

The  
WESTCHESTER COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS  
presents

# Irish History & Heritage CELEBRATION

Recognizing the traditions, folklore and  
history of the Irish legacy in America.

**Monday, March 22, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.**

Hosted by

## PROGRAM



**Ken Jenkins**  
Chairman



**Bill Burton**  
Legislator



**William J. Ryan**  
Legislator



**Jim Maisano**  
Minority Leader



**John G. Testa**  
Legislator

### Processional

Westchester County Police Emerald Society of Westchester  
Pipes and Drums Band

### Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Minority Leader James Maisano

### Invocation

Reverend Eric P. Raaser, Pastor, Church of the Assumption  
Church of the Immaculate Conception, Tuckahoe

### Welcoming Remarks & Acknowledgements

Legislator Ken Jenkins, Chairman

### Youth Performances

Introduction by Legislators Bill Burton & John Testa

- **Traditional Irish Step Dance**  
Performance by Catherine and Molly Boozang-Hill, Ossining
- **An Ensemble of the Rockland County Edward V. Larkin Memorial Pipe Band**  
Performance by Jack Crowe, Sean Howe, Owen Reda & Tom Brown, Mount Pleasant

### Presentation of Proclamation

Introduction by Legislator Bill Ryan  
Accepted by Mr. Bill McCormack, County Marshal; Mr. Brian Kelly,  
President, Westchester County Ancient Order of Hibernians

### Closing Remarks

Legislator Ken Jenkins, Chairman

### Benediction

Reverend Eric P. Raaser, Pastor, Church of the Assumption  
Church of the Immaculate Conception, Tuckahoe

**Ken Jenkins**  
*Board Chair*  
Legislator, 16th District

**John G. Testa**  
Legislator, 1st District

**Peter B. Harckham**  
Legislator, 2nd District

**John M. Nonna**  
Legislator, 3rd District

**Michael B. Kaplowitz**  
Legislator, 4th District

**William J. Ryan**  
Legislator, 5th District

**Martin L. Rogowsky**  
Legislator, 6th District

**Judith A. Myers**  
*Majority Whip*  
Legislator, 7th District

**Alfreda A. Williams**  
Legislator, 8th District

**William E. Burton**  
Legislator, 9th District

**Vito J. Pinto**  
Legislator, 10th District

**James Maisano**  
*Minority Leader*  
Legislator, 11th District

**Thomas J. Abinanti**  
*Majority Leader*  
Legislator, 12th District

**Lyndon D. Williams**  
*Vice Chair*  
Legislator, 13th District

**Bernice Spreckman**  
Legislator, 14th District

**Gordon A. Burrows**  
*Minority Whip*  
Legislator, 15th District

**José I. Alvarado**  
Legislator, 17th District





Westchester County  
Board of Legislators



Proclamation

*Bernice Speckmann*  
*Gordon A. Barron*  
*John Albert*  
*John Manner*  
*John D. Wilbur*  
*William J. Ryan*  
*John G. Testa*  
*Judith P. Ryan*  
*Vito P. Pinta*  
*Ally Williams*  
*Ken Jenkins*  
*John G. Testa*  
*John G. Testa*

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 91ST 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**, 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 DEFENSE, 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**, 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 EIREANN , 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 DEFENSE, 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 EIREANN, ON JANUARY 21, 1919, AND

**WHEREAS**, IN RECOGNITION OF THE ROLE PLAYED BY IRISH IMMIGRANTS THROUGH THE YEARS FROM THE BATTLEFIELDS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY WAR TO TODAY'S SERVICE IN FOREIGN CONFLICTS, **THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, THE WESTCHESTER COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS JOINS WITH CHAIRMAN KEN JENKINS, AND LEGISLATORS BILL BURTON, JIM MAISANO, WILLIAM J. RYAN, AND JOHN G. TESTA IN COMMEMORATING THE 91<sup>ST</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE IRISH DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE ON JANUARY 21, 1919; AND **BE IT FURTHER**

**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 KEN JENKINS IN PROCLAIMING MARCH 1, 2010 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2010 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 22<sup>nd</sup> Day of MARCH, 2010

*Ken Jenkins*  
Chairman

*William Burton*  
*John G. Testa*  
Legislator

