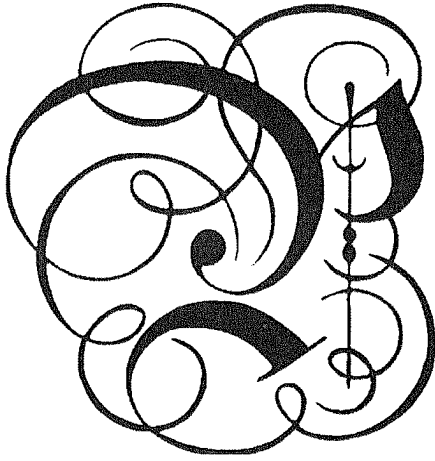


Westchester County
Board of Legislators



Proclamation

Joe Aland

John M. Murnan

Ken Jenkins

Tom Albanese

Raymond

Louis Barry

Bernice Spederman

Robert D. Sammis

Martin Rogowich

James Mairone

Vito Fruto

Ben Buntin

Peter B. Walker

Spencer Williams

Judith G. Dyson

Whereas

Westchester County is fortunate to enjoy the presence and accomplishments of people of many different ancestries and backgrounds. We are gathered here tonight in the Chamber of the Westchester County Board of Legislators to celebrate those of Irish descent whose unique zest for life, cultural richness and desire to serve their community has benefited our county and nation. These talented and dedicated men and women came to America seeking independence and an opportunity for a better life and came with the determination to make this possible for all, and

WHEREAS, the Irish especially identified with the principles of liberty contained the American *Declaration of Independence* which has inspired freedom-loving people around the world. On the 90th anniversary of the adoption of the Irish Declaration of Independence, we commemorate the struggle in Ireland for independence and the role of many loyal Irish immigrants in the achievement of American Independence and in the defense of freedom and our way of life, and

WHEREAS, in the general election of December 14, 1918, over 79 percent of the electorate of all Ireland voted for candidates pledged to establish in law a free Irish Republic. Those elected and assembled deputies to *An Chéad Dáil Éireann*, the first national assembly of all Ireland, regarded their election as a national self-determination plebiscite, and

WHEREAS, the Irish People were resolved to secure and maintain their "complete independence in order to promote the common weal, to re-establish justice, to provide for future defence, to ensure peace at home and good will with all nations, and to constitute a national policy based upon the people's will with equal right and equal opportunity for every citizen," and

WHEREAS, inspired in part by the American example, the Irish Declaration of Independence was promulgated in the Mansion House in Dublin, by *An Chéad Dáil Éireann*, on January 21, 1919, and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the role played by Irish immigrants through the years from the battlegrounds of the American Revolutionary War to today's service in foreign conflicts, the Westchester County Board of Legislators joins with Chairman William J. Ryan in commemorating the 90th Anniversary of the Irish Declaration of Independence on January 21, 1919, **THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED, that, in recognition of all that the Irish and the Irish community have done and continue to do to enhance the quality of life in Westchester and in recognition of our shared struggle for independence, the Westchester Board of Legislators joins its Chairman William J. Ryan in proclaiming March 1, 2009 through March 31, 2009 Irish History and Heritage Month to recognize and celebrate the contributions of our Irish residents, **AND BE IT FURTHER**

RESOLVED, that the text of this proclamation be carried throughout the County of Westchester for all people of good will to forever know.

Given Under My Hand and Seal this 5th Day of March, 2009

William J. Ryan
Chairman

Tim B. Kennedy
Legislator

