

# Consulate General of Ireland

## Newsletter for the U.S. Southeast

March 2018

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Minister Creed builds ties and promotes Irish beef in Nashville. Above with Georgia Agriculture Commissioner Gary Black, Irish Agriculture Counsellor Dale Crammond & Consul General Stephens

### Message from the Consul General

A chairde,

I travelled to Nashville last Sunday to support a visit by our Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Michael Creed, T.D., who was on the first leg of a [programme](#) focused on Ireland's meat, dairy and beverage sectors and building on our trading relationships with North America.

While in Nashville, the Minister engaged with buyers on the quality of Irish beef, consulted with meat industry leaders & met the commissioners of agriculture of Georgia and Tennessee, Mr Gary Black & Mr Jai Templeton.

He discussed with Commissioner Black opportunities for an exchange programme for veterinary officials from Ireland and Georgia. Minister Creed also spoke publically of Ireland's mutually beneficial trading relationships with the U.S. and of our strong and historic ties with this great country.

This consulate will welcome another timely and targeted visit soon. Mr Michael D'Arcy, T.D., our Minister for Financial Services and Insurance, will represent Ireland in the U.S. Southeast during the St Patrick's Day period.

As you will see inside, there will be no shortage of action here. Roll on St Patrick's Day!

**Shane Stephens March 2, 2018**

## Building ties in Agriculture, Business and Culture



Minister Creed promotes Irish beef at the Bord Bia stand at MEAT 2018 Conference in Nashville; above with Tennessee's Agriculture Commissioner Jai Templeton (center).

Right: The Ambassador returned to Florida to speak at events hosted by The Ireland Funds & Ireland-U.S. Council. Read his [interview](#) in the Palm Beach Daily News.

L-R: Michael Gibbons, President Emeritus Ireland-U.S. Council; Norman Houston, Director Northern Ireland Bureau; Former Taoiseach Enda Kenny, Brian Stack, President of the Council, and Ambassador Mulhall







Great to meet Shannon Quinn, Palm Beach Chair of the South Florida Irish American Chamber.

Addressing The Ireland Funds dinner.



Left: CG Stephens attended the Parkland vigil to extend sympathies on behalf of Ireland following the Stoneman Douglas High School shooting

On to Tampa and Orlando, reconnecting with Tampa Mayor Bob Buckhorn (right), and meeting Honorary Consul Terry Delahunty and Raglan Road's Alan Delahunt at this fabulous venue for Irish music and dance.







Great visit with EU Consuls General to NASA's John Stennis Space Center in Mississippi.

With Tim Macdougald, CEO of Ireland's MAAS Aviation, at their impressive US headquarters in Mobile, Alabama. See their [interview](#) for AL.com/Mobile.

To learn why Ireland is the centre of the global aviation industry watch this [video](#).

Honorary Consul John Young representing Ireland's business interests at the Charlotte Regional Partnership bi-annual meeting. At right with CRP President and CEO, Ronnie Bryant.







Left: Read a [report](#) on CG Stephens's remarks to Auburn University students by student journalist Stephen Lanzi.

Below: An enjoyable reading by gifted Irish author Kevin Barry in Athens, GA, hosted by UGA's Professor Nicholas Allen



Above: Great Irish poet Eavan Boland reads from her work at an Agnes Scott College event hosted by Prof. Christine Cozzens



Right: Lovely to meet Presidential Distinguished Service Award recipient Bernard Canavan and his wife Janet over lunch with Atlanta art aficionados Nicola McCarthy and Jim Flannery



## Irish News

President Donald Trump has proclaimed March 2018 [Irish-American Heritage Month](#).

The Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Simon Coveney, has welcomed the publication of the European Commission's proposed [draft EU-UK Withdrawal Agreement](#). The Taoiseach and the British Prime Minister have remained in close contact on current BREXIT issues.

Earlier in February, the Tánaiste also undertook a 3-day visit to the US that included meeting with [Secretary of State Rex Tillerson](#) on Ireland's priorities in the Brexit negotiations, and a visit to UN headquarters as part of Ireland's campaign for election to the UN Security Council in 2020.

In NY on the 20th anniversary of the signing of the Good Friday Agreement, [Simon Coveney spoke](#) of the vital role played by Irish-America and US administrations in the Peace Process and reconfirmed Ireland's continued support for lasting and sustained reconciliation.

The Tánaiste launched a new Brexit website, [www.dfa.ie/Brexit](http://www.dfa.ie/Brexit), with information on the Government's outreach and input on the negotiations.

Taoiseach Leo Varadkar and the Government launched [Project Ireland 2040](#), a €116bn overarching plan to re-imagine Ireland and prepare for the future. See: [www.gov.ie/en/project-ireland-2040](http://www.gov.ie/en/project-ireland-2040)

The Taoiseach officially opened [Microsoft's new 34,000sqm, €134m campus](#) in Dublin, including an innovation and education hub that will host and inspire 100,000 primary and TY students over the next 4 years.

Chairing the 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Beef Roundtable ahead of his trade mission to the US, Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Michael Creed T.D., reflected on the [beef sector's increasing share](#) of international markets, up 5% in 2017 in the value of exports to €2.5billion and up 4% in volume.

Pod don Eolach is a new Irish language podcast: <http://www.peig.ie/ag-treochtu/pod-don-eolach-podchraoladh-nos>

Ireland is currently gripped by extreme winter weather conditions. The National Emergency Coordination Group (NECG) for severe weather met on March 1<sup>st</sup> to coordinate the Government's response. See more.

# Upcoming Events in the Southeast



## Your Saint Patrick's Day 2018 Calendar of Events!

### Florida

- March 1-13 [Celtic Woman](#) are performing in Lakeland, Saint Petersburg, Boca Raton, Sarasota, Fort Myers Melbourne and Jacksonville
- March 7-10 Readings by Irish poets Eamonn Lynskey and Anne Fitzgerald, and participation by Irish publisher Jessie Lendennie, at the [Association of Writers & Writing Conference](#) in Tampa
- March 10 [St. Patrick's Day Festival](#) produced by the South Florida Emerald Society, [Coral Gables](#)
- March 12 Readings by writer Colin Barrett, and poets Kathy D'Arcy and Niamh Prior as part of Contemporary Irish Voices in Literature at the University of Tampa
- March 3-18 [Derek Warfield and the Young Wolfe Tone](#) entertain in Cape Coral (3-4) , Cocoa Beach (5), Tampa (16-17), and Sebastian (18)
- March 17 [St Patrick's Day Parade and Festival](#), Fort Lauderdale
- March 17 [Mayor's River O'Green Fest](#), Tampa
- March 17 [Luck of the Irish: St. Patrick's Day Festivities in Orlando](#)

### Georgia

#### *Atlanta:*

- Mar7-Apr11 Yeats Scholar James Flannery, will offer a course titled "[The Many Worlds of W.B. Yeats](#)" through the Yale Alumni Association
- March 8 Alliance Theatre presents [The Honey Trap](#) by Belfast-born playwright Leo McGann, 2pm
- March 9 [Celtic Woman](#) perform at the Fox Theatre
- March 10 Hibernian Benevolent Society of Atlanta and Irish Network Atlanta [St. Patrick's Black Tie Ball](#)
- March 15 [Saint Patrick's Day Mass](#), Cathedral of Christ the King
- March 16 Irish Chamber of Atlanta Breakfast with remarks by Minister Michael D'Arcy, Capital City Club, 7:30-9.00am, [bill.duffy@theaspiregroupinc.com](mailto:bill.duffy@theaspiregroupinc.com)
- March 16 [Father O'Reilly Mass and Wreath Laying](#), 10am-1pm
- March 17 [Atlanta Saint Patrick's Day Parade](#), 12 noon
- March 17 [Gateway Performance Productions' Celebrate Patrick's Day](#) Irish Stories, Music, History and Folk Theatre/Mummers, Art Auction 5-7pm
- March 17 Aris Theatre presents its first annual [St. Patrick's Day Celebration](#) at Manuel's Tavern 4 pm

#### *Savannah:*

- March 4 [Professor Pól Ó Dochartaigh](#) will speak at the launch of the [exhibition Representations of Jews in Irish Literature](#) at the historic Congregation Mickve Israel synagogue. The exhibition is presented by Georgia Southern University and sponsored by his Consulate.
- March 16 [Sergeant William Jasper Ceremony](#) with remarks by Minister D'Arcy
- Mar 16-18 [Saint Patrick's Day Festival](#)
- March 17 [Saint Patrick's Day Mass](#) at Cathedral of St. John the Baptist,
- March 17 [Saint Patrick's Day Parade](#)
- March 16 Chef academics from the Waterford Institute of Technology will prepare St. Patrick's themed banquets at Albany Tech, Columbus Tech, Northwestern Tech and North Georgia Tech.

## Mississippi

Mar 23-24 [CelticFest Mississippi](#), Jackson

## North Carolina

March 9 The exceptional [Dervish](#) performs in [Asheville, NC](#)

March 9 Outstanding Irish band [Goitse](#) performs in [Tryon, NC](#)

March 11-18 [Celtic Woman](#) performs in Charlotte (11<sup>th</sup>), Fayetteville (15<sup>th</sup>) and Durham (18<sup>th</sup>)

March 13 St. Patrick's Day [event](#) with Minister Michael D'Arcy, T.D., hosted by the Charlotte Irish Connection & Honorary Consul John Young

March 17 [Charlotte Saint Patrick's Day Parade and Festival](#)

## South Carolina

March 4 [Return to the Green Irish Cultural Festival](#) and GAA Tournament, Greenville

March 8 Irish band [Goitse](#) performs at the [University of South Carolina](#), Aiken

March 10-20 Celtic Woman performs in N. Charleston (10<sup>th</sup>), Spartanburg (14<sup>th</sup>), Columbia (20<sup>th</sup>)

March 14-15 [Derek Warfield and the Young Wolfe Tone](#) perform in Myrtle Beach (14<sup>th</sup>) & [Charleston](#) (15<sup>th</sup>)

March 16 Irish Film *No Stone Unturned*, 9<sup>th</sup> annual [Terrace Charleston Film Festival](#)

March 17 [Charleston Saint Patrick's Day Parade](#)

## Tennessee

March 17-18 [Music City Irish Fest](#), Nashville, including [The Willis Clan](#) on Mar 17 and [Lúnasa](#) and [We Banjo 3](#) on Mar 18th

Mar 17-Apr 9 Irish bluegrass band [JigJam](#) performs at [Dollywood](#) in Pigeon Forge

*\*Be sure to send in your events for inclusion in the Newsletter! To: [carol.jordan@dfa.ie](mailto:carol.jordan@dfa.ie)*