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## **Irish News**

<u>Budget 2016</u>, including the statements of the Minister for Finance and the Minister for Public Expenditure, was released on October 13.

The Minister for Finance also announced a new a Knowledge Development Box (KDB) facility which has been added to Ireland's International Tax Strategy. This will be the first and only box in the world to meet the tough new standards of the OECD's 'modified nexus' approach. For detailed information on the KDB see "Update on Ireland's International Tax Strategy-2015 Department of Finance" at <a href="https://www.budget.gov.ie">www.budget.gov.ie</a>

1800 local and community plans for marking the  $100^{th}$  anniversary of the  $\underline{1916 \text{ Rising}}$  in Ireland next year were published.

In early October the deaths of 10 family members in a fire in Carrickmines, Co Dublin, and the murder of a member of An Garda Síochána in Omeath, Co Louth, were mourned across Ireland. The <a href="Taoiseach">Taoiseach</a> and <a href="Tánaiste">Tánaiste</a> spoke in the Dáil about these terrible fatalities. The Tricolour was flown at half-mast on all public buildings, including our Embassies and Consulates, on the occasion of their funerals.

The Taoiseach met US Secretary of State Kerry's Personal Representative, Senator Gary Hart, on October 14 to discuss the situation in Northern Ireland

Ireland's Official Oversees Aid budget will <u>increase</u> to €640 million in 2016, a 7% increase in the overall budget. This will enable a sharpened focus on addressing poverty and vulnerability, and on the needs of refugees fleeing conflict, poverty and the effects of climate change

Four top High School teams from Georgia and Florida, Marist High School, Blessed Trinity High School, Buford High School and Belen Jesuit Preparatory School, confirmed on October 22 that they will play regular season games in Dublin on Friday, September 2, 2016, on the eve of the Georgia Tech-Boston College Game in Ireland.

A new <u>Global Irish Newsletter</u> was released in October. Why not check the newsletter and sign up for their mailing list?

Charlotte Irish Connection raised \$19,000 for charity "A Childs Place" at an event on 19 October.

President Higgins undertook an official visit to the West Coast of the United States October 21-29. His <u>programme</u> took in Seattle, San Francisco, contact with Microsoft and Google. While in Berkeley he spoke on <u>ending global hunger</u> and at a <u>Tribute to the First Responders and Volunteers of Berkeley</u>

In today's <u>Irish Times</u> the Minister for Foreign Affairs has written on a New cross-Border crime task force key to North talks

The Web Summit, November 3-5, is about to start in Dublin.

## **Upcoming Events in the South East**

"Into the West" and "This Is My Father" will be <u>screened</u> at the Robert Scott Small building on November 5, 5-10pm at the College of Charleston.

Excitement is building for <u>Irish Fest Atlanta</u>, November 6-7, at the Wyndham Atlanta Galleria Hotel. This great family-friendly event will feature National and local Irish musicians, music, dance and cultural workshops and an address by the Consul General on the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 1916.

On November 12, from 12pm, the <u>Irish Chamber of Atlanta</u> will host a lunch at the Georgia Tech Hotel with Neil Naughton, CEO of the Glen Dimplex Group, and Chair of the High Level Steering Group overseeing the Boston College-Georgia Tech game in Dublin on Sept 3, 2016. Naughton will lead a media, corporate and Dublin City Council delegation to Atlanta to accelerate preparations for what will be <u>more than a game</u>.

On November 16, from 5-7pm, the Irish Chamber of Atlanta will welcome Larry Byrne of Club Choice Ireland to brief on golf, tourism and commercial links with the South East of Ireland at a Networking Event at Fadó Midtown, 933 Peachtree St. Atlanta, GA 30309.

The <u>2015 Feis ATL / Hotlanta Feis</u> will take place November 20-22 at the Sheraton Airport Atlanta. There will be over 750 top Irish dancers and 2,000 spectators at this fantastic event over three days.

If there are Irish events you'd like us to highlight in future newsletters, please let us know

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Consulate General of Ireland Monarch Plaza, Suite 260, 3414 Peachtree Road NE, Atlanta, GA 30326. November 2, 2015