

Irish Pastoral Centre Newsletter



"We are a Parish without Boundaries."

*Serving the Greater Boston
Irish Community since 1987*

Irish Musician Seán Keane Visits Deer Island

By John Christoffersen

Irish musician Seán Keane has long been fascinated by Irish immigration and its impact on the world. On his latest concert tour in the United States, he received a close-up look at the pain of immigration. Keane visited Deer Island, where sick immigrants escaping the Irish Famine faced quarantine when they arrived in Boston. A Celtic cross monument built by volunteers in 2019 is dedicated to 850 people who died and were buried on Deer Island between 1847 and 1850. "To be standing here so close to their final destination and can you imagine the site for them people after making the grueling journey across the Atlantic in ships who were barely able to keep afloat and then to arrive here and to be looking across at Boston and not being able to get there," Keane said. "It's hard to even imagine. Tough, tough times. Sad times."



Read More on Page 3



Boston & New England Rose of Tralee Contestant

We are so proud to invite you to join us in celebrating the first
Irish Pastoral Centre's Boston & New England Rose of Tralee
Contestant, our 'Little Rose'

Róisín Lee



Ard-Chonsalacht na hÉireann | Bostún
Consulate General of Ireland | Boston



Government of Ireland
Emigrant Support Programme



An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

IPC News Desk

Dear Friends,

The sun is shining and the GAA season returns to IPC while we all prepare to support our lovely Róisín on Saturday May 17th at the Irish Cultural Center, Canton where she will compete in the New England Rose of Tralee selection night. We all wish her the very best of luck!

Our IPC Marathon team crossed the finish line once again on our behalf raising \$14000.00 for our support services. We extend our sincere appreciation to our team Mary Nevin and Dana Lawson for their commitment and extraordinary results.

We had some great visitors this month including members of the Garda Síochána from Donegal who won a great match against Donegal Boston in Canton. The legendary Seán Keane dropped in for a song and a chat. As Ambassador to Safe Home Ireland, an initiative for people returning to Ireland, Seán spoke about the challenges of returning while we extended our appreciation for supporting our community.

We welcomed Pope John Paul II Catholic Academy 1st grade students and high school students from Belmont Hill. This is an initiative led by Andrea and Kathy where young students are introduced to our culture, our Board member Phil Carver facilitated a wonderful and uplifting meeting with the Mayor of Derry - Strabane Cllr Lillian Seenori Barr and Donegal County Councillor and Cathaoirleach Niamh Kennedy. It was lovely to also welcome Denise McCool from the Inishowen Development Partnership who fondly recalled her time in Boston at the Irish Immigrant Center.

On Saturday May 3rd, we gathered in darkness and walked until sunrise at Pope John Paul Park to support the Kevin Bell foundation who repatriate deceased Irish citizens to Ireland from all over the world.

As we welcome the month of May, an annual highlight for us is Our Mothers Day lunch at the Centre hosted by Board members Angela Bergin and Della Costello. It's a great afternoon for all who attend our weekly Senior programs with lunch catered by Greenhills Bakery and music from Mossie Coughlin.

We also look forward to welcoming our J1 students from Ireland and we hope that they all have a wonderful experience in Boston. Finally, please save the date of Saturday June 7th at 11am as we return to Deer Island for our annual Famine memorial Mass.

Our thanks as always for all you do to support us along the way.
Mind yourselves, Mary



Welcome Dr Lucey

We were delighted to welcome Dr Siobhan Lucey, Economist and President of University College Cork Women's Network (Mná@UCC). This voluntary organization supports the professional and personal development of women. It provides a forum in which women can develop professional and personal contacts to ensure that their contribution and influence is recognized as a vital force in business and in society. We were delighted to present our work here at the Centre and it was interesting to learn of Dr Lucy's research who is clearly driven by an incredibly strong sense of justice. A recent winner of Network Ireland's Cork Business woman of the year, Siobhan is described as a worthy winner influencing sustainable change in a very large organization in a strategic manner across a range of challenges. What an inspiring lady!

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Contact Amy at aocarroll@ipcboston.org or Call the IPC 617-265-5300

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IPC News Desk

Continued from Front Page....

During the visit to Deer Island, Keane was accompanied by a delegation from the Irish Pastoral Centre. John McColgan, an IPC board member and retired archivist for the city of Boston, gave a talk on the history of Deer Island. After the shocking news of the Famine reached Boston, \$150,000 was quickly raised in one fundraiser alone to provide relief to the starving Irish, McColgan said. A ship brought 800 tons of food and supplies to Cobh in County Cork, he said. With facilities in Boston overrun by people with highly contagious typhus, the City Council decided to place sick immigrants on Deer Island away from the city. Two city officials inspected each ship, with the sick sent to a hospital on the island and the other passengers brought to the city, McColgan said. If people became sick on the mainland, they would be shipped back to Deer Island, McColgan said. A burial ground was located behind the hospital, he said, pointing to a map marked "dead house" which was a shed where coffins were made. Keane also visited the Irish Pastoral Centre on March 28, singing "Isle of Hope Isle of Tears." Keane has won numerous awards, including Best Male Folk Performer three times from Irish Music Magazine. All of his solo albums are platinum sellers. His visit to the IPC was part of his work as ambassador to Safe Home Ireland since 2020. Safe Home Ireland is an Irish emigrant support service that provides a range of services for immigrants who want to move back to Ireland, including help with housing, drivers licenses and access to medical care. The organization has helped repatriate about 2,300 people since its founding 22 years ago, Keane said.



"They just have the know-how and wherewithal to be able to make things happen for people who want to move back to Ireland or need any kind of assistance," Keane said. "They do amazing work and I think it's very important work. Having met some of the people that they helped it's been life changing for them." Keane raises awareness of Safe Home Ireland at his concerts and asked people to consider donating to the organization. Keane traces his interest in the work to decades ago when he emigrated for a few years to London. He met older Irish immigrants who endured loneliness and isolation as they worked on motorways and slept in pipes used for bridges on the job sites. Singing songs about immigration was a further education. "I've been singing immigration songs all my life so that's a great history lesson," Keane said. "As you're learning the songs you're learning a new story in history of Irish immigration and sure the whole tradition in music revolves around immigration because it's such a large part of being Irish."



Thank you to our Marathon Team!

For almost 20 years the Boston Marathon has been a vital source of funding for the Centre's support services. Our Social work and case management programs have grown exponentially and the marathon funds are a major support for direct aid in housing and food insecurity. We are most grateful to our team, including this year's runners Mary and Dana as they surpassed our target this year. We know that many of you supported our runners! Your support makes an enormous difference for many! Go raibh míle maith agaibh go léir! We also celebrate and congratulate all runners across the Boston Irish community who ran very worthy causes!

GAA SPORTS QUIZ ANSWERS:

1. 2007, 2. 1992, 3. Down, 4. Sarsfields, 5. 1986, 6. UCD, 7. 1973, 8. 1973, 9. 1980, 10. 1992

**THIS PAGE IS SPONSORED BY
IPC BUCBLE BEE KNITTERS**



IPC News Desk

IPC Visit from An Garda Síochána



We were delighted to welcome members of An Garda Síochána Donegal's football team who competed and won in the Donegal Boston GAA football tournament in Canton. They enjoyed a full Irish Breakfast provided by Adam's Butcher Shop. The team formed over 30 years ago, and had previously travelled to New York to play Gaelic Football. It was wonderful to hear about their time in Boston. you can read more about the Blitz on page 30.

An Inspiring Story

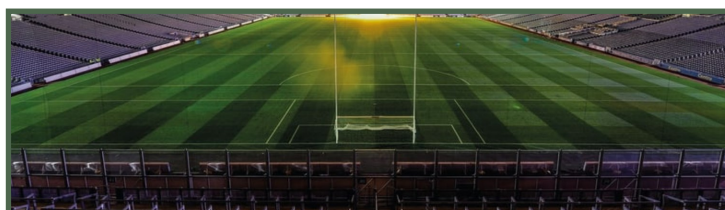


We were delighted to welcome the Honorable Mayor of Derry -Strabane Lilian Seenoi Barr, a prominent Kenyan Irish political and community activist known for her commitment to social justice, equality, and human rights. Born in Kenya, Lilian's early life was shaped by the challenges and inequities she observed in her Maasai community, sparking a passion for advocacy that would guide her life's work. Along with Donegal County Councillor and Cathaoirleach Niamh Kennedy, we were impressed at their groundbreaking work in collaborating with UMass Boston in expanding global engagement and commitment to community impact. During their visit both were awarded honorary doctorates in civic leadership, community engagement, and cross-border collaboration.

Thank you Lucky Shamrock!



The IPC is very grateful to The Lucky Shamrock in Quincy who generously donated lots of Easter goodies to the centre this month, which we were delighted to distribute across those who attended our events and programs!



GAA GAMES CONTINUE AT THE IPC!

The IPC will show the Hurling and football Championship quarter finals, semi finals and finals. More details to follow on our Facebook page or call the IPC at 617-265-5300.

All are welcome.

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IPC News Desk

Blood Mobile returns!

We were thrilled to welcome Boston Children's Hospital back to the IPC for a blood drive. The event saw an incredible turnout, with 40 generous donors participating. Thank you to the community who came out for such an important cause, as each unit can help up to 4 pediatric patients at Children's Hospital. For anyone interested in donating blood, we hope to host another drive this year. Keep up an eye for more updates on our social media and in our newsletter!



For more info about other blood drives, contact the Blood Donor Center directly at 617-355-6677.

Clothing Drive Success!

Thank you to all who donated clothing to the centre for the Friends of St. Brendan's (FOSB) recent drive. Led by John Parsons (FOSB) and Gabe Parsons (Homeless Advocate Coordinator, Boston Public Health Commission), in seven weeks, 514 bags were collected—creating temporary jobs and helping city shelters, sober homes, and shelters for mothers and babies.



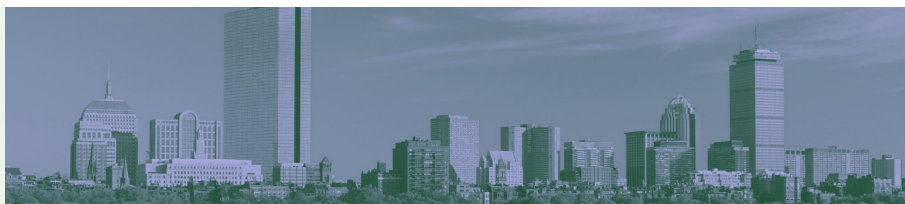
Welcome J1 Summer Students!

We have received emails and messages from students who are interested in spending Summer 2025 in Boston. Students can access our J1 guide from www.ipcboston.org/J1 which has lots of helpful information on settling into life in Boston, finding jobs and accommodation.

For all J1 Queries reach out to:
j1@ipcboston.org

We are also delighted to announce that we will host our 2025 J1 orientation here at the IPC on June 10th. Save the date!

In collaboration with The Consulate of Ireland Boston, Boston GAA and Rian Immigrant Center, this event provides important insight and safety reminders for the student's time in Boston. J1s will also be able to open their bank accounts and meet other J1 students!



THE IRISH PASTORAL CENTRE

WELCOMES 2025 J1 SUMMER STUDENTS



Tues. June 10th, 3-5PM

Join us at The IPC for our annual J1 Orientation. This will be a highly informative event where students can meet each other, get to learn about our culture, open bank accounts, switch phones to a USA network, and much more!

For more info/ RSVP email J1@ipcboston.org

📍 The Irish Pastoral Center, 540 Gallivan Blvd, Rear, Dorchester, MA 02124



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Consulate General of Ireland



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ANSEO LE CHÉILE - HERE TOGETHER

THIS PAGE IS IN MEMORY OF MICHAEL McDONAGH

NEWS FROM OUR SENIOR PROGRAM

Hello Friends -

Goodbye Winter and hello Spring! In April, seniors enjoyed educational, health and fun filled activities at the weekly coffees. Boston and Weymouth Fire Departments presented on Fire Education, Safety and Prevention. We thank the Departments for providing our Coffee groups with this important information. This month our seniors will participate in exercise and Yoga classes to help keep them healthy and active. Enjoyable Games of BINGO, Trivia, and Right/Left/Center will keep seniors laughing.

We're especially excited for our upcoming **Mother's Day Lunch on May 8th at the Irish Pastoral Centre**, and we look forward to celebrating this special occasion with all of our wonderful seniors!

Beyond our regular weekly coffee gatherings, we continue to collaborate with elder care agencies to provide important resources for seniors and their caregivers. One such resource is the SHINE Program. Through IPC, a SHINE Counselor is available to offer free Medicare-related health insurance counseling and information. We also partner with Boston Senior Home Care to connect caregivers with supportive services. Please don't hesitate to contact our office if you or someone you know could benefit from these services.

We welcome all seniors to join our weekly coffees in Brighton, Dorchester, West Roxbury and Weymouth. Please call our office for additional information. Happy Spring!

QUICK TIPS!

CONSIDERING USA CITIZENSHIP?

If you are contemplating becoming a USA Citizen and have questions, please call Niamh at 617 265 5300. We have some great resources to share!

IS YOUR USA PASSPORT IN DATE?

For international travel, many countries require your U.S. passport to be valid for at least six months beyond the date of your intended stay, and some airlines may refuse boarding if this requirement isn't met.

IRISH PASSPORTS

IPC can assist Irish citizens with their Irish passport first time application and/or renewals. This only applies to Irish Citizens. Call Niamh at the office for more information.

REAL ID

Effective May 7th 2025, the enhanced version of a drivers license or Mass ID takes effect to meet the new Federal Standard for ID's. Your standard license will no longer be accepted for federal purposes including travel throughout the United States. For any questions regarding applying for a REAL ID reach out to the IPC 617-265-5300. There is also more info on page 15.



SHINE Appointments Available at IPC

The SHINE Program provides free health insurance information, counseling, and assistance to people who are eligible for Medicare and their caregivers. Individual counseling is available at the IPC by appointment. If this is something that may benefit you, call the IPC at 617-265-5300 for more info.




THIS PAGE IS SPONSORED KATHI SULLIVAN

COFFEE GROUP CALENDAR



IPC MAY 2025 Coffee Group Calendar

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
			1 Crossroads Café: 1-3PM Exercise w/ Eileen Smith	2
5 NO PROGRAMS RUNNING	6 NO PROGRAMS RUNNING	7 NO PROGRAMS RUNNING	8 MOTHER'S DAY AT THE IPC	9
12 Cara Club: 1-3PM YOGA W/Deirdre Kelly	13 Young at Heart: 1-3PM YOGA W/Deirdre Kelly	14 Café Éireann: 11AM-1PM YOGA W/Deirdre Kelly	15 Crossroads Café: 1-3PM Left, Right, Centre	16
19 Cara Club: 1-3PM Boston FD Fire Education	20 Young at Heart: 1-3PM Left, Right, Centre	21 Café Éireann: 11AM-1PM TRIVIA	22 Crossroads Café: 1-3PM TRIVIA	23
26 IPC CLOSED  MEMORIAL DAY	27 Young at Heart: 1-3PM BINGO	28 Café Éireann: 11AM-1PM BINGO	29 Crossroads Café: 1-3PM BINGO	

Cara Club:
Monday, 1-3pm,
Veronica Senior
Center, 20 Chestnut
Ave, Brighton MA,
02135

Young at Heart:
Tuesdays, 1-3pm,
St. Jerome's,
632 Bridge St,
Weymouth, MA,
02191

Cafe Éireann:
Wednesdays, 11am-1pm,
The Irish Pastoral Centre,
540 Gallivan Blvd. (REAR),
Dorchester, MA,
02124

Crossroads Café:
Thursdays, 1-3pm,
Crossroads Café: St.
John Chrysostom,
4750 Washington St,
West Roxbury, MA.

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JOE WALSH

Fr. Dan's Page



The Gift of the Earth

Greg Erlandson



Creation is God's tremendous gift to us, designed for our human flourishing. Yet, today, we see signs of destruction and pollution all about us. While many of us so far are protected from the worst of this damage by air conditioning and other modern comforts, hundreds of millions of our brothers and sisters are suffering from the impacts of environmental degradation. Pope Francis issued a stark warning in his encyclical **"On Care for Our Common Home."** **The earth "cries out to us because of the harm we have inflicted on her."** he writes (Laudato Si, 2). **"The earth was here before us and has been given to us." It is our duty to "protect the earth and to ensure its fruitfulness for coming generations"** (IS, 67). God's gift to Noah and his sons remains a gift for us today, proof of a Creator who delights in us and our world's beauty and diversity.

Father, help me to see the natural world as a gift we must protect.

The Sign of the Cross

Fr. James McKarns



When we make the **Sign of the Cross**, it is good to remember that it is more than a routine to begin and end a prayer. It is a prayer in itself-a very profound one.

This is a visible sign that we profess our faith in the existence of the Holy Trinity. It is a mini liturgy, that is, saying and doing something religiously. The Trinity, along with many other teachings by Jesus, are mysteries. However, these are not mysteries to be solved but, rather, to be celebrated as they are revealed to us by God. May we pray this Sign of the Cross reverently, affirming our faith in the intimate closeness of a loving God. **Touching our fingertips to the head, we acknowledge our Father and Creator. Then, with our hand over the heart, we remember Jesus' love for us. Tapping each shoulder, we ask the Holy Spirit to energize and guide our good works.**

Trust, Not Tests

Steve Givens

You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test. LUKE 4:12

I remember times when I certainly put God to the test. When I was fighting my way through cancer and chemo, I tried to make some bargains: "Get me through this, God, and I'll serve you for the rest of my life!" Even if "trench prayers" uttered when we are under attack, have been prayed throughout the ages, and no doubt many lives have been transformed by them. But God asks more of us than that. The kind of faith to which we are called might be described as **"even-if" faith.**

Even if we don't get well, **even if** God doesn't give us what we think we need and deserve, **even if** our lives can seem like drudgeries or failures, **we will serve you, Lord.** We will love you, O God. We will place you at the **center of our lives** and the loss until our **dying breaths,** no matter the pain, the suffering.

Only you, O God. Even if.



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In Loving Memory

We remember those in our community who have recently passed away. Our thoughts and prayers and with all the bereaved families, and we hope that in time lovely memories will surround them. Eternal rest grant unto them oh lord, and let your perpetual light shine upon them. May they Rest in Peace & Rise in Glory

March 23rd, Michael Naughton, Randolph, Oughterard, Co. Galway

March 24th, Margaret "Peg" (Martyn) Flynn E. Bridgewater, Dorchester, Co. Galway

March 29th, Mary M. (Burke) Carre, Dorchester, Co. Galway

April 2nd, Michael Keren McDonough, Dorchester/Hull, Co. Galway

April 4th, Michael "Mikey" Hyland Boston, Co. Galway

April 19th Anne M Lehane Braintree, Co. Tipperary

April 20th Mari Bartholmew Quincy, Dublin, Mallow and Dundalk

April 20th James O Leary West Roxbury, Co. Cork

In your hands, O Lord,
we humbly entrust
our brothers and sisters.

In this life
you embraced them
with your tender love;
deliver them now
from every evil
and bid them eternal rest.

The old order
has passed away:
welcome them into paradise,
where there will be no sorrow,
no weeping or pain,
but fullness of peace and joy
with your Son and the Holy Spirit
forever and ever.

Amen.

Kerry GAA great Mick O'Dwyer dies aged 88



The Waterville native won four All-Irelands with Kerry as a player before taking over as manager and establishing the county as the game's dominant force in the 1970s and '80s. O'Dwyer's Kerry side lifted Sam Maguire eight times in 12 seasons. GAA president Jarlath Burns said O'Dwyer would go down as "one of the greatest of all time. He will be remembered as an outstanding manager, motivator and mentor. While it is a sad day, it is also an opportunity to reflect on somebody who really changed the way we think of a manager's role with a team. His achievements are incredible." O'Dwyer also had a hand in 23 Munster titles and 11 National League titles during his more than three decades involved with his native county. He stepped down from Kerry in 1989 and went on to manage Kildare, Laois, Wicklow and Clare. With Kildare, he won a pair of Leinster championships and took the county to the All-Ireland final of 1998, their first since 1935, where they were beaten by Galway. He would add another Leinster title with Laois in 2003, the county's first in 57 years, and won the Tommy Murphy Cup with Wicklow.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis - May his gentle soul rest in peace

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IPC COMMUNITY NEWS

Dancing in Dublin!

Congratulations to all the Boston Irish dancers, their families and teachers who travelled to compete amongst others from all corners of the World Oireachtas Rince na Cruinne 2025 in Dublin and we are so proud of all who qualified!

Photo: Aidan Hurff of O'Shea Chaplin Academy of Irish Dance placed 3rd in the senior men's championship at World Oireachtas Rince na Cruinne 2025 for the 4th consecutive year.



Kiss the Blarney Stone in Porter Square!

Congratulations to musicians Tommy and Louise on opening their third pub/restaurant in Porter Square – McCarthys and Toad. Like the Burren in Somerville and the Beebop in Boston, there will be live music daily, pub fare and vegan menus. Apparently and according to wickedlocal.com “Tommy McCarthy said he's a descendant of Dermot McCarthy, who constructed the Blarney Castle in 1446 where the iconic stone wall is located.

He brought some of the stone back with him from a recent visit to the Blarney's quarry in Ireland.



Real ID Takes Effect



IMPORTANT NOTE: Effective May 7th 2025, the enhanced version of a drivers license or Mass ID takes effect to meet the new Federal Standard for ID's. If you are travelling domestically after May 7th, you will need your updated license OR your American passport or passport card. The new Mass Real ID has a star in the top right corner. Your standard license will no longer be accepted for federal purposes including travel throughout the United States.

See more info on page 15

-Ireland's Best Loved Entertainer-

Michael English

USA Tour 2025

Friday 23rd May
Connollys Irish Bar, New York City
 Doors 7:30 | Show 9-11pm | Tickets \$40
 121 W. 45th Street 10036
 Tickets From Eventbrite or call Pat Nee
 +1 (617) 901-6760

<p style="text-align: center;">Saturday 24th May Irish Social Club Of Boston Doors 7pm DJ 8-9pm Show 9-11pm Tickets \$40 Tickets From Eventbrite or call Pat Nee +1 (617) 901-6760</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday 25th May East Durham Memorial Day Irish Festival EMJQ Irish Cultural Centre, East Durham Tickets from www.mjqirishcentre.com</p>
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www.michaelenglish.ie

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IPC COMMUNITY NEWS

Step Back in Time at the 2nd Annual Spring Vintage Tractor & Equipment Show in Canton, MA

Boston Vintage Tractor & Machinery Association are thrilled to invite you to join us for an exciting morning at our 2nd annual spring vintage tractor and equipment show on Sunday, May 18th! A fantastic showcase of classic tractors, vintage farm equipment, antique cars and motorcycles. Hosted graciously by the Irish Cultural Centre in Canton, MA. This family-friendly gathering is the perfect opportunity to step back in time and appreciate the incredible craftsmanship and history behind these mechanical marvels. Bring the whole family and enjoy mingling with fellow enthusiasts, swapping stories, and marveling at the meticulously restored machines on display.

BOSTON VINTAGE TRACTOR AND MACHINERY ASSOCIATION



SPRING TRACTOR SHOW '25



join us at the
IRISH CULTURAL CENTRE
CANTON, MASSACHUSETTS
SUNDAY MAY 18TH 2025
FROM 9AM TO 12PM
all welcome!
contact Boston VTMA if interested in showing your
vintage tractors, equipment, cars or motorbikes
thanks to event sponsors



The Éire Society of Boston
2025 Gold Medal Dinner & Award Ceremony
Friday, May 16th
6 PM
Omni Parker Hotel



Honoring Gold Medal Award Recipient Monica McWilliams, Northern Irish academic, peace activist, human rights defender and former politician. In 1996, she co-founded the Northern Ireland Women's Coalition (NIWC) political party and was elected as a delegate at the Multi-Party Peace Negotiations, which led to the Good Friday Peace Agreement in 1998.

For more information, contact Gold Medal Dinner Committee Members:
email Cate McGrail @ cateowo@hotmail.com
Tickets are \$250.00 per person
eiresociety.org

Irish-American Dance Class

Join our class and learn to Jive together!
Come and learn all the new Jiving moves!



Every Tuesday

Starting April 15th until &
including May 20, 2025

7:00PM - 8:30PM

Milton MA

Jive * Quickstep * Waltz *
Foxtrot * Line Dance & more!

Wedding Party Lessons

Bride, Groom & Bridal
Parties

No partner or
experience required

Small Group Classes - \$15 PP Per Class. reserve your spot today

Contact Winnie: wahenry7@hotmail.com or PM Facebook.com
Irish American Dance Class to book your spot.
Venmo@irishamericandanceclass

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MG2

A Moment to Mind Yourself: Can People Change?

“My younger brother is about to lose everything. He was always a bit irresponsible at home, usually going from job to job, leaving when he didn’t like it anymore or just being fired. We were delighted when he moved in with his girlfriend last year; maybe he was finally beginning to change. We knew he liked to drink but found out about his drug use when his girlfriend came to see us. She was very upset, saying he would usually come home drunk after work, and at weekends, he rarely came home at all. He always promised her things would change, but they never did for very long. She said she loves him but is scared of him because he’s angry, aggressive, and possessive when he uses drugs. She’s just found out that she’s pregnant and he has lost another job. She’s thinking about going home to Ireland, as she’s afraid he will never change. I don’t know what to say to her, because I don’t know either. Can he change?”

It is very upsetting to see someone you love whose life seems to be falling apart. The key thing to remember is that your brother is the only one who can stop this avalanche of problems. Spring is usually a great time for renewal and hope and change is always possible. However, before someone contemplates making any kind of change, there is a theory that some may find useful to review and reflect on. It is called the “Stages of Change” model or “Transtheoretical model of change” and was developed in the late 1970’s/early 1980’s by James Prochaska and Carlo DiClemente. It was originally designed to help those who were trying to quit cigarettes. Now it is widely used to help people who have problems with alcohol and drugs. Interventions or responses to our loved one’s behavior should be adapted to the individual’s current stage to maximize engagement and progress. Being able to identify which stage of change our loved one is at can provide us and/or doctor or counselor a clue as to the best way to respond to their struggle. Below you will notice some examples of statements (in bold) that can help you identify how ready someone is to change and, in the section, below, you can see possible interventions that might help.

- **Pre-Contemplation:** “I’m not using drugs. I drink the same as anyone else! It’s you who has the problem, not me!” Individuals in this stage are not considering change and may be unaware of the need for it. Interventions at this stage focus on raising awareness and building trust. A Doctor, for example, might take time to explore their current beliefs about their substance use, provide information about the problem (medical risks especially), and emphasize the potential benefits of change. For the man in our story above, he may want

to limit any judgment, as hard as that might be, and build a trusting space so that when his brother is ready to talk about his own concerns, it will be easier.

- **Contemplation:** “There’s always a fight when I get home from the pub. I hate waking up with a hangover, but my boss was driving me crazy and I needed to relax. I’ll stop tomorrow” – but tomorrow never comes. Individuals are aware of the problem and considering change, but have mixed feelings or are ambivalent. Interventions focus on exploring the pros and cons of change, building motivation, and helping them explore options. Techniques like Motivational Interviewing can be helpful at this stage.
- **Preparation:** “That’s it! I can’t do this anymore. There has to be another way! Where can I get help? What if I can’t stop?” Individuals are actively preparing to change, setting goals, and gathering information (like finding an AA meeting to go to or scheduling a meeting with a therapist). Interventions focus on supporting their preparation, developing a plan of action, and building confidence. An example of an unhelpful intervention would be to say “there is no point in trying, you have failed many times before”.
- **Action:** “I could use a drink now, but will find an AA meeting instead.” Individuals are actively implementing the change. Interventions focus on providing support, reinforcing new behaviors (“we had so much fun with you when you were sober last night”), and identifying potential challenges. (“Maybe it’s too soon to go to your cousin’s wedding”)
- **Maintenance:** “I am bringing Mike to a meeting, because it has helped me so much.” Individuals are working to sustain the change and prevent relapse. Interventions focus on building relapse prevention strategies, reinforcing positive behaviors, and providing ongoing support. At this stage people tend to start helping other people who are struggling, like accompanying a new person to an AA meeting. Change is always possible, but we don’t have to do it alone and support is always available.

Please don’t hesitate to call us at the IPC as our Client Services team are always available for a consultation or provide more regular support. Please phone Niamh at: 617-265-5300. No one has to suffer alone or in silence.

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COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT:

Pope Francis: A Beacon of Unity and Progress

By Ronald O'Hanley, Chairman and CEO at State Street

"Too often we participate in the globalization of indifference. May we strive instead to live global solidarity." – Pope Francis



Pope Francis' passing marks the end of an era defined by unity, humility, and progress. In a world increasingly divided, he stood as a voice of compassion, reaching across faiths, borders, and ideologies to foster dialogue and understanding. His papacy was one of many firsts – the first pope from the Americas, the first Jesuit pope, and the first non-European pope in over a thousand years. But beyond these historic milestones, his leadership was defined by a deep commitment to inclusivity and a willingness to engage with the realities of the modern world. He ventured to places no pope had gone before, visiting Iraq,

Mongolia, and Myanmar, bringing messages of peace and reconciliation to regions marked by conflict.

Throughout his tenure, Pope Francis led with actions rather than words. He and the Vatican stepped up to complex issues such as how to ensure that capitalism and economic growth are beneficial to all and how the world can best adapt to climate change. He visited migrant camps in Greece, prayed in a mosque in the Central African Republic amid a civil war, and was the first pope in recent history to publicly go to confession, embodying the humility he preached. He rejected extravagance, choosing to live in the Vatican guesthouse instead of the Apostolic Palace and driving a modest Fiat rather than a luxury car. His simplicity was not just symbolic, it reflected his belief in a Church that prioritizes people over power. Pope Francis viewed himself first as a pastor and spent much time listening to and speaking with people in the world and not just church leadership. Honest and candid, he did not shy away from the Church's most difficult questions, acknowledging unresolved issues rather than dismissing them. This transparency made him one of the most relatable and beloved popes in modern history. He was a man of faith, but also a man of the people – approachable, deeply empathetic, and unafraid to admit when the Church needed change. His legacy will endure as a testament to the power of unity, the necessity of dialogue, and the courage to lead with principle.



Dublin, Ireland, was chosen by Pope Francis to host the 9th World Meeting of Families in August 2018, guided by the theme "The Gospel of the Family: Joy for the World".

Held every three years, this major international event brings together families from across the world to celebrate, pray and reflect upon the central importance of marriage and the family as the cornerstone of our lives, of society and of the Church.

Immigration News

Immigration & Citizenship Support Services Program

What we do: The IPC's Immigration and Citizenship Program provides information and support to immigrants from Ireland and elsewhere including obtaining legal status, adjusting status, matters related to Green Card applications and renewals, visas, U.S. Citizenship eligibility, and applications for U.S. Citizenship. The IPC can also provide information about how to apply for Irish passports. Staff is available during normal business hours to help to answer questions related to these matters. Additionally, the IPC offers bi-monthly Legal Immigration Clinics where individuals can have a free and confidential phone conversation about their particular immigration situation with a volunteer immigration attorney.

The IPC offers free telephone consultations with an experienced immigration attorney on the 2nd Tuesday evening of each month. If you would like to schedule a phone consultation with an attorney, please contact Maryann Casavant at 617-265-5300 or by email mcasavant@ipcboseon.org.

Learn More About Our Monthly Legal Clinics

The IPC offers monthly free legal immigration clinics twice per month. If you have a question about your immigration status, Green Card, visa, eligibility for citizenship and would like to talk to an experienced immigration attorney – we can schedule a free phone consultation at the Immigration Legal Clinic. We are very fortunate to have Maura Kelly, a very experienced immigration attorney who donates her time and talent to provide current, and accurate legal guidance to the IPC community through this Clinic. Maura generously donates her time to offer free consultations monthly on the second Tuesday of the month. These consultations are over the telephone and appointments are made in advance.

If you would like to make an appointment or have a question about the Legal Immigration Clinic, please contact Maryann Casavant or Niamh Healy at the IPC at 617-265-5300.

Consider applying for U.S. Citizenship

If you have questions about eligibility for U.S. Citizenship, questions about how to apply, or need help with the process, please reach out to the IPC. Staff is available to assist you and can direct you to helpful resources. If there are some questions, or your situation is a bit complicated, we can schedule an appointment for you with one of our experienced immigration attorneys at one of our Legal Immigration Clinics.



2025 FREE IMMIGRATION CONSULTATIONS

By telephone

You **must** register in advance.

To register:

Call: 617-635-2980

Email: immigrantadvancement@boston.gov

Website: boston.gov/immigrants



City of Boston
Immigrant Advancement



Ask a volunteer lawyer for immigration advice on the first and third Wednesday of every month from 12:00-3:00 P.M.

Interpretation and disability accommodations are available.
Consultations are 15 minutes and limited to one-time only.

MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST
7 & 21	4 & 18	2 & 16	6 & 20

Free assistance with Applications for US Citizenship with Project Citizenship !



Project Citizenship is a nonprofit agency that provides free, high-quality legal services to permanent residents to help them become U.S. citizens. Project Citizenship offers free workshops, eligibility screening, application assistance, legal referrals, and all materials needed to apply for U.S. citizenship.

For more information visit:
<https://projectcitizenship.org/> or contact the IPC at 617-265-5300

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Aer Lingus

Immigration News

REAL ID driver's license or REAL Mass ID



A REAL ID is an enhanced version of a driver's license or Mass ID that meets the Federal Security Standard for IDs.

Beginning May 7, 2025, individuals 18 and older will need a REAL ID driver's license or ID card (or another ID accepted by the TSA) to board domestic flights or enter certain federal facilities.

A Massachusetts REAL ID has a star in the top right corner. A standard driver's license or Mass ID is not accepted for federal purposes.

To get a REAL ID you must make an appointment for an in-person visit at an RMV Service Center or AAA branch (if you're a member). You also must present identity documents.

1. proving you're in the U.S. legally
2. proving your full 9-digit social security number
3. proving you live in Massachusetts

To get a license or ID card from the Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV), you need to provide the registry with certain identification documents, which vary depending on which credential you want. All documents on this page are available in multiple languages.

If you are renewing a standard driver's license (Class D, Class M, or Class D/M) or Mass ID, you have the option of choosing **REAL ID**, which you will need beginning **May 7, 2025** to board domestic flights or enter certain federal facilities if you don't have another ID accepted by the TSA.

Important: REAL ID documents **must** be originals and they can **not** be laminated. Your current name **must** match the one on your documents. If it does not, you **must** present documents proving you changed your name, like a marriage certificate or other court document.



Am I Eligible for Irish Citizenship?



What does it mean to be an Irish citizen?

Becoming an Irish citizen means that you are formally recognised as a national of Ireland and a citizen of the European Union (EU). It gives you certain rights, including the right to possess an Irish passport, live and work in Ireland and the EU, and receive consular help from Irish embassies and consulates abroad.



Who is eligible to be an Irish citizen?

You may be an Irish citizen (or entitled to citizenship) based on when and where you, your parents, or your grandparents were born.



If you were born on the island of Ireland

Persons born on the island of Ireland before 1 January 2005 are automatically held to be Irish citizens. If you were born on the island of Ireland on or after 1 January 2005, your right to Irish citizenship depends on your parents' citizenship at the time of your birth and the residency history of your parents before your birth.



Ard-Chonsalacht na hÉireann | Bostún
Consulate General of Ireland | Boston

@IrelandBoston
www.ireland.ie/citizenship
+1 617 267 9330



Am I Eligible for Irish Citizenship?

If you were born outside of the island of Ireland



Parent born in Ireland:

You are automatically an Irish citizen if one of your parents was an Irish citizen who was born on the island of Ireland. In this case, you may apply immediately for an Irish passport, should you wish to do so.



Grandparent born in Ireland:

You can become an Irish citizen if one of your grandparents was an Irish citizen born on the island of Ireland. In this case, to obtain Irish citizenship, you must apply to be entered on the Foreign Birth Register. Once entered, you are an Irish citizen and, as such, entitled to apply for an Irish passport.



Parent on the Foreign Birth Register:

You can also become an Irish citizen if your parent was on the Foreign Birth Register at the time of your birth. In this case, you too can apply to be entered on the Register and, following that, apply for a passport.



Applications for Foreign Birth Registration are made online at ireland.ie/citizenship. In addition, submission of documentation confirming eligibility is required.

Ard-Chonsalacht na hÉireann | Bostún
Consulate General of Ireland | Boston

www.ireland.ie/citizenship
+1 617 267 9330

EASTER FUN AT THE IPC



Photos from our toddler Easter Party where we had some very special guests of baby rabbits, goats and hens! Thank you to the Animal Affair Traveling Petting Zoo for such an exciting afternoon and even some of our Dorchester Coffee Group members joined in on the fun!



THIS PAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY
MATTHEW MCCARRICK

COMMUNITY EVENT



IPC NEW PROGRAM!



Learn about community and statewide transportation programs for older adults and individuals with mobility issues. Please call us if you need help accessing transportation services.

This service is made available to the Irish Pastoral Centre through funding awarded by Massachusetts Department of Transportation.

massDOT
Massachusetts Department of Transportation

VISIT
www.ipcboston.org
Or call us at +1 (617)-265-5300

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News From Ireland

Mayo pupils 'knock out a few tunes' to promote traditional music—RTE

Over 200 pupils from three primary schools in Co Mayo have come together to promote traditional Irish music as part of a two-year creative project. The event took place in Ballina under a Department of Education initiative. Applications for funding are open to all schools. The rousing performances are the result of hundreds of hours of hard work and practice. The pupils from Behy, Cooneal and Bonnicconlon national schools, have been fine-tuning their musical skills and playing their hearts out to delighted families. Darragh Burke and Ultan Dempsey took up the accordion and it is fast becoming their favourite instrument.



Kerrygold has record breaking sales in the US

Ornua, Ireland's largest dairy exporter, achieved record-breaking sales of its Kerrygold brand in the U.S. in 2024, helped by the launch of a new 1lb butter block. Kerrygold reached more American households than ever and is now the second most popular butter brand in the U.S. CEO Conor Galvin highlighted the brand's global success, with over 12 million packs of Kerrygold butter and cheese sold weekly in 2024. Despite strong results, Ornua warned of uncertain trading conditions due to tariffs introduced by U.S. President Donald Trump. For the year ending December, turnover dipped slightly by 0.2% to €3.4 billion, while operating profits rose by 11.8% to €130.5 million. EBITDA also increased by 10.5% to €165.5 million.



Irish skies lit up in stunning display of Northern Lights— RTE.ie

The Northern Lights were visible across Ireland, with many people sharing photos of the atmospheric phenomenon on social media. A stunning display of pink and green illuminations lit up the night sky for parts of the country due to a 'Coronal Mass Ejection' from the Sun. Aurora displays occur when charged particles collide with gases in the Earth's atmosphere around the magnetic poles. In the northern hemisphere, most of this activity takes place within a band known as the aurora oval, covering latitudes between 60 and 75 degrees.



An Spidéal woodland becomes first reserve in Gaeltacht — RTE

More than 30 acres of native woodland in An Spidéal, Co Galway have been purchased by the Native Woodlands Trust. Coill Sheanadh Gharráin, on the eastern bank of the Both Loiscthe river, 2km north of the village will come under the trust's care. The site is considered an 'Atlantic temperate rainforest' within the Conamara bog complex conservation area and contains over 80 acres of heath, woodland and bogland. Many of the trees are thought to be 400 years old and the site appears on maps of the area from the early 1800s.



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FADÓ FADÓ

Crios Cords: Traditional Irish Woven Belts



Among the many symbols of Irish folk culture, the crios belt stands out as both a practical garment and a deeply symbolic item rooted in the rural traditions of the west of Ireland. Worn traditionally by men in the Gaeltacht regions—particularly in parts of Connemara, Donegal, and the Aran Islands—the crios is more than a woven woolen belt. It is a living piece of Irish heritage, interlacing utility, artistry, and identity.

The word crios (pronounced "kriss") simply means "belt" or "girdle" in Irish. The traditional crios is a hand-woven wool belt, typically measuring about two inches wide and several feet long, with fringed ends. Its most striking feature is its vibrant, multicolored striped pattern, often incorporating red, yellow, green, blue, black, and white. These colors are not just decorative; they reflect the skill and creativity of the weaver and sometimes carry personal or regional significance.

Criosanna were typically woven by women at home using simple looms or even with the belt anchored around a foot or chair leg. They were created for male family members—fathers, sons, or husbands—as part of the daily wardrobe, often worn with homespun trousers and shirts. The belt was wrapped around the waist and tied at the front or side, offering both function and flair.

The *crios* has its roots in the subsistence farming and fishing communities of western Ireland, where self-sufficiency was essential. In regions where contact with outside markets was limited and resources were

scarce, clothes and accessories had to be homemade. Wool from native sheep was spun and dyed using local plants and minerals, then woven into items like shawls, skirts, and *criosanna*.

The *crios* served a clear functional purpose: it held up trousers and provided lower back support for men engaged in physically demanding labor. However, its importance extended beyond mere practicality. The process of weaving and gifting a *crios* carried emotional and familial value. A mother or sister making a *crios* for a son or brother was performing a quiet act of care, embedding warmth and protection into the threads.

In traditional Irish culture, the crios was not just a garment but also a symbol of continuity, family ties, and identity. The patterns and colors could distinguish a community or even a family. Much like Scottish tartans, these belts became personal markers, though without a strict codified system.

The crios was also associated with rites of passage. In some areas, it formed part of a young man's coming-of-age attire, signaling his transition into adult responsibilities. It was sometimes worn during weddings or passed down as an heirloom, making it a thread connecting generations.

Folklore further elevated the crios's meaning. It was believed that tying a crios around a person or object could offer protection. In some communities, the belt was wrapped around infants during baptisms or around cows to protect them from ill luck. Its colorful bands were seen as a ward against the "evil eye" or misfortune.



IPC Board Member and Bumble Bee Knitter, Della Costello showed us this intricate and beautifully crafted traditional Crios that she was gifted.

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CELTIC SCRIBE

The Tollund Man in Springtime

By Seamus Heaney

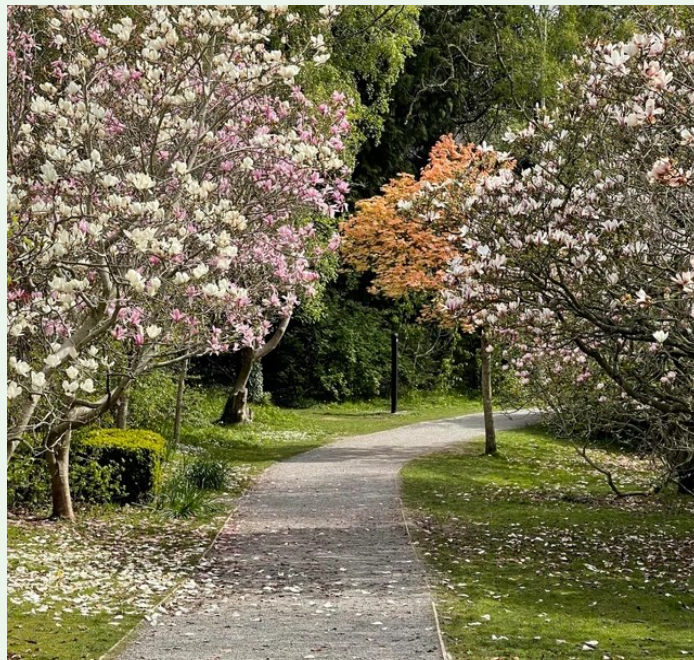
Into your virtual city I'll have passed
 Unregistered by scans, screens, hidden eyes,
 Lapping myself in time, an absorbed face
 Coming and going, neither god nor ghost,
 Not at odds or at one, but simply lost
 To you and yours, out under seeding grass
 And trickles of kesh water, sphagnum moss,
 Dead bracken on the spreadfield, red as rust.
 I reawoke to revel in the spirit
 They strengthened when they chose to put me down
 For their own good. And to a sixth-sensed threat:
 Panicked snipe offshooting into twilight,
 Then going awry, larks quietened in the sun,
 Clear alteration in the bog-pooled rain.

'The soul exceeds its circumstances.' Yes.
 History not to be granted the last word
 Or the first claim... In the end I gathered
 From the display-case peat my staying powers,
 Told my webbed wrists to be like silver birches,
 My old uncalled hands to be young sward,
 The spade-cut skin to heal, and got restored
 By telling myself this. Late as it was,
 The early bird still sang, the meadow hay
 Still buttercupped and daisied, sky was new.
 I smelled the air, exhaust fumes, silage reek,
 Heard from my heather bed the thickened traffic
 Swarm at a roundabout five fields away
 And transatlantic flights stacked in the blue.

Through every check and scan I carried with me
 A bunch of Tollund rushes – roots and all –
 Bagged in their own bog-damp. In an old stairwell
 Broom cupboard where I had hoped they'd stay
 Damp until transplanted, they went musty.
 Every green-skinned stalk turned friable,
 The drowned-mouse fibres withered and the whole
 Limp, soggy cluster lost its frank bouquet
 Of weed leaf and turf mould. Dust in my palm
 And in my nostrils dust, should I shake it off
 Or mix it in with spit in pollen's name
 And my own? As a man would, cutting turf,
 I straightened, spat on my hands, feit benefit
 And spirited myself into the street.

Spring Walk in the Phoenix Park

by Robert Herrick



What's past may not need looking after,
 But somewhere between the Bandstand and Chapelizod
 I made an art of silent loving. It was you
 Held my attention, not the choice of path
 Or frost on the trees, or snow-cries from the zoo -
 I saw no articulable horizons,
 Having no words to see with.
 We sat on a bench, picking at scarred wood.
 A blackbird asked impossible things of silence.
 You badly needed an answer, some talk
 Of reassurance I wouldn't mind, or would.
 I wondered what wit or wisdom there might be
 Until, thawing, it came instinctively,
 Clearing the ground for us on that Spring walk -
 Love is the infinite capacity for taking pains.
 I recall our laughter.

This page sponsored by the family of Margaret 'Peggy' Roach

News from Celtic Angels



The Heart of Compassionate Care: A Reflection on the Irish Spirit in Home Health Care

By Maria Burke, RN, Celtic Angels Home Health Care

Celebrating 20 Years of Compassionate Care: A Message from Maria Burke, RN, Owner of Celtic Angels Home Health Care

This year marks a very special milestone for Celtic Angels Home Health Care — we are proud and honored to be celebrating 20 years of serving our community with compassion, excellence, and heart-centered care.

When I founded Celtic Angels in 2005, my vision was simple yet powerful: to create a home health care company that treated every client with the same dignity, respect, and kindness we would offer our own loved ones. Over the years, that vision has blossomed into a vibrant organization made up of the most dedicated nurses, caregivers, and professionals I have ever had the privilege to know.

We are so grateful to the families who have trusted us to walk alongside them during some of life's most challenging moments. Their trust has been the foundation of our growth, inspiring us to raise our

standards, expand our services, and continually refine what it means to deliver truly personalized care.

Our 20th anniversary is more than just a celebration of years — it's a celebration of relationships, resilience, and unwavering commitment. We look back with gratitude and forward with great excitement, as we continue to innovate and enhance our services to meet the evolving needs of those we serve.

From our humble beginnings on the South Shore of Massachusetts to becoming a recognized leader in private home health care, winning Top Places to Work by the Boston Globe and USA.

Today, 5 years in a row, our journey has been blessed every step of the way. It is a true honor to be part of the lives of so many extraordinary individuals and families.

On behalf of all of us at Celtic Angels Home Health Care, thank you for being a part of our story. Here's to the next 20 years of compassion, care, and community.

With heartfelt gratitude,
Maria Burke, RN
Founder and Owner
Celtic Angels Home Health Care



Celtic Angels Home Health Care

OUR CLIENTS LOVE US!

*"Your CNA Kelly takes care of my every need. I'm in excellent hands."
— Truly, Susan C.*



*Hi. I'm Milo.
The Celtic Angels Home Health Care Mascot.*



www.celticangelsinc.com • 781-331-0062

IPC Community Partners



Home to Irish Bread & Scones; Coffee & Tea; Perfect for Cakes, Cookies and Bakes; Breakfast & Lunch Sandwiches, Hot Dinners
DAILY HOT LUNCH SPECIALS INCLUDE:

Monday: Chicken Pot Pie, Shephard's Pie

Tuesday: Roast Turkey Breast, Stuffing, Gravy & Cranberry

Wednesday: Greenhill's Baked Ham, Shephard's Pie

Thursday: Irish Boiled Dinner w/ Irish Boiled Bacon, Corned Beef, Cabbage, Spuds, Veg & Homemade White Sauce

Friday: Chicken Pot Pie, Chicken Curry, Rice and Fish dinner

Saturday: Shephard's Pie, Full Irish Breakfast

Sunday: Full Irish Breakfast



735 Huntington Ave
Boston, MA — 02115

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Great Fish and Chips doesn't have to be limited to IPC Supper Club!

If you want fresh, delicious fish and chips Visit our friends at Adams' Fish Market

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02124

ALL DAY IRISH FARE
A TASTE OF HOME
SERVING BREAKFAST, LUNCH, AND DINNER IN
A LAIDBACK AND COZY SETTING. HAVE A
TASTE OF HOME IN OUR DINING ROOM, A
FEW PINTS IN OUR SNUG, OR PERHAPS
AFTERNOON TEA IN OUR FIRESIDE LOUNGE.
LOCATED IN THE HEART OF ADAMS VILLAGE.



NOW OPEN
FOR DINE-IN &
TAKEAWAY!

FULL IRISH BREAKFASTS | DAILY ROASTS | WEEKEND TRAD SESSIONS

IPC Community Partners

IPC Weekly Programs

Mondays:

Cara Club @ Veronica Smith
Senior Center-1-3PM
20 Chestnut Hill Ave
Brighton, MA 02135

Monday Night: Social Work
Clinic by 'Appointment.

Tuesdays:

Young at Heart @ St. Jerome's
Parish Center 1-3pm
Toddler Group 10am—12PM

"Le Cheile" Woman's Group @ IPC
7PM

Wednesdays:

Music and Movement Toddler Group
10am—12PM
Café Eireann @ IPC 11-1 PM
540 Gallivan Blvd, Dorchester MA

Wednesday Night: Social Work
Clinic by 'Appointment.

Thursdays:

Knitting Club @ IPC 11AM-1PM
Crossroads Café @ 1-3PM St. John's
Chrysostom 4750
Washington St, West Roxbury, MA
25 Cards 7:30pm

Thursday Night: Irish 25s from
7:30PM

Saturdays:

"Le Cheile" Here Together Sobriety
Support Group 6PM

MONTHLY EVENTS AT IPC

First Friday of the month—Fish and
Chips supper Club

Monthly Sunday Sing a longs and
Irish Traditional Music Sessions.

*Special thanks to Ricard Archer of the Knights and Ladies of St Finbarr
Cork Club, for compiling the Boston Irish Community monthly dance*

THE IRISH SOCIAL CLUB: 119 Park Street West Roxbury, MA

May 04: Mossie Coughlin
May 11: Erin's Melody
May 18: Black Velvet Band
May 25: Silver Spears

THE IRISH CULTURAL CENTRE: 200 New Boston Dr, Canton MA

The regular weekly events will continue as before such as set dancing every
Monday at 7 PM with Cait Bracken, the Children's Play Group on Thursdays and
the Friday night sessions will continue. For info and reservations on any event, call
the ICC at (781) 821-8291

May 03: Dave Try in the pub
May 04: Monthly Mass at 11 PM. Social dancing w/Winnie Henry 2-5 PM
May 17: Boston/New England "Rose of Tralee" selection.
May 18: Ciaran Murphy in the Pub
May 25: Co. Mayo Mass at 11AM

THE KNIGHTS AND LADIES OF ST. FINBARR - CORK CLUB

May 10: Fintan Stanley and Benni will provide the music for the Cork club dance
which will be at the Knights of Columbus Hall 15 Winslow Street Arlington.
Always a fun and a happy time with complimentary tea, coffee and home baked
pastries. Admission is \$10.00 and a cash bar service available. Starts at 7.00 PM

THE NORWOOD IRISH MUSIC CLUB

The Norwood Club will hold their regular monthly dance on Saturday May 17, 2025
at the K of C. 572 Nichols St. Norwood. Music provided by John Connors and the
Irish Mist.. Admission is \$10.00, complimentary coffee, tea much more. Starts at
7.00 PM. Lots of free parking. This will be the last dance until September.
Please support the Norwood Irish Music Club.

COMHALTAS CEOLTOIRI EIREANN

Set Dance workshop with Barbara Boyd and each Tuesday through May 2025 at
the Canadian American Club 202 Arlington Street Watertown from 7 - 10 PM.
Enjoy set, ceili and old-time waltz from 3 - 7PM at the Canadian American Club on
the first Sunday of each month. Adm: \$15.00 members \$10.00

MISCELLANEOUS

Jun 06: The Co. Sligo Association 18th Annual Golf Tournament at Brook
meadow Country Club. Shotgun Start 2.30 PM

May 30: Co. Donegal Memorial Mass at 7PM at the Irish Cultural Centre.
Call Anne Bonner for Add'll information. 617-347-1482

Note: It is always advisable to double check with your club or organization on
any event you may be Interested in. Changes are made from time to time. Sincere
thanks to the Irish Pastoral Centre for help with the monthly events and the
Boston City Paper. The listing is prepared by the Knights and Ladies of St. Finbarr
- Cork Club P.O.Box 1241 Dedham 02027

THIS PAGE IS SPONSORED BY THOMAS CARTY

IPC SPECIAL EVENTS



PETROCELLI ACADEMY OF IRISH DANCE IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE IRISH PASTORAL CENTRE

Come join our Intro to Irish Step
Program on Mondays from 4:30pm
at the Irish Pastoral Centre

Questions?
Email Billy @
Petrocelliacademyid@gmail.com

- ✓ Accepting students ages 3 & up
- ✓ First class for new students always free
- ✓ No prior dance experience is necessary
- ✓ Both Competitive and Recreational program available



TRADITIONAL IRISH MUSIC SESSION sunday, may 18th 3PM - 5PM

Join us for our monthly Traditional Irish Music Session at the IPC. All musicians, singers, dancers and listeners are welcome.

540 Gallivan Blvd, (Rear), Dorchester, MA 02124



Irish Pastoral Centre
Boston

ANSEO LE CHÉILE - HERE TOGETHER

SUPPER CLUB

Friday, June 6th

5pm - 7pm

ADVANCED REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED
CONTACT THE IPC: 617-265-5300

📍 540 Gallivan Boulevard (Rear),
Dorchester, MA



Irish Pastoral Centre
Boston

ANSEO LE CHÉILE - HERE TOGETHER

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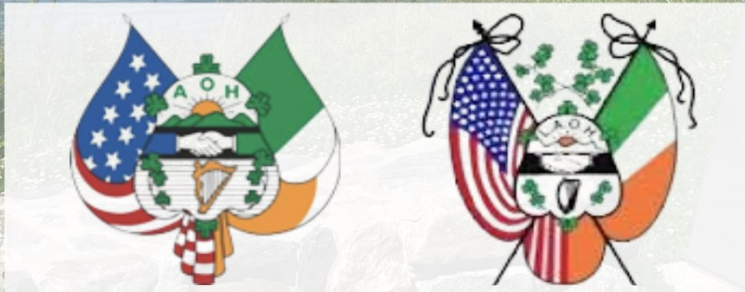
IPC SPECIAL EVENTS



Deer Island Famine Memorial Mass

Saturday, June 7th 11am

IN COLLABORATION WITH



THIS PAGE IS SPONSORED BY JOHN JOE & BARBARA FLEDDING

WEEKLY IPC PROGRAMS



Le Chéile Sobriety Support Program

ANSEO LE CHÉILE - HERE TOGETHER

Saturdays, 6PM | Tuesdays, 7PM (Ladies Group)

Toddler Tuesdays

Bond with your child & socialize with other families in a relaxed Freeplay environment.

10AM-12PM



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MUSIC, DANCING, NURSERY RHYMES, INSTRUMENTS, FREE PLAY AND MORE!



WEDNESDAYS FROM 10AM TO 12PM



PARENTAL/GUARDIAN ATTENDANCE & INVOLVEMENT REQUIRED, TEA & COFFEE SERVED, SUGGESTED DONATION: \$10



IPC BUMBLE BEE KNITTING & CROCHET CLUB

EVERY THURS. 11AM-1PM

All levels Welcome!

540 Gallivan Blvd. (REAR),
Dorchester, MA, 02124



IRISH 25s CARD NIGHT

Come play Ireland's national card game, every Thursday evening. Tea, coffee and snacks provided. All welcome.

7:30PM



MAY

IPC EVENTS AND PROGRAMS CALENDAR



2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 At IPC: Knitting: 11AM 25's Cards Night: 7:30PM Coffee group W. Roxbury: 1-3PM	2	3 At IPC: Sunrise walk in Aid of KBRT: 4:40AM Le Chéile Sobriety: 6PM
4 At IPC: Social work Clinic: by appointment Petrocelli School of Dance: 4:45PM	5 At IPC: Social work Clinic: by appointment Petrocelli School of Dance: 4:45PM	6 At IPC: Toddler Group: 10PM Ladies le Chéile Sobriety: 7-8PM	7 At IPC: Music & Movement Toddler: 10AM-12PM	8 At IPC: Mother's Day at the IPC: 11AM 25's Cards Night: 7:30PM	9	10 At IPC: Le Chéile Sobriety: 6PM
11 Happy Mother's Day	12 At IPC: Social work Clinic: by appointment Petrocelli School of Dance: 4:45PM Coffee group Brighton: 1-3PM	13 At IPC: Toddler Group: 10PM Ladies le Chéile Sobriety: 7-8PM Coffee group Weymouth: 1-3PM	14 At IPC: Coffee Group: 11am- 1PM M&M Toddler Group: 10AM- 12PM	15 At IPC: Knitting: 11AM 25's Cards Night: 7:30PM Coffee group W. Roxbury: 1-3PM	16	17 At IPC: Boston New England Rose of Tralee Selection @ICG, 7pm Le Chéile Sobriety: 6PM
18 At IPC: Trad Session: 3-5PM	19 At IPC: Social work Clinic: by appointment Petrocelli School of Dance: 4:45PM Coffee group Brighton: 1-3PM	20 At IPC: Toddler Group: 10PM Ladies le Chéile Sobriety: 7-8PM Coffee group Weymouth: 1-3PM	21 At IPC: Coffee Group: 11am- 1PM M&M Toddler Group: 10AM- 12PM	22 At IPC: Knitting: 11AM 25's Cards Night: 7:30PM Coffee group W. Roxbury: 1-3PM	23	24 At IPC: Le Chéile Sobriety: 6PM
25	26 IPC CLOSED MEMORIAL DAY	27 At IPC: Toddler Group: 10PM Ladies le Chéile Sobriety: 7-8PM Coffee group Weymouth: 1-3PM	28 At IPC: Coffee Group: 11am- 1PM M&M Toddler Group: 10AM- 12PM	29 At IPC: Knitting: 11AM 25's Cards Night: 7:30PM Coffee group W. Roxbury: 1-3PM	30	31 At IPC: Le Chéile Sobriety: 6PM

For expanded Calendar for our coffee groups, see Pg.6

Events in **ORANGE** are **NOT** at the, 540 Gallivan Blvd REAR location.

Sports News From Ireland

Cork Take first league title in almost three decades

Full-time score - Cork 3-24 | Tipperary 0-23

The Rebels have done it - beating out Tipperary in an excellent display at Páirc Uí Chaoimh to claim their first League title in 27 years. Both sides gave their all - but it was clear the Rebels were taking no prisoners in today's final after wrapping up the first half 3-16 to 0-12, with goals from Ethan Twomey, Alan Connolly and Darragh Fitzgibbon. And there was little change in the second half, with Cork setting the pace and Tipp holding on as hard as they could with a few good points, but not nearly enough to turn the tides. Pat Horgan also became the leading scorer in the National League going past Eddie Keher's record.



Katie Taylor – Amanda Serrano trilogy confirmed— Joe.ie

The much-anticipated trilogy fight between Katie Taylor and Amanda Serrano will take place at Madison Square Garden on Friday, July 11, over ten three-minute rounds. The iconic New York venue played host to the first bout between the two greats, which was the first female fight to headline the MSG and was won by Taylor on split decision. Their second fight, last November at the AT&T Stadium, was the co-main event alongside Mike Tyson vs Jake Paul, and was a unanimous decision win for the Bray native. July's fight will be part of the first-ever all women's professional boxing card at the MSG, and will be shown live on Netflix.



Rory McIlroy Captures Long-Awaited Masters Title

Rory McIlroy made history at the 2025 Masters Tournament, clinching his first Green Jacket and completing the career Grand Slam. This victory marked his 11th attempt to win Augusta National, making him the sixth player—and the first European—to achieve this feat. The final round was a rollercoaster, with McIlroy opening with a double bogey and facing setbacks on the back nine. However, he forced a playoff with Justin Rose after a bogey on the 72nd hole. In the playoff, McIlroy redeemed himself with a precise wedge shot to four feet, converting the birdie to secure the win. This triumph ended an 11-year major championship drought for McIlroy and solidified his place among golf's elite.



Dylan Slevin secures victory over world champion Luke Littler

Tipperary's Dylan Slevin recorded one of the best wins of his career by defeating world champion Luke Littler 6-3 in the first round of Players Championship 11. The 22-year-old from Borrisokane impressed with a 92.74 average, outperforming Littler, who averaged 90.11, at the tournament in Leicester. This victory adds to Slevin's growing reputation, having recently beaten 2021 world champion Gerwyn Price in his strong run of form. Slevin's win over Littler marks another milestone in his rise through the darts ranks, showcasing his talent on a global stage.



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PAT WALSH SR RIP& PAT WALSH JR IN THEIR MEMORY

LOCAL SPORTS

Leader Kicking Teams Up with New England Freejacks for 'Kicking King' Event

Leader Kicking is partnering with the New England Freejacks for the thrilling 'Boston's Kicking King' event, open to all individuals aged 14 and older. Participants will receive expert coaching from Leader Kicking's Irish staff, who will teach the fundamentals of kicking for both Rugby and American Football. The event offers a game ticket, professional coaching, and a Leader Kicking T-shirt to all sign-ups.

The highlight of the event is the 'Kicking King' challenge, where top performers will compete for a \$1000 flight voucher. The winners will showcase their skills at halftime of the New England Freejacks vs. Chicago Hounds game in front of a sold-out crowd. (Exact timings for the event will be confirmed ASAP. Expect the coaching session to take place 3 hours or so before the game and the top performers will then kick at halftime on the game which kick's off at 4pm EST). It's a fantastic opportunity for anyone passionate about kicking to learn from the best and compete for an amazing prize. Sign up today and join the fun!



BOSTON'S KICKING KING

MAY 10TH - VETERANS MEMORIAL STADIUM QUINCY

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Waterford Athlete Begins Marathon Career at the 2025 Boston Marathon



Originally from Waterford, Ireland, Barry Keane was an NCAA All American in track and cross country while at Butler University and joined the Boston Athletic Association's High Performance team in his Marathon Career Debut. Keane was coached by B.A.A. High Performance Team Head Coach Mark Carroll, a two-time Olympian for Ireland. He recorded a 5,000m indoor best of 13:21.57, ranking second in Irish history. Keane had represented Ireland at European championships in both cross country and junior levels.

THE FIRST ANNUAL USGAA *Gaelic 4 Mothers and Others Festival*

Hosted by: The Philadelphia GAA, Delaware County Gaels and Glenside Gaelic

Saturday October 11 & Sunday October 12 2025

**Philadelphia GAA Field
945 Longview Road Pottstown Pa 19464**

**Priority registration given to USGAA teams
11 a side (with panels up to 15)**

**Games and fun team activities planned
More detailed information to follow...**



LOCAL SPORTS

A Legacy Rings On: Honoring Yvonne Grealish

On April 6, Dorchester's Florian Hall hosted the 1st Annual Yvonne Grealish Memorial Fights, honoring the late Yvonne Grealish, who co-founded Grealish Boxing Club with her husband Martin in 1996. A passionate supporter of youth boxing, Yvonne was always ringside, cheering on fighters. The event featured 18 amateur bouts and drew hundreds of supporters from the local community and beyond. Now run by Martin and their children, Nicola and Gerry, the gym continues to serve as a safe, supportive space for local youth. Ahri, Yvonne's granddaughter, though not a boxer herself, supports the club as its media manager. The gym's impact goes beyond the ring, helping kids build confidence, discipline, and life skills. "I just want decent human beings to come out of here," said Nicola. The event also served as a key fundraiser to help keep the gym in Dorchester, despite rising rents.



*Cassidy McNeeley photos:
Nicola Dillon with with club
boxer Christy McDonagh*

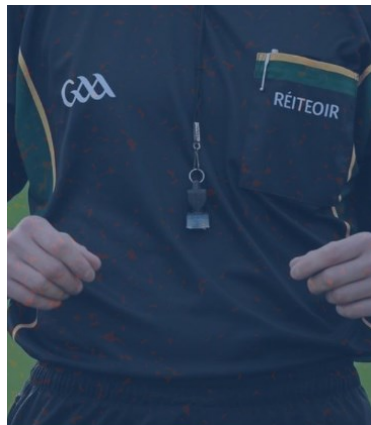
Donegal Garda GAA Arrive in Boston



Donegal Garda GAA team visited Boston this month to compete in a friendly blitz with Donegal Boston, Kerry Boston and Galway Boston. The Donegal Garda Team beat Donegal Boston in the semi final and Galway Boston in the Final. In an interview with Boston Northeast GAA Assistant PRO Neil McEnaney, Sean Barrett and Conor Cunningham of Donegal Garda GAA reflected fondly on their time in Boston from their time meeting with the Boston Police and the warm hospitality they received from the Boston Irish Community.

Referee Course Hosted by Boston Northeast GAA

Boston Northeast GAA hosted a Referee Course at the Irish Cultural Centre in Canton covering the new rules in Men's Gaelic Football. Special thanks were extended to Boston Northeast GAA Assistant PRO Neil McEnaney & Boston Northeast GAA Assistant GDA Eoin Gormley for their extensive preparation in leading this training. The course not only provided important information for referees, but for GAA managers, players alike.



USGAA Men's Junior Football Team Selected



Congratulations to Boston Northeast GAA players & management on the 2025 USGAA Men's Gaelic Football Team

Connemara Gaels GFC Boston

*Michael Kerr
A.J. McGuire
Martin Kerr - Selector*

Cork Boston GAA

Jack Lynch

Galway GFC

*Eoin Morrissey
Michael Moylan*

Wolfetones G.F.C

Dylan Murtagh

Christophers Boston

Barra Ryan

Aidan McAnespie's GFC

Owen Ward

Shannon Blues GFC Boston

Brian Kennedy - trainer

Donegal Boston GFC

*Eamon Kelly - steering
Mark Dunphy formerly Donegal
Boston*

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Local Sports

Scholarship Opportunity For US GAA Players!

University College Dublin (UCD) is proud to introduce the Brian Mullins Ambassador Award for Gaelic Games, a scholarship for incoming undergraduate and master's students from the U.S. who are passionate about Gaelic games and cultural exchange.

About the Award: This scholarship, administered by UCD Sport with support from UCD Global, allows students to pursue their academic goals at UCD while promoting Gaelic games in both Ireland and the U.S. by playing, coaching, administering, but generally staying involved in the strong traditions of the Gaelic games.

Honoring Brian Mullins: A four-time All-Ireland Senior Champion, Mullins was a GAA icon and former UCD Director of Sport. He dedicated his career to growing Gaelic games worldwide, especially within the Irish diaspora in the U.S. This award continues his legacy by supporting students who share his passion for sport, leadership, and cultural connection.

Learn more & apply: ucd.ie/global/scholarships
Contact: Shannon Farrelly at northamerica@ucd.ie

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GAA QUIZ- FIRSTS

Answers on Page 3

1. What year did Donegal win their first National League Football Title?
2. What year did DJ Carey win his first All-Ireland senior hurling medal with Kilkenny?
3. What county became the first from the six counties to win the All Ireland Senior football title?
4. Who were the first hurling club to win back-to-back All Ireland titles ?
5. What year did Tyrone reach their first ever All Ireland Senior Football win?
6. Who were the first football club to win back-to-back All Ireland titles ?
7. What year did the combined Universities win their first and only Interprovincial Football title (formally Railway cup)?
8. What year did Nemo Rangers win their first All Ireland club football title?
9. What year did Offaly win they first Leinster senior hurling title?
10. What year did Waterford RTC (Now Waterford IT) win their first Fitzgibbon Cup title?



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- Community Newsletter


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