnut Street, Newton Upper Falls; a second show will take place on July 22 at the Park Avenue Congregational Church in Arlington. McCulloch is renowned not only as an interpreter of Scottish fiddle music, but as a teacher and composer who has taught and mentored many of Scotland’s up-and-coming folk musicians. He has toured some 20 countries and released four solo albums. Sefton is a member of local bands Cat and the Moon and Fresh Haggis, and appeared at concerts and festivals throughout Greater Boston and Eastern Massachusetts.

The notloB series also will host the Scottish music trio Cantrip on August 1 at the Park Avenue Congregational Church.

For more on these events, see sites.google.com/site/notlobmusic.

– SEAN SMITH

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Realta Geala performing at the Mid-Atlantic Fleadh in May.

They earned their way to the All-Ireland Fleadh ... the funding to get to Sligo is the cause now

BY SEAN SMITH
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

Young local musicians hoping to play at Ireland's biggest traditional music event are getting a helping hand from one of the Boston area's most famous Irish pubs – and one of its most celebrated comic personalities.

Realta Geala, whose nearly 20 members range in age from 8 to 15, finished first in the under-15 Grupa Cheol competition at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Fleadh held during May in New Jersey, earning an invitation to the Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann – the All-Ireland Fleadh, a week-long festival of competitions and other special events held in August.

So, Realta Geala (Gaelic for “bright stars”) and its adult supporters launched a fundraising campaign to send the band to Sligo, the site of this year's fleadh. That campaign has received a major assist in the person of comedian, actor, and satirist Jimmy Tingle, a Cambridge native. Tingle, who has appeared on HBO, MSNBC, CNN, “The Tonight Show,” “Late Night with Conan O'Brien” and elsewhere, will headline a benefit concert on July 1 at The Burren in Somerville's Davis Square. The Boston2Ireland Trad Youth Fundraiser, hosted by Colin Hamell of Tir na Productions, also will feature performances by Realta Geala along with local band Free Shipping and Amo, a Roscommon-born singer-songwriter. Tickets are available at brownpapertickets.com/event/1756529.

Another Boston2Ireland fundraiser will be held on July 25 at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Melrose, where Realta Geala and many of its members' teachers, mentors and parents will perform.

Achieving success after hard work

brings a sweet taste – all the more sweet when that success is unexpected. Formed only a few years ago through the music school of Boston's Reynolds-Hanafin-Cooley Branch of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann, Realta Geala approached the Mid-Atlantic Fleadh as a building experience, something to provide both an individual and collective focus, according to co-director Sean Clohessy. The fleadh's Grupa Cheol competition, he explains, is a demanding event in that it requires eight minutes of arranged music, with a variety of rhythms and tempos. “It's more than just the jigs and reels,” says Clohessy, whose co-director is Kathleen Conneely. “We included a slide, slow air and a beautiful waltz composed by the great Scottish player Phil Cunningham. There's a lot of variety, and it's really important that everyone knows when they are playing and when they are not, to really work together as a single instrument, almost like an orchestra.”

Realta Geala was established with a deeper purpose than winning competitions, though. “We were interested in engaging a group of kids with a focus more on playing musically than the technical aspects of playing any one instrument – to create an interaction amongst the players,” says Clohessy. “This helps them understand how different instruments work and how they have to play differently and then also how to play together.” Though pleased with the band's dedication and hard work during the past year or so, Clohessy and Conneely did not anticipate winning in its division at the fleadh.

“There are several groups throughout the Northeast, particularly in the New York and New Jersey area, that compete every year and often go to Ireland,” says

Clohessy. “So we were really thrilled that we had managed to rise to that level of musicianship and been able to perform at that standard with such little experience.” Clohessy is quick to praise the efforts of not only Conneely but also previous teachers Cara Frankowicz and Christian Stevens, as well as the advice and encouragement from other teachers or musicians connected with the CCE Music School, including Pat Hutchinson and John Coyne.

The families of the Realta Geala members come in for some high praise, too – and, most of all, so do the members themselves. “We have to meet regularly, work through tunes, decide on arrangements and harmonies, and then perfect and polish our performance,” he says. “It's been great to see them come together and progress not only in their musical abilities but also in development of musical friendships that extend beyond the classroom walls.”

The friendships go beyond the musicians, in fact, Clohessy notes, and include the teachers and parents. “It has really brought everyone together in a very positive way. Now, with several of the fundraising efforts we are championing to help offset costs, even more of the community can get involved. We like to think that for everyone who helps us by turning up to events, buying raffle tickets or supporting with donations and prizes for various raffles that they also become invested and part of our group.”

And if one might wonder about the benefits of that investment, Clohessy is more than happy to elucidate. “I have always found playing music to be such a privilege. It has brought me to places that I would never have anticipated and helped me to meet so many wonderful

and interesting people. Realta Geala is about something more than just learning music; it's about engaging with everyone around you through your music, and working in the group itself. You understand that you have to pull your weight and perform not only for yourself, but also those that are in the group with you. “It's a real voyage of discovery for all of us. I think that everyone – students, teachers and parents – has learnt something over the last year or so as we have pulled all of this together.”

Kathleen and I have had just the best time working with this group, and we always try to get the kids to understand that while it's important to play in a correct way, it's just as important to have fun while you do so. In fact, having fun with it is often more important than being perfect at it.”

The All-Ireland Fleadh will be an awfully big stage for Realta Geala, but Clohessy says the objective is clear: “We want to perform to the absolute best of our abilities and show everyone in Ireland what we are doing and how vibrant and alive Irish music is here in Boston. The standards are extremely high, so the experience alone will be an eye-opener, and hopefully provide plenty inspiration for our young musicians. It will also enable them to understand first-hand the kinds of aspirations that we as teachers have for them, what we believe they can achieve.”

For information about Realta Geala, including details on the two fundraising concerts and how to make donations, see the website realtagealafleadh.weebly.com.

Peterborough Players present Shanley's ‘Outside Mullingar’ Showing July 15-26

BY R. J. DONOVAN
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

John Patrick Shanley has written more than 25 plays and screenplays. He is perhaps best known for the film “Moonstruck” and the Broadway play “Doubt: A Parable.”

The former, the story of a bookkeeper from Brooklyn who falls for the brother of the man she's supposed to marry, starred Cher and Nicolas Cage and won Shanley an Oscar for Best Screenplay. “Doubt” is an intense cat-and-mouse drama about a relentless nun who suspects a priest of molesting an altar boy. For that one, Shanley received the 2005 Tony Award for Best Play along with the Pulitzer Prize.

Born in the Bronx, Shanley was raised in a decidedly Irish culture. However it wasn't until 2014, when he was well into his career, that he tried his hand at a story set in Ireland. “Outside Mullingar” was the

result, presented on Broadway by the Manhattan Theater Club and starring Brian F. O'Byrne and Debra Messing. The piece received Best Play nominations for the Tony, Drama Desk, and Outer Critics Circle Awards.

“Outside Mullingar” is being presented from July 15 - 26 by The Peterborough Players in Peterborough, NH. Set in rural Ireland, the smart, contemporary, romantic comedy focuses on the Muldoon and Reilly families and their rival heirs, Anthony and Rosemary.

Anthony and Rosemary are loners, eccentrics and approaching 40. Their personal history bristles with insecurity, unrequited love and a long-held grudge over a plot of land. The question is, have they been meant for each other from the start? And is there still time for romance? Or is the prickly, push-pull of their relationship an insurmountable obstacle?



Gus Kaikkonen, the Artistic Director at Peterborough Players.

As Shanley wrote in *The New York Times*, “I always knew I'd have to come home eventually. I'm Irish as hell: Kelly on one side, Shanley on the other. My father had been born on a farm in the Irish Midlands. He and his brothers had been shepherds there, cattle and sheep, back in the early 1920s. I grew up surrounded by brogues and Irish music, but stayed away from the

old country till I was over 40. I just couldn't own being Irish . . . Something in me hated being confined by an ethnic identity, by any family.”

He headed to Ireland in 1993 out of necessity. His father was making the trip but was unable to maneuver the journey alone. The pair wound up visiting his father's ancestral home. As he sat surrounded by relatives, Shanley suddenly felt he had unearthed a long-lost world.

It would take another two decades for him to create “Outside Mullingar.” He claimed to find enormous relief in writing the play. As he shared in the *Times*, “I kind of erupted with language. I felt free suddenly, free to be Irish. Family stories, family names, changed by dreaming, mixed with my own long longings for love and impossible happiness unfurled across the page.”

In New Hampshire, Gus Kaikkonen, artistic director at The Peterborough Players, decided to add “Outside Mullingar” to his summer season because “I saw it in New York, I'm a big

fan of Shanley's and I was very drawn to it. I think he's exploring a whole new side of himself and the world.”

Of the relationship between Rosemary and Anthony, Kaikkonen said, “It's about last chances and a very determined woman. (She believes) ‘We're going to make this work somehow.’ . . . Look at the other women in his plays. He writes women really well.”

Kaikkonen talked about laying out a summer season of seven productions: “Theater is a vast library. I have grown up in the theater. I was acting when I was a little kid and have never stopped. . . I try to pick a season where no two plays will be alike in terms of style or content or theme . . . I always try to look for something the audience hasn't heard before.”

It's almost a given that Irish stories, whether comedy or drama, exude a strong sense of longing balanced by an underlying foundation of acerbic wit.

“The most serious plays are often the funniest,” said Kaikkonen. (Continued on page 13)

For Gourley and Feddersen, everything just clicked

... now comes their first album

By Sean Smith
Special to the BIR

The partnership of Boston-area musicians Nathan Gourley and Laura Feddersen is proof that, sometimes, good things happen because they simply *should*.

To start with, the pair have some significant things in common: Both are from the Midwest, both came from musically nurturing families with a fiddle-playing father, both took up classical violin at age 5 but eventually became immersed in traditional fiddle styles, notably Irish.

When they first met seven years ago at the annual Catskills Irish Arts Week in upstate New York, Gourley and Feddersen just clicked. And continued to do so whenever they encountered one another at various other events and gatherings in Boston or elsewhere.

"There was something so natural about how we sounded together," says Gourley, and Feddersen agrees: "We just seemed to have a real groove, and could play off of one another in a way that we both liked a lot."

Finally – inevitably, perhaps – about two years ago, they wound up relocating to Boston within a few months of each other, and were able to devote more time to their partnership.

This year has marked another milestone in the Gourley-Feddersen enterprise: the release of their first album, "Life Is All Checkered: Traditional Irish Music on Two Fiddles." The 15-track CD is a highlight reel of their individual and collective

experiences on the path to becoming top-notch fiddlers, and an expression of times and places.

"All of the tunes are special in some way, in that they were learned from good friends, or they were tunes Nathan or I had been playing for a long time," Feddersen explains. "So going through them, working on them, and then hearing the final product was like sifting through memories: That tune I first heard so-and-so play late one night in the Catskills, for example, this one I learned off that album I got back in high school, this one from that session in Chicago, and so on."

In fact, "Life Is All Checkered" can be viewed as an exemplar of what Feddersen calls American-Irish, "the American style of Irish music," which she describes as an amalgam of the styles and influences that developed over time in places like Boston, New York City, Chicago and wherever else strong Irish music communities have thrived.

"It's not that 'American-Irish' is a distinct genre of music," she says, "but that Irish music in America is a strong tradition in and of itself that's developed over several generations of musicians in this country, both those who emigrated here – from Michael Coleman to James Kelly and Paddy O'Brien – and those who were born here – from Johnny McGreevy to Liz Carroll to Devin Shepherd and Jesse Smith."

"Irish music has certainly been influenced by its environment here in America, perhaps by cadence of the Appa-



"We just seemed to have a real groove, and could play off of one another in a way that we both liked a lot," says Nathan Gourley of his musical partnership with Laura Feddersen.
Anna Colliton photo

lachian and jazz traditions, perhaps by the culture, perhaps even by the landscape around us. But thanks to the ease of communication now, it hasn't diverged from the music in Ireland to create a distinct musical style, so much as it has been a constant conversation, the one influencing the other."

Adds Gourley, "American-Irish has offshoots of the regional traditions that originated in Ireland, but it's also dependent on the individual player who's playing it. And that's what draws us: the player, rather than the style."

Best not to get too hung up on classifications and etymologies when listening to "Life Is All Checkered," really, or else you'll miss out on some

excellent musicianship that channels the obvious affection Feddersen and Gourley feel for these tunes. Sometimes they play in strict unison, other times use harmony or counterpoint – neither of which has a firm place in Irish fiddle tradition, but it's hard to argue with the results here.

Reels and jigs abound, but there are also a medley of polkas ("Happy Days Again/Padraig O'Keefe's") and a hornpipe, "The Fairest Rose," composed by one-time area resident Tommy Peoples; the late legendary Cape Breton fiddler (and Brockton native) Jerry Holland's "My Otis Tomas Mandolin" makes a somewhat surprising but entirely welcome appearance in one set of reels. On another hornpipe "The

Blackbird," Gourley supplies an accompaniment that enhances the tune's rhythm as well as its melodic qualities.

"I had this idea for arranging 'Blackbird,'" says Gourley. "It's something I wouldn't think of doing with most musicians, but I had a feeling it would be perfect for Laura, and it worked out very well."

Another track features a pair of tunes ("Lament for O'Donnell/The Star Above the Garter") popularized by Denis Murphy and Julia Clifford on the landmark "Kerry Fiddles" album; on the latter tune, Gourley and Feddersen recreate the Sliabh Luachra sound, with one fiddle doubling the melody an octave lower than the other.

Most of the backing on the album comes courtesy of Gourley's longtime friend and collaborator Brian Miller (guitar, bouzouki) – Gourley displays his own considerable prowess as a guitarist on the jig set "Child of My Heart/Blarney Pilgrim/Paddy O'Rafferty."

A Madison, Wisc., native, Gourley remembers that he always played at least some Irish music, even when he was primarily a classical violinist. His father, an old-time-style fiddler, took him to various festivals – including the Festival of American Fiddle Music in Washington state – which piqued his interest in folk and traditional styles, enough so that at age 19 he quit playing classical altogether. Moving to Minnesota to attend college brought him in contact with musicians like Miller, Miller's wife Norah Rendell of The Outside Track, Paddy O'Brien of the band Chulrua (which Gourley played in for a while), and Daithi Sproule of Altan, and affirmed his enthusiasm for Irish music.

Feddersen, who grew up in Bloomington, Ind., jokes that her father – who has played with Grey Larsen, among others – "feels bad about dragging me to all his various gigs" when she was a small child, but clearly she feels no resentment. When she was five, her grandmother

posed her a question: "Not 'Do you want to play music?'" Feddersen says, "but 'Which instrument – violin or piano?'" Like Gourley, she started out on classical, but the Irish music she'd hear via her father "stayed in my head," and she'd pick out the tunes on a toy piano, then later on violin.

Bloomington had its share of excellent fiddlers with whom to play and learn from, Feddersen says, such as Danny Noveck, Eric Merrill and Sam Bartlett, as well as other musicians who proved to be friends and mentors: "It's a solid scene, a good community of people to be around when you're learning to play."

Feddersen wound up living in New York City for a while, but felt Boston would ultimately be her destination, and on St. Patrick's Day in 2013 she made the move. Ironically, Gourley had been planning to relocate to New York City, but in January of that same year he had stopped over in Boston for what he thought would be a brief stay before heading to the Big Apple. After a few weeks, he changed his mind.

Following about a year's worth of playing together in sessions, parties or in their respective living rooms, Gourley and Feddersen discussed the idea of making an album, although their motivations were different. "For me, this was 'a project,' and I love working on projects," says Gourley, who does frequent recordings on his home equipment, and has recorded with musicians in Minneapolis. "It just seemed to me a very worthwhile focus of time and energy, and a great way to put ourselves out there."

In fact, Gourley's home recordings of Feddersen playing with Miller provided additional inspiration: "They sounded great together, and I felt if I was in there, too, it wouldn't sound that bad."

For Feddersen, there was a road-not-taken aspect to the idea. "A friend of mine in New York had once encouraged me to record, as a way to capture this particular time and place in my life, but I didn't feel ready. In retrospect, I regretted not having done that. This time, I felt ready; I'd reached this stage of my musical development, so recording was a way to put that behind me and move along to another stage."

What that next stage will be, of course, is open to speculation. But as long as there are more tunes to learn, and people to play them with – whether at the Catskills, in Boston, or elsewhere – Gourley and Feddersen look forward to continuing their partnership.

"When you travel around, and you play with different musicians, there's always the possibility you find somebody with whom everything clicks," says Gourley. "We've had a lot of fun, learned a lot from each other, so who knows what else we can do?"

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The Irish Cultural Centre of New England hosted its annual Boston Irish Festival on June 13-14, featuring music, dance, family activities and other attractions. The festival's first day included the Boston Irish Festival Feis, co-organized by the Harney Academy of Irish Dance in Walpole, which drew Irish dancers of all ages from Massachusetts and elsewhere for competitions on various levels. New to the festival this year was an encampment by the Viking Irish, a Boston-based group that commemorates the Viking influence in Irish history and culture.



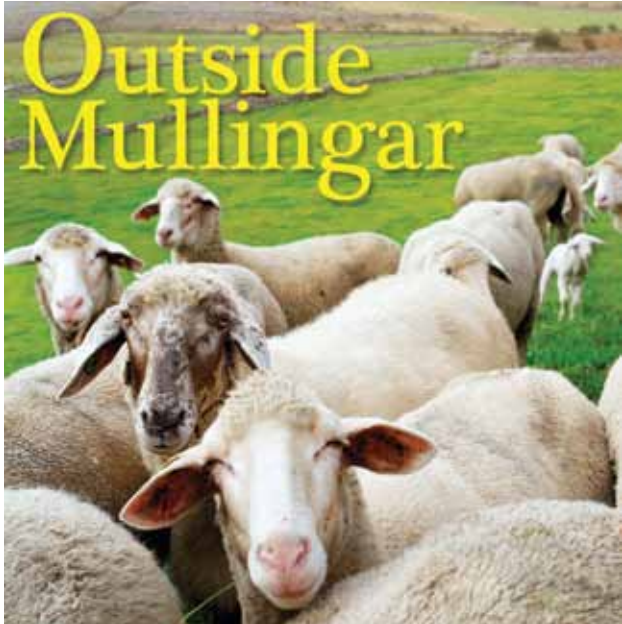
The Viking Irish demonstrated Viking arts and culture -- including Viking combat -- at the Boston Irish Festival.
Sean Smith photos



At left: Walpole residents Kaitlin Skinner, 11 (left), and Molly Geoghan, 10, were happy third-place winners at the Boston Irish Festival Feis. Above: Dancers and their families and friends await results of their competition.

Peterborough Players present Shanley’s ‘Outside Mullingar’

(Continued from page 11)
konen. “I’m only attracted to plays that have wit in them. Death for me is sitting in the theater for two hours – no matter how good it is – and not ever having a moment of wit or connection with the characters . . . With cruelty on stage, usually the audience responds with laughter. And with kindness on stage, usually the audience responds with tears, to get really simple and real basic.”
“There’s a lot of cruelty in this play,” he said with a laugh. It “comes across as extraordinary wit.”
Kaikkonen’s love for the arts stretches back to when he was as a boy, rounding up all the kids in the neighborhood to put on a show. So many years later, the actor-writer-director is still at it – drawing people together to put on a show. Although he lives in Manhattan and works all around the country, he loves the charm of New Hampshire.
“It’s an absolutely beautiful spot,” he said. The theater “is an 18th century barn that has been lovingly insulated and air conditioned and modernized but always left looking . . . as an 18th century barn. The atmosphere is extraordinary . . . The whole history of summer theater is contained in that room. It’s very intimate, it’s only 250 seats . . . We’ve been here 80 years. It’s a real part of the community.”



He added, “It’s also terrific to be able to employ so many artists. I work all over the country and to spot

somebody who’s working in Cincinnati or Winston Salem, North Carolina, and say ‘This person is really special’ and get them to come to New Hampshire is another gift.”
That includes working with the cast of “Outside Mullingar,” featuring Norton Award winner Bridget Beirne as Rosemary, Tom Frey as Anthony, Dale Hodges as Aoife, and Michael Page as Tony.
The difficult part of a long career in the theater, Kaikkonen said, is being away from home so much. That’s been softened by spending the past 20 summers in Peterborough. “When I leave New York and I come here I don’t feel like I’m going away from home. I feel like I’m going to my other home. And that’s a wonderful thing.”
Which sounds very similar to what Shanley experienced in Ireland.
R. J. Donovan is editor and publisher of www.onstageboston.com.

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“Outside Mullingar,” July 15 - 26 at The Peterborough Players, 55 Hadley Rd, Peterborough, NH. Info: 603-924-7585 or peterboroughplayers.org.

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Denis O'Brien's latest move: Haiti's first Marriott

(Continued from page 1) you do that? You've got to go into the more difficult areas. When we built in Jamaica, for example, against the advice of everybody, we moved uptown to the roughest, most underprivileged part of Kingston, right down at the port. We decided if we are going to make a big investment we need to make sure it's going to be very impactful. It's the same thing here really."

"When President Clinton spoke to us about the opportunity to build a hotel here — and then the Marriott people were here in the same meeting, we just said within a half-and-hour, 'Yeah, let's go and do it.' But we wanted to make sure the hotel was a Haitian hotel with all the best of Haitian artisan work because probably the greatest artists in all of the Caribbean and maybe even all of Central, Latin America are the Haitians, in my mind. Nobody knows exactly where that creative talent and beauty and skill came from but it's certainly that is extraordinary."

O'Brien stayed at the Marriott himself the night before our interview. He was impressed with the room and the service, but moreover, he was delighted to see a sight that he was urgently hoping for: "I arrived there last night and nearly all of the clientele is Haitian. In the public areas, people having dinner with their families. That's the real



Denis O'Brien, second from left, is the key financier behind Haiti's first-ever Marriott-branded hotel, which opened for business in Port-au-Prince last February. The Irish-born O'Brien owns Digicel, Haiti's dominant telecommunications firm and is deeply involved in philanthropy and economic development efforts through the Clinton Global Initiative. Former President Bill Clinton and Haiti's President Michel Martelly, far right, are also shown in this photo.

Image courtesy Marriott-PAP

test of the hotel. People feel comfortable going there."

"I'm more interested in

the feedback of Haitians. The feedback has been really good. My own staff, we're in the next building

and I wanted my own staff to enjoy it, so we gave everybody a \$25 voucher to go over and have lunch.

I'm not interested in owning a hotel that's for the elite. It's for all customers."

The employee mix is

another point of pride for O'Brien.

"It's a credit to Marriott," O'Brien told the Reporter in a May interview. "I love the ethos of Marriott, because they take all comers. You're judged on your ability and not where you were born. The fact that they recruited diaspora Haitians, but also Haitians from a very poor environment."

Building a viable tourism sector, O'Brien believes, is the key to building Haiti's economy in addition to agriculture and light manufacturing. The country, he says, is on the verge of a breakthrough year.

"There's plenty of good hotels and what's happening now is that everyone is investing heavily in their hotels and that's helping the economy here in terms of construction point of view. When tourists come here, they stay at very good hotels and the best restaurants in the whole of the Caribbean are here in Port au Prince," O'Brien told the Reporter.

"So if you take tourism — I think Haiti is becoming on the most interesting places to visit," said O'Brien, who said there's a reason that he has "spent more time in Haiti than all my other businesses put together by a factor of ten."

"I'm really interested in Haiti, maybe because I just see — despite everything — the potential for Haiti is just unbelievable if we could just grasp it," said O'Brien.



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Customs wait times at Logan decried

Saying that "the customs wait times at Boston Logan International Airport have increased to unacceptable levels," the Massachusetts Congressional delegation has issued an open letter to Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson, relaying a growing concern about delays for international passengers clearing through Customs and Border Patrol at Logan Airport.

The letter, co-signed by Senators Elizabeth Warren and Edward Markey and all nine Members of Congress from the state, said "international arrivals are being held on the tarmac when there is no capacity to offload passengers. According to Massport officials, peak maximum wait times for passport checks has recently consistently grown to between 90-180 minutes.

The letter said that in the last year 2000 additional CBP positions were added nationwide, "yet none were allocated to Logan Airport. Without additional staff to meet capacity, wait times will continue to grow.

"With nearly five million international travelers in 2014, Logan Airport is one of the fastest growing international airports in the nation. International passengers at Logan Airport increased 22 percent between 2004-2014 and just this year, international passengers increased over 10 percent. These international passengers are essential to the New England economy." The Homeland Secretary was asked to respond to the letter by July 16.

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CD Reviews

By SEAN SMITH
SPECIAL TO THE BIR
Caitlín Nic Gaghann & Ciarán Ó Maonaigh, “Caitlín/Ciarán” • Meath concertina meets Donegal fiddle in this first album by two award-winning musicians whose acclaim now reaches all the way to Boston via their appearance in the 2014 “St. Patrick’s Day Celtic Sojourn” show.



Clare may seem to have the reputation as center of the Irish concertina universe, but Nic Gaghann, a three-time All-Ireland champion, certainly has moved the cursor farther east (as has her fellow Meath squeezeboxer Micheal O’Raghallaigh). What’s more, she is a brilliant dancer – good enough to have toured as part of “Riverdance” – and this talent undoubtedly gives her a deeper feel for the nuances of the music. An even more profound influence has been her parents: the fiddle-playing of her father, Antóin Mac Gabhann, and mentoring of her mother, Bernie, an avid Clare-style set-dancer.

Ó Maonaigh, a former TG4 Young Musician of the Year, has impressive musical roots of his own, beginning with his grandfather Francie Mooney and also including Altan’s Mairéad Ní Mhaonaigh and Frankie

Kennedy, as well as Donegal fiddle legend John Doherty. Regional styles, especially where the fiddle is concerned, may not quite have the same distinctiveness in Irish traditional music as in the past, but they do count for something. Donegal’s has always been noted for its ties to Scottish tradition, what with the popularity of strathspeys and marches, for example, as well as more aggressive bowing and use of double stops.

The Donegal strain is evident on the very first track of “Caitlín/Ciarán,” as the pair open with the strathspey “Mammy’s Plaidie” and head off into the reel “The Boyne Hunt,” both from John Doherty’s repertoire, and then end with a reel learned from Jerry Holland of Cape Breton (which, of course, has its own ties to Scottish music). The second track includes two jigs – both of them common to the respective families of Nic Gaghann and Ó Maonaigh – composed by another Donegal fiddle master, Vincent Broderick. Another track incorporates the march “Robert the Bruce,” which commemorates the ancient Scottish king, and two more reels from Doherty, and another is a reworking of an air by James Scott Skinner, “The Braes of Auchtertyre,” which is played as a reel in Ireland but by Nic Gaghann and Ó Maonaigh as a highland (fiddler Kimberley Fraser describes these as Donegal versions of Cape Breton strathspeys).

But other areas of Ireland are represented here, too: the air “Lament for Limerick,” for example, and a justly celebrated version of the well-known reel “The Morning Dew” by Galway accordionist Joe Cooley; Sligo fiddler Michael Gorman’s “The Mountain Road,” a favorite at sessions pretty much everywhere; a pair of jigs, one from Co. Laoise fiddler Sean Ryan, the other one of

many iterations of “Páidin Ó Raifeartaigh”; there’s even “The American Polka,” an early 20th-century vaudeville number by Austrian(!) melodeon player John J. Kimmel that has made its way into the Irish canon. Three tunes composed by Nic Gaghann also are featured.

What’s most important, though, is whatever the origin or influence regarding a particular tune, these two play them with gusto and vivacity: Nic Gaghann sounds perfectly at ease in the Donegal tradition, and Ó Maonaigh is by no means constrained in his ability to venture far afield from it. They are also aided by the accompaniment of Sean Óg Graham (guitar), Jack Talty (keyboards) and Coimhin ÓFearghail (bouzouki).

Not so incidentally, “Caitlín/Ciarán” is further enlivened by Nic Gaghann’s dancing feet at several junctures, particularly “The Shelf,” a polka found in Belfast flute circles – she and Ó Maonaigh play off of one another in quite astounding fashion. This track serves as a reminder that, whatever flourishes and modern accouterments Irish music has taken on in recent decades, it is a tradition strongly rooted in dance – in Donegal, Meath and elsewhere.

Cassie & Maggie, “Sterling Road” • Sisters Cassie and Maggie MacDonald are among the vanguard of young musicians – as is the band Còig, which appeared at this year’s “St. Patrick’s Day Celtic Sojourn” – offering reassurance that there’s indeed another generation primed to carry on the traditional music of Nova Scotia. Cassie plays fiddle in that tried-and-true Maritimes fashion, derived from Scottish influences but very much its own genre by now, and Maggie supplies the all-important rhythmic component on guitar and piano, the latter in the equally distinctive Nova Scotia/Cape Breton style.

It’s not all pedal-to-the-metal pyrotechnics, happily: The opening track, “Jimmie’s,” has a well-crafted flow to it, starting with a strathspey penned by Cassie (and with a deft guitar part from Maggie), then bounding into a succession of reels that picks up considerable vigor as Maggie enters on piano. “Hurricane Jane” kicks off with Natalie MacMaster’s “Wedding Day Jig” (proving that not all wedding celebration music is syrupy and tacky) and finishes with the titular reel (by Cassie), full of hard-churning variations and riffs from both sisters. The traditional “Starlight Waltz,” meanwhile, is played fairly straightforward, almost restrained, and makes for a welcome contrast. Their supporting cast includes fine accompaniment in particular by Andrew Collins on mandolin, mandocello and guitar and Eric Wright on cello.

The sisters also sing, with a detectable but not excessive pop inflection, and to very pleasant effect: the Gaelic “Buain A’ Chiorce,” is probably the best of the bunch; Ian Sinclair’s “The King’s Shilling” and “Sisters” (the version of the murder ballad “Two Sisters” often associated with Clannad) are familiar, maybe overly so, but there’s little faulting the result; “Sweet Melodies,” which they both wrote, has a country rock feel and, while not quite up to the standard of the other songs, is not without its charms.

Matthew Byrne, “Hearts & Heroes” • Speaking of ear-catching folk/trad performers from the Great White North, Byrne – who hails from Newfoundland – is about as down-home appealing a singer as you’ll hear these days. His voice is reminiscent of a Robbie O’Connell, Andy Irvine or Jez Lowe, relaxed, natural and clear, expressive but without pathos or affectation. Moreover, he has an equally assured, limber guitar style that tastefully complements – and practically embraces – the lyrics he sings.

Part of Byrne’s repertoire is drawn from his family’s musical heritage, as well as his own digging into Newfoundland tradition, and includes lesser-known variants of songs like “Fair Ellen,” “Bold Nelson” and “Banks of the Sweet Dundee” (via, respectively, his grandmother, great uncle and great aunt), as well as “Claudie Banks” and “The Jolly Ploughboy.” Elsewhere, he sings “McAlpine’s Crew” (from Dublin’s own Frank Harte) and the broken-token ballad “Plains of Waterloo” – despite the Napoleonic setting, it’s from Ontario tradition – with an impossibly lovely melody that just doesn’t quit.

For good measure, Byrne includes two contemporary songs with strong roots in maritime/sailing tradition, Gina Dunlap’s “What Fortunes Guide a Sailor” and “The Grey Funnel Line,” Cyril Tawney’s magnificently melancholy remembrance of his service in the Royal Navy. Byrne sings the latter one a cappella, with a backing chorus, in finest pub-singing style; this and “Sweet Dundee” are the only tracks on the album where he doesn’t have the excellent accompaniment behind him provided by, among others, Billy Sutton and Aaron Collis (accordions), Bob Pike (bass) and Emilia Bartellas (fiddle).

It says something that the two instrumental tracks, “Hearts” and “Heroes” (both composed by Byrne), while more than agreeable listening and quite appropriate for the album’s demeanor, constitute a bit of a let-down – you’d rather hear more of that voice. (And you can do so if you head up to Lowell on August 22, when Byrne will be appearing as part of Brian O’Donovan’s “A Celtic Sojourn Roots and Branches Concert.”)



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Psst! There’s a lot to see and do in Co. Monaghan

By JUDY ENRIGHT
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

Let’s have a show of hands, please, from all readers who have visited County Monaghan.

Where are all those hands? Hate to admit it, but I wouldn’t have been raising my hand, either – until this spring. Apparently, I’m not alone in overlooking Monaghan’s many charms. The county’s tourist board admits on its website (monaghan-tourism.com) that “County Monaghan is Ireland’s best-kept secret.” The board adds, “There’s more to Monaghan” and notes that the county is “home to Lough Muckno, a world-class center for angling and wakeboarding; Clones and Carrickmacross lace, an exquisite technique used in royal wedding dresses over many centuries; round towers, historic houses, and the drumlin-dotted landscape that inspired the poems of Patrick Kavanagh.” Who knew?

HIDDEN IRELAND

This spring, I visited a magnificent historic home – Hilton Park in Co. Monaghan – that I found through Hidden Ireland, an accommodation group.

I have long been a fan of Hidden Ireland (hiddenireland.com), which offers exceptional accommodation in country homes around the Republic and the North. All homes are privately owned and visitors are treated as honored guests – often as visiting royalty. There is little that the owners overlook in an effort to make your stay absolutely seamless. As the brochure says, “Hidden Ireland houses offer a hospitality that only a family home can.”

Over the years, I have enjoyed the hospitality of homeowners at Temple House in Co. Sligo, Ashley Park in Co. Tipperary, Bruckless House in Co. Donegal, Clonalis in Co. Roscommon, Delphi Lodge and Quay House, both in Co. Galway.

HILTON PARK

This year, a friend and I stayed at Hilton Park in Monaghan (on the Fermanagh border) and thoroughly enjoyed the accommodation, the owners, and Co. Monaghan. The effervescent Joanna Madden, a busy and stunning young mother who seemingly never slows down, extended a gracious welcome to her home. She led us to our elegant, comfortable rooms through halls filled with antiques and family portraits. The afternoon sun joined in and shone through multiple stained glass windows en route, spilling color onto walls and carpeting.

Before dinner, a storm passed by, leaving in its wake the most glorious rainbow that arched across the sky over green pastures dotted with sheep. I was dazzled; the sheep took it in their stride, and never looked up!

Drinks were served in a comfortable drawing room prior to the delicious dinner, created by Joanna’s husband, Fred, a London-trained master chef.



Beautiful Hilton Park is an elegant country house in Clones, Co. Monaghan, that offers B&B accommodation and outstanding meals.

Judy Enright photos



A bed fit for royalty - or for you - at Hilton Park in Co. Monaghan, where you will be treated better than royalty when you book a stay.

Johnny Madden, Fred’s father, joined the gathering and entertained with stories of the house and its history. We learned that Hilton Park was built in 1734 by the Madden family’s ancestors and was specifically designed for entertaining.

CO-FOUNDERS

Johnny and his wife, Lucy, were co-founders of Hidden Ireland and ran Hilton Park for many years before passing the reins to Fred and Joanna some years ago. We unfortunately did not meet Lucy, who is reputed to be one of Ireland’s best cooks and food writers, but Joanna did show us Lucy’s book that glorifies the humble spud: “The Potato Year, 365 Ways of Cooking Potatoes.”

There is great emphasis at Hilton Park on sourcing local and seasonal produce, much of which is grown in Hilton Park’s four-acre walled garden. Many dishes are inspired by the variety of available fruit, vegetables, and herbs grown there.

Hilton Park is cozy and small with only six ensuite bedrooms that are filled with antique furniture and decorations. The home is set in hundreds of acres of woodland, with gardens and lakes and,

as you might imagine, there is much to do on the estate and in the area. The property includes an 18-hole golf course, two fishing lakes, boating, swimming, cycling, and walking on the lanes and pathways. There are colorful pubs nearby as well as museums and galleries, festivals, historic homes like Florence Court and Gardens in nearby Co. Fermanagh, and so much more. See monaghantourism.com for additional information.

Breakfast was cooked to order and served in the charming former servants’ hall in a lower level.

Perhaps one of the greatest compliments for any accommodation is having owners of another outstanding property choose to stay there and such was the case at Hilton Park when we visited. Simon Haden and his wife, Frederieke McMurray, who own Gregan’s Castle in Ballyvaughan, Co. Clare, were enjoying a get-away with several nights booked at Hilton House. They said they make several visits there every year – clearly a great accolade!

There is also a gate lodge available for self-catering at Hilton Park with ample room for four



The Madden family’s friendly and adorable Jack Russell welcomes you to Hilton Park in Co. Monaghan.

guests.

For more information on this lovely country home, visit hiltonpark.ie or email to mail@hiltonpark.ie.

GREEN HONORS

Congratulations to Mulranny, Co. Mayo, recently named as Ireland’s first Accredited GreenPlan Village. The accreditation ceremony took place in The Mulranny Park Hotel where the certificate was presented by The GreenPlan author, Neil McCabe. McCabe, a firefighter, started the GreenPlan in Kilbarrack Fire Station, Dublin. Kilbarrack is the world’s first carbon-neutral fire station! . Energy 2

McCabe and his team’s focus is to continually improve the quality of life and well being on earth for present and future generations by preventing waste, reducing use of resources like water, and reducing dependence on man-made chemicals.

Well done, Mulranny and Kilbarrack.

CROAGH PATRICK

Father Tony King, a retired Roman Catholic parish priest, was greeted with cheers on a recent Sunday in St. Mary’s Church, Westport, Co. Mayo, when he celebrated Mass and called in his homily for the badly eroded sacred mountain Croagh Patrick to be declared off-limits from above the statue of St. Patrick to the summit until a proper conservation plan is implemented.

According to *The Irish Times* and *The Mayo News* newspapers, Fr. King wants the mountain off-limits to extreme sports and wants the annual Reek Sunday pilgrimage, which annually attracts some 30,000 climbers over the last weekend of July, to be suspended for three years.

In his sermon about taking responsibility for the environment, Fr. King referred to the recent “desecration” by tourists of the Malaysian holy site, Mount Kinabalu. In recent years, he said, Croagh Patrick, which is commonage shared by local farmers for grazing, has become a popular venue for high-profile extreme sports races and has also been the location for colorful, and sometimes bizarre, charity events, including a bra-chain challenge and a dating festival.

Furthermore, consideration should be given that the national pilgrimage should be suspended

for the same period until a proper environmental protection policy with regulations is put in place to protect and conserve this sacred place,” Fr. King said. “As Pope Francis says, ‘People occasionally forgive us but nature never does.’” Added Fr. King, “The evidence of what is happening on the traditional pilgrim path of this mountain is disturbing. The impact can only be described as devastation, due to erosion and neglect. A lot of the damage, I am told, is due to it being used as a sky track for fitness by super-athletes.”

Brian Quinn of Failte Ireland’s Wild Atlantic Way team, responded by saying it would be disastrous for tourism if Croagh Patrick were to be closed. (Failte Ireland is the Irish wing of Tourism Ireland here.) “More than 100,000 people climb the mountain each year and about 40,000 euro is collected in parking fees from the lot at the base of the mountain,” according to Martin Keating of Mayo County Council.

AER LINGUS

There could not be any mention of Ireland this month or last without sincere condolences extended to the families of those killed and injured in the balcony collapse in Berkeley, CA. The stories were heartbreaking.

I read comments written online by a man from Dalkey, Ireland, about Aer Lingus’s concern for the families and thought it was worth sharing some of his thoughts about this great airline.

He writes, “I heard about your compassion, care, sympathy, and utmost professionalism yet again in helping fly the families of those poor kids in Berkeley to the States. I have heard two wonderful stories already today about what you’ve done for grieving families. I cannot speak highly enough about Aer Lingus. I can’t imagine what those people must be feeling, but your gestures are beyond anything I’ve seen or heard in customer care, and I emphasize CARE.”

“Ireland is a small place, and I love how we all come together as one massive community when such tragedies occur. You are part of that. All I can say as a customer of yours, and as an Irishman thinking of those poor kids and their families, is thank you, Aer Lingus, thank you.”

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How Can LTC Insurance Help You Protect Your Assets?

Plan to create a pool of healthcare?

Presented by Brian W. O'Sullivan, CFP, ChFC, CLU

How will you pay for long term care? The sad fact is that most people don't know the answer to that question. But a solution is available.

Many baby boomers are opting to make long term care coverage an important part of their retirement strategies. The reasons to get an LTC policy after age 50 are very compelling.



Your premium payments buy you access to a large pool of money which can be used to pay for long term care costs. By paying for LTC out of that pool of money, you can help to preserve your retirement savings and income.

The Department of Health & Human Services estimates that if you are 65 today, you have about a 70% chance of needing some form of LTC during the balance of your life. About 20% of those who will require it will need LTC for at least five years. Today, the average woman in need of LTC needs it for 3.7 years while the average man needs it for 2.2 years.

Why procrastinate? The earlier you opt for LTC coverage, the cheaper the premiums. This is why many people purchase it before they retire. Those in poor health or over the age of 80 are frequently ineligible for coverage.

What it pays for. Some people think LTC coverage only pays for nursing home care. It can actually pay for a variety of nursing, social, and rehabilitative services at home and away from home, for people with a chronic illness or disability.

The Medicare misconception. Too many people think Medicare will pick up the cost of long term care. Medicare is not long term care insurance. Medicare will only pay for the first 100 days of nursing home care, and only if 1) you are getting skilled care and 2) you go into the nursing home right after a hospital stay of at least 3 days.

Now, Medicaid might help you pay for nursing home and assisting living care, but it is basically aid for the destitute. Some nursing homes and assisted living facilities don't accept it, and for Medicaid to pay for LTC in the first place, the care has to be proven to be "medically necessary" for the patient.

Ask your insurance advisor or financial advisor about some of the LTC choices you can explore - while many Americans have life, health and disability insurance, that's not the same thing as long term care coverage.

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



Sen. Thomas Kennedy, his mother and family members gather at the Irish Honors Award luncheon sponsored by the Boston Irish Reporter in October, 2011. *Harry Brett photo*

Brockton's Sen. Tom Kennedy, voice of passion, is dead at 63

(Continued from page 1)

Oblates of Mary Immaculate to begin his studies for the priesthood.

In 1971, a tragic accident left Tom a quadriplegic who thereafter used a wheel chair. After a long series of treatments and hospitalizations and rehabilitation, he returned home to Brockton in 1973. Then-Mayor David

Crosby appointed him to his staff as the city's Ombudsman, a position that he held from 1974 to 1978. He began his political career in 1978 with a winning campaign to fill the City Council's Ward 2 seat.

US Congressman Brian Donnelly of Dorchester later tapped Councillor Kennedy to serve as a

Congressional legislative aide in his Brockton District office.

In 1983, he threw his hat in the ring as a Democratic candidate for state representative from the 9th Plymouth District and won over a crowded field. His long tenure at the State House had begun. Community interests and legislative work on Beacon

Hill filled his days until his final illness.

A graduate of Stonehill College, Sen. Kennedy earned a master's degree from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Information about funeral services was unavailable at the Irish Reporter's press time.

Officials and student athletes from the University of Massachusetts Boston and Boston College High School gathered June 11 to break ground on the new Monan Park community baseball complex. When it opens next spring, Monan Park will provide sports facilities for BC High and UMass Boston, youth baseball teams in Dorchester and South Boston, and Boston's Park League. Shown from left are Charlie Titus, Vice Chancellor for Athletics & Recreation, Special Projects & Programs at UMass Boston; Brendan Eygabroat, Head Coach of the UMass Boston Beacons baseball team; J. Donald Monan, SJ, Chancellor of Boston College; Beacons junior outfielder Bryan Dupre; and UMass Boston Chancellor J. Keith Motley. *Christian Arthur photo*



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The Irish Language

by Philip Mac AnGhabhann

We have studied many of the forms of the little **preposition** “in” or “at”, **i**. Let’s review these as well as the special ways that this **preposition** is used.

Recall that **preposition I** “in” **eclipses**, “over shadows”, words that begin with the **consonants b,c, d, f,g, p,s** and **t** so that they sound like the first written letter **mb, cg, nd, bhf, ng, bp, ts** and **dt**. The second letter remains to remind the reader what the original word was but is not pronounced. This rule applies in whatever the preposition **i** occurs.

Some examples include **I mBéal Feirste** ‘in Belfast” and **sa tSeapáin** “in Japan”
Recall that the **preposition I** combines with the **personal pronouns** (“I, you, he/she/it, etc.”) to form what Irish terms “**prepositional pronouns**”:
ionam “in/at me” **ionainn** “in/at us”,
ionat “in/at you” **ionaibh** n/at you-all”,
ann “in/at him” **iontu** in/at them”.
inti “in/at her”,

Again, these are not common except for **ann** which is used in many phrases that mean something other than what they appear to say. We had one example: **Bhí sé ann**, /VEE shey awn/ “He was there”.

I can take many forms so it bears repeating them: When **I** is preceded by the article “the”, **an**, they combine to become **sa** as in “We are in (the) school”, **Tá muid sa scoil**.

When the **article** is in the **plural form**, **na**, the **I** becomes **sna**: “in the houses” **sna tithe**. At other times **sna** means “becoming” or “studying for” --an example is **Tá Liam ag dul sna cgar**da, “Bill is becoming a policeman”.

i becomes **ina** when someone actually *is* a certain profession. **Tá Liam ina cgar**da.

Still another form of **I** is the **emphatic** use when it becomes **in** /een/ as in a surprise question or exclamation “Was Patrick a nurse?” **An raibh in bPa-draig banaltra?**

i is also used to form some **adverbial phrases** such **I bhfad** “far”, **I ngra** “in love”, **in am** “on/in time”, and also **in uachtar** “at the top of” or **in iochtar** “at the bottom/foot of”. However, “at the bottom of” may be expressed by **bun** as in **ag bun** followed by a **noun** in the **genitive case** – “at the foot (of the stairs)” **ag bun staighre** and **Buntús Cainte**, “Basic Speech” – a good course in Irish for beginners.

In addition to **I**, “in” may be expressed in several ways, the most common uses **ar** “on” or **ag ar** “:In Dingle” **ar an Daingean**, “in Killybegs”**ar na Cealla Beaga**.

Recall that Irish views “body positions” and “states” as being “in” plus the appropriate **possessive pronoun** .To say, “We were asleep”, Irish must say, “We were in our sleeping”. To say “He is sitting (down)” or “He is seated”, Irish must say, “He is in his sitting (position)”. Here are some of the more common idioms formed this way.


suigh	/SOO-ee/	“sit”
codladh	/KOH-luh/	“sleep”
dúiseacht	/DOO-shack/	“awake”
seasamh	/SHES-uhv/	“standing”
loighe	/loh/	“lie, lying”
cónaí	/KOH-nee/	“reside/live”
rith	/roo/	“running”

So, in order to say, “She is sitting” we would have to say, “Is she in her sitting” **Tá síse i a suigh**. /tah SHEE-suh ee uh SOO-ee/. Here we use **sise** in order to avoid two **i**’s together.

In the United States “Hog Calling Contests” are a regular feature of County Fairs. “SOO-ee”, the traditional way to call a pig, is Irish or Scots Gaelic for “Sit!”

Now let’s see how well you can translate these sentences into Irish. 1.) “My family lived in Dingle.” 2,) “Why?” 3.) “Were you-all awake?” 4.) “Will you be running tomorrow?” 5.) “I will go to Belfast in the morning.” 6.) “What time is it?” 7.) “A quarter past three.” 8.) “That’s good! I woke up in time.”

Answers: 1.) **Bhí mo theaglach I ar cónai ar an Daingean**. 2.) **Cén fath?** 3.) **An raibh sibh I ‘ur dúiseacht?** 4.) **An mbeidh tú I do rith amáireach?** 5.) **Rachaidh mé go Béal Feirste sa maidin**. 6.) **Cén t-am é?** 7.) **Ceathrú tar éis a trí**. 8.) **‘S maith sin. Tá mé mo dhúiseacht in am**.



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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

JULY 2015

5 Sunday Noel Henry’s Irish Show Band

11 Saturday Corrigan Family Benefit Dance 6 pm until 12 am. Music by Erin’s Melody. Donation \$15. Raffles and auction including an autographed Tom Brady football. Sean Corrigan from Co. May was killed in a terrible storm related accident this past winter, leaving his wife and 3 young children. For more information, please contact Seamus Mannion at 508-785-0320 or Tracey Mannion Graham at traceymannion@yahoo.com

12 Sunday Erin’s Melody with Margaret Dalton

19 Sunday Andy Healy

24 Friday Sean Wilson with Tony Mac are back! Direct from Ireland for our 70th Anniversary Year Celebrations. Doors

open at 7 pm. \$20. Call Mary Maloney at 617-549-9812 or the club at 617-327-7306 for ticket or table reservations. Tickets are \$20 each.

26 Sunday Fintan Stanley

30 Thursday Emmett O’Hanlon from Celtic Thunder. Guilty Pleasure Solo Tour for our 70th Anniversary Year Celebrations. Meet and Greet from 5:30-6:30 pm - \$50. General Admission at 7 pm - \$35 with show from 7:30 to 9:30 pm. Visit ticketleap.com for more info and to purchase tickets

AUGUST 2015

2 Sunday Noel Henry’s Irish Show Band

9 Sunday Wild Rovers

16 Sunday Erin’s Melody with Margaret Dalton

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