



## **County Roscommon Society of New York** **92<sup>nd</sup> Annual Saint Patrick's Celebration Dinner Dance Honorees**

**Robert McGinty** grew up in Mahopac, New York, born the third son to Patricia (née Rogers) (Castleplunkett, Roscommon) and Robert McGinty (Dublin). Rob has two brothers, Mark and John, and two sisters, Laura and Katie. Rob spent his summers as a child at his mother's home place, Emlagh, in Castleplunkett, and has returned annually with his wife of almost twenty-four years, Elaine (Kildare), and their three children, Ciara, Ava and Rory, of whom he is very proud. Rob joined the FDNY in 2003 and has proudly served the past eighteen years as a member of Ladder 33/Engine 75 in the Fordham section of the Bronx. Rob has been a member of the FDNY Gaelic Football Club since 2004, supporting the team in their numerous efforts down through the years against the Dublin Fire Brigade and the Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service, both in Ireland and in New York. Rob is also an active member of both the Emerald Irish Society and the Holy Name Society of the FDNY. Rob became a member of Local 638 Steamfitters Union in 1989 and has worked in New York City in this capacity ever since. In his youth, Rob played for WestPut Gaels (since renamed WestPut Setanta G.F.C.), with whom his son Rory plays U17 today. Rob has been a member of the County Roscommon Society of New York since 2012 and has enjoyed attending, and supporting, the society's dinner dances and social events spanning many years.

**Edward Fanning** hails from Newark, NJ, born the second child to Nora (née Casey) (Cloonagrassan, Roscommon) and Joe Fanning (ancestral roots Mayo) along with his siblings, Dick and Sheila. Ed married Ann O'Mahony (Cork) in 1967, and was blessed with four children, Ed, Jr., Kathleen, Thomas and Joseph. Their family expanded to include daughters-in-law Mary, Katie and Kelly, along with ten grandchildren, Brendan, Grace, Sean, Colin, Molly, Owen, Alice, Maggie, Rory and Nora. Ed graduated SHU Law School in 1972 and has worked as a patent attorney and a litigator since that time. He is a Senior Partner in the firm Tansey, Fanning, Haggerty, Kelly, Convery and Tracy, and is admitted to practice law in the state and federal courts of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. Ed, along with his brother Dick and Joe Driscoll, co-founded the Union County Irish American Association in 1986, and has been a member of the Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh since that time. Ed also co-founded Trinity Pipes and Drums, which was formed under the auspices of Holy Trinity Church, Raritan, NJ and is currently a member of South Park and District Pipes and Drums. Ed has been a member of the County Roscommon Society of New York for many years.

**Sean Mannion** was born in Milltown, Castleplunkett, the second of six children to parents Andy and Emily Mannion. In his youth, he played football with St. Mary's Kilmurray and also St. Brendan's Killina, before both clubs amalgamated to become Tulsk. Sean developed a love of music and together with Pat Coll, John Staunton, Liam Lannon (RIP), Jimmy Kearney and his brother Andy, he formed a showband called The Hawaiians. At a young age Sean found himself as band leader. Many great nights followed both in Ireland and England, but in the 1970's the band disbanded amicably as most members wanted to pursue other careers. Sean met Alice (Cloonboniffe) in Dublin, whom he married in 1974 and they became the proud parents of Derek, Kevin and Sharon, and later, the proud grandparents of Gary, Tremain, Erin, Conor, Lucy, Bobby and Eva. Shortly after, they moved back to Milltown and started their own wholesale confectionery business, which still operates today. Sean became involved with Tulsk GAA Club, receiving several accolades and serving in many different roles through the years, including Clubman of the Year, Sports Personality of the Year, Roscommon U21 Selector, to name a few. Sean became the first ever chairperson of the then newly formed Pastoral Council, a post which he held for six years, he was also a director of Roscommon Community forum from 2013-2015. Sean has been a member of the Castlerea Brass and Reed Band since 1993 and has served as band leader for 23 years. The band has had many successes, including being the first and only band from Roscommon to lead St. Patrick's parades in New York, New Jersey, London, Birmingham and Manchester.

Rob, Ed and Sean are each very honored to be included in the company of wonderful honorees of the past, and would like to sincerely thank the County Roscommon Society of New York for bestowing upon them this incredible distinction.