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BELOW: Elaine Gordon in action at the first International Turf Throwing Test in Ballaghaderreen, part of the May Day Fair Day celebrations. Pic: Mick McCormack.



New tax will 'hammer' farmers – Connolly

Local Fine Gael Cllr. Domnick Connolly (right) has described the timing of the newly introduced tax on agricultural diesel as 'cynical in the extreme'.

Speaking over the weekend Cllr. Connolly said: "The Government's new carbon tax on green diesel was introduced on May 1st. Its timing is cynical in the extreme – it coincides with the beginning of summer, which is the season when farm machinery is busiest.

"This will hammer farmers and agricultural contractors. Its cost will

push up the price of silage contracting and tillage products in particular. Ultimately those costs will be passed right along the food chain to the grocery shopper.

"Fine Gael strongly opposes taxing farm diesel, and our party's Dáil representatives sought to amend the carbon tax by providing an exemption on green diesel. That amendment was rejected by Fianna Fáil.

"Farming is one of the few indigenous industries that we have left in Roscommon and across rural Ireland. The indus-

try should be encouraged during this difficult time. The Government must take one final look at this tax. There is still time to reverse it before the summer harvest season begins in earnest."



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Barrie Harris Walk presentation

The presentation of funds from this year's Barrie Harris Walk will take place on Saturday night next May 8th in O'Roarke's Bar, Creggs. Funds raised from the walk on St. Valentine's Day will be distributed among a range of local worthy charities.

Healing prayer

Are you suffering pain? Would you like prayer for healing? Are there impossible situations in your life? Hope Community will be holding a prayer clinic in Hannon's Hotel on Thursday 13th May. Telephone (090) 64 89110 for a personal appointment to receive prayer for your situation. Prayer makes a difference!

Death of Willie Corcoran mourned

There was widespread sadness at the death earlier this week of Willie Corcoran of Ballygurry, Knockcroghery, who passed away at Roscommon County Hospital after a short illness. In his early 80's, Willie Corcoran was a well-known and highly respected member of the local community and his passing will be widely mourned. He is survived by his wife Martina, sons Pat, Bernard and Liam, daughters Mary, Bridie and Noleen, other relatives and a wide circle of friends. Large crowds attended the removal from Smyth's funeral home on Monday evening and the requiem Mass and burial in Lecarrow on Tuesday. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

Untimely death of Tony Farrell

There was widespread shock and sadness last weekend at news of the sudden and untimely death of Tony Farrell of Ballinagard Road, Roscommon.

Tony Farrell was one of the best-known personalities in the local farming community, having worked for many years as the manager in the creamery in Athleague and in latter years for Connacht Gold Co-Op. He retired a few years ago and was aged in his early 60s.

He was a very popular and well-liked man who enjoyed an occasional game of golf and his passing was widely mourned this week. He is survived by his wife Sheila, daughters Fiona, Olivia and Sinead and by his son Paul, mother Sheila and stepfather Wallace, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, relatives and a large circle of friends.

The huge crowds that attended the removal from his home on Monday evening and the requiem mass and burial on Tuesday were a measure of the esteem in which the late Tony Farrell was held. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

VEC classes

A range of VEC classes are currently available. 'Early Childhood Education' is a Fetac level 5 component module. It takes place in Monksland Community Centre from 10 am to 1 pm, starting on Tuesday, May 11th. This course takes place on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings for five weeks.

'Care of the Older Person' is a Fetac level 5 component module. It takes place in HEC Boyle from 10 am to 1 pm, starting on Monday, May 10th. This course takes place on Monday and Thursday mornings for five weeks.

These courses are free of charge to participants with less than Leaving Certificate, medical or GP card holders, social welfare recipients or their dependants and cost €210 for all others.

Call Stephanie at Roscommon VEC for more information (090) 66 34189.