



## **For Immediate Release**

### **MASSACHUSETTS IS IRISH ALL MARCH LONG**

*State Bursts at the Seams with Parades, Theatre, Music, Dance, Film & More*

BOSTON, March 2, 2010. Staking a claim as the most Irish state in the Nation (24 percent of the state claims Irish ancestry), Massachusetts celebrates all month long with parades, celebrations, revelries and events highlighting a rich and cultural heritage. This St. Patrick's Day season, don't miss out on some of the biggest and most colorful parades happening all across the state.

“Residents and visitors alike can paint the town green for the entire month with events that provide one of the biggest celebrations outside of Dublin.” said Betsy Wall, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Office of Travel + Tourism (MOTT).

To begin your Massachusetts Irish experience, visit: [www.massvacation.com](http://www.massvacation.com) and [www.irishmassachusetts.com](http://www.irishmassachusetts.com) for complete listings of the state's happenings. MOTT's social networking pages on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Visit-Massachusetts/132857061913> and Twitter <http://twitter.com/VisitMA> always keep visitors and residents updated on the state's events, attractions and activities.

#### **St. Patrick's Day Parades**

Cape Cod St. Patrick's Day Parade - Yarmouth

Saturday, March 6, 11:00 am □ Starts: Corner of School St, & Rte. 28, West Dennis □ 508 362-PADY (7239) [www.capecodstpatparade.com](http://www.capecodstpatparade.com)

#### **Worcester St. Patrick's Day Parade – March 14, Noon**

Park Avenue □ 508 755-1955 [www.stpatparade.com](http://www.stpatparade.com)

The 23rd annual St. Patrick's Day Parade celebrates the Irish of Central Massachusetts, who began settling in the Worcester area as early as 1718. In 1825 Irish immigrants came to Worcester to build the city's canals and roadways, and the community flourished thereafter.

#### **Boston's St. Patrick's Day Parade – March 14, 1:00 p.m.**

Broadway MBTA Stop, South Boston □ 617 268-7955

[www.saintpatricksdaysparade.com/boston/boston.htm](http://www.saintpatricksdaysparade.com/boston/boston.htm)

This year's 110th annual parade honors the 'Men and Women of the Armed Forces' and features marching bands and pipe bands from throughout America. South Boston is Boston's most Irish neighborhood, and has a glorious tradition of helping others while keeping Irish heritage alive. The parade committee is led by John Hurley, a Navy veteran and South Boston native.

#### **Scituate St. Patrick's Day Parade - March 14 1:00 p.m.**

Gate Middle School, First Parish Rd □ 781 545-6671 [www.scituatechamber.org](http://www.scituatechamber.org)

Scituate's 12th annual St. Patrick's Day parade is popular among the South Shore and Cape Cod communities. The parade ends at scenic Scituate Harbor. Scituate is nicknamed the Irish Riviera, since many Irish politicians like James Michael Curley and the Kennedys liked to vacation there in summer.

**Abington St. Patrick's Day Parade - March 21, 1 p.m.**

Abington Center ☐ 781 878-1570 or 781-878-7785

**Holyoke St. Patrick's Day Parade - March 21, Noon**

Downtown Holyoke ☐ 413 533-1700 [www.holyokestpatricksparade.com](http://www.holyokestpatricksparade.com)

The 55th annual Holyoke Parade is reckoned to be one of the largest in the nation. The parade is the culmination of numerous Irish events in March that celebrate the Irish community of western Massachusetts, many of whom emigrated from County Kerry and the Blasket Islands in the 20th century.

**Lawrence St. Patrick's Day Parade – March 21, 1 p.m.**

City Hall ☐ 978 794-5858

**Celebrations, Revelries, Irish Culture & Heritage**

**“Moon Shot - JFK and Space Exploration” Exhibit – Through May 30**

[www.jfklibrary.org](http://www.jfklibrary.org)

In celebration of the 40th anniversary of the first Moon landing and President Kennedy's grand vision that made the achievement possible In 1961, President Kennedy challenged the nation to land a man on the Moon and return him safely to Earth before the end of the decade. Appealing to the spirit of adventure, to patriotic pride, and to the cause of freedom, his words ignited one of the greatest technological mobilizations in U.S. history. Eight years later, on July 20, 1969, two American astronauts landed on the Moon's surface. John F. Kennedy Presidential Library & Museum ☐ Columbia Point, Boston, ☐ 9:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m., \$10, \$8 for seniors over 62, \$7 for children 13-17, Free for children 12 and under, ☐ 1 866 JFK-1960

**Imelda May at House of Blues (Boston, MA) – March 6**

[www.houseofblues.com](http://www.houseofblues.com)

Ireland's queen of rockabilly – Imelda May – plays a special concert at Boston's House of Blues on Saturday, March 6, along with British jazz crooner Jamie Cullum. May was seen live on the recently televised Grammy Awards with guitar ace Jeff Beck.

**Irish Tea Party – March 7**

[www.irish-cairde.org](http://www.irish-cairde.org)

Celebrate St. Patrick with entertainment and refreshments. An afternoon show that features local musicians and dancers, as well as refreshments, raffles and selection of essay contest winners from local children. Cultural Centre at Elms College, Chicopee, 413 265-2537

**The Chieftains: ☐ Presented by Lowell Memorial Auditorium – March 9**

[www.lowellauditorium.com](http://www.lowellauditorium.com)

The trappings of fame have not altered The Chieftains' love of, and loyalty to, their roots - they are as comfortable playing spontaneous Irish sessions as they are headlining a concert at Carnegie Hall. After all these years of making some of the most beautiful music in the world, The Chieftains' music remains as fresh and relevant as when they first began. Lowell Memorial Auditorium ☐ 50 East Merrimack Street, Lowell, ☐ \$39.75 - \$49.75, 7:30 p.m., ☐ 978 454-2299

**The Irish Rovers At The Colonial Theatre (Pittsfield, MA) – March 11**

[www.thecolonialtheatre.org](http://www.thecolonialtheatre.org)

These international ambassadors of Irish music will deliver a rollicking, rousing performance of good cheer that will have audiences on their feet, singing and clapping along. 111 South Street Pittsfield, MA 01201, (413) 997-4444

**The Chieftains: ☐ Presented by The Hanover Theatre – March 11**

The Hanover Theatre □ 2 Southbridge Street, Worcester □ \$43.50 - \$55.50 | 7:30 p.m. □ 1-877-571-SHOW | Purchase tickets [here](#) | [thehanovertheatre.org](http://thehanovertheatre.org)

Six-time Grammy winners and nineteen-time Grammy nominees, The Chieftains continue to maintain an international touring schedule that has brought them before literally millions of fans on every continent. □ Click here to enter to win FREE TIX!

“Poetry and Power: The Inaugural Address of John F. Kennedy

### **Swing Into Spring Fundraiser – March 12**

Cash bar, complimentary hors d'oeuvres, live entertainment by Old Bridgade, a performance by Clifden Academy of Irish Dancers and a special appearance by singer Pauline Wells. The event is sponsored by Corcoran Brokerage and Common Market. All proceeds to benefit Milton High School athletics. The Common Market, Café Main Room □ 97 Willard street, Quincy □ Purchase tickets at Corcoran Brokerage, 617 698-5900, \$20, 7pm to midnight

### **Reagle Players Presents: A Little Bit of Ireland – March 12-14**

[www.reagleplayers.com](http://www.reagleplayers.com)

Robinson Theatre □ 617 Lexington Street, Waltham □ AD: \$35 - \$45 | CH (5-18 yrs): \$25 | Seniors: \$1 off | Students 1/2 price 1 hour before show □ 781-891-5600, Groups 781-894-2330

### **JFK Library Presents: Themselves - - An Immigrant's Story – March 13**

[www.jfklibrary.org](http://www.jfklibrary.org)

What is it like to leave home and settle in a new country? Follow a young nineteenth-century Irish woman on a journey to America. Hear about her struggle to begin a new life while keeping her Irish heritage alive in this interactive performance featuring storytelling, traditional music, and an Irish jig. John F. Kennedy Presidential Library & Museum □ Columbia Point, Boston □ 10:30 am, Free Performances For Children Ages 5 and Up □ 617 514-1644, Reservations required |

### **South Boston's St. Patrick's Day Breakfast – March 14**

[www.massconvention.com](http://www.massconvention.com)

State Senator Jack Hart of South Boston hosts this enjoyable breakfast roast of local politicians, all in good fun, to kick off Irish celebrations throughout the city. Boston Convention & Exhibition Hall □ 415 Summer Street Boston, MA 02210 □ 617 269-HART

### **Lawrence Hosts Traditional Irish Breakfast □ As part of Irish Heritage Month Celebrations – March 14**

[www.homestead.com](http://www.homestead.com)

Hosted by Mayor William Lantigua. The Menu includes Eggs, Irish Bacon, Irish Sausage, Barry's Irish Tea, Scones, Brown Bread, Irish Soda Bread, Black and White Pudding. Sponsored by Division 8 AOH and LAOH, the Irish Foundation and the Claddagh Friendship Society. □ See Irish Heritage Month full line up here. Claddagh Pub & Restaurant □ 399 Canal Street, Lawrence □ 8:00 am - 12:00 noon, \$9 □ 978 688-8337

### **Jiminy Peak Mountain Resort – March 17**

[www.jiminypeak.com](http://www.jiminypeak.com)

St. Patrick's Day \$17 e-coupon on March 17<sup>th</sup>. Green snow on parts of the mountain along with green beer and other special events. Check out [jiminypeak.com](http://jiminypeak.com) for more information and to sign up for your e-coupons. 37 Corey Road, Hancock, MA 01237, (413)738-5500

### **Cape Breton Dance Music □ Kimberly Fraser and Troy MacGillivray – March 18**

[www.bc.edu](http://www.bc.edu)

Hosted by Gaelic Roots program at BC, headed by fiddle master Seamus Connolly. Boston College □ Connolly House, 300 Hammond Street, Chestnut Hill □ 6:30-8:30 pm, 617 552-0490

### **Hogan's Goat at Tamo Bar - March 19-20**

[www.seaportboston.com](http://www.seaportboston.com)

The celebration continues through the weekend with local favorite Hogan's Goat. A three-piece band featuring traditional Irish music, Ballads and Sea Shanties. The Irish favorites will remain on the menu (boiled dinner, Shepherd's Pie) along with sliders, gourmet pizza and lots of delicious finger foods for sharing. Tamo Bar at Seaport Hotel Boston □ One Seaport Lane, Boston, 7pm - 10pm, □ 617 385-4000

### **Very Hungry Caterpillar and other Eric Carle Favorites – March 20**

[www.broadwayacrossamerica.com](http://www.broadwayacrossamerica.com)

Eric Carle's Very Hungry Caterpillar, Little Cloud and Mixed-Up Chameleon spring to life on stage through the colorful black light puppetry of the Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia. Colonial Theatre □ 106 Boylston Street, Boston

### **Andy Cooney's Forever Irish □ As part of Irish Heritage Month Celebrations – March 23**

Singing star Andy Cooney is joined by Ireland's King of Blarney George Casey, Celtic Folk Artist Kate Purcell, the Darrah Carr Dance Troup and Irish America's Greatest Musicians. Sponsored by Division 8 Ladies and Men Ancient Order of Hibernians. See Irish Heritage Month full line up here. Claddagh Pub & Restaurant □ 399 Canal Street, Lawrence □ \$25, For tix call: Anne-Marie Nyhan-Doherty at 978-390-3400, Mary Ellen Pelletier 978-886-5062 or □ William Sullivan at 978-682-4875

### **Music from Ireland, New England, Appalachia and Scandinavia □ - March 25**

[www.bc.edu](http://www.bc.edu)

Cross the Water: Songs and Tunes from Ireland, New England, Appalachia, and Scandinavia. □ Hosted by Gaelic Roots program at BC, headed by fiddle master Seamus Connolly with Cindy Kallet and Grey Larsen Boston College □ Connolly House, 300 Hammond Street, Chestnut Hill □ 6:30-8:30 pm, 617 552-0490

### **The 11th annual Irish Film Festival - March 25-28**

[www.irishfilmfestival.com](http://www.irishfilmfestival.com)

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*The Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism is the state agency dedicated to promoting Massachusetts as a leisure travel destination and to stimulate the Massachusetts economy by generating state and local tax revenues, creating jobs, and supporting the growth of travel related businesses. MOTT serves as a leader in the tourism industry, bringing together the public and private sectors to promote Massachusetts as a leisure travel destination. For more information about MOTT visit [www.Massvacation.com](http://www.Massvacation.com)*