

County Leitrim Society of New York



Sean MacDermott
(1884-1916)

(Founded in 1895)
P.O. Box 72, Woodlawn Station
Bronx, NY 10470

Web Site: www.leitrimsofny.com



December 20, 2024

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Dear Member and Friends:

The 128th Annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner and Dance of the County Leitrim Society of New York will be held on Friday, March 14, 2025 at **Antun's, 96-43 Springfield Blvd., Queens Village, NY 11429**. The deluxe cocktail hour will begin at 7:00 PM and followed by dinner and dancing to the **Rumor Has It Band**. **Tickets are \$125.00 each**. Please make reservations early; payment prior to the dance is greatly encouraged and appreciated.

The Guest of Honor this year is Thomas (Tom) Mulligan. Tom Mulligan was born in the Bronx to Irish parents, John and Margaret Mulligan, from Ballinamore and Cloone. The Mulligan family maintained strong Irish traditions, with John playing an active role in the Leitrim Society, where he was honored as Guest of Honor in 1993, a legacy Tom proudly continues.

Tom attended St. Nicholas of Tolentine Grammar School and Sacred Heart High School, where he excelled in football, baseball, and track. He later played Gaelic football with the New York Celtics minors and briefly with the senior Leitrim team in the 1980s. After high school, he earned a bachelor's degree in Marketing from Mercy College.

In 1990, Tom took over the family's beloved Fireside Pub, a Bronx staple since 1977. Under his leadership, the pub became renowned for its music scene and flat-top burgers, hosting many top acts, including Bagatelle, Paddy Reilly, The Wolfe Tones, Margo, and Larry Cunningham, singer of the hit song "Lovely Leitrim." The Fireside is a beloved venue in the community and continues to attract a loyal following.

Tom met Patricia in 1982, and they married in 1990. They raised three daughters—Kelsey, KatieLynn, and Patricia—in Eastchester, New York, where they built a life filled with love, laughter, and a deep connection to their Irish heritage. Though Patricia passed in 2017, her memory lives on, and Tom remains closely connected to his daughters and the extended family. They frequently visit relatives in Leitrim, strengthening bonds that span generations and distances. We are delighted to have Tom as our Guest of Honor this year.

The Distinguished Service Award recipient this year is Declan Paul Flynn. Declan is the 6th child of 10, with 5 older brothers and 4 younger sisters, born to Peter and Mary Flynn of Greaghnaslieve, Drumkeeran, County Leitrim. Declan attended Moneenatieve National School and Drumkeeran Vocational School.

In his 20's, Declan spent time in Ireland and England working as an apprentice in the building trades. He moved to the Bainbridge area of the Bronx in 1986 and put the skills he learned as an apprentice to use in construction throughout Westchester County and NYC. He eventually accepted a Resident Building Manager position on the Upper West Side of Manhattan and later moved to Rye, NY for a similar position.

As a proud father of three beautiful daughters; Dayna (36), Una (29) and Maureen (26), he quickly became aware that the girls needed more living space than a two bedroom apartment could provide. Declan decided to move his family to a lovely colonial home, one town over in Port Chester, NY where he formed a small local home improvement company, Declan P Flynn Remodeling.

As the girls started to grow and spend less time at home Declan accepted a position as the Resident Property Manager in Greenwich, CT where he now resides in a quaint cottage on the building property.

Declan is an active and valued member of the County Leitrim Society of New York and holds the prestigious position of Vice President of the Rye Fish and Game Club. Declan holds many other titles: brother, son, friend, father, to name a few but the title he is most proud of is "Granda Plucky" to his grandchildren Ramini Maeve and Ruairí-Ram. Declan is very appreciative of this recognition and we congratulate him on this well-deserved honor.

We are publishing a **Souvenir Journal** in conjunction with the dance and a contract is enclosed. Please strongly consider placing an advertisement in our Journal as it offers the benefit of wide exposure to the Irish Community in the tri-state area. If you have any questions, please contact the **Journal Chairpersons, Sharon Brady at (914)224-1158 or Anna Mulvey Buggy at (347)371-0023** or by email at leitrimsoconyjournl25@gmail.com Thank you for your continued support over the years.

For reservations, please contact **Bernadette Dunleavy (917)648-2144 or Meg McKeon-Baker (718)445-8365, Reservation Chairpersons, or by email to berniedunleavy@yahoo.com** Please make all checks payable to 'County Leitrim Society of NY' and return to Bernadette Dunleavy, 238 Blackford Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10704 before March 8, 2025.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you on Friday, March 14.

Yours sincerely,

Margaret Taylor-Finucane
Dance Chairperson
(917)655-1493

Noeleen Bohan McGovern
President
(914)643-7368