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Atlantic Steps, which takes the stage on the final day of the Boston Irish Festival, showcases the story of Irish dance.

Table is set for ICC's Irish Festival

By SEAN SMITH
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

Performances by Eileen Ivers & Immigrant Soul, Black 47, and Atlantic Steps highlight this year's Boston Irish Festival, which will take place June 7-9 at the Irish Cultural Centre of New England in Canton.

The traditional fiddle-accordion duo of Oisín Mac Diarmada and Seamus Begley and Celtic-pop Canadian band Searson also are on the bill.

In addition, the annual festival will include its customary roster of local and regional music and dance acts, as well as various events and activities, among them a 5K road race, Irish football and hurling

competitions, an Irish bread baking contest, children and family amusements, genealogy consultations, and appearances by authors of books related to Irish and Irish-American history, culture and literature.

This year also will see the inaugural Boston Irish Festival Feis, a partnership with Liam Harney, founder and owner of the Walpole-based Harney Academy of Irish Dance. The Irish dance competition will take place on five stages all day on Sat., June 8, beginning at 8:30 a.m. Participants of all ages and experience levels are welcome. The Boston Irish Festival Feis is registered, sanctioned and governed by rules of

An Coimisiún, North American Feis Commission and NAFC New England Region President Pat Watkins.

Kicking off the festival on Friday evening, June 7, at 8 o'clock, will be Grammy winner and nine-time all-Ireland fiddle champion Eileen Ivers, whose resume includes appearances with the Boston Pops, The Chieftains, Sting, and Paula Cole, and stints with Cherish the Ladies and "Riverdance." Ivers will be performing with her Immigrant Soul ensemble, a blending of Celtic, pop and world music instruments and influences.

For almost 25 years, New York City's Black 47 has played

its sometimes gritty, sometimes saucy, sometimes angry, always loud'n proud version of Irish rock, flavored with folk as well as reggae, jazz, and hip-hop to create an unabashed working-class urban sound. Fronted by lead singer, writer and guiding spirit Larry Kirwan, their songs explore the social and political, as well as the personal, whether musing on the tragedy of Michael Collins, expressing outrage over the Iraq War and the world financial crisis, or recounting the craziest wedding ever. Black 47 will play at the festival on Saturday at a time to be announced.

Boston-area dancers Kieran Jordan and Jackie O'Riley are

among the cast of Atlantic Steps, an international-touring adaptation by Brian Cunningham of the Irish show "Fuaim Chonamara," which chronicles the story of sean-nos, Ireland's oldest dance form, portrayed through the music, song, dance, and energy of the Connemara region. The production will be staged at 2 p.m. on Sunday, June 9.

Oisín Mac Diarmada and Seamus Begley are members of Téada, one of the best traditional bands to emerge from Ireland this century, and are acclaimed musicians in their own right. They will appear at 11 a.m. on June 8.

(Continued on page 11)

Seeing to an uncle's memorial by the sea

On Jan. 25, 1917, the passenger ship SS Laurentic, carrying 475 passengers and crew, and 43 tons of gold ingots, was maneuvering in Ireland's Lough Swilly, a glacial fjord in County Donegal between the Inishowen and the Fanad peninsulas, when it struck two German mines. It sank in less than one hour, and 354 souls perished.

In late May, the Boston philanthropist John Cullinane made an emotional voyage to Donegal to visit the site of the sinking those many years ago. It was a trip he had long hoped to make to pay a memorial tribute to an uncle he never knew, Walter Fitzgerald, a Royal Navy seaman who went down with his ship that day.

See Publisher's Notes, Page 4



Emotional Return: From left, Irish News editor Noel Doran, Frank Costello, Irish American businessman John J. Cullinane, and Irish News chairman Jim Fitzpatrick outside the newspaper's offices in Donegall Street, Belfast.

Hugh Russell photo

Renaissance man: Suffolk's McCarthy

If they handed out frequent flier miles for an extended resume, Jim McCarthy would fly free, first class, the rest of his life. Instead, the president of Suffolk University is flying high in the academic world. To say that he is a Renaissance man in a time of multiple challenges is to say that Isaac Newton could count.

Profile, Page 8

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Dorchester Rep. Dorcena Forry to take a seat in the State Senate

By BIR STAFF

State Rep. Linda Dorcena Forry coasted to a win on May 28 in a special election to fill a vacancy in the Massachusetts state Senate's First Suffolk District. A Haitian-American, Dorcena Forry will take a seat in the 40-member Senate that has long been held by Irish-American men, such as William Bulger, Stephen Lynch, and Jack Hart.

Dorcena Forry, a Dorchester Democrat defeated Joseph Ureneck, a Dorchester Republican, on an Election Day that was marked by low turnout in the district, which includes Dorchester, South Boston, Mattapan, and a portion of Hyde Park.

According to the unofficial tally of all 77 precincts on the city's Elections Department's website, Dorcena Forry piled up 7,858 votes, or just under 82 percent of the total, while Ureneck picked up 1,486 votes. There were 274 write-in ballots.

She declared victory at her Election Night party at the Ledge restaurant in Lower Mills where family, friends, and supporters packed the venue's function room and spilled out onto the adjacent patio. After greeting and thanking supporters, Dorcena Forry took the microphone and pledged to be open to all constituents when serving as their senator. "I want you to know I am going to work hard because I am from a lineage of hard workers," she said while flanked by her parents, Andre and Annie Dorcena, and her 99-year-old grandmother, Marianne Mathurin.

Dorcena Forry said that while her various constituents may not agree with her on every issue, she will be an active listener and will bring viewpoints to the table to make common sense solutions. "I say thank you from the bottom of my heart. Tonight is a shared victory and I want to thank everyone who played a part," she said, citing her labor supporters for helping to organize the campaign and donors for helping her build what she called the "best financed" campaign of the election.

The senator-elect was accompanied to the front of the room

by her son Conor, who stayed close to his mother, bashfully hiding behind her for most of her speech.

Dorcena Forry gave a shout-out to the 12th Suffolk District voters who have been her constituents since 2005 when she entered the Legislature as a representative. "I will now carry our work to the state Senate and I cannot wait to get started," she said.

For his part, Ureneck held his Election Night party at the Blarney Stone in Fields Corner. "It was quite a funeral event," he quipped during a phone interview the next morning. He said he hoped Dorcena Forry would take a look at some of the fathers' rights issues he concentrated on during the campaign.

"I hope she'll take them to heart and take a look at it and either get rid of these laws or seriously revise them," he said, referring to statutes dealing with domestic violence.

Ureneck said he would have fared better in the election if the turnout in South Boston had been higher and more people had been aware of the election. "Many people came by the polls and said they didn't know there was an election," he said.

Dorcena Forry's easy victory came a month after she won a three-way Democratic primary by 378 votes. Two South Boston Democrats, state Rep. Nick Collins and blogger Maureen Dahill, came in second and third, respectively. Ureneck ran unopposed in the Republican primary.

Dorcena Forry hardly flinched in the mid-evening hours of April 30 as the *Boston Globe* and the *Associated Press* were reporting that Collins would win the Democratic nomination.

Despite those calls by the local media, all the ballots in 77 precincts had not yet been counted, and when the unofficial results were posted a few hours later, it was Dorcena Forry who was on top.

The final results from the city Election Department gave Dorcena Forry 10,214 votes, Collins 9,836, and Dahill 1,593, suggesting strongly that the latter's participation in the campaign might have cost Col-



State Senator-elect Linda Dorcena Forry spoke during her victory party on May 28 in Lower Mills. At right are her 99-year-old grandmother, Marianne Mathurin, and her mother Annie Dorcena. Photo by Mike Deehan

lins the election.

It took an overnight, but Collins elected not to pursue a recount, issuing a statement of concession.

The electoral back and forth on Tuesday night made for some jittery moments, although the Dorcena Forry camp says it never got truly rattled, knowing that its figures pointing to a win in the end were on target.

The candidate entered her election night party at the Phillips Old Colony House to the Fugees' "Ready or Not" and at about 10 o'clock called the win for herself. After the *Associated Press* had retracted its call for Collins, and the unofficial tally of the 77 precincts had been posted, she credited her get-out-the-vote organization for the close-run win.

"We were in the community, we were on the ground," she said. "We had people at every poll."

At the Blarney Stone, where Collins supporters were having their primary night party, City Councillor Frank Baker's brother James said the race was unlikely to be over on Tuesday night. Collins later joined his supporters at the restaurant.

"We're not going to have anything for you tonight, unfortunately," he said.

But in the morning, Collins

conceded to Dorcena Forry.

In the counts from various bellwether precincts, Collins won Florian Hall, 647 votes to 376 votes, according to the unofficial tally. But at a double-precinct at the Chittick School, which has become a major location on the Mattapan/Hyde Park line and a leading indicator for performance in communities of color, Dorcena Forry won, 714 votes to Collins's 50. Dorcena Forry also won the double precinct at the Groveland Community Center off River Street in Mattapan, 586 votes to Collins's 75.

Overshadowed by another special election on the ballot — five people jockeyed to succeed former US Sen. John Kerry in Democratic and Republican primaries on the same Tuesday primary — and a compelling early mayoral campaign in Boston, the state Senate campaign was under-covered by Boston's two daily newspapers. The April 15 bombings at the Boston Marathon, their aftermath, and a blizzard in February also steered the headlines away from the state campaign.

The three Democratic state Senate candidates and their surrogates crisscrossed the district throughout the campaign, and especially on primary election day as their supporters stood out-

side polling locations, often next to signature-gatherers seeking voters who could sign mayoral nomination papers.

At one point, all three contenders converged on Florian Hall, home to two crucial Dorchester precincts, to greet voters.

Dorcena Forry was elected to the state House of Representatives in a 2005 special election to replace Rep. Thomas Finneran, a Mattapan Democrat and the speaker of the House. The mother of four (two boys and two girls), she is married to *BIR* editor Bill Forry.

Dorcena Forry's ascension to the state Senate, where she will be replacing Jack Hart, a South Boston Democrat who left the upper body earlier this year to take a job with a law firm, means another special election will have to be scheduled, this one to fill her 12th Suffolk House seat.

Four names are already circulating: Dan Cullinane, a former City Hall and State House aide from the Cedar Grove neighborhood; Stephanie Everett, a former aide to state Sen. Sonia Chang-Diaz; Mary Tuitt, an aide to state Rep. Gloria Fox; and Carlotta Williams of Hyde Park.

Reporter staff members Gintautas Dumcius and Tom Mulvoy and correspondent Mike Deehan compiled this report.



Longtime Duxbury resident Dr. Bill O'Connell met with Taoiseach Enda Kenny during the Irish leader's recent visit to Boston. The 88-year-old retired podiatrist outlined his hopes for a memorial in Boston to honor the Irish who lost their lives as they sought to reach Boston during An Gorta Mor (The Great Hunger.) Deer Island, in Boston Harbor, was the location of a quarantine station, which originally consisted of no more than tents to house the Irish emigrants who were arriving in the Port of Boston by the boatload. Many were certified as being healthy enough to venture into the city, but those who were too sick to go into the city were kept in the quarantine station. Those who died were buried in common, unmarked graves in an area near where the "coffin ships" unloaded their human cargo. Many of Irish descent in the New England area and beyond can trace their ancestors to those who entered Boston by way of the Deer Island Quarantine Station. A committee of local people are working with the Irish consulate to revive plans to establish a suitable memorial.

Photo courtesy Connell Gallagher, Irish Emigrant



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Publisher's Notebook

Remembering an uncle lost with his ship

By ED FORRY

At the turn of the 19th century, a British steamship company, White Star Line, operated a passenger service between Liverpool and Canada.

In 1908 the company launched the two largest ships built at that time for the service – the SS Megantic and SS Laurentic. The Laurentic was the fastest ship yet built for the trans-Atlantic crossings, sailing regularly between Liverpool and Quebec City.



At the onset of the Great War, the Laurentic was commissioned in Montreal as a troop transport for the Canadian Expeditionary Force, and began service as a merchant cruiser in 1915.

On Jan. 25, 1917, the ship was in Ireland's Lough Swilley, a glacial fjord in County Donegal between the Inishowen and the

Fanad peninsulas, when it struck two German mines. The ship was carrying 475 passengers and crew, and 43 tons of gold ingots. It sank in less than one hour, and 354 souls perished.

In late May, Boston philanthropist John Cullinane made an emotional voyage to Donegal to visit the site where the ship sank those many years ago. It was a trip he had long hoped to make, to pay a memorial tribute to an uncle he never knew, Walter Fitzgerald, a Royal Navy seaman who went down with the ship that day. Cullinane, who carried a photo of his lost uncle with him to the site, told the Irish News newspaper in an interview:

"Walter was my mother's brother. The picture shows him seated at left with two of his friends from Ballymacaw, which is just outside Dunmore East on the ocean off Waterford, a very beautiful place. It's incredible to think that this townland, effectively a crossroads, lost three of its sons on the SS Laurentic."

His plan was to take a boat out onto the lough and hold a brief memorial service for his uncle, laying a wreath on the waters near the sunken ship. "It was quite emotional and touching," he said in the interview. "We went out on a small dingy to the spot where the Laurentic had gone down and we could actually see the ship on a sonar image. I must say it was immensely touching."

In a later e-mail to the BIR, Cullinane said he "had an incredibly good trip on multiple fronts to NI. However, primary reason for going was to lay wreath over my uncle's ship, the SS Laurentic lost off Lough Swilley in WW I after hitting German mines.

"It was quite an emotional experience particularly because our little fishing boat had sonar and you could see the ship. Also, the captain's grandfather actually heard the explosion. Neither of these did I expect.

"I thought we would be laying a wreath in the general area. Michael O'Heaney, a South Boston guy, arranged the trip and joined me along with Frank Costello and Mike's assistant, Kathryn Moody (maiden name), a true asset. Donegal is a wild and beautiful place."

Cullinane was a special economic advisor to Belfast during the Clinton administration, and was founder of a "Friends of Belfast" group, a business network promoting social and business ties between

the US, Canada, and Northern Ireland. During his visit last month to Belfast, he gave a lecture at Queen's University entitled "The economics of conflict resolutions: Northern Ireland and the Clinton peace efforts."



Mr. Cullinane's uncle Walter Fitzgerald, left, with two other Royal Navy seamen.

Commentary

Delivering hopeful change to both Dublin and Belfast

Information technology training for the Irish unemployed and underemployed

By JOE LEARY
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

This is a bit of a personal story for me – testimony to the help that Irish America has provided to the most severely disadvantaged areas of Dublin and the rest of Ireland.

Social planners 50-60 years ago built huge apartment buildings to shelter those who were unable to purchase homes for themselves. As a social experiment they turned out to be disasters. Many of us will remember the "Columbia Point" project here in Boston as a well-intended answer to low income housing. It no longer exists.



Joe Leary

In Dublin, Ireland, the city fathers also built many such high rise buildings to house low income families. One such cluster, called "Ballymun," was located on the way to and from the airport. The Irish American Partnership had just started in 1988 when I traveled to the Ballymun Job Center run by a Jesuit priest, Fr. John Sweeney. Over the next few years Partnership donors provided the Job Center with a number of grants to help the residents obtain employment.

One of the staffers there was a young man in his early 20's named Peter Davitt. Peter was a resident of Ballymun, an enthusiastic, high-energy, hard-working classic example of what can be done with a life starting in such circumstances.

Like Columbia Point, Ballymun is gone now, the last of the huge apartment buildings having been torn down and replaced by far better housing.

But Peter is still at it 25 years later, now as president of an extremely successful all Ireland organization called FIT – Fast Track to Information Technology. Peter's organization focuses on the lower income, perhaps less educated, segments of Ireland's population seeking out those motivated to improve their lives by learning information and communication technologies.

FIT is helping to develop Ireland's highly skilled work force, offering talented and well-trained employees to new and foreign businesses that come to Ireland, thereby reducing unemployment and providing more fulfilled lives to those who might have previously lived in such a place as Ballymun.

FIT also works with many American companies with subsidiaries in Ireland. Microsoft, Hewlett, and Fidelity are a few examples. Several corporate executives

have joined Peter's board of directors helping with job placements and obtaining funding grants.

Irish American Partnership donors have provided grants to FIT over the past three years. FIT employs 18 in Dublin and 8 in Belfast. They are also active in Limerick and Cork.

Their work is quite straightforward. Through advertising, special promotions and "word of mouth" in affected communities, the program offers testing, individual counseling, training, and job placement to all who come to their doors

The program has tested and trained and found jobs for 12,500, with 9,700 still in their upgraded jobs or better since the beginning of the FIT program. Importantly, FIT continues monitoring and counseling for each participant. Moving from being a kitchen helper or waitress to a supervisory position in a major company is not easy and FIT makes sure it can be helpful wherever needed.

Here is what two of their clients think of the program:

Carol Fitzpatrick, Programmer, Allied Irish Bank:

"After six months on a FIT course in Whitehall College. I was offered a work placement with AIB. It was a great experience working there. I got on really well in my department and found that I enjoyed the work I was doing. It felt great getting out of bed in the mornings to do a job that I liked. The best part of last year was that I was made permanent with AIB. I now not only have a job, I have a career and a future to look forward to as well."

Paul Murray, User Account Manager, Siemens:

"When I took the FIT course it set me off in a completely new direction. Working for a big company like Siemens is way above anything I ever imagined when I started the Business Through Computers course. It really has changed my life, literally"

In the last two years FIT has moved its services into the most disadvantaged areas of East and West Belfast. Peter has met with Northern Ireland leadership and various community and neighborhood representatives to explain their programs. This will be a rewarding effort with even a modest amount of success. These areas have unusually high unemployment, especially for young people, a specific target group for FIT.

It is a valuable example of across the border cooperation.

Last August, the Irish American Partnership Board of Directors met Peter and several members of the FIT staff at their offices in Dublin on an evaluation mission.

Peter travelled to Boston in May, visiting Boston College and attending meetings to obtain new ideas on how FIT can better help marginalized workers in Ireland.

We wish him well.

Off the Bench

The value of accommodation

By JAMES W. DOLAN
SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER

James W. Dolan

I refer not to the residential kind of accommodations of which we are all familiar but the adjustments one must make to the inevitable vicissitudes one experiences navigating the rolling swells that sometimes threaten life's equilibrium.

Adapting to such currents requires patience, self-control, tolerance, understanding, and the capacity to overlook annoyances. By "overlook" I do not mean "ignore" but to look beyond the immediate irritation to

something more important than anger or withdrawal.

In a marriage, it takes two to have a fight, the consequences of which can do damage well beyond the cause of the conflict. There are the lingering resentments that carry the seeds of future discord, not to mention the effects upon children.

Too often winning the argument at all costs is viewed as paramount. Retaliation and vindication stoke the acrimony and the reason for the dispute disappears in the conflagration.

Accommodation asks: Is it worth it? What's to be gained and what's the risk in a confrontation? Choosing not to engage by listening quietly, agreeing at least in substance, or walking away is often the wiser course. Learning to live with petty irritants that get under your skin but are unlikely to change is not giving up but giving in to a higher impulse – peacemaking.

Anger is usually unproductive no matter how much better you think you will feel if you let it out. We invariably say things when we are angry that we later regret. It is the response to a crisis and not the crisis itself that fuels the confrontation.

Knowing when not to engage is important. Knowing when not to become involved in a war is a lot easier than getting out after it has begun. Over the years, I have learned not to engage in unproductive exchanges. I simply choose not to do so at that level.

Accommodation involves the ability to look beyond the immediate to a larger, more important goal. Within a family, it's looking beyond the argument to the damage protracted disagreements will do to relationships. In government, it's placing the common good over partisan political dysfunction.

Our culture has become more contentious. Being assertive, firm, and independent are today's values, replacing compassion, humility, restraint, civility, and sacrifice. These "softer" virtues, so necessary to the calm, orderly, and balanced exercise of power are now viewed as weakness.

The effects of this change are all around us; in Congress, the Middle East and Wall Street. We tend to see things in stark contrast: winning versus losing, success or failure, love or hate.

Accommodation is a far more realistic blending of opposites. It recognizes that in winning there is loss, that success involves failures, and that hate is the flip side of love. Wisdom is the prudent application of knowledge to events, large and small. It recognizes the importance of the "softer" virtues in achieving harmony.

"Blessed are the peacemakers!" Too bad there aren't more of them.

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



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'Let go, let fly, forget. You've listened long enough'

Following are excerpts taken from the commencement address given by Mr. Enda Kenny TD, Prime Minister of Ireland, at Boston College on May 20:

As leader of the people of Ireland, Munitir na hEireann, I'm honored to speak here today and be admitted to the distinguished ranks of the alumni of Boston College. Your invitation signals the enduring kindness and affection between our peoples. It symbolizes the bond of 'hope and history' between two nations either side of the Atlantic.

In St Patrick's Week, I travelled across America, leaving an icy New York, for a rain-soaked Seattle. I felt right at home. Not only because both cities shared Ireland's propensity for sleet, but because everywhere I went, there and in between, the love and concern for Ireland, and the Irish people, were palpable.

Today, the Irish story is writ large across America right to Capitol Hill. The hands roughened in Irish soil, were leathered in your mines, your scaffolding, your bridges, your railroads. Over the generations, our farmers-turned-laborers saw to it that their children went from the schoolhouse and the firehouse, right to the White House itself.

Many here today are descended from men and women who saw potato blight bring fear and hunger, then starvation, emigration. Sometimes in our Irish Summer, in between showers, our weather-forecasters issue a potato-blight warning on the radio. Even now, for us as a nation, it goes in deep. We remember who we were in those dark years.

In your kind invitation to me, know that you honor all the generations of Irish people. On such a proud day, in such glorious company, God indeed, is in His heaven. And I thank him that the sky has not fallen in.

You have chosen well for your Commencement ceremony. A special Jesuit day, for a great Jesuit event. Because on this day, 492 years ago, at the Battle of Pamplona, a French cannonball shattered the leg of a young Spanish nobleman – Inigo de Recalde de Loyola. The treatment of his injuries proved more damaging than the missile itself. If he lived today, Inigo might be launching a malpractice suit for several million dollars. Luckily for you, he did something altogether more sensible. He began a journey of reflection and self-discovery. A journey that saw him abandon the world of knights and power, of homage and fealty to devote himself to the life of the spirit through The Imitation of Christ. He became, in his own words, a Pilgrim. His work ever-after undertaken Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam for the greater Glory of God.

Today, that radical idea echoes across the centuries, to sustain this distinguished university in its Christian sensibility, and to inspire you, its newest graduates, as you start out on the next phase of your own journey.

Today then is a day to celebrate. It's a day to be thankful. Thankful for the professors, tutors, friends who supported you and encouraged you. Thankful for the opportunity to graduate from a university so pre-eminent in the life of America and its people. But above all, it's a day to be thankful for your parents, your step-parents, those who have been as good-as-parents, and your grandparents.

To them, I say look at what you did. You made these young men and women. You made them with your love, exhaustion, exasperation, imagination. Today, you might feel as if you blinked, only to find your child here, grown, radiant. Their newly-minted degrees imposters in a life where a whole five-minutes ago, you yourselves, were the font of all knowledge:

How bees buzz? If we can see the wind? How come air is invisible? Why is Green? What does it taste like?

As a Dad, I know that for us, these are areas of both natural brilliance and acquired expertise.

Today then, as your newly-graduated son or daughter, crosses the lawn, You might find yourself catching your breathing at the turn of the head, a fleeting expression, that you know has its origins deep in generations, histories, secrets long past. But today, those very generations are exhaling long and proud and deep. Because, today, they have been proved right. Today, their descendants and yours are living proof of the power of their imagining.

In imagining a better future, they founded this university. Imagination made them blind, insolent to the fact that it would take so many generations, so many lives, to make the single life, the singular achievement, of each of these graduates.

To those generations, whether in the chaos of immigration, or the grip of a poverty that was ruthless and ecumenical the sense of when this success might happen, was largely immaterial. What mattered was that they dared to imagine it would. On this May morning, here on Chestnut Hill, it does.

It's 57 years since the then senator for Massachusetts John Fitzgerald Kennedy, came here to 'the Jesuit Ivy' and reminded an earlier generation of Boston College graduates of the value of politics, the challenge of public service. It was 13 June 1956. In the Middle East the last British soldiers were leaving Suez.

Across America, Long Tall Sally and The Wayward Wind were playing on the radio. It would be three whole months before The Ed Sullivan Show would 'bridge the generation gap', save the morals of America and make 'the worrying gyrations' of a young man from Memphis almost 'mainstream.'

For the Kennedy graduates, apples were things we offered the teacher, some of us in hope, more in desperation. Twitter involved birds that, generally, weren't blue. Man had yet to set foot on the Moon. The Big Man keeping tabs on us up there in the sky. Commander Hadfield had yet to walk upon the Earth.



Irish Prime Minister Enda Kenny at Boston College on May 20.

Photo courtesy Boston College

When Senator Kennedy made his address it was just seven months since a tired-and-tiny woman felt what she called "the strength of the ancestors" and refused to give up her seat on the bus, in Montgomery, Alabama. That single act would admit a people to liberty and the name Rosa Parks to history.

Today, you are the Obama generation, of Jesuit Ivy. As graduates of this distinguished, Catholic university, you share with the class of 1956, not just privilege, but heritage. You share that deep and abiding sense of compassion, humility, responsibility.

I was hungry and you fed me. I was in prison and you visited me. I was broken and you comforted me.

Inspired with that confidence, here today, are men and women who will go on to be leaders of corporations, communities, countries. You will lead, rooted in the values of your families, your faith and this great university.

Those, privileged to lead this, or any other democracy, will do so not as Catholic or Protestant or dissenter, but as men and women guided by and beholden to nothing but the law, the Constitution and above all, the people. All the people. Of all faiths. And none. You will do so without fear or favor because your God, your personal faith, will sustain you. Constant, immutable, they are, and will always be, with you. Keep them close and you will never face your public decisions, your challenges, your difficulties, alone.

But being left alone, for even five minutes, is highly unlikely in your 24/7, always-on world. In your tender lifetime that same world dismantled a wall, disbanded a secret police, tore down an Iron Curtain. As it did, an era of Cold War, casual murder and impeccable oppression, melted away in a heat wave of imagination and defiance. Scaling the wall of history, those former East Berliners, found freedom everywhere: in the lens of international news crews, sweaty hugs, shared beers, bananas, chocolate, and later, BMWs.

Today we celebrate the birthday of what for some was the ultimate symbol of freedom. On May 20 1873, Mr. Levi Strauss and Mr. Jacob Davis picked up US Patent No. 139, 121 and 'blue-jeans were born'.

Freedom was in the air. And that air smelled and tasted good, until some in lazy, arrogance continued to 'plug in, zone out'. Last week carbon dioxide was recorded at 400 parts per million, the highest CO2 level in human history. Yes it is not right that this and past generations did not protect our home, our planet, as they should and expect you now to fix it. But fix it you must, we must for the sake of your children, your grandchildren who deserve to know and feel that Nature is something to be loved, not to be feared.

'Planet Earth is blue' but 'there is everything you can do.'

And do it you will, through the power of your imagination. For Einstein imagination was everything. The preview to life's coming attractions.

But today, as our warm seas rise and our ice melts, imagination has become less about 'preview', more about 'prerequisite.' It is found in the everyday.

As World War II raged across Europe, in Italy, a little girl was painting pictures. Under a blue-and-yellow portrait of a man with crazy hair and pipe, she wrote: "This is Uncle Robert's cousin. His name is Albert Einstein. In America he works as a scientist. When he comes here he goes on the swing."

Graduates buy one tomorrow. Take to the air. Because it is you, and the swing-set manufacturers, who could save the world.

But to do that you must first be able to save yourselves. Today, and rightly, you imagine your future in no-less radiant colors than saffron, magenta, International

Klein Blue. But one day 'the grey ghost of loss will get into you.' Fear will pick the lock of your happiness, strut across your life. When it does, you will turn to what you learned so well, so deeply, here at Boston College. Those lessons of love, friendship, compassion, community, loyalty. Today, you sit beside each other, in happiness, great joy. One day, you may cross cities, time zones, oceans, to sit beside each other again, in very different circumstances. As you do, make sure to pack this old advice. That it matters less what happens to us, than how we deal with it. That, in life, we can allow our experience to strengthen us or diminish us. The choice is ours. As graduates of Boston College, I know what yours will be.

In this city, strength is your default position. The hurt of the Boston Marathon attack is still palpable, but the people of this great city have responded with their usual courage, dignity, and compassion.

Equally, in its proud history, America has always chosen strength. We saw it, when horror showed up on a regular work day, out of the blue of a September sky. We saw it when Hurricane Sandy roared across Breezy Point. But by choosing strength, today, Breezy Point stirs to life. Today Old Glory flies proud and strong there. Not as a symbol of defiance in the debris, but as a symbol of hope and victory, streaming on porches, and from the highest windows

By choosing strength, today, Freedom does indeed reign. Towering 1, 776 feet over history, adversity and that gritty tribe on the Hudson. The first to respond, the last to resist.

And so to you, graduates of Boston College, responding to your new call, in your new life. Today, the sun shines on you. The Fibonacci numbers all add up. Today, the future you long imagined is here. I urge you to take possession and quickly. Because to you and your generation the torch has been passed. You are young America. And while in our world, we might astonish ourselves, to hunt and even find the God particle, to look to set up outposts on Mars, as human, our needs are fragile as ever – food, water, air. Compassion, peace, love, hope. Soon, graduates we must leave those needs, our planet, our future in your hands.

I have every faith in you.

So, congratulations class of 2013, on this Boston College's Sesquicentennial. Be successful, be well, be happy. Above all, be yourselves. Live long and deep and comfortably in your own skin. And as you do, know that from this day, like the rivers that have carved their way across this great country, so will your lives, your endeavors, your achievements carve their way into the story of America.

'Go beyond what's reliable'. Look out beyond America. Be unlimited in your vision. See what respect and understanding can do for us. We who are merely an episode in the story of humanity.

Graduates, this is your time. Be not afraid.

Today, then, you have reached what we call in Irish Ceann Scribe. Turas amháin déanta, turas eile ásbhúrgcomhair amach. One journey completed, another directly ahead. As you end and begin those journeys, I wish you Godspeed, fair winds and gift you the advice of our Nobel Laureate, Seamus Heaney.

'When they make the circle wide, it's time to swim out on your own and fill the element with signatures on your own frequency, echo soundings, searches, probes, allurements elver-gleams in the dark of the whole sea'.

Today then Let go, let fly, forget. You've listened long enough. Now strike your note.

For yourselves, your families and this, the United States of America.

Thank you.

Point of View

About blights – the natural, and the man-made

BY PETER F. STEVENS
BIR STAFF

Recently, scientists announced the discovery of the actual strain of potato blight that unleashed the Great Famine, *An Gorta Mor*. The natural villain behind at least a million deaths from starvation or disease and the Irish Diaspora of the mid-1800s was “HERB-1,” the name that that an international team of molecular biologists has give to the lethal blight.

The onset of HERB-1, though not its biological identity, came in the summer of 1846. A County Cork farmer noted that same summer: “A mist rose up out of the sea....When the fog lifted, you could begin to see the potato stalks lying over as if the life was gone out of them. And that was the beginning of the great trouble and the famine that destroyed Ireland.”

Until now, scientists knew that “the great trouble” lay with a *Phytophthora infestans* strain that ravaged Ireland’s potato beds from 1845 to 1852, but the exact strain’s identity eluded biologists for nearly 170 years. “We have finally discovered the identity of the exact strain that caused all this havoc,” Hernán Burbano, a researcher at the Max Planck Institute for Developmental Biology in Germany, revealed to media worldwide.

Famine scholars long believed that the US-1 *Phytophthora* strain spread from the United States to Ireland and devastated every county, but through DNA analysis of eleven mid-1800s samples of blighted potato leaves from Ireland, the UK, Europe, and North America that were preserved in botanical collections in London and Munich, scientists discovered that a previously unknown strain had ravaged Ireland.

Dispensing with the long-held view that the United States was the source of the blight in Ireland, the study asserts that *Phytophthora infestans* originated in Mexico’s Toluca Valley. HERB-1 developed in the



Ed Markey



Gabriel Gomez

early 1800s and spread from Mexico to Irish ports by summer 1845.

The recent invocation of the term “pond scum” by Republican US Senate hopeful Gabriel Gomez (hopeless, in this scribe’s opinion) is in no way equivocal to the Great Famine, but his words do offer a sorry example of the mouth blight that passes for political discourse these days. Gomez hurled the phrase at his opponent, Representative Ed Markey, in response to a Markey ad pointing out that Gomez, a former Navy Seal, had berated President Obama with fellow Seals in a right-wing attack ad claiming that Obama dissed the Seal team that nailed Osama Bin Laden. He took too much credit, Gomez and company railed. No matter what one thinks of the president, no order from him, no rightful justice dispensed to Bin Laden. Gomez huffed that Markey had no right to “link” him to the terrorist. Perhaps Gomez has forgotten that no one forced him to appear in that right-wing ad.

Gomez does possess a compelling personal story, and his service as a Seal and pilot is worthy of everyone’s

respect. As is his toughness. In political terms, however, he is showing himself to be thin-skinned and not ready for prime time as a US Senator. Gomez’s team runs ads with the tag line “Dirty Ed Markey.” What next? “Markey’s mother wears Army boots?” In short, the ads appear to be stitched together by “pros” with all the wit and bite of teenage boys.

Gomez has every right to challenge Markey on his record, his long stint in DC, his delay in releasing taxes, and other pertinent issues. Markey, whether Gomez likes it or not, has every right to go at his opponent’s skimpy political portfolio, the murky historical house deduction on his Cohasset home, his support of assault-gun ownership, and, yes, his own words in the anti-Obama ad.

To this point – thank God this race ends at the end of the month – Gomez’s campaign seems to read as follows: Vote for me because I’m a former Seal, a pilot, a hugely successful businessman, and a new face who doesn’t have to answer directly any questions about my views on contraception or my stance on the controversial Blount Bill. I’m just asking all you little ladies out there to trust me on issues that concern you. I’ll keep you safe, and Markey won’t – pay no attention to Markey’s work in the wake of 9/11 to ensure that all airline baggage is inspected.

That’s simply not enough. Gomez has roughly one month to make his case for change. Perhaps he’ll reveal his stances on all issues during the debates. If he simply attacks his opponent and offers no real political core on the issues that matter, say hello to Senator Ed Markey. Even if Gomez does discuss his bona-fide beliefs – other than love of country, family, and business – any more references to “pond scum” and “Dirty Ed Markey” will not attract the widespread support he needs in a deep Blue state to even make a dent at the polls.

Reading Joyce Reading À Paris

BY THOMAS O’GRADY
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

I am sitting on the terrace of a café in Paris—in Place de la Contrascarpe, to be exact. In 1921, when James Joyce was putting the finishing touches on *Ulysses*, he lived just around the corner, in a flat loaned to him by French author Valery Larbaud on a courtyard at number 71, rue Cardinal Lemoine. What better place to thumb through the French novel that purportedly gave Joyce the idea for what is known as “the interior monologue,” the predominant narrative strategy of *Ulysses*? According to his preeminent biographer, Richard Ellmann, Joyce picked up *Les lauriers sont coupés* by Édouard Dujardin at a railway kiosk in Paris in 1903—and the rest is literary history: “in later life, no matter how diligently the critics worked to demonstrate that he had borrowed the interior monologue from Freud, Joyce always made it a point of honor that he had it from Dujardin.”

Originally published in 1888, Dujardin’s novel has been translated into English by Stuart Gilbert as *We’ll to the Woods No More*—and I am thinking of how helpful a basic familiarity with this book would be for readers engaging with *Ulysses*. In his preface to a reissue of the novel in French in 1924, Valery Larbaud quotes Joyce explaining his admiration for how “the reader finds himself established, from the first lines, in the thought of the principal personage, and the uninterrupted unrolling (*déroulement ininterrompu*)” of that thought, replacing the usual form of narrative, conveys to us what this personage is doing or what is happening to him.” Especially for first-time readers of *Ulysses*, that “damned monster-novel” as Joyce himself once referred to it,

the narrative strategy that he labeled “soliloquy” can be disorienting. Remembering my own first time reading the novel—around 35 years ago—I realize now how acquaintance with the relative simplicity of Dujardin’s narrative would have prepared me for the relative density of Joyce’s movement between the inner and the outer lives of his three major characters, Stephen Dedalus, Leopold Bloom, and Molly Bloom.

Even a few sentences early in Dujardin’s novel can provide the reader of *Ulysses* with keys to unlock the more advanced technique of Joyce’s narrative. A good example is a scene on the second page of *We’ll to the Woods No More*, where Dujardin has his protagonist Daniel Prince arrive at the workplace of a friend with whom he hopes to spend the evening. This is a very simple premise, but what Dujardin attempts to convey—and this is what Joyce emulates a dozen or so years later when he begins to write *Ulysses*—is the way that his character’s mind, like the mind of real person, does not operate in the strictly linear fashion that conventional “realistic” fiction tends to present.

Indeed, he shows us how even an act as ordinary as ascending a stairs involves much more than the act itself. Taking us with his protagonist step by step (literally and figuratively), Dujardin records both the range and the depth of Daniel Prince’s wondering and worrying about whether his friend will still be at the office: “The stairs; the first steps. Supposing he has left early; he sometimes does; but I have got to tell him the story of my day. The first landing: wide, bright staircase; windows. He’s a fine fellow, friend of mine; I have told him all about my love-affair. Another pleasant evening coming

on. Anyway he can’t make fun of me after this. I’m going to have a splendid time. Now why is the stair carpet turned up at the corner here? A grey patch on the line of upward red, on the red strip looping up from step to step. Second storey; the door on the left. Office. I only hope he hasn’t gone; no chance of running him to earth if he has.”

The concrete and the abstract. The factual and the conditional. The observational and conjectural. The banal and the meaningful. The past, the present, the future. Even this brief passage illuminates how Joyce’s deployment of the interior monologue will operate in *Ulysses*. Of course, as Dujardin himself admitted in *Le Monologue Intérieur*, a little book he wrote in 1931 in gratitude for Joyce’s acknowledging him as an influence, Joyce found a way to convey a similar texture to the consciousness of his characters without the awkward *self-consciousness* that Dujardin’s Daniel Prince sometimes expresses. Does anyone really think “the first steps” when beginning to ascend stairs? Joyce might have finessed this by letting his readers know the ascent had begun by having Leopold Bloom stumble or by having Stephen Dedalus wax philosophical on how the steps proceed *nacheinander* (one after another) as he does in the “Proteus” episode of *Ulysses*.

Still, the basic concept behind Joyce’s narrative strategy is evident in Dujardin’s novel, though other differences ultimately challenge the reader of *Ulysses*. Some of those differences relate to the very nature of Joyce’s characters who embody the three principal centers of consciousness in the novel. Late in the novel, Joyce himself makes a clinical distinction between Stephen Dedalus and Leopold Bloom: “What two temperaments did they individually represent? The scientific. The artistic.” Bloom is the “scientific” one, as his inner engagement with the outer world is fueled by empirical observation and curiosity. In fact, within a page or so of being introduced to Bloom, the reader of *Ulysses* can recognize in his attentiveness to his cat the distinctive way that Bloom’s mind works: “Mr Bloom watched curiously, kindly the lithe black form. Clean to see: the gloss of her sleek hide, the white button under the butt of her tail, the green flashing eyes. He bent down to her, his hands on his knees. . . . He watched the bristles shining wirily in the weak light as she (Continued next page)

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tipped three times and licked lightly. Wonder is it true if you clip them they can't mouse after. Why? They shine in the dark." Bloom is utterly wrong about most of his assumptions regarding felines—but that is exactly what Joyce intends to convey by inscribing his character's thought process: most of us are wrong in most of our casual musings, and we proceed through life accordingly.

As the "artistic" one, Stephen Dedalus presents a more densely packed challenge to the reader of *Ulysses*, as his mind is filled with both the raw material and the mechanisms of his literary ambitions. "Dubliners," Joyce has Stephen think in the "Aeolus" episode, an overt allusion to Joyce's own landmark collection of short stories—the sort of writing that his quasi-autobiographical character might aspire to write: "On now. Dare it. Let there be life." That example is easy. Not so easy, at first, is the opening of the "Proteus" episode: "Ineluctable modality of the visible: at least that if no more, thought through my eyes. Signatures of all things I am here to read, seaspawn and seawrack, the nearing tide, that rusty

boot. Snotgreen, bluesilver, rust: coloured signs. Limits of the diaphane. But he adds: in bodies. Then he was aware of them bodies before of them coloured. How? By knocking his scone against them, sure. Go easy. Bald he was and a millionaire, *maestro di color che sanno*." But if the reader can recognize that the final phrase, in Italian, is Dante's description of Aristotle—"master of those who know"—and then re-reads the passage, it can be paraphrased simply enough as Stephen's musing on the challenges a literary artist faces when attempting to inscribe the complexity of human experience as described by Aristotle (and others).

And after that, Molly Bloom's musings in the "Penelope" episode—eight "sentences" that weave and unweave themselves over the final thirty-five pages of the novel—might seem like a walk on the Hill of Howth. That is where the episode ends, with Molly remembering Leopold's proposal of marriage sixteen years earlier: "and then I asked him with my eyes to ask again yes and then he asked me would I yes to say yes my mountain flower and first I put

my arms around him yes and drew him down to me so he could feel my breasts all perfume yes and his heart was going like mad and yes I said yes I will Yes." In this episode Joyce deploys "stream of consciousness" as his narrative method—essentially interior monologue without any filtering intrusion on the part of the author. It is simply one more variation on the technique that Joyce recognized the promise of in Dujardin's *Les Lauriers sont coupés*.

After the publication of *Ulysses* in 1922, Joyce and Dujardin exchanged compliments and tributes, each praising the other over their literary achievements involving "*le monologue intérieur*." Privately, though, Joyce acknowledged, in a letter to his patron Harriet Weaver, that he was giving Dujardin "cake for bread." Reading Dujardin in Joyce's old *quartier*, I feel that both writers go down well with a *café allongé*.

Thomas O'Grady is Director of Irish Studies at the University of Massachusetts Boston. In the Spring of 2013 he was a Visiting Scholar at the American University of Paris.



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Profile

Suffolk U. President McCarthy fills role of a Renaissance man in challenging times

BY GREG O'BRIEN
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

If they handed out frequent flier miles for an extended resume, Jim McCarthy would fly free, first class, the rest of his life. Instead, the president of Suffolk University is flying high in the academic world. To say that he is a Renaissance man is to say that Isaac Newton could count.

The numbers indeed add up for McCarthy – five senior posts at some of the most prestigious schools in the East and in Europe. Before Suffolk, he was provost and senior vice president at Baruch College of the City of New York; dean of the School of Health and Human Services at the University of New Hampshire; director of Columbia University's Heilbrunn Center for Population and Family Health and a Columbia School of Public Health professor; director of the Johns Hopkins Population Center and a professor in the School of Public Health; a research analyst at Princeton where he received his doctorate in sociology; an analyst at the International Statistical Institute of London; and a visiting professor at venerable Trinity College in Dublin, founded in 1592 if you're counting.

McCarthy has conducted research in Latin America, the Middle East, Africa, and throughout Europe, and has been published widely on community, adolescent, and reproductive health issues.

"I guess you could say I moved around a lot," McCarthy conceded in an interview with the *Boston Irish Reporter*. "I never wanted to be an academic." Perhaps it's more accurate to say that weighty academic circles were following his orbit.

McCarthy, a second-generation Irish American, breaks the ethnic mold for stereotypes, and yet he epitomizes Eire—passionate, a man of letters, politically astute, gregarious, and yet you can't put him in a box. The walls would shatter. "There's a lot of variety among us Irish Americans," he said. "You might be surprised."

Not if you know McCarthy. His civic involvements range from a tenure on the National Board of Directors of Planned Parenthood Federation of America; to serving as board chairman of the non-profit Alan Guttmacher Institute that works to advance reproductive health, including abortion rights; to chairman of the Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Team of the New Hampshire Citizens' Health Initiative—a mouthful of a title, but defining in McCarthy's eclectic nature.

Education has been the cornerstone of his life. The *Irish Voice* named him among the top 100 Irish-Americans in high education in the United States for 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012. The year 2013 doesn't look to be a luckless year.

All this from a guy who early on didn't want to teach. But like Saul on the road to Damascus, McCarthy had his conversion.

McCarthy, 63 and so on the outside lip of the Baby Boomer generation, paints a word picture of growing up in Dorchester. But he didn't. He was born and raised in Waterbury, Connecticut. In the 1950s and 60s, Waterbury was as similar in spirit and culture to Dorchester as Gallivan Boulevard is to Savin Hill. Waterbury at the time was one of the first American stops on the road from verdant County Kerry. The fertile green rolling terrain reminded immigrants—particularly the McCarthys, Flahertys, Creans, and Kennedys, branches of a paternal and maternal family tree—of home. All four of Jim McCarthy's grandparents, who lived a short distance from one another in County Kerry, came to Waterbury. His father, John, and his mother, Mary (Flaherty), "the sweetest person on the face of the earth," were first generation. His mother's family hailed from Camp, a narrow crossroads on the seaward end of Glen Fas and west of the Slieve Mish mountain range, not far from majestic Dingle and the Ring of Kerry. His dad's family came from a nearby village that no longer exists, its reality as fleeting as the Irish mist.

"You won't find it on the map now," says McCarthy. "But the impression lives on."

What lives on in Waterbury are the legacy and scores of cousins with links to the Ould Sod. On McCarthy's maternal side, his grandfather, Patrick Flaherty, grew up on the north side of Tralee Bay; he was an office worker and "a bit of a politician." His maternal grandmother, Mary Crean, grew up in Camp. On his paternal side, his grandfather John was a factory worker outside Camp who married Mary Kennedy from Castle Gregory down the road. "My father's father and my mother's mother attended the same school together," he said.

In all ways, the McCarthys are typically Irish: two



For Suffolk President Jim McCarthy, the numbers indeed add up. Photo courtesy Suffolk University

of his sisters are nuns. Mary is principal of parochial Mercy High School in Middletown, Ct., and Patricia is president of the US Province of the Congregation of Notre Dame. His younger brother Tom is a Waterbury stockbroker.

Higher education was a cornerstone in the McCarthy household even though McCarthy's father, a kind man and a facile story teller, had to quit school in the ninth grade to help the family after his father died. And his mother dropped out of high school to work in a brass factory. "My father," McCarthy says, "was a scrawny kid. He couldn't work in a factory, so he became a messenger and a clerk."

Years later, the message that rang throughout the McCarthy house was: "Get your college degree!"

After attending St. Margaret's grammar school, private Fairfield Prep, then Sacred Heart High School in Waterbury, McCarthy enrolled at the Jesuits' College of the Holy Cross where he majored in sociology. He was an "A" student, not much on sports, involved in student government, school plays, the school paper, and the Spanish club. The jocks might have thought he was a geek, but McCarthy, never at a loss for words, hit his stride socially and his intellect exceeded the collective brainpower of a high school football defensive line.

"I had a passion for public policy, research and analysis," he says.

The path for him was serpentine, yet on point. After graduation from Holy Cross, he earned a master's degree in sociology from Indiana University, then his doctorate in sociology from Princeton after which he remained at Princeton as an analyst in the Office of Population Research. Two years later, he was hired at Johns Hopkins School of Public Health where he stayed for nine years, taught his first class, and from which he took a sabbatical to the International Statistical Institute in London as a consultant researcher for the World Fertility Survey. At Hopkins, he met his wife-to-be, Lebanese-born Magda Ghanma, who had earned a doctorate in public health. The couple has three daughters: Christina, a finance officer at Columbia University, and twins, Katherine, an admissions counselor at City University in New York, and Patricia, a project manager at a Baltimore health care system.

Achievement is the engine that drives McCarthy, who taught at Columbia University for 13 years, lectured at Dublin's Trinity College as a visiting academic in the Department of Community Health and General Practice, then on to tenures at University of New Hampshire and New York's Baruch College.

So it came as no surprise last year when Suffolk

University named him the school's ninth president. With its 9,000 students, the private research university in downtown Boston is a place of high achievement, mentoring relationships, and the development of strong community ties. In 1906, the Boston attorney Gleason Archer Sr. founded the school as an evening law school to provide working class first- and second-generation immigrants an opportunity to compete with the Boston elite. Over the years the school established a college of arts and sciences and a business school that is now ranked among the top 50 business programs in the country while becoming home to notable scholars, prominent lawyers, politicians, and business men and women.

Suffolk University, with its classrooms in the heart of downtown Boston, is unique among other major Boston universities in that the school is on the Freedom Trail, its campus green the historic Boston Common and the contiguous Public Garden. On Patriots Day 2013, though, its location proved a mixed blessing. More than fifty of the university's students were at the Boston Marathon finish line. One Suffolk alumnus was seriously injured in the horrific bombing and a family member of another alumnus was killed.

"Clearly there is no innocence today," says McCarthy, who understands the fabric of life as much as he does statistics. That's an understatement from a Baby Boomer who grew up in a day when "Leave It To Beaver," and "Father Knows Best," were the media staples, to be replaced in recent years by "Die Hard," "Bullet To The Head," and "Collateral Damage."

"Yet I am optimistic for these students today," McCarthy adds. "They have the same hopes, dreams, and aspirations as we did growing up. They just face greater challenges, and a more complex, troubling and dangerous world. Our job here is to focus on the positive, and keep them on goal."

Suffolk has a man in the driver's seat who knows how to stay on goal. "Teaching is a passion for me," says the man who never wanted to teach, yet teaches every day, often in the classrooms at Suffolk.

Some 2,300 years ago, Aristotle declared that knowledge is power. A student of history, McCarthy walks that walk and talks that talk every day.

Greg O'Brien, a regular Boston Irish Reporter contributor, is president of Stony Brook Group, a publishing and political/communications consulting firm. He is the author/editor of several books and contributes often to regional and national publications.

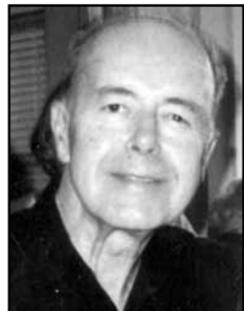
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Boston Irish Reporter's Here & There

By **BILL O'DONNELL**

EU May Force Voting For Expatriates – As it currently stands, Ireland is just one of six European Union countries that exclude their citizens abroad from voting in home elections. There has been continuing but ineffective pressure from young Irish living overseas to be allowed to vote in national elections, but that may soon be changing. Some top officials in Ireland and the EU are proposing legislation that would make all members of the Union eligible to vote in elections in their home countries, and Ireland would be ready.



Bill O'Donnell

European commissioner **Viviane Reding** and Independent MEP **Marion Harkin** are working on legislation to reach out to ex-pats. Harkin sees such a move as a way of establishing contact with the Irish abroad. Some 300,000 people have left Ireland during the current economic crisis. Although the goal of any new voting legislation would be to eventually allow the Irish out-of-country to vote in all

national elections such as for Dáil Éireann deputies, eligibility initially to vote in Irish Seanad elections would be seen as a first step.

Baptism Of Fire for Denis McDonough – When the late **Don Regan** was reflecting on the time he spent in the 1980s as White House chief of staff to President **Ronald Reagan**, he said that the job of cleaning up after presidential messes was much like that of the chief poopier scooper following the elephants at the end of a circus parade. That job description is one that the newest chief of staff in the Obama White House, **Denis McDonough**, 44, likely can identify with.

McDonough's grandparents emigrated from Galway and Cork, with his mother's parents being **O'Mahonys** from Cork. McDonough's mother and father lived in South Boston in their early married years but moved to Minnesota, where the new chief of staff was born.

A well-liked top White House staffer during Obama's first term, McDonough, who is only a few months into his new position, has three separate crises to contend with at once: the Benghazi attack that killed four at our embassy there (and what some see as a cover-up); the IRS targeting of right wing tax-exempt groups; and the debacle and resulting outrage at the Justice Department's fishing expedition involving the Associated Press telephone records.

It would not be stretching reality to suggest that Obama's historic legacy may well depend on how convincingly Denis McDonough and his team defend and answer the crescendo of political attacks from Republicans as well as some unhappy Democrats looking towards re-election.

Cardinal-BC Invitation Clash disappointing – No matter which side of the controversy you stand on, the one inescapable conclusion, it seems to me, is that it's a sadly disappointing episode that likely should never have happened, but certainly not with the attendant media explosion we have witnessed. **Cardinal Sean O'Malley, Boston College, and Irish Taoiseach Enda Kenny** are all well-intentioned and capable, and all three are trying to fulfill their duties responsibly. Having said that, the most egregious bone in the throat for Kenny and the Irish is the over-the-top comment in the cardinal's widely distributed statement that described the Irish leader's role in the abortion issue back in Ireland, to wit: "Mr. Kenny is aggressively promoting abortion legislation."

The truth about Kenny's role involves a pregnant woman's 'misadventure' death, the virtual paralysis of the entire Irish medical profession, and a badly written 1992 Irish Supreme Court judgment that screams for clarity. Within that context, Enda Kenny is very reluctantly trying to fashion a resolution that respects the rights of a mother and her unborn child. The cardinal's statement is hugely unfair to a decent man, a leader who is working to bring a degree of clarity and compassion to an equitable and humane resolution.

As to the taoiseach's commencement address and degree conferral at Boston College that the cardinal boycotted, some in the press, citing unnamed Irish government sources, have suggested that there was a quiet agreement to handle Kenny's BC appearance in a sensitive way that would have avoided a public confrontation between Kenny, BC, and the archdiocese. It would, those Irish Voice government sources say, have had the cardinal absent but avoid the public confrontation. It wouldn't be a first.

Whether that scenario is accurate or not, the taoiseach's scathing 2011 broadside against the Vatican over its lack of action in response to Catholic Church clerical abuse and the resultant interruption of diplomatic relations between Ireland and the Vatican famously underlined the unresolved dispute between official Ireland and the Curia, after decades of cordial relations.

Three Women – For over 40 years **Maureen Dunn** was the single most visible advocate for our MIA/POW military defenders who never came home from war. Her husband was a young pilot in the Vietnam War who was shot down in 1968 over the South China Sea. Maureen went to festivals, fairs, and gatherings throughout Greater Boston and New England over the years to tell her story and to remind listeners of those who were Missing In Action or Prisoners of War and their families. Maureen never gave up; she was the

conscience of our lost wartime generations, faithful and persistent and a remarkable spokeswoman for those who often had no one else to speak for them. She turned her widowhood into advocacy of the highest order. She left us at 72. RIP.

Gabby Giffords was a three-term Arizona congresswoman from Tucson who was seriously wounded by a deranged gunman in a shooting in her district in January of 2011. Her recovery has been heroic but she chose to resign in 2012 because of the effects of the attack. Last month Gabby and her retired astronaut husband, **Mark Kelly**, came to the JFK Library & Museum where she received the Profiles in Courage Award from **Caroline Kennedy** for her courage, continuing service to her country, and her advocacy in support of background checks and reasonable guidelines for gun owners. Gabby is a courageous reminder that there are many ways to serve.

Angelina Jolie is rich and famous and known to millions for her films and her charitable work. Now she is known, too, and by her own statements, as the carrier of a faulty inherited gene, BRCA1, which dramatically increases the probability of her contracting breast and ovarian cancer. Her mother, also with the BRCA1 gene, died young and Angelina decided to change the script for her six children by becoming surgically pro-active so that she could be there for them, if possible. There is much nobility and grace in Angelina's going public in a private matter in a *New York Times* opinion piece that told of her preventive double mastectomy. One woman's courage in sharing her story could mean the difference between life and death for many thousands of women.

Good News/Bad News on Ireland's Bridges – A new bridge being built over the Liffey in Dublin will link Marlborough Street on the north side with Hawkins Street on the south. It will be completed later this year but the buzz surrounding the new span is all about the contest to find a name for the bridge. Already some 10,000 nominations/submissions have been received.

The criteria for selecting the name are the following: If named for a person, that person must have been born in, or at least lived in, the city and have had "strong and/or enduring connections with the city";

if named for an event, it will have to have occurred at least 20 years previously, or be of "extraordinary and long-lasting consequences to the city."

Among the names nominated are: **James Connolly; Lady Augusta Gregory; Frank Duff** of the Legion of Mary; the late independent TD **Tony Gregory; Oscar Wilde; WB Yeats; Jonathan Swift**; the author **James Plunkett; Bram Stoker**; and the Abbey Theatre. I'm for Tony Gregory.

On a less encouraging note is the recent news that the Narrow Water bridge linking the north Co. Louth and south Co. Down border region is in political trouble. The bridge, downwater from Newry and across from Warrenpoint and a historic crossing point at Carlingford Lough, would spark a north-south economic regeneration and cross-border reconciliation.

The fly in the ointment is that despite some 80 percent of the bridge funding approved and in place and broad political support, there is a growing possibility that the Northern Ireland Department of Finance, under the disagreeable Minister **Sammy Wilson**, is slowing down the project with an eye towards delaying it to death, as one local resident in Louth suggested. It is hoped by business people on both shores that something might be done to give a push to Wilson, never an enthusiast for anything helpful to border counties in the south.

The proposed site of the bridge is the scene of one of the deadliest attacks during the Troubles: in August 1979, the IRA killed 18 British soldiers there. On a personal basis, I spent many days in the Omeath-Warrenpoint area, at Newry, Flagstaff, and the Coolee Peninsula region. It is one of the truly grand scenic areas along the border and a connecting bridge would be warmly greeted by the local residents.

Did You Know That ... gay marriage is now legal in 13 countries on five continents and 12 states in the United States? Foreign countries that have approved same-sex marriages include Argentina, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Iceland, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, South Africa, Sweden, Uruguay and France, the latest country to go legal.

No Apologies For Low Corporate Tax Rate – The Irish Minister for jobs, **Richard Bruton**, is saying that Ireland "makes no apology" for the low-tax-rate regime that attracts multi-national corporations like Google and Apple to headquarter on the green isle. The Irish government points out that Ireland has long been a low-tax regime and it needs to create employment, and international companies employ over 150,000 people in Ireland. "We want to have a regime where taxes on profits are low, taxes on employment are low, and companies can come here to start and grow businesses, so we make no apology for that."

While the pressure from the EU is intensifying regarding Ireland's low 12.5 percent corporate tax rate and firms like Apple, Google and Amazon are being more closely scrutinized by sovereign countries losing tax revenue to Ireland and elsewhere, it appears that Ireland has been in a spirited defense of its low rates and will continue to meet challenges head on.

A Different Kind Of Family Reunion – During

this year of The Gathering, slated to bring thousands from North America, the United Kingdom, and Europe, there will be the conventional reunions of many of the Gaelic clans and a new Irish Family History Centre in Dublin. The **O'Neill and Kelly** clans are coming, and a **Gallagher** clan gathering will attempt to break the world record by assembling 5,000 Gallaghers together in County Donegal.

One of the more intriguing family reunions of 2013 took place last month as members of the Ned Kelly clan gathered in Co. Tipperary to focus on their family memories and to hear the Kelly clan's chief recorder, **Aidan Kelly**, present an analysis of the Kelly Y-DNA Study, a closer look at the genetic links of the male line of the family. There will be descendants of the celebrated outlaw and folk hero who was born in Australia in 1854 to an Irish convict father, **John "Red" Kelly**. His son **Ned** was captured and hanged in Melbourne in 1880 for his crimes.

On hand last month for the Kelly clan gathering were some 200 Kelly family members from Britain, Australia, America, and Ireland, and one from Guatemala. One of the event organizers, **Mary Kelly**, said, "While there is no denying that Ned Kelly was a notorious criminal, to some he was considered a hero who was fighting oppression. But the purpose of our event is not to condone his reputation but to share the importance of genetics in tracing family connections and enable Kelly family members from across the world to meet and discuss their common ancestry."

An Appalling Sense Of Entitlement – I met the Fine Gael Taoiseach **John Bruton** in the mid-1990s during a St. Patrick's Day event in the White House that entrepreneur and Cullinet founder **John Cullinane**, a Friend of Bill (President **Bill Clinton**), had organized. It was the annual 'grab & click' photo op with Clinton and Bruton, then the prime minister. It was a dandy affair. Plenty of familiar faces, big-foot media types, good vittles, a segment of the Marine Corps Band playing in the East Room, and the chance to say a swift hello and get a photo of the leaders of Ireland and the US.

In the years since, Bruton has had several high profile positions at very good salaries. Sometimes life after politics can be beautiful. So I was a tad taken aback when I spied a story in the *Irish Independent* in May that had a jolting headline: "Former Taoiseach Urges Public to Tighten Their Belts." Now belt-tightening is a constant companion, a grinding shadow of the working people of Ireland. Irish punters are paying dearly for the freewheeling and virtually unregulated rogue lending practices of Ireland's runaway banks. More gratuitous advice from the John Brutons of this world who have "friends," and invariably land on their feet, we can do without.

Incidentally, Mr. Bruton is doing his belt-tightening with a hefty pension from the Republic of Ireland and his income as a well-paid lobbyist for the Irish Financial Service Centre. I don't know what the IFSC gig is paying him (six figures, part time, the *Examiner* says) but his pension check, courtesy of Ireland's ratepayers, is slightly more than \$15,000 each and every month (or \$181,782 annually) for services rendered, one presumes. Look it up under S for shame in the OED.

RANDOM CLIPPINGS

Not so fast. It was originally reported that the peace walls would start coming down shortly. A second take by the powers at Stormont now figure it will take ten years to get them down. ... The **Duke of Kent** grabbed a bit of history when he became the first royal to pay tribute to the men and women who fought and died in the 1916 Easter Rising. ... **Paul Bew**, a unionist author and intellectual, says the Good Friday Agreement "is flawed and elitist" but it will not be derailed by dissidents or the 1916 centennial commemoration. ... **President Obama** will visit Belfast before the G8 Summit opens next month; it's called a "whistle-stop" tour. ... Allied Irish Bank got bailed out by the Irish government but won't consider letting the city of Galway use the Lynch Castle for a municipal art centre. ... Integrated education is getting closer in the North but nothing flashy or too soon because it might undermine religious divisions which underpin political parties. ... **Trina Vargo** of the US-Ireland Alliance is telling applicants to get their paper work in because no firm answers until late summer earliest. ... The people of Belfast remembered **Bobby Sands** on the 32d anniversary of his death. ... Almost half of all births in Northern Ireland last year were to unmarried parents. ... The justly celebrated Linen Hall Library is marking its 225th anniversary. A wonderful, living monument to unfettered thought and opinion. ... Early last month, the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) began making plans to take possession of the Boston College interview tapes. ... **Maureen O'Hara** was having more than her share of heartache back in Glengarriff, Co. Cork, so now she is in the US, at a care center in Idaho where her grandson lives. ... The last time I looked there were 16 candidates to succeed Boston Mayor **Tom Menino**. Maybe eight at most are serious or semi-serious candidates. Tommy seems to have two favorites, **Rob Consalvo** and **Charlotte Golar Richie**. ... And a special shout-out to an old friend and fellow Eire Society board member, **Attorney Lenahan O'Connell**. For many out there Lenahan was practicing terrific law before you were born. The great man is just turning 100, and he deserves every good year he has had and more.

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IMMIGRATION Q & A

The Waiting Game: Immigration processing

Q. I'm planning to file an application with US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to adjust my status to that of legal permanent resident, based on my marriage to a US citizen. I understand that this can take a long time, and I heard that there is a way to pay a special fee to get an application on the fast track. Is this true?

A. Currently the USCIS offers what it calls "premium processing" for a \$1,225 fee only with regard to certain employment-based visa petitions. Other applications, such as those to adjust immigration status based on certain family relationships, are processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Processing times vary with the type of application and the particulars of individual cases. Adjustment of status cases based on marriage to a US citizen, for example, have been taking on average around three to four months from the date of filing to the adjustment interview in the USCIS Boston regional office. Applications for naturalization have generally been taking a little longer.

USCIS does provide what it calls "expedited processing" for no extra fee in cases where its "expedited criteria" have been met. USCIS stresses very strongly that it will expedite processing only when there is, for example, an "extreme emergent situation," or the likelihood of "severe financial loss," or a humanitarian situation. Our experience is that USCIS means what it says about its strict criteria for accelerated processing, and such requests are granted rarely. Still, cases do arise when the agency will accept an accelerated processing request. If you think you may have such a case, let us know, and we can help you to evaluate your chances.

Here are some other points about case processing:

Applicants can track the processing of pending cases with USCIS online at uscis.gov or by calling the agency's customer service center at 1-800-375-5283. When checking case status, have the application receipt number and other documentation from USCIS ready.

Make sure that USCIS has current address information for mailing notices of action and other important communications to applicants. Address changes can be submitted online; this should be taken care of as soon as an applicant moves to a new residence. We have seen numerous instances where applicants wonder why they have not heard from USCIS for many months, when it turns out that mail from the agency was returned as undeliverable.

IIC also provides on its website current average processing times for different types of applications filed at various USCIS offices and processing centers, so applicants can determine whether their applications are taking longer than usual. We note, however, that the average times given have in some instances been out of date, with the actual processing times being somewhat faster or slower.

Processing and individual case status information for the types of applications filed with the State Department at the national Visa Center (NVC) can be obtained by e-mailing NVC at nvcinquiry@state.gov (preferred method) with the case number and other particulars, or by telephoning NVC at 603-334-0700. For applications in process at a particular US Consulate abroad, visit the State Department's web site at state.gov and follow the relevant links to the web site for that Consulate. (Each Consular office has its own web site, and processing and contact procedures vary somewhat from office to office.)

Keep in mind that processing times refer to the amount of time it takes the government agency to get to a particular application that is actionable when filed. This is different from the waiting time, for example, for visa numbers to become available in categories other than immediate relatives of US citizens. The waiting time in such cases can extend to many years under current law, based on the limited number of visas that Congress provides each year.

IIC can assist with case status and processing time inquiries. If you have questions about this or any other aspect of immigration law, visit one of our weekly legal clinics for a free, confidential consultation.

Disclaimer: These articles are published to inform generally, not to advise in individual cases. 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 an immigration lawyer or an accredited IIC immigration specialist.

IIC offers assistance with the US Citizenship process

If you have been a Legal Permanent Resident for the past 4 years and 9 months or longer or are married to a US citizen for the past 2 years and 9 months or longer, you may be eligible to apply for US citizenship. You may have a lot of questions about US naturalization including the processing time, the application fee, and perhaps some other issues that have been bothering you, or you may be looking for help preparing for the exam. Consider receiving help from the experienced staff at the Irish International Immigrant Center.

IIC staff can help guide you through the entire process from the initial stages to completion of the application or a citizenship preparation course. Staff are available at weekly legal clinics throughout the city of Boston and at monthly citizenship clinics in our downtown offices. We also offer a six-week citizenship class to prepare for the exam. For complete information, please visit our website at iicenter.org or call 617-542-7654.

In collaboration with the Greater Boston Citizenship Initiative

Wider Horizons Profile: Gemma Harte of Dublin

BY SEAN HANSEN

"Beyonce hasn't got a patch on them," says Gemma Harte, reflecting on the singers she had heard during a trip to Morningstar Baptist Church in Mattapan. "It was brilliant, so exciting for a service." The Dubliner was here in Boston on the Springboard Wider Horizons program, which brings young adults between the ages of 18 and 28 to Boston and places them in six-week community service internships.

The program is facilitated in America by the Irish International Immigrant Center, which arranges work placements, host families, and social activities. Its purpose is to foster mutual understanding and reconciliation between Protestant and Catholic communities in Northern Ireland and Ireland. In addition, it strives to improve participants' employability by provid-

ing them with essential skills and practical work experience to apply when they return home. The course is supported by the International Fund for Ireland, which "promotes economic and social advance, and encourages contact, dialogue and reconciliation between nationalists and unionists throughout Ireland."

Gemma spent her six weeks in Boston working with Hyde Square Task Force, a community after school program in Jamaica Plain. Her responsibilities included helping kids with homework, using her artistic skills to decorate signs, and coming up with imaginative ways to entertain the children, such as presenting a show and telling about her pet tarantulas! "She's been awesome," says Barbara Civill, her supervisor. "She jumped right in, took work really seriously, worked creatively, and got along with other

staff." Gemma was grateful for the chance to work with a community-based youth organization here in the US, as back in Ireland she is unable by law to work with kids until she is 25. "We'll really miss her, the kids, all the staff, we'd love to have her again," said Civill.

Gemma has been living with Sandy Mendez in Roxbury along with fellow intern Jolene Reddington. "I love them," says Gemma. "They're so nice, I couldn't ask for anyone better. It's tough to leave." She talks about being at home in her Dudley Square neighborhood: "I love all the public art, the colorful buildings, and the expression of culture. It's very open."

When she returns to Dublin, Gemma hopes to take up her former role as a disco teacher, working with animals, or preparing to become a youth worker when she turns 25. She will miss Boston



Gemma Harte: On the job with the Hyde Square Task Force. Photo courtesy IIC

dearly, the hanging out on the Common, working with kids in Hyde Square, and spending time at the IIC. Her final take on the city: "I love Boston. It's a place where you have to try to be bored!"

Matters Of Substance

Celebrating recovery in our families



BY DANIELLE OWEN
IIC STAFF

Recently, we have seen an increase in calls from parents, grandparents, and caregivers of children who have loved ones living with alcohol/drug ad-

diction. They all want to know how best to help the young person in their care who has been impacted by the substance abuse of this parent/caregiver. No one wants to believe that children are impacted, but the research, and our own work with families, clearly indicates that they are very much affected. Though the great news is that by giving our children some clear messages and allowing them to chat about their feelings about this "taboo" or forbidden topic in their families, recovery for the whole family is possible – even if the loved one,

who remains ill with addiction, does not recover.

So what messages can we share with the child impacted by a loved one's addiction?

Sharing your feelings is not being mean or disloyal to your family.

When you talk to someone you trust, you begin to feel better and feel less alone.

When you live with alcoholic/drug addicted parents, feeling afraid and alone is normal. It is confusing to hate the disease of alcoholism at the same time that you love your alcoholic parent.

Remember to have fun! Sometimes children with alcoholic families worry so much that they forget how to be "just a kid." Find a way to let yourself have fun.

Don't ride in a car when the driver has been drinking if you can avoid it. It is not safe. Please help protect your child from having to ride with someone who has been drinking.

You have no control over the drinking. You

didn't make the problem start, and you can't make it stop – and you can't "make" anyone use alcohol or drugs!

The National Association of Children of Alcoholics (nacoa.org) shares "The Seven C's," a tool to help young people understand that they are not responsible for their parents' problems. Children need to know that it is not their fault when their parents drink too much or abuse drugs, and that they cannot control their parents' behavior. They can be shown that there are ways they can learn to deal with their parents' alcoholism or drug use.

I didn't cause it
 I can't cure it
 I can't control it
 I can help take care of myself by communicating my feelings, making healthy choices, and celebrating me!

Please join us on June 4 and June 18 for a "Celebration of Hope and Healing for Family Members affected by Substance Abuse" with video and refreshments from 5:15 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Labour Center, 275 West Broadway, South Boston, MA 02127. The group is led by Maureen McClame, M. Ed., LADC1, LCSW, Director of COASA, who has 35 years of experience working with children and families.

Please call Danielle at the IIC (617-542-7654, Ext. 14 or dowen@iicenter.org) if you have any questions about this event or about recovery in families. Change is always possible – We can help!

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

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All systems are go

(Continued from page 1)

Searson, which performs June 8 at 7 p.m., is spearheaded by sisters Erin, Heather and Colleen Searson, who play a variety of instruments — they are especially noted for their Ottawa Valley-style fiddling — and are all expert step dancers.

Other acts slated for the festival as of press time include Philadelphia's classic Irish pub band The Shantys; the family band The Rebel Kellys; local favorites Devri, Erin's Guild, and The Auld Locals; the trad/contemporary Tom Lanigan Band from Rhode Island; and The Ivy Leaf and Corvus, two Boston-based bands playing a strongly traditional Irish instrumental and vocal music repertoire and style. [Performer updates are available at bostonirishfestival.info]

An always-popular feature of the festival is the tent manned by Boston's Reynolds-Hanafin-Cooley branch of the worldwide Irish music and cultural organization Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann. The Comhaltas stage offers virtually non-stop traditional Irish music and dance all day June 8 and 9.

Once again, the festival's Grafton Street Marketplace will be chock full of Irish and local crafts, artwork, jewelry, knit wear, apparel, pottery, ornaments and more. The "Kids Village" features children/family activities such as free face painting, amusement rides, field games, arts and crafts, music, Irish dancers, Gaelic games, and Irish wolfhounds and setters.

And for festivalgoers with hair of a certain hue, once again there'll be an opportunity to set a world's record for the largest number of redheads in one area. A photo will be taken on Saturday at 2 p.m. as the Festival attempts to beat last year's total of more than 300 redheads.

All information about the 2013 event is available at bostonirishfestival.info.



Eileen Ivers & Immigrant Soul will kick off the 2013 Boston Irish Festival. Below, dancing by Kieran Jordan and Atlantic Steps is on tap.



Boston Irish Festival Schedule 2013

Friday, June 7

- 5:00pm Volunteers arrive
- 6:00pm Festival Opens for Concert only
Only Grafton Street vendors, food vendors and bars are open.
- 7:00pm American Rogues concert
- 9:00pm Eileen Ivers and Immigrant Soul concert
- 11:00pm Concert ends
- 11:00pm Festival closes

Saturday, June 8

- 7:30am Volunteers arrive
- 8:30am Boston Irish Festival Feis opens/competition begins: Liam Harney Academy
- 11:00am Festival opens — all activities
- 2:00pm Redhead World Record Attempt Photo
- 3:00pm Irish Youth Sports League game/clinic
- 4:00pm Tug of War competition 4-6pm
- 4:15pm Boston GAA games
- 6:00pm Boston Irish Festival Feis ends
- 7:00pm Searson concert
- 9:00pm Black 47 concert
- 11:00pm Festival closes

Sunday, June 9

- 7:30am Road race registration begins
- 9:00am Road race begins
- 10:00am Post-race Party in Main Tent
- 11:00am Festival Opens
- 11:00am Irish Mass/Irish Breakfast
- 12:00noon Dart Competition begins
- 12:00noon Boston GAA games (from 12noon to 6:00pm)
- 1:00pm Irish Bread Baking competition collection begins
- 2:00pm Atlantic Steps performance
- 4:00pm Tug of War competition: Semi Finals and Finals
- 4:00pm Irish Bread Baking competition winners announced
- 6:00pm Festival ends

Art tent, Language tent, Comhaltas tent, Tea House, Irish Setters and Wolfhound Dogs tent, Genealogy tent, Irish Authors, Kids Village, Hayrides, and more all weekend long.



Black 47 returns to Canton for this year's Boston Irish Festival.

Irish Cultural Centre's
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June 7-9, 2013

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Eileen Ivers & Immigrant Soul

Friday, June 7 at 8pm

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Boston Irish Festival FEIS
 with Harney Academy of Irish Dance

World Red Head Record Photo
 Tug of War Competition

Saturday, June 8

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



Atlantic Steps

5k Road Race, Irish Breakfast & more

Sunday, June 9

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

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For tickets go to:
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BOSTON IRISH REPORTER

BOSTON IRISH ARTS,
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TRAVEL & MORE

The Yanks are coming' – to the Burren

Backroom series feature on June 19

BY SEAN SMITH
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

A New York City-based Irish band called The Yanks might seem a tough sell in the hub of Red Sox Nation, but Bostonians shouldn't leap to conclusions: As fiddler Dylan Foley explains, he and his mates did not choose the moniker as a tribute to a certain baseball team.

"'Yanks' are what the Irish call obnoxious Americans, and we are Americans playing Irish music," says Foley. "And we are obnoxious – sometimes."

Fortunately, Foley and his fellow Yanks – Dan Gurney (accordion), Isaac Alderson (uilleann pipes, flute) and Sean Earnest (guitar, bouzouki) – have far more of a reputation for sterling musicianship than boorishness. And on June 19, they'll be showcasing their individual and collective talents as

part of The Burren Backroom series at the popular Somerville pub and music mecca. [Boston area native fiddler-vocalist Liz Hanley will open.]

The Burren concert will be notable in a couple of ways. It will mark the recent release of their dynamic 14-track debut CD, and also serve as a homecoming of sorts: Despite their association with New York City, Boston – or more specifically Cambridge's Club Passim – was the site of the group's first bona fide gig last year.

In fact, that Passim concert was somewhat of a rare event given how relatively little The Yanks actually appear together on stage because of their various other pursuits. Earnest, for instance, has toured with acts like Teada, The Paul McKenna Band and McPeake, as



The Yanks play at The Burren in Somerville later this month.

Jimmy O'Kelly photo

well as Boston-based singer-songwriter Kyle Carey; Alderson has performed as part of the "Celtic Crossroads" show, and with Runa, Comas and as part of a trio with Keith Murphy and Sam Amidon, among numerous other collaborations. Members also have played together

in duo or trio format.

Similarly, the CD represented another convergence at the right time, the quartet doing the recording in three days at the site of the Catskills Irish Arts Week in upstate New York – their arrangements put together, according to Earnest, "minutes before

we sat down in front of the microphones."

So how do they pull this off? It helps, obviously, that all four are accomplished, well-regarded musicians in their own right – with numerous All Ireland titles to their credits – and that they're all of about the same gen-

eration (ranging through the 20s to 30 years old), with kindred, though not necessarily identical, tastes and ideas relating to Irish traditional music. Most of all, each of The Yanks will tell you – literally – they just really, really like playing with (Continued on page 17)



Tir Na Theatre's Colin Hamell portrays more than 20 characters in "Jimmy Titanic," playing June 19-31 at New Repertory Theatre in Watertown.

Michael and Suz Karchmer photo

Colin Hamell explores lost dreams of The Titanic

BY R. J. DONOVAN
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

From Hollywood to Broadway, the world has long romanticized the sinking of the Titanic. Further, the story of the 1912 tragedy has focused strongly on the ship being a luxury liner that took to its watery grave a fairly well-to-do list of passengers.

What many people don't realize is that the Titanic – the largest ship in the world at the time – was designed to transport emigrants. And, that it was built in the shipyards of Belfast.

These two points play a pivotal role in the Tir Na Theatre production of the new play, "Jimmy Titanic," being presented by New Repertory Theatre in Watertown June 19 to 30. Directed by Carmel O'Reilly, the production had its world premiere last fall at the Origin Irish Theatre Festival in New York. Following a run in Philadelphia, "Jimmy Titanic" made its Irish debut in Donegal in April.

By Belfast journalist-turned-playwright Bernard McMullan, the play is set 100 years after the disaster in the north Atlantic, revisiting the

journey of Jimmy Boylan and Tommy Mackey, two proud, young, Belfast shipyard workers aboard the ship's ill-fated voyage.

Colin Hamell, Tir Na's Producing Artistic Director, portrays more than 20 characters in the one-man show, including Jimmy, Tommy, God, the Angel Gabrielle, Titanic passengers and crew, St. Peter, John Jacob Astor, Belfast Mayor R. J. McMordie, and more.

It was Hamell himself who had the idea for a play about the Titanic. He discussed it with McMullan, who subsequently agreed to write the piece

but wasn't sure what form it should take. Says Hamell: "He came up with a very original slant. Half the play is set in Heaven and half the play is set in Belfast. And it talks about how important the shipbuilding industry was for northern Ireland. One of the big reasons the English held on and fought to hold on to the north of Ireland was because they had a great shipbuilding and textile industry. It was very important to them, in the scheme of economics, to have that."

He continued, "The reality was, the Titanic (Continued on page 15)

Revels' summer fundraiser hails all things Irish

Building on the enthusiasm generated from last December's sold-out Irish-themed "Christmas Revels," Revels' annual summer fundraiser will continue the party on Saturday, June 15, at 8 p.m., with "Midsummer Night Revels: A Summer Solstice Soiree." The Ireland-flavored celebration will take place at the Holy Trinity Armenian Church, 145 Brattle Street in Cambridge. The evening will be hosted by Revels' Artistic Director Paddy Swanson and Music Director George Emien.

Entertainment will feature: Lindsay and Brian O'Donovan (host of WGBH-FM's popular "Celtic Sojourn" and a former Revels board member); step dancers Harper Mills and "Lord of the Dance" cast member Kevin McCormack from the O'Shea-Chaplin Academy of Irish Dance; Cieran Nagle, founding member of the Three Irish Tenors, with his wife, dynamic violinist and fiddler Tara Novak; guitarist Owen Morrison, who coincidentally is married to Revels Founder John Langstaff's grandniece, Meredith Langstaff; and more. In addition to a Silent Auction, a festive Dessert Buffet and a Cash Bar, guests will enjoy poetry by W. B. Yeats, an original Irish Blessing, and a mini-version of the Strawboy Mummings Play, which has its origins in County Fermanagh.

Tickets to the event are \$35. Benefactor Tickets, priced at \$100 per person, also include a 6 p.m. pre-soiree' reception showcasing hearty hors d'oeuvres and fine wines. (The location for the Benefactor's Reception will be provided following purchase of tickets.) For information and tickets, call 617-972-8300 ext. 29 or visit www.revels.org.

– R. J. Donovan



Harper Mills, who competed at the 2013 World Irish Dancing Championships, will make an appearance during the "Midsummer Night Revels: A Summer Solstice Soiree."

First-ever Féile Cheoil in area is all set for June 22 in Melrose

By SEAN SMITH
SPECIAL TO THE BIR
The Boston Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann (CCE) Music School is launching the first-ever Féile Cheoil Boston this month in hopes of establishing an annual celebration of the Boston area's traditional Irish music heritage.

The June 22 event, which will take place at the First United Methodist Church in Melrose, will include adjudicated competitions, workshops, sessions, entertainment, and more. As a special prelude to the Féile Cheoil Boston, the school will host the inaugural Larry Reynolds Memorial Ceili on June 21, at 7:30 p.m. at the Sons of Italy in Waltham, in honor of the school's co-founder and guiding spirit, Larry Reynolds, who died last fall.

Organizers with the CCE's local Reynolds-Hanafin-Cooley branch

see the weekend as a means to continue strengthening its music education programs, but also to broaden ties among Irish musicians — particularly younger ones — as well as Irish music fans in Boston and elsewhere.

"It's a way to build community," says Lisa Coyne, the Boston Comhaltas School executive director, who is organizing the Reynolds Memorial Ceili with Reynolds-Hanafin-Cooley branch president Tara Lynch. "The competitions will involve children and adults not only from Greater Boston, but elsewhere in Massachusetts and New England. We want people to enjoy spending time together, perhaps make new friends in the process, and hopefully learn a few things to help them become better musicians or to gain more insight into Irish music."

"The Féile Cheoil Bos-

ton also is a way remember Larry and to continue the tradition he held so dear and worked so hard to promote and preserve. This is the centerpiece of the initiatives we are undertaking in continuing to build up the music school."

While Coyne and the other organizers emphasize the fun-for-all-ages aspect of the Féile, they note its potential as an important growth experience for young musicians. The competitions provide a tangible goal and focus, they say, but of even more importance is the opportunity to socialize with peers and to enjoy playing music in a far more informal setting.

"The session is the foundation of Irish music," says Coyne. "That's where you become an active participant in the tradition and culture of Irish music, where you develop critical listening,

playing and interpersonal skills. Most of all, you're sharing time with other people who love the music as much as you do, so it's an ideal setting in which to form friendships."

Sean Clohessy, who is coordinating the competition part of the Féile with Cara Frankowicz, says it's understandable for musicians at most any level to be daunted at the prospect of performing in front of family and friends, let alone experts and adjudicators. That's why it's critical, he says, for participants and spectators alike to take a long view of a competition like the Féile and the preparation that goes into it.

"The whole process, not only the competition day itself, is an important part of the experience, and constructive encouragement all along the way will really bring everything to fruition," says Clohessy.



"The performance itself is the culmination of all of this work — and at the end of the day an appreciation and recognition of both the hard work and the performance is what makes for the best experience, I believe."

While the Boston area is renowned for its Irish music and dance activity, and has hosted numerous major events — including the recent Irish World Dancing Championships — something like the Féile is largely uncharted territory, says Clohessy, who adds that he and his fellow co-organizers are trying to anticipate, and prepare for, as many contingencies as possible.

"This is a great learning curve for us all, and there's no doubt that something we didn't expect will hit us. However, everyone has been really encouraging, and we just really hope that we can pull off something that gives everyone a good day out. We wanted to really try and bring something that was specifically organized around our community of musicians and their families, and hopefully this will be something we can also build on."

For information and updates on the Féile Cheoil Boston, see <http://www.ccebostonmusicschool.org>.

Colin Hamell explores lost dreams of The Titanic

(Continued from page 14)
was very important, and the heart of the shipyards was very important, to the people who lived in Belfast. Sixteen thousand people worked at the shipyard."

Although many of the characters are based on real people, Jimmy and Tommy are fictional. Hamell said they're just "two guys, two best friends, who worked together on the building of it and sailed together. One is from the South, one is from the North. But it doesn't really speak to the whole Protestant-Catholic thing at all. . . . Everyone thinks of the beautiful grand staircase that was destroyed, all the cutlery, all the chandeliers. John Astor went down. But there were also Jimmy Boylans and Tommy Mackeys . . . their stories were, in effect, a lot more tragic because they had a real connection to Belfast and a real connection to the boat."

The play also questions the world's continuing obsession with the ship. "The Titanic was very special for the people who built it and the people who worked and sailed on it," Hamell said. "But why is it so special for other people?"

The character of Jimmy becomes very protective of the tragedy and challenges the fascination directly with the audience. Hamell says Jimmy asks, "Why are you all here? You're all here because of something about the Titanic. Well, you know, I worked on the Titanic. I helped build it. I sailed it. It's my experience. Why don't you all go do your own thing. Find out what it really feels like to experience something really, really, special once in your own lives."

The play also blends in humor to balance the tragedy, especially in a scene where the passengers begin to arrive in Heaven. "All the first class passengers [are] completely disgruntled," Hamell said.



Tir Na Theatre's Colin Hamell portrays more than 20 characters in "Jimmy Titanic," playing June 19-31 at New Repertory Theatre in Watertown. Michael and Suz Karchmer photo

"The Titanic was meant to be the greatest ship of all time, and the next thing they've hit an iceberg. All the first class passengers are giving it to God. And I play God as a chain-smoking inner city Dublin guy — (kind of) a gangster. And he's basically taking no responsibility for the iceberg."

"I particularly like part of the Heaven scenes where I play [both] God and the Archangel Gabrielle. . . . Basically, it's a conversation between them. . . . Gabrielle's on the take, so as people arrive to Heaven, he takes all the money and watches off them at the gate. And he has to split the take with God. I just really liked the way the scenes worked out." He said the humor provides a necessary change of tone at just the right time in the play.

Addressing the ability of the Irish to look for contrary humor amidst tragedy, he said, "I get that pointed out to me

more and more over here by Americans. And I see it. We kind of look to find the dark humor in these things. I don't know why that is. Is it because historically, so much stuff happened to us over the years [that] it's ingrained? That, as a way of surviving, you have to just find the brighter side of it?"

Proving the point, he said he was recently speaking to his mother back home. "Everyone in Ireland talks about how bad the economy is. This person's not working, that person's not working. My mother's telling me this cousin's lost his job and no one can get money from the bank. And then she says, 'But you know Colin, we always say to ourselves — at least we're not from Greece.'"

Despite the sometimes precarious nature of the theater, Hamell, who hails from Navan, County Meath, is cautiously optimistic about what the future may hold for the

show. One New York review called "Jimmy Titanic" remarkable, adding that it . . . "manages to entertain, inform, move, and comment from a com-

pletely original point of view . . . Colin Hamell has the energy and passion of a holy roller evangelist . . . Scenes that make one shudder are balanced by

those with wicked humor. The conceit of such cavalcade being presented as a one-man show is inspired."

The Irish premiere was especially meaningful for Hamell. "The developer of the Belfast Titanic Visitors Center owns a castle called Solis Lough Eske in Donegal. And he had a Titanic themed weekend [planned], so he invited me to do the show there. It was one of the greatest weekends ever. Fabulous. Beautiful weather, great crowds. It was unbelievably well received. The people from the Belfast Arts Festival came over. I've now been invited to come back and do it in October in Belfast, which is where Bernard is from . . . So it's really taken on a life."

R. J. Donovan is Editor and Publisher of *onstageboston.com*.

Tir Na Theatre's "Jimmy Titanic," June 19-30, at New Repertory Theatre, Arsenal Center for the Arts, 321 Arsenal Street in Waltham. BIR readers can save \$5 per ticket when using the code "titanic" online at newrep.org or 617-923-8487.



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CD Review

BY SEAN SMITH
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

Pat Broaders, Liz Knowles & Kieran O'Hare, "Open the Door for Three" • Three stalwart, well-respected members of the American Irish music scene join the suddenly abundant roster of hot Irish trios – which includes The Teatotalers (Kevin Crawford, Martin Hayes and John Doyle) and Winifred Horan-Mick McAuley-Colm O Caoimh – and the result is a happy one indeed.



Fiddler Liz Knowles has brought her classical violin background to traditional music territory with aplomb, as a member of Cherish the Ladies, the String Sisters, and the "Riverdance" musical cast, as well as solo and in collaboration with, among others, husband Kieran O'Hare, a masterful player of pipes, whistles, flute who has proven equally adept as an arranger of traditional music. Their melodic might is supported, artfully and gracefully, by Pat Broaders, whose bouzouki accompaniment and singing were a key facet of yet another

memorable trio, Chicago-based bohola. The instrumental sets encompass some venerable session favorites like "Snug in a Blanket" and "Tom Billy's Jig" ("Everyone knows 'Tom Billy's' jig," reads the liner note. "Everyone") and also include several entries from the great five-volume Breandán Breathnach collection of tunes, three of them grouped into the "Grand Gates of Annesbrooke" reel medley ("O'Shaughnessy's," which ends the set, is a particularly splendid affair with O'Hare doubling on whistle and pipes). Knowles' knack for composition is featured with her tenderly delivered air "The Gift of Falling," and an additional part she supplied to the album's titular tune, a leisurely-paced major/minor jig collected from Munster in the 19th century.

Broaders, meanwhile, gives himself a pretty high degree of difficulty with two of the album's four songs. For "Beeswing" – easily one of Richard Thompson's most deeply-felt, lump-in-the-throat creations, about that love affair you knew couldn't work but were compelled to see through nonetheless – Broaders generally lets the lyrics do the work, instead of seeking to emulate the emotional texture of Thompson's vocals, and with a recurring sympathetic riff from Knowles, he pulls it off just fine. By contrast, "Miles Weatherhill" is a 19th-century broadside ballad from Yorkshire brought to life in the late 1970s by legendary singer-guitarist Nic Jones, a made-for-tabloid true story of thwarted love and unspeakable revenge; Broaders and crew superbly evoke, but do not overplay, the undercurrent of passion and dread throughout the verses.

The two other songs are tried-and-true traditional, "High Germany" – given urgency by Knowles' use of a

setesdalsfele, a 10-string instrument that is a hybrid of a violin and Scandinavian fiddle – and "The Well Below the Valley," which if anything has a darker character than "Miles Weatherhill," featuring a relentless multi-tracked bouzouki rhythm and Knowles' appropriately ominous bowing.

"Open the Door for Three" is a most welcome entrance.

Niamh Ni Charra, "Cuz: A Tribute to Terry 'Cuz' Teahan" • Tricky things, tribute albums. It's perfectly fine to record a bunch of material associated with the band/musician/composer in question, down tools, and call it a day. But can you convey something of the subject's personality, the qualities that distinguished him/her/they, not only as a musician but also as a living, breathing person – especially if the subject may not have the historical footprint and cachet of, say, a Turlough O'Carolan or Michael Coleman?

Niamh Ni Charra, an award-winning fiddle, concertina player, and singer from Killarney, has done precisely that in this 13-track homage to Kerry native and longtime Chicago resident "Cuz" Teahan – concertina and accordion player, composer, mentor and role model for many, including Ni Charra, who as a young girl met him in person only once (for all of 10 minutes) but has carried him in her heart and memory ever since. One of her most prized possessions is a cassette tape Teahan – who died in 1989 – made for her after their encounter, an hour of tunes from the Sliabh Luachra tradition (many of which taught to him by Padraig O'Keefe, another tribute-worthy figure) or his own hand, a few song excerpts, and all manner of information, insight and advice.

That tape serves not only as a thematic but occasionally a literal point of reference throughout "Cuz," as Ni Charra includes excerpts of his playing and singing (some of the latter decidedly PG-13) from the recording amidst the tracks, which include estimable contributors like Liz Carroll, Seamus Begley, Jimmy Keane, Donogh Hennessy, and Mick Moloney. As befitting a tribute from one Kerry musician to another, there are plenty of polkas and slides, including marvelous Teahan originals like "Dave Kennedy's Gift," "Mary Shea's Promise to Her Dog" and "Mickey Chewing Bubblegum," Ni Charra's indispensable liner notes offering context and explanation for the titles as well as the tunes themselves.

Yes, "Cuz" is a studio recording, with polished, professional performances and arrangements, but this is no clinically academic exercise in traditional music preservation; it's a lovingly rendered portrait of a man and his legacy, right down to the embroidery (another of Teahan's talents) that forms part of the cover design. The closing medley of slides brings forth the spirit of fun, and even irreverence, that's supposed to animate this music, with Begley's robust singing of "The Hair Fell Off My Coconut." Cuz would be proud.

(Ni Charra, incidentally, is donating the cassette Teahan made for her to The Irish Traditional Music Archive, at itma.ie.)



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The Yanks are coming

(Continued from page 15) one another.

"We're all on similar pages, in terms of what type of traditional music we like, and how we want to play it," says Alderson. "I think the process of recording our CD reflects that: With some bands, doing an album might take a long time before everyone is happy with what they've done; in our case, it took three days."

"We all have our individual styles and angles, of course," says Gurney, who lived in the Boston area for several years. "But because we go back so far, we're very comfortable with one another – no one of us has to be the leader."

Gurney and Foley, in fact, first met as school kids: They grew up in roughly the same part of upstate New York, and showed up at many of the same sessions, competitions, festivals and other events – particularly the gatherings organized by legendary Father Charlie Coen. As Foley notes, when he and Gurney came up with the idea of putting a band together, "the first names we came up with were Sean and Isaac."

"We'd all be playing music anyway," says Gurney, "so making it official just made a lot of sense."

Gurney's comment is a revealing one: Consummate performers they may be, there's a decided informality to The Yanks' approach as a band, one that's a matter of philosophy as much as practicality. It contrasts with

the polished, elaborate ensemble style of Irish music that has emerged in the past couple of decades, as exemplified by the likes of, say, Solas or Lunasa – for whom, just to be clear, The Yanks have the utmost respect (Lunasa's Kevin Crawford is equally laudatory of them; he has been quoted as calling The Yanks "the next Irish American dream team.>").

"Irish music is at its best when it's more informal," says Gurney. "We like to have a certain roughness in our sound, that 'as-it-happens' vibe."

"There is, obviously, a difference between music that's being danced to, and music that's being listened to," says Earnest. "We've all had experience playing in group settings of some kind or another that involve arrangements. It's a matter of how you can engage the audience, and have that give-and-take. Playing together the way we do, with some structure but not an abundance of it, feels natural for us."

Alderson – who at 30 is the oldest Yank ("I'm also the shortest," he quips) – sees the band's style, and his own experience with Irish/Celtic music, as reflecting perhaps a general trend toward exploring the tradition in greater depth. "I didn't come to the music the way the other three did, where they were encouraged at an early age via competitions and sessions and so forth. I was introduced in my teens to groups like Solas and Lunasa, but I became

more enthusiastic about the pipes, so I wound up focusing on the tradition through Seamus Ennis and Robbie Hannon.

"I think there was a time when people were looking at what was going to be 'the new thing' in Irish music, but it seems like now the movement is to focus on the roots of Irish music, to go to the sources and appreciate the way it used to be played. So in that vein, we bring a mix of spontaneity and pre-planning to our approach."

As evidenced on their CD, The Yanks do favor straightforward arrangements in which the three melody instruments play in unison; there is little in the way of harmony or counterpoint. During some of the sets, one or two members may take the lead – Gurney plays "The Green Fields of Woodford" with Earnest to introduce a medley of jigs, for example, while Foley and Alderson team up at the start on "The Gooseberry Bush" before Gurney and Earnest join them, and segue into a splendid take on "Nine Pint Coggie."

Each Yank also gets a "spotlight" set: Foley on the gorgeously rendered air "Séan Ó Duibhir A' Ghleanna," followed by a pair of reels, Sean Ryan's "Trip to Nenagh" and then "Miss Langford's"; Gurney essays a robust D-modal jig, "Up and Away in the Morning," that goes into "Charlie Mulvihill's"; Alderson tackles the venerable "Jenny's Welcome to

Charlie" along with "The Lady on the Island"; and Earnest shows his dexterity in flatpicking a pair of slides on guitar, "An Seanduine Dóite" and "Micho Russell's."

In fact, it is Earnest's accompaniment that gives The Yanks a further distinctiveness. He builds on the standard I-IV-V/minor-VII-VI chord progressions with imaginative but not overly conspicuous voicings, all the while keeping the rhythm intact. He's also not afraid to go out on a limb occasionally, as he demonstrates on "Jenny's Welcome," his bouzouki backing to Alderson's pipes expertly creating and then dispelling tension.

In doing so, Earnest both blends with and enhances the work of his melody-playing colleagues – all part of striking that elusive balance in making all-instrumental Irish music a pleasurable listening experience.

"There are some accompanists who look to establish a groove within which the melody players play," says Earnest. "I go about it from another way. I try to come up with chords and sequences that replicate as closely as possible what's happening melodically. I embellish and complement the melody without getting in the way, and leave Dan, Dylan and Isaac some flexibility."

"On 'Jenny's Welcome,' for instance, I came up with something rhythmically and harmonically



The Yanks are (L-R) Dylan Foley, Dan Gurney, Isaac Alderson and Sean Earnest.

that was closest to what the regulators on Isaac's pipes do. It's a bit of a high-wire act, sometimes – but that's part of the enjoyment of playing traditional music."

"I really like what Sean did," says Alderson. "The tune can sound pretty bizarre in spots, but I think he really caught the mood and tone just right, and definitely helps to drive it along."

Most of all, The Yanks more than fulfill the ultimate criteria for a trad Irish band: They play good tunes, and they play them well. Listen to them gallop through "House of Hamill," a three-part reel by Ed Reavy that seems locked into a relentless melodic sequence for the first two parts, then suddenly, thrillingly, breaks out of it. Or listen to them traverse the majestic, intriguing "Jackie Daly's Barndance," and then

ease their way without a hitch into the Am/C reel "Return to Camden Town." And there's the stately hornpipe set, "The Stack of Barley" merging into "Scott Skinner's," which Foley's fiddle then kick-starts into a reel.

The Yanks exude a certain confidence not only about their musicianship but also about their musical identity. As Earnest puts it, "Our overarching ethos is, we're Irish musicians but not necessarily Irish. Being centered in New York, we're a very urban, transatlantic kind of band, and we have all kinds of influences and interests, many of which we share. And the main thing is, we just like playing music with each other."

For information on June 19 The Yanks-Liz Hanley concert at The Burren, see burren.com.

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A story about a story on a stamp

Ireland's newest stamp features an entire short story written by a talented Dublin teenager.

The 60c stamp, which was recently unveiled at Roddy Doyle's Fighting Words Centre, was commissioned to celebrate

Dublin's permanent designation as a UNESCO City of Literature in 2010.

Designed by the Stone Twins, two Amsterdam-based Irish designers, the bright yellow rectangle includes all 224 words of Eoin Moore's short story

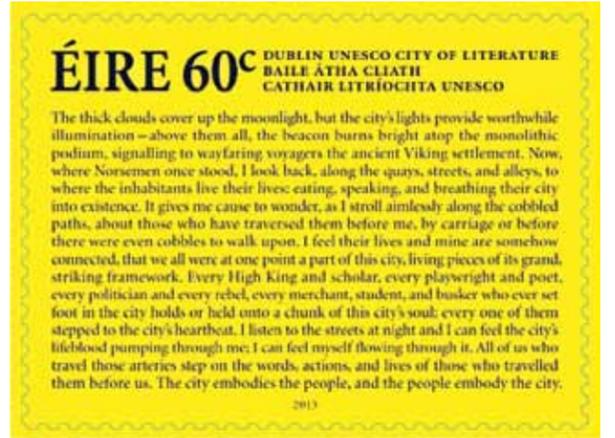
which strives to capture the "essence" of the capital. It was chosen from a host of works completed by participants in Dublin's Fighting Words' creative writing program.

The unusual new stamp and a First Day Cover may be viewed and purchased at main post offices, at Dublin's GPO and online.

Following is Eoin's story in full. He was 17 years old at time of writing:

"The thick clouds cover up the moonlight, but the city's lights provide worthwhile illumination—above them all, the beacon burns bright atop the monolithic podium, signalling to wayfaring voyagers the ancient Viking settlement. Now,

where Norsemen once stood, I look back, along the quays, streets and alleys, to where the inhabitants live their lives: eating, speaking, and breathing their city into existence. It gives me cause to wonder, as I stroll aimlessly along the cobbled paths, about those who have traversed them before me, by carriage or before there were even cobbles to walk upon. I feel their lives and mine are somehow connected, that we all were at one point a part of this city, living pieces of its grand, striking framework. Every High King and scholar, every playwright and poet, every politician



and every rebel, every merchant, student, and busker who ever set foot in the city holds or held onto a chunk of this city's soul; every one of them stepped to the city's heartbeat. I listen to the streets at night and I can feel the city's lifeblood pumping

through me; I can feel myself flowing through it. All of us who travel those arteries step on the words, actions, and lives of those who travelled them before us. The city embodies the people, and the people embody the city.



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The Rental Registration & Inspection Program requires the annual registration of all private rental units and the inspection for all non-exempt rental units to be conducted every five years. This year the registration period begins on May 1, 2013 and ends on August 1, 2013. The initial registration fee is \$25/unit. Failure to register will result in fines and further enforcement actions.




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Good show by local entrants in Mid-Atlantic Fleadh results

Musicians from the Greater Boston area performed well at the Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann Mid Atlantic Fleadh, held May 10-12 in Parsippany, NJ. Among the results:

Patrick Bowling: 2nd place, Flute and Bodhran; **Audrey Bulger:** 3rd place, Under-12 Solo Fiddle; **Barbara Cassidy:** 2nd place, Over-18 Women's Singing (English); **Sean Connor and Liam Hart:** 1st place, Senior Duets; **Josie Coyne:** 1st place, Newly Composed Tunes; 2nd place, Under-15 Solo Fiddle; 4th place, Under-15 Duo (with **Alanna Wamsley**).

Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann



2013 Fleadh Results are posted.

Rory Coyne: 4th place, Under-12 Accordion; **Deirdre and Fiona Galvin:** 3rd place, Under-12 Duos; **Fiona Henry:** 3rd place, Under-18 Concer-

tina; **Stuart Peak:** 1st place, Banjo; 2nd place, Accompaniment; **Torrin Ryan:** 1st place, Over-18 Uilleann Pipes Slow Airs, Over-18 Solo Whistle and

Whistle Slow Airs; **Natalya Trudeau:** 1st place, Under-18 Solo Fiddle.

In addition, the Boston Comhaltas Music School Ceili Band won 1st place in the Over-18 Ceili Band category, and Core 4 (**Stuart Peak, Torrin Ryan and Patrick and Tom Bowling**) took 1st in Over-18 Grupa Cheoil.

The top two finishers in each category earn an invitation to the All Ireland Fleadh Cheoil, which will be held this year in Derry from August 11 to 18. See fleadhcheoil.ie for more information.

— SEAN SMITH

CELTIC THUNDER CRUISE

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Ryan Kelly & Neil Byrne - Acoustic by Candlelight
George Donaldson - Folk Favourites
Emmet Cahill & Colm Keegan with guest Rebecca Harkin
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The Celtic Thunder Band - Traditional Music
Goitse - Traditional Irish Band
Gaelic Rhythm - Dance Show

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What's more, the Celtic Thunder Band will be performing as will the traditional Irish band Goitse. Our own Belinda Murphy, choreographer and dancer in the original Riverdance, will be introducing her new Irish Dance show, Celtic Rhythm. Belinda will also teach you to dance and show you how to join in the fun at our Ceili Night! Sandra O'Hara, a world famous Psychic Medium, will be offering an evening spiritual session. The ship's bar will be transformed into THE authentic Celtic Thunder pub and the menu hand selected by the lads.

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



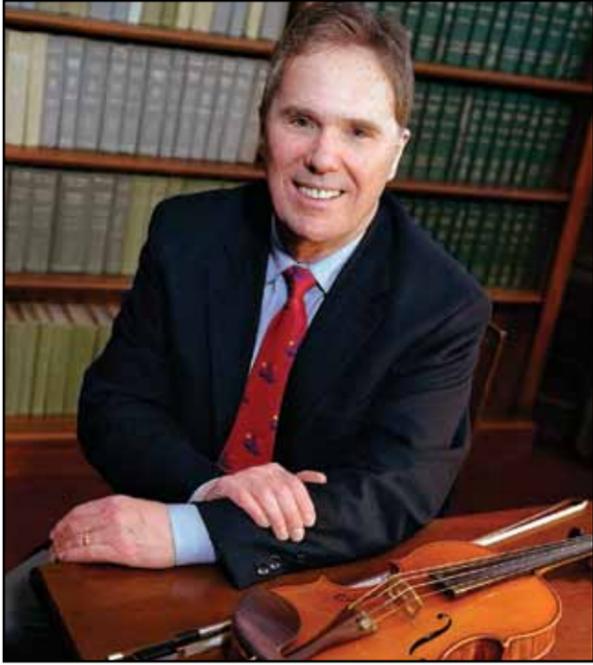


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BC's Connolly awarded Ellis Island medal of honor



Seamus Connolly

Seamus Connolly, the Sullivan Artist-in-Residence at Boston College and director of the university's Irish Studies music programs, receive the Ellis Island Medal of Honor from the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations (NECO) on May 11 in recognition of his distinguished career as one of the world's most respected master Irish musicians.

The Ellis Island Medals of Honor annually pays tribute to the ancestry groups that comprise America's unique cultural mosaic. The medals are presented on Ellis Island to American citizens for their outstanding contributions to their communi-

ties, their nation, and the world. Past Ellis Island Medal of Honor recipients include six presidents of the United States, Nobel Prize winners, athletes, and leaders of industry, artists and others whose work has made a lasting impact on humanity.

Actress Mia Farrow, recording artist Dionne Warwick, Surgeon General Regina M. Benjamin, MD, and US Rep. Peter King (R-NY) joined Connolly as this year's honorees.

Connolly — who emigrated from his native Killaloe in County Clare to the US in 1976 and joined the BC faculty in 1990 — has cultivated a decades-long list of accom-

plishments, winning numerous competitions and receiving various awards and other tributes. His achievements include a record 10 All-Ireland fiddle championships, selection by *Irish America* magazine as one of the top 100 Irish Americans, "Traditional Musician of the Year" honors from the *Irish Echo*, and induction into the worldwide Irish cultural organization Comhaltas Ceoltoirí Eireann's Hall of Fame.

At BC, Connolly founded and directed the Gaelic Roots Summer School and Arts Festival and its successor, the Gaelic Roots Music, Song, Dance, Concert and Lecture Series — renowned for bringing some of the most notable traditional musicians to campus for concerts, workshops and other public events. In addition to his contributions as fiddle player, organizer and scholar, Connolly has helped promote Irish music as a teacher and mentor to untold numbers of budding musicians, at BC and elsewhere.

"I am honored and humbled by this award, especially when I see the list of previous recipients," said Connolly. "Through the years, I have had the kind assistance and support of so many dear friends, in the US, Ireland and many other places. I accept this honor on behalf of all the great musicians, singers and dancers I've known, and from whom I've learned so much."



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BRETT'S BOSTON

By Harry Brett

Exclusive photos of Boston Irish people & events

The John F Kennedy Library and Museum in Dorchester is hosting a series of events this year to commemorate the final year of JFK's presidency. On May 18, the JFK Foundation hosted a dinner with guest of honor, Taoiseach Enda Kenny, in memorial to the June 1963 visit of Kennedy and his family to New Ross, the homeland of the Kennedy family. The moving evening featured a brief film of that historic visit. Photographer Harry Brett was on hand at the reception with photos of some of the 500 guests.

1.) Msgr. Liam Bergin, Boston College; Mary and William Bulger, So. Boston; Fr. Robert Casey, St. Brigid/Gate of Heaven Parishes, So. Boston; 2.) Mary Regan, Galway, Tom Gallagher, IIC President; 3.) Anne Aaron, Arlington; Frank Rigg, Carlisle; 4.) Paul Buckley and Marian Walsh, W. Roxbury; 5.) Matt and Margaret Power, W. Roxbury; 6.) Frances and Jim Carmody, Milton; 7.) Dr. Steve Freidberg, Liz Shannon; Jamaica Plain; Brenda and Tom Byrne, Reading; Debra and Art Rosenthal, Wellesley; 8.) Andy Tarsy, Bridget Samburg, Cambridge; UMass President Robert Caret, Boston; 9.) Paul Breen, Brookline; Mrie and Jim O'Malley, No. Andover; 10.) Tim and Djamila Fitzgerald, Cambridge; 11.) Ed, Maureen, Linda and Bill Forry; 12.) Carol and Patrick Binns; Carol Kopelman, Moroccan Vice Consul General; 13.) Frances Gallagher, Needham; Mike McCarron, Milton; Siobhan Gallagher, Stoneham.



Traveling People

Where to go in Ireland? There's much to choose from

By JUDY ENRIGHT
SPECIAL TO THE BIR

Want to know where to go when you visit Ireland? Well, check out recommendations from some of the Irish who voted for the best place to vacation in Ireland.

The *Irish Times* newspaper recently announced 25 locations shortlisted by their panel of judges from 1,400 nominations submitted since March. The judges, most of whom are in some aspect of tourism, will choose an overall winner.

The top 25 included four islands (Achill, Inis Meain, Inishbofin and Valentia), the River Shannon, two picturesque West Cork spots (the Beara peninsula and Gougane Barra Lake), a few beaches (Caherdaniel and Derrynane in Kerry, Dunmore East in Co. Waterford, Gweedore in Donegal, Rosslare Strand in Co. Wexford, and Strandhill in Sligo) and, of course, Dingle and Dublin City, perennial favorites for tourists.

Also listed were Cork and Londonderry. The gourmet capital of Ireland – Kinsale – made the list too as did: Killarney; Loop Head peninsula, Co. Clare; Louisburgh in Mayo; Boyle in Roscommon and Ballyvaughan in Co. Clare, at the edge of the spectacular Burren.

In addition to Derry City, Cushendall in Antrim and the Lakelands of Co. Fermanagh, got the nod for Northern Ireland.

It would be difficult indeed to sort through that list and pick a favorite since there are so many beautiful, fun places to experience on this island. No doubt, travelers will find their own favorite places.

TOURIST NUMBERS
It's hard to say whether it's Tourism Ireland's advertising of The Gathering 2013 or just the realization that Ireland is a fabulous place to vacation, but recent figures show that there was a 40 percent increase in overseas visitors this year for St. Patrick's Day. Research showed that one in four (26 percent) came from the US and about one in three (29 percent) came from Britain, France, and Germany. Euro spent by holidaymakers during March events more than doubled since three years ago.

Tourism pundits say Ireland is again "in vogue" with Americans and that visitor numbers from North America are up 17 percent. Recent surveys have shown that Ireland is more competitive now pricewise than it has been in more than a decade and that's never bad! "Every little helps," as they say at Tesco.

ART SHOW AT THE DOCK
If you are in the area, do stop by The Dock Gallery in Carrick-on-Shannon, Co. Leitrim, for a brilliant art show called "Emerging Artists" featuring the work of Zofia Malanowska, Hilton Miller, Renata Mooney and Benita Stoney. Admission is free and the show runs



Poulnabrone Dolmen in the Burren is a must see for those visiting Ballyvaughan, one of 25 locations shortlisted by judges of The Irish Times newspaper's "Best Place to Holiday in Ireland" competition.



Inishbofin, one of four islands off the Irish coast shortlisted by readers of The Irish Times newspaper as among the best places to vacation in Ireland. *Judy Enright photos*

through June 14, Tuesday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The artists all had careers before focusing on their art. Zofia is "over 97" and does embroidery, Renata and Benita are painters. The exhibit is dedicated to Hilton, a painter who died in 2012, "and to all artists who emerge later in their lives."

For more information visit thedock.ie or email to info@thedock.ie

PROPERTY SALES
Interesting to see that 5-star Glenlo Abbey Hotel, on about 140 acres outside Galway City, is on the market. No price is listed. The hotel, where First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton stayed May 11 and 12, 1999, is in receivership as are so many other properties in Ireland due to the economy. Mrs. Clinton received an Honorary Doctorate in Law from National University of Ireland – Galway and was made a Freeman of the City of Galway, an honor previously bestowed on US Presidents John F. Kennedy and Ronald Reagan.

Also for sale with its contents was Costelloe Lodge, a 10,000 square-foot luxurious villa on about 12 acres at the confluence of the Casla river and the

coast in Rossaveal, Co. Galway. Costelloe was formerly the estate of J. Bruce Ismay, chairman of the White Star Line, owners of the Titanic.

Ismay was on the Titanic's maiden voyage but survived because of his decision to step into the small lifeboat reserved for women and children. He was officially exonerated later but was much vilified on both sides of the Atlantic and retreated to Costelloe Lodge with his family where he died in 1937. His widow stayed for a few more years before returning to London.

Costelloe Lodge was famed for salmon fishing and Ismay is said to have taken 300 salmon in a single season in the late 1920s.

EXCESS BAGGAGE
We read in an April 3 edition of *The Irish Times* that Samoa Air has become the first to charge passengers based on how much they weigh plus their baggage. New rates range from about \$1 to \$4.16 per kilogram (1 kilogram is 2.2 pounds.)

The airline's website says this is a "world first" and is the fairest system for paying to carry anything by air. "The world is now aware that charging by weight is the fairest way of paying for carriage, whether it's people, bag-

gage, freight or anything ... we might want to take or consign by air. At Samoa Air, we will do our best to ensure that every passenger is afforded the same level of comfort and travel throughout their flying experience. We want to bring back Air Travel as an enjoyable experience, where you, and your baggage will always travel together. No more excess fees are charged and no more discrimination, because as we know: a kilo is a kilo is a kilo."

Samoa Air flies Britten Norman (BN2A) series and Cessna (172) aircraft, "both of which have a proven track record with reliability and safety and are well suited to flight conditions experienced in Samoa and the South Pacific."

Hopefully, Aer Lingus will not get onto this idea or more than a few of us will be packing a whole lot lighter and seriously dieting well in advance of our flights.

BURREN FOOD TRAIL
There's much to recommend the Burren but the latest plus is the Burren Food Trail, organized by the Burren and Cliffs of Moher Geopark and the Burren Ecotourism Network.

Some of the participants include the wonderful St.

Tola organic goat cheese and The Burren Smokehouse. Every Monday until the end of October, they and 20 other area food producers will stage an event celebrating the region's landscape, produce and traditions.

Lots of highlights are planned including stargazing and barbecue at the Cliffs of Moher and food safaris. For more information, visit burrenecotourism.com/food-dining.

There was also a dining event recently at the Mulranny Park Hotel,

Co. Mayo, to celebrate the Greenway Gourmet Trail's second birthday.

The hotel is a former Great Southern (only the facade was preserved in renovations) and was a pivotal spot along the Great Western Railway that ran from 1895 to 1937 from Westport to Achill Island. The hotel closed in 1990, about 60 years after the railway, but was purchased and completely renovated in 2003.

In July, 2010, thanks to great cooperation from landowners along the 42km trail, The Great Western Greenway opened. The trail is the longest of its kind in Ireland and immediately became immensely popular with runners, walkers, cyclists, and now with "foodies."

The Gourmet Greenway was organized by the Mulranny Park Hotel to encourage visitors to explore local food and learn how that food is produced.

For more information visit mulrannyparkhotel.ie/gourmet-greenway.

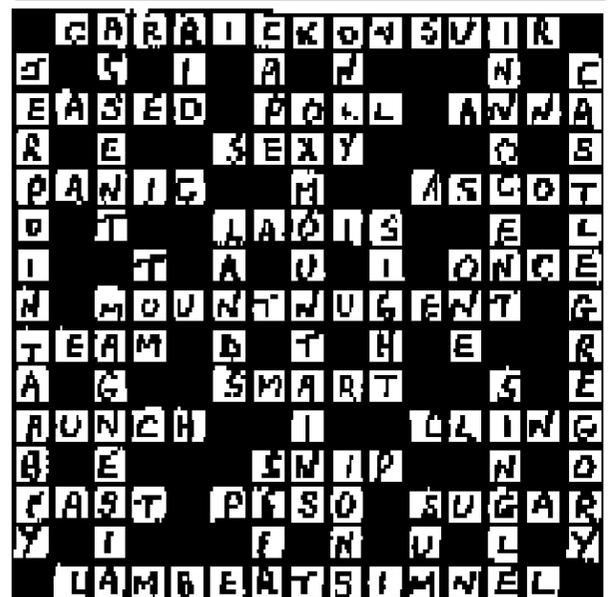
EVENTS
From now through the end of August, you can tour the amazing Doolin Cave and also take in a show called "Sense of Ireland in Song and Story" with Gerry Howard and Kate Daly. In conjunction with Tourism Ireland's Gathering, the shows are offered June 6, 13, 20 and 27, and weekly in July and August. For more information, visit doolincave.ie.

Ballinrobe's races are on and Tuesday, June 25, is Ladies Day at the Co. Mayo track. Races are also set for July 22 and 23, August 12 and 27 and Sept. 24. For more, visit ballinroberacecourse.ie.

Looking for a night out in the Shannon area? How about a Medieval banquet at Bunratty (reservations required for all) Dunguaire Castle in Kinvara or Knappogue near Quin. There's also a traditional Irish night at the corn barn in Bunratty Folk Park at 7 (reservations also required.) Also check out the Irish House Party in Dublin for a good night out.

Enjoy Ireland whenever and wherever you go. For the best deals on air and land packages, visit your favorite travel agent or shop online.

PUZZLE SOLUTION FROM PAGE 22



The Irish Language

by Philip Mac AnGhabhann

Did you realize that the Sears-Roebuck brand name "Kenmore" is Irish – **Ceann Mór**, "Great Number One" or "Top of the Line". **Ceann** literally means "head" but can be used in many ways, perhaps the widest variety of translations of **nouns** in the whole Irish language.

In counting ordinal numbers, "first", "second", "third", and so on, "first" is an **cheann**. Any Irish dictionary will give you translations for **ceann** as "head", "first", "roof", "end", "after" and many more. **Chéad** means "each" so an **chéad cheann**, "first" is literally "the one at the head of the line."

It is time again both to review and to introduce some new material. Do you remember how to make comparisons – **comparative** and **superlative**? Sure you do. Fore we review these we will introduce one other which we shall call **equative** because both "things" or "persons" being compared are "equal."

Equative comparisons in English use the structure "as ... as". An example is "Nora is *as big as* Mary." In other words, they are *equal* in size. The Irish **adjective** goes between **chomh** /huh/ and **le**. In Irish this sentence is **Tá Nóra chomh mór le Máirí** /tah NOH-ruh huh moor leh MAH-ree/. Here the **adjective** is always in its basic "dictionary" form even when comparing two **nouns** that you know are both **feminine**.

If you want to say something like, "Nora is as big as you" (Really, "Nora is as big as you are" in proper English but we'll stick with colloquial American.) Then you have to combine **le** with a **personal pronoun**. In this case **tú**, "you" – **Tá Nóra chomh mór leat** /tah NOH-ruh huh moor leh/.

Adjectives that begin with a **vowel** must prefix an **h** to keep the **chomh** /huh/ from combining with the descriptive word – **chomh hard le** /huh hard leh/, "as tall as" and **chomh hálainn le** /huh HAH-leen leh/, "as beautiful as."

Here is something new. How to say, "mine", "yours" and so on.

In the case of **Comparatives** one can say "Your room is as big as my room" **Tá do sheomra chomh mór le mo sheomra**. Or you can simply say, "Your room is as big as mine" **Tá do sheomra chomh le mó cheannsa**. Here **mo cheannsa** – with the addition of the emphatic suffix **-sa** – is almost untranslatable. The closest one can come is "my thing" which is finally translated as "mine."

So, here is something new. How to say, "mine", "yours" and so on.

"mine"	mo cheannsa	"ours"	ar gceannsa
"your"	do cheannsa	"yours"	bhur gceannsa
"his"	a cheannsa	"theirs"	a gceannsa
"hers"	a ceannsa		

Some speakers will put an **-n** on the ending of "his", **a cheansan**. **Bhur**, "Your – plural", is usually shortened to **'ur** /oor/ -- **'ur gceannsa**. Notice that the regular rules for **Possessive Pronouns** apply here – "my", "your", and "his" **lenite** (aspirate) most initial consonants except **l**, **n**, and **r**. "Hers" does not. All the **plurals** all "**eclipse**" initial consonants. This will vary depending on the word and the place but for **ceann** in rapid speech and in written Irish the following is essential:

ceann	sounds like /Kyawn/
ceannsa	/KyAWN-suh/
cheann	sounds like /Hyawn/
cheannsa	/HyAWN-suh/
gceann	sounds like /Gyawn/
gceannsa	/GyAWN-suh/

Now you can make "**equative comparisons**", we will move on to **comparisons** that are "not equal". You will recall these but for new readers we must review.

To form the comparative and superlative in Irish, simply use the structures:

Comparative: **n** + **os** + Adjective in Comparative Form:

Tá mo mhac níos aidre do cheanna.

"My son is taller than yours."

Superlative: **le** + Adjective in Comparative Form:

Tá mo mhac le airde.

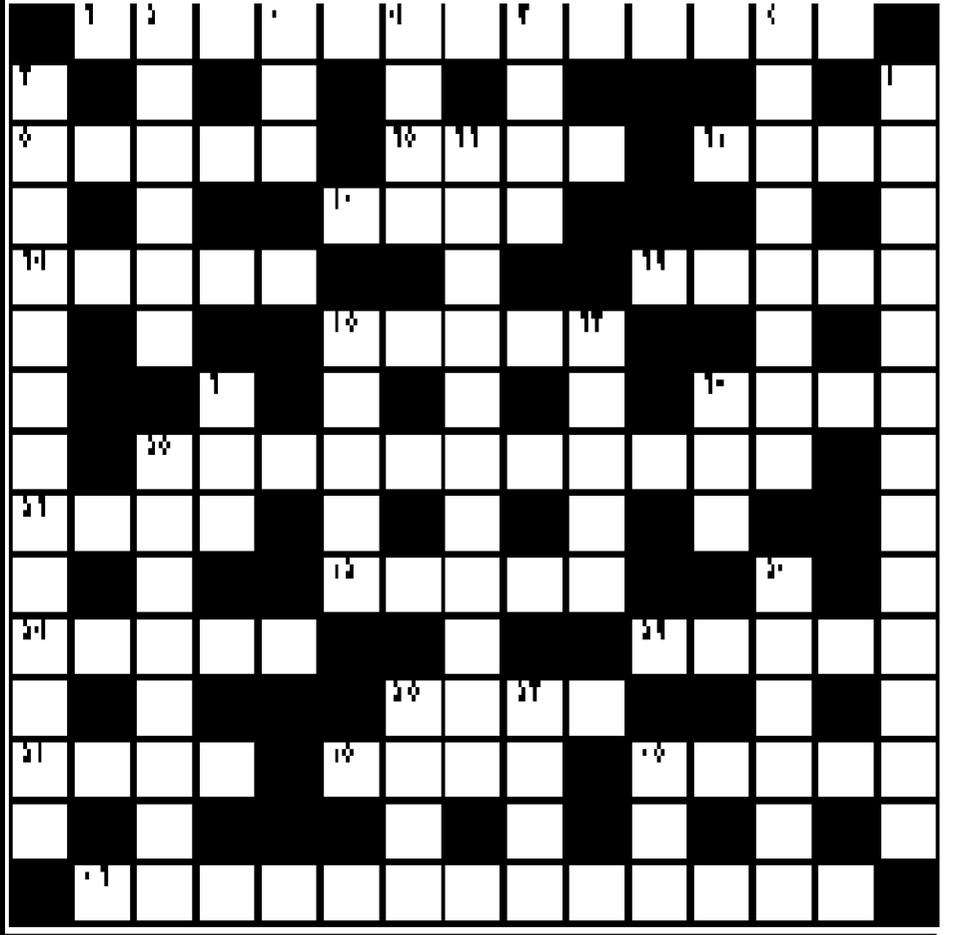
"My son is the tallest."

A reminder: the **-o-** in **níos** is there to remind you that the **-s** is to be pronounced /s/ but not /sh/. **Níos** is /nees/.

Similarly, when Irish adds an **-e** to **ard**, it changes the pronunciation of the **-d-** to a /j/. Therefore, Irish spelling reminds you of this "right up from T" by inserting a "silent **-i-**" to remind you of this. In the next column we will review the formation of adjectives in the **Comparative/Superlative Forms**. We will also review the irregular adjectives that that you already have and give you a few more.

CELTIC CROSS WORDS

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



IRELAND IN CROSSWORDS ©-bigwood.com

ACROSS

1. Circa Ruskin or thereabouts in busy Waterford/Tipperary town, once the seat of the Ormondes. (7-2-4)
9. See Da about things having got less difficult. (5)
10. Vote received with zero latitude apparently. (4)
12. "Yes, of course, we all know -- Livia. Tell me all. Tell me now." "Joyce" (4)
13. Port Laoise xylophone with hidden erotic meaning. (4)
14. Cap in bits so lose one's cool in the manner of a Greek god. (5)
15. A Caledonian racecourse? No, it's English, and Royal in June! (5)
16. A soil erosion in Irish county whose chief town was once called Maryborough. (5)
19. It happened on a single occasion in the past in Dungannon certainly. (4)
20. Nutmeg to nun sent astray in Cavan village near Lough Sheelin and the O'Reilly's Ross Castle. (5,6)
21. They work together and mince meat (in the Aer Lingus company?) (4)
22. Southern cattle fair is well turned out. (5)
24. Get together and have cake before church, shortly. (5)
25. Hold on tightly to a hundred fish. (5)
26. Pins up the tailor's cut. (4)
28. Cardinal seen in Castlereagh street. (4)
29. Different pose taken over the counter in Mexico. (4)
30. Rag us about getting a sweetener. (5)
31. Tall members in wrangle to see Pretender who was crowned Edward VI in Dublin in 1487. (7,6)

DOWN

2. Give permission to appear in Tyrrellspass entertainment. (6)
3. Made free of right before 499 in Cahir, ideally. (3)
4. Headland to pace around. (4)
5. "There is -- one thing in the world worse than being talked about, and that is not being talked about." Oscar Wilde (4)
6. "The --- and the beautiful have no enemy but time." Yeats (of Eva Gore Booth and Con Markiewicz.) (8)

7. Piety no jabber. (anag.) famous Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny, monastic ruin founded in 1158 by Donagh MacGillpatrick, King of Ossory. (8,5)
8. E.g. sorry cat leg is broken in Kerry village near to Magharee isles between Brandon and Tralee Bays. (13)
11. No man out, six put up in rolling heights between Mayo and Sligo, south of Enniscrone. (2,9)
16. Comes to earth, in Shannon, maybe? (5)
17. This came up about note, what a vision. (5)
18. Given a start, this cat would be very tiny and elemental. (3)
19. Ring north east for the number. (3)
20. Antacid confused as in game. (8)
23. Unmarried, like 19 down. (6)
26. Prophet is in Fairyhouse erroneously. (4)
27. Is including small back number; they are charged in Delphi on Sunday. (4)
30. I am in ancient Rome as a result of addition. (3)

CROSSWORD SOLUTION ON PAGE 21

Irish Sayings

Theres no need to fear the wind if your haystacks are tied down.
A trout in the pot is better than a salmon in the sea.
It's better to bend than to break.
A ship often sank beside the harbour
Food is the "horse" of work.
Character is better than wealth.
If you have a ship and a cargo, you'll get the right wind.
"There is no luck except where there is discipline."
There are no strangers: Only friends we have yet to meet.
When you are right no one remembers; when you are wrong no one forgets.
A good start is half the work.
God's help is nearer than the door.
A closed hand only gets a clenched fist.
It's better to be sure, than to be lost.

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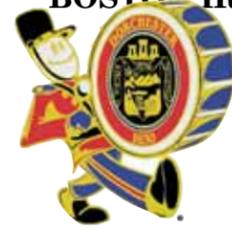


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DOT DAY '13



COMPLETE GUIDE TO SUNDAY'S PARADE • JUNE 2 • 1 P.M.

Official Dorchester Day Parade Roster

This roster is printed as an informational guide only. The parade line up is subject to change by the committee at any time.



ADVANCE UNIT

Boston Fire Department
Boston Emergency Medical Services
Brewster Ambulance
McCall Ambulance
Eascare Ambulance

CHIEF MARSHAL'S DIVISION

Mayor Thomas M. Menino & Family
Dorchester Day Parade Chief Marshals 1963-2012
Boston Police Gaelic Column
Transit Police Honor Guard
Chelsea Soldiers Home Honor Guard
National Lancers
Community Academy of Science & Health - JROTC
English High School Army - JROTC
Cub Scout Pack 11 - Mather School
5th Mass Battery
Disabled American Veterans
Vietnamese American Community of MA
Westbrook Drum Corps
2013 Mayor of Dorchester - Kelly Butts
Spartans Drum & Bugle Corps
2013 Little Miss Dorchester - Rachel Christopher
2013 Young Miss Dorchester - Adrianna Bravo
2013 Artist Competition Winners -

Adaeze Wogu & Anna Nguyen
2013 Essay Competition Winners -
Richard Tran & Jeanelle Hernandez
Mrs. Massachusetts - Janelle Woods-McNish
State Championship Basketball Team -
Richard J. Murphy School
Boston Gaelic Fire Brigade
Boston Fire Museum
Ms. Silver / Ms. American Tropical Beauty of MA -
Sondra Hardy
Dynasty Productions Inc.

1ST DIVISION

Boston City Councilor - Frank Baker
Tony Barrie Marching Band
Dorchester Arts Collaborative
City Councilor At-Large (President) - Stephen Murphy
Christ the Rock Church
Massachusetts Nurses Assoc. Region 5
Mayoral Candidate - City Councilor Felix Arroyo
Estrellas Tropicales
Vietnamese American Initiative for Development
(Viet Aid)
Mayoral Candidate - City Councilor John Connolly
Worcester Brass Band
Let's Get Ready

Dorchester Collegiate Academy
Mayoral Candidate - City Councilor Robert Consalvo
Nigerian American Community Organization Inc.
Carney Hospital
Fields Corner Main Street
Century 21 - Cahill Associates
City Councilor At-Large Ayanna Pressley
Kenny School Marching Band
Fields Corner Children - Thrive
Mayoral Candidate - City Councilor Charles Yancey
105.7 WROR
Pilgrim Church
Mayoral Candidate - City Councilor Mike Ross
Phillips Family Hospitality

2ND DIVISION

Suffolk County Sheriff - Steven Tompkins
Roma Band
All Dorchester Sports League (ADSL)
Dorchester Avenue Donuts Inc. - Dunkin Donuts
Dorchester Community Food Co-op
MA State Senator-Elect Linda Dorcea Forry
Trinidad & Tobago Social Club of Boston Inc.
Dorchester Board of Trade
James Massone / The Voice - H. Levenbaum Insurance
Mayoral Candidate - State Representative Marty Walsh
Firehouse Dixie
Meeting House Hill Reunion
Dorchester Recycling Coalition
Standish Village Assisted Living
Mayoral Candidate - District Attorney Dan Conley
Uncle Sam Jazz Band
DotOut
Uphams Corner Health Center / Elder Service Plan
State Representative - Nick Collins
Black Diamond Dance and Twirl
Veterans for Peace
Empowerment Christian Church
Patsy's Clowns
Saint Brendan Color Guard
Vietnamese American Small Business Assn. of MA
(VASBAM)
Dorchester Lacrosse

3RD DIVISION

City Council At-Large Candidate - Anissa Essaibi-George
New Liberty Jazz Band
Big Sister Assn. of Greater Boston
& Big Brother Big Sister Found.
City Council At-Large Candidate - Michael Flaherty
Roberto Clemente 21 Dancers
Dorchester People for Peace
Mayoral Candidate - Charlotte Golar Richie
Providence Brass Band
Samaritans Inc.
Mayoral Candidate - Bill Walczak
Dotwell - Dorchester House & Codman Sq. Health Center
Dorchester YMCA
City Council At-Large Candidate - Michelle Wu
New England North Minority Pathfinders
Mayoral Candidate - John Barros
Worcester Sound & Lights Military Band Organ
MacLellan Law Firm
Lt. Governor Candidate - Steve Kerrigan
92.9 WBOS
Cluster of Clowns
Kit Clark Senior Services
Bay Cove Human Services
City Council At-Large Candidate - Jeffrey Ross
DJ3Way Entertainment
Dorchester Youth Soccer
City Council At-Large Candidate - Martin Keogh
Boston Windjammers
City Council At-Large Candidate - Jack Kelly III
Avenue Auto Wholesalers
Mayoral Candidate - Charles Clemons
Cycling Murray's

Happy Dorchester Day from the Dorchester Day Parade Committee

This year we honor as our Chief Marshal all former Chief Marshals from 1963-2012
We also congratulate our 2013

Mayor of Dorchester Kelly Butts



Kelly Butts



Rachel Christopher



Adrianna Bravo

Little Miss Dorchester - Rachel Christopher

Young Miss Dorchester - Adrianna Bravo

Essay Contest Winner - Richard Tran - Neighborhood House Charter School

Essay Contest Winner - Jeanelle Hernandez - Lilla G. Frederick Pilot Middle

Art Contest Winner - Adaeze Wogu - RJ Murphy School

Art Contest Winner - Anna Nguyen - RJ Murphy School

PARADE COMMITTEE

Marty Hogan, President
Joe Zinck, Vice President
Ed Geary Jr., Parade Clerk
Mary DeMarino, Secretary
Chris Isabelle-Hogan, Treasurer
George Hacunda, Historian
Dick Bennett, Historian
Karen MacNutt, Judge Advocate
Joe Chaisson, At-Large Member
Christine Hogan

Jill Cahill Baker
Ruth Brown
Kelly Butts
Sally Cahill
Tony Dang
Caroline Cahill Delano
Kim Kostka Delano
Jean Cahill Donovan
Anissa George
Barbra Trybe

Marie Marshall
Binh Nguyen
Diane Huynh
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Peter Sasso
John Scannell
Pam Smith
Lisa Zinck

We want to thank all of those who helped out with fundraisers for the parade and those who work throughout the year to put the parade on the street. *Especially our parade sponsors.*

EVENT SPONSORS: Corcoran Jennison, Massachusetts Convention Center Authority, Feeney Brothers, UMass Boston, Plumbers and Gasfitters Local 12, The Dorchester Reporter, The Boston Globe, H. Levenbaum Insurance, Mt. Washington Bank

PARADE WEBSITE: www.DotDayParade.com

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