## Mid-Hudson St. Patrick's Parade Committee PO Box 45 Chester, NY 10918 www.mhspp.org

Kevin Strommer, President William Coffey, Vice President William Kirnan, Recording Secretary Stephen Corry, Treasurer Unateresa Sheahan Gormley, Financial Secretary



## Maureen Mulcahy, Grand Marshal's Breakfast Committee Chair

Dear Sir or Madam,

The Mid-Hudson St Patrick's Parade Committee invites you to participate in our Parade and celebrations on Sunday March 16th, 2025. The Grand Marshal for the 2025 Parade is **Mr. William Michael Coffey.** 

William Michael Coffey was born on February 09, 1967, in the Bronx to Terrence (Terry) and Elizabeth (Phyllis) Coffey. William (Billy) was the second born of seven children in a large Irish family. His father Terry was also born in the Bronx. Billy's mother Phyllis was born in Kells, County Meath, Ireland and moved to America when she was 16 years old. His Irish roots run deep with his grandparents coming from County Longford, County Meath, County Cavan and County Leitrim.

Growing up in the Bronx in a three-bedroom apartment, with seven kids, was no easy task for his parents, however, it did keep them a close-knit family to this day. Billy played Gaelic football in the Bronx for the Fordham Shamrocks in his younger years and enjoyed it immensely. In the 70's Billy's grandmother, Nellie Coffey, who was a considerable influence on his Irish upbringing, would regularly be seen attending all Irish social gatherings, fundraisers and GAA events, and there wasn't too many of those events where Billy wouldn't been seen by her side. Friday and Saturday nights were always part of his favorite memories as a child. Billy would spend most weekends at his grandmother's apartment on Perry Avenue, in the Bronx. Saturday nights were when family and friends sat around and sang songs and talked to the wee hours of the morning. It was then that he learned the valuable skill of mixing a Highball or a Tom Collins. Who knew that bartending skill would play a significant role later in his life tending bar?

When Billy was almost 12 years old, the Coffey family packed up and moved to Orange County in December of 1978 and they have been here ever since. Billy graduated from Washingtonville High School in 1985. He spent most of his life in the construction industry as a carpenter. In 1995 he moved to San Diego, California where he owned and operated, We Haul, a home moving and freight shipping company in San Diego and was concurrently the general manger for Global Logistics Shipping. Upon his return to NY, he joined IBEW Local 164 as a communications electrician in New Jersey and for the past 23 years he has been employed at the Glezen Fisher Group, as an architectural door and hardware consultant and a manufacturer's sales representative. In 2017 he formed Blackthorn Sales and Consulting Services and in 2020 purchased the Glezen Fisher Group where he still works as an architectural hardware specification consultant today.

Billy is the Immediate Past President and proud member of Orange County AOH Joseph D. Duelk Jr Division 1, in Monroe, NY. In 2018 he was elected as their Vice President. In 2019 he was elected President and honorably served for 4 years. Billy currently serves as Marshal for Orange County AOH Board. He is a ranking member on the executive board for the JDJ Corporation in Monroe, NY. Billy is currently on the executive board for the Mid-Hudson St Patrick's Parade Committee and has been proudly serving as the Vice President for the past 5 years. In 2013, Billy became involved with coaching Hurling and Gaelic Football for St Brendan's Gaelic Football Club and shortly after was elected to their executive board as Vice President where he served from 2015-2017 and then was elected President in 2018 and served until 2020. He is currently an Auditor for St Brendan's Gaelic Football Club. Billy is also the Chairman for a few positions at Monroe's AOH Division 1: Thomas Flemming Memorial Scholarship Fund Chairman, Missions and Charities Chairman, Division Organizer and was most recently appointed as lead chair for the Division Election Committee.

Billy is extremely humbled to have been nominated to be the Grand Marshal, in the 2025 Mid-Hudson Saint Patrick's Parade, in Goshen, NY and will accept that position with great honor!

**CONGRATULATIONS** William Michael Coffey! We are proud to have you as the face of the 2025 Mid-Hudson St. Patrick's Parade!

Mass in Honor of St. Patrick - March 16, 2025, at 9:00 am: At the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, 70 Carmelite Dr. Middletown, N.Y. 10940.

Grand Marshal's Breakfast - Sunday, March 16th, 2025, at 10:30 am: To honor Grand Marshal, William Michael Coffey and his Aides at the Middletown Elks No. 1097, 48 Prospect St., Middletown, NY 10940. Tickets are \$25.00 each. Please fill out and return the form below no later than March 1, 2025. Please make your check payable to *Mid-Hudson St. Patrick's Parade Committee*. Sorry, tickets will <u>not</u> be sold at the door.

**The 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Mid-Hudson St. Patrick's Parade - Sunday, March 16, 2025:** Will be in Goshen, N.Y. The lineup is between 1:00 pm and 1:30 pm at the Scotchtown Ave. exit of the Orange County Government Center. Step-off is at 2:00 pm. The Parade will end back at the Government Center.

We look forward to seeing you at all our Irish festivities.

| Very truly yours, |   |
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| Maureen Mulcahy   | , |
| Breakfast Chair   |   |

| Clip and return with payment |  |
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| Name:                        |  |

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_

Number of people attending: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ Check #: \_\_\_\_\_

Checks payable to Mid-Hudson St. Patrick's Parade Committee

Contact: Maureen Mulcahy, Breakfast Chair, email: <u>maureendmulcahy@icloud.com</u>, cell: (845) 742-9530 or Mail requests and ticket purchase to: Maureen Mulcahy, Breakfast Chair, 62 Sterling Road, Greenwood Lake, NY 10925.