

Consulate General of Ireland

Newsletter for the U.S. Southeast

May 2018

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Special tour of the KERRY plant in Savannah for Ambassador and Mrs. Mulhall and US Representative Buddy Carter. Specializing in taste and nutrition technologies, branded foods and agri-business, [KERRY](#) is one of Ireland's great companies.

Message from the Consul General

A chairde,

It was a delight to have Ambassador Dan Mulhall back in Georgia for his second visit in less than six months to engage with our multi-faceted Irish community, focus on Irish hi-tech investment, support US-Irish research collaboration and celebrate Irish and Choctaw poetry.

The Ambassador was also delighted to touch base with political leaders including U.S. Representative Buddy Carter & Mayors Denson, Davis and DeLoach.

In May I'm looking forward to showcasing Irish filmmaking, supporting our FinTech hub in Atlanta and marking with our community in central Florida the 20th anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement.

Shane Stephens May 3, 2018

Ambassador Mulhall promotes Ireland-Georgia ties in Athens, Augusta and Savannah



Beautiful readings of Irish & Choctaw poetry from Sinéad Morrissey & LeAnne Howe introduced by the Ambassador at UGA's Willson Center

Below: Augusta Mayor Hardie Davis greets the Ambassador for a discussion on the Irish community, economic development and trade



Above: The Mulhalls enjoy meeting with Augusta University President Dr Brooks Keel and his wife Dr. Tammie Schalue. The University has relationships with several Irish institutions and is keen to develop these.



Ambassador Mulhall visits the North Augusta Irish Traveller Community to follow-up the trip by Parish Priest Fr. Cherian Thalakulam and Patrick McNalley to the Traveller Ethnicity Celebration in Dublin (where they met President Michael D Higgins!)



Above: Rousing promotion of Irish golf by the Ambassador at Tourism Ireland's U.S. Master's reception in Augusta.

Right: The Ambassador also noted Georgia is not all about golf as he took to the field with with hurlers from the Augusta Gaelic Sports Club.





Above: Warm welcome and keys to the City of Savannah from Mayor Eddie DeLoach



Left: Excellent meeting with First District Representative Buddy Carter at the Kerry plant on Savannah's Irish heritage and trade.



Above: Productive meeting with The Savannah Economic Development Authority on the great potential of the new Savannah-Wexford Trade Bridge

Left: The Ambassador and Mrs. Mulhall enjoyed visiting with the Yeats Society of Savannah where he was invited to read for them

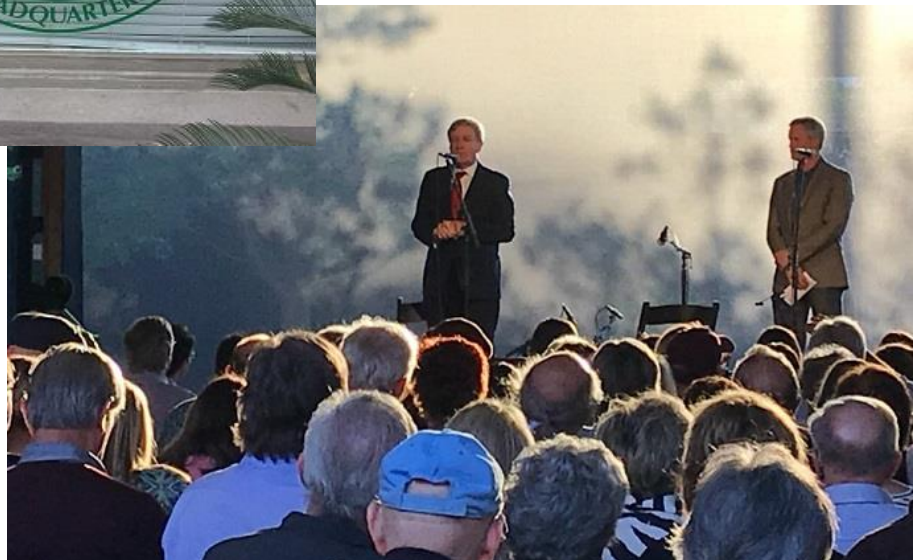


Below: Tipperary-born Monsignor William O'Neill and Prof Howard Keeley serve as tour guides at Savannah's historic Catholic Cemetery where the city's rich Irish history is reflected in the names on the headstones.

A great welcome from Savannah's legendary Irish community organisations



A pleasure to introduce and hear Lúnasa, virtuoso Irish musicians performing with bluegrass musicians, which the Ambassador dubbed "greengrass"!

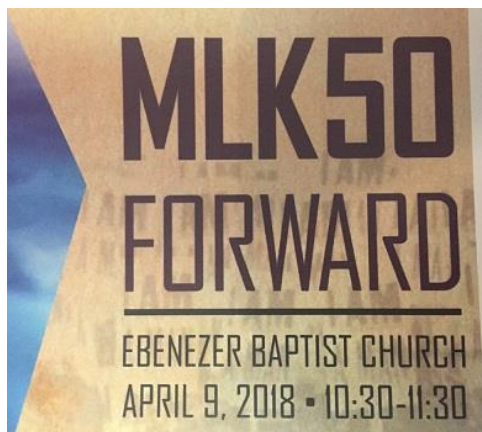


Other Culture, Business and Sport around the Southeast



Left: Consul General Shane Stephens visiting the excellent Mississippi Civil Rights Museum

Below: CG Stephens joined consular corps colleagues for services, commemorations and the March for Humanity honouring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King on the 50th anniversary of his assassination



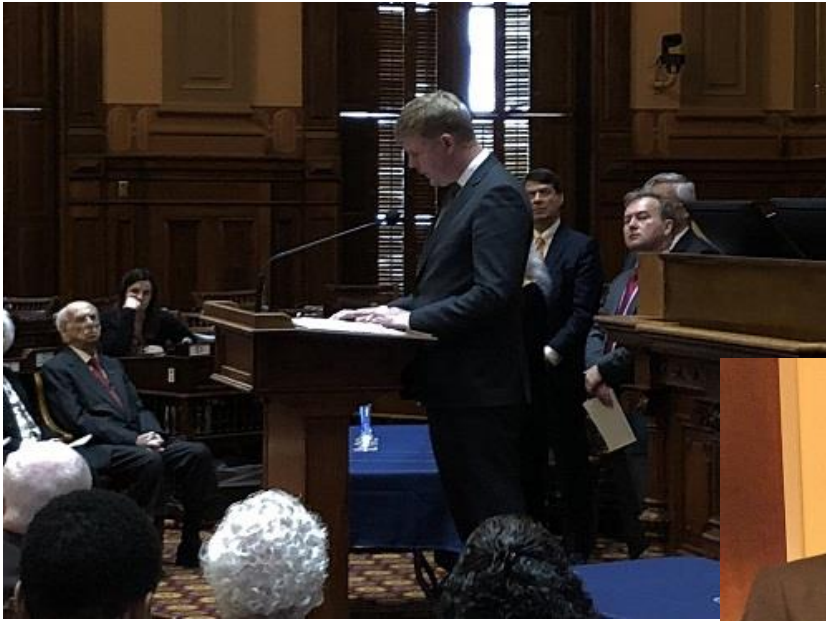


Beautiful readings by Colette Bryce & Julie Morrissey captivated capacity audience at O, Miami Festival's Irish Spring event, with thanks to Poetry Ireland and Culture Ireland



A privilege and a pleasure to welcome Sinead Burke, Ireland's only female Davos delegate, to Atlanta and hear her speak on the power of increasing diversity in design.





CG Stephens reads the bio of Holocaust survivor Harold Hersch at an event organised by the Georgia Commission on the Holocaust



Above: CG Stephens expressed condolences to Deputy CG Cheryl G Thompson at the Consulate of Barbados in Miami on the passing of CG Colin Mayers, a consummate diplomat.



Thanks to Donald Beaudette for the opportunity to speak to his students at Oxford College about the 20th anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement.



Productive discussion at the Consulate with Teresa Finley and Eileen MacCallum of Irish Traditions Atlanta on planning for a new Irish music school in Atlanta.



CG Stephens was delighted to speak to the Perimeter Learning and Services Group in Atlanta, hosted by Bill Berger.

Irish News

President Michael Higgins began a week-long visit to the US with a [speech to the UN](#) on Ireland's [commitment to peace building and contributions to the UN](#).

Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Simon Coveney, welcomed [EU Chief Negotiator Michel Barnier](#) and 500 participants to the fourth plenary meeting of the [All-Island Civic Dialogue on Brexit](#). Minister Coveney also [addressed the Londonderry Chamber](#) of Commerce and met with community organizations on concerns around Brexit. The latest Government Brexit Update is available [here](#), and you can sign up for the next Update straight into your mailbox [here](#).

On behalf of the Government, Minister Coveney condemned the fatal pedestrian [incident in Toronto](#) and extended condolences to the families, friends and loved ones of the victims.

Minister Coveney also [condemned the chemical attack](#) in Syria. Ireland pledged an additional €25 million this year in [humanitarian funding to Syria](#), bringing its total contribution to over €100 million since 2012.

Minister Coveney issued a statement [calling for restraint and calm in Gaza](#) following the deaths of nine Palestinians.

Agriculture Minister Michael Creed announced the [opening of the Chinese beef market](#) to exports from Ireland, a huge new opportunity for the Irish beef sector.

The [EU & Mexico](#) have renegotiated a new Free Trade & Investment Agreement. More positive news for Irish exporters!

[Irish forklift manufacturer Combilift](#), with US headquarters in Greensboro, NC, has opened a new €50 million global headquarters and manufacturing facility in Monaghan, creating 200 jobs.

Minister for Culture, Heritage & the Gaeltacht, Josepha Madigan, announced plans to invest €1.2 billion in our culture, heritage and language infrastructure as part of [Project Ireland 2040](#).

Minister Madigan also announced the approval of €882,000 in funding to Culture Ireland for the promotion of Irish arts worldwide in 2018. Award recipients for spring projects including in the US Southeast can be found [here](#). Deadline for the next funding round is [June 15](#).

The deadline for this year's [2018 Presidential Distinguished Service Awards](#) for the Irish Abroad is this Monday 7 May. All unsuccessful 2017 nominees will automatically be considered again.

Miami-based Celebrity Cruises' ship, [Eclipse](#), more than twice the length of Croke Park, will home-port in Dublin, bringing an estimated €5 million to the economy.

New data from the Central Statistics office indicates the [number of overseas visits to Ireland](#) for the 1st quarter of 2018 was over 1.92 million, an increase of 6.9% compared to 1st quarter 2017.

On April 28th [Aer Lingus celebrated 60 years of transatlantic travel](#) and 6 new routes in the last two years, including Dublin-Miami.

On April 13th, [Ellis Island Family History Day](#), we were reminded that about one-third of the population of the US are descendants of the immigrants who came through that island, with 10% claiming Irish ancestry. Use this [step-by-step guide](#) to trace your Irish heritage, and be sure to see our new heritage feature below!

Upcoming Events in the Southeast

Supported by Culture Ireland, Dundalk fiddler, [Gerry O'Connor](#) will provide an evening of traditional and contemporary Irish music in Atlanta on Saturday, May 5 at 6:00 pm. Limited seating. For more information and RSVP: koko4note@yahoo.com.

On May 7th, Arís Theatre presents [Woman and Scarecrow](#), a staged reading of the metaphysical thriller by Irish playwright Marina Carr, at 7 Stages Theatre Back Stage, Atlanta, 8:00pm.

The [North Carolina Rose of Tralee Selection](#) will take place at 5:00pm on May 20th at Tyber Creek Pub in Charlotte, which will include live Irish music and dance.

On May 23rd, the Tampa Hillsborough Film and Digital Media Commission in partnership with the Consulate of Ireland and the Northern Ireland Bureau Washington, will host a special screening and panel discussion of [In the Name of Peace: John Hume in America](#), to mark the 20th anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement/Belfast Agreement, with special guest panellists Aidan Hume and Danny Kennedy. Other events for the day include an afternoon screening of the family-friendly movie, *Zoo*, filmed in Belfast, and a roundtable discussion hosted by the University of Tampa. More details forthcoming soon!

For those interested in learning more about [Irish Network Atlanta](#), you are invited their first monthly meeting (previously quarterly) on May 17th at Fado Buckhead, 6:15pm.

Don't miss our new Heritage feature next page!

New! Heritage Stories

We are pleased to introduce this new feature that relays and celebrates family journeys from Ireland to the US Southeast. This initiative comes through Irish Chamber of Atlanta member Kevin Conboy, who hopes to collect and archive the stories online. The Newsletter will feature one each month.

LARRY CALLAHAN, CEO OF PATTILLO INDUSTRIAL REAL ESTATE—FROM MULLIGANS ROSSLEA, COUNTY FERMANAGH TO ATLANTA, GEORGIA



“Daniel Callahan was my fourth great grandfather. He lived from 1770 to 1860 in Mulligans Rosslea in County Fermanagh, NI. His son, Thomas L. Callahan, rented another house, pictured here, with his father in Annagulan, Roslea, County Fermanagh, NI, for a period; he lived from 1801 to 1849. A flax grower, he was my third great grandfather.

“His son, James Callahan, moved to Aghalurcher Parish in Fermanagh; this is a hamlet on the road from Cavan to Enniskillen. He lived from 1831 to 1885. James’ son Edward lived from 1869 to 1946. Edward was the émigré who moved to America and settled in Memphis, where he was a Fire Captain. His son, William Robert Callahan, was my grandfather. Among other things, he was a professional baseball player who pitched for the Cincinnati Reds. He lived from 1900 to 1980. His son, William Robert Callahan, Jr., is my father, born in 1933 and still living.

“And I was born in Pennsylvania, moving to Atlanta when I was in high school, finishing at St. Pius High School where I was a running back for the football team. I graduated from Georgia Tech with highest honors and then earned an MBA from Indiana University. I met my wife Cathy at St. Pius, and we have been married for almost 41 years now. She is more Irish than I and gave me three wonderful children. Laura is an attorney working for the State Department, Tom has an MBA from Notre Dame and Tim is an attorney in Washington, DC.”

If you would like to tell the story of how you got from Ireland to the Southeast, please contact Kevin Conboy at kevinpatrickconboy@gmail.com.