

Speaker Ryan: Announces annual Friends of Ireland Luncheon

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WASHINGTON—Today, House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) announced that the annual Friends of Ireland luncheon will take place on Thursday, March 15 in the Rayburn Room of the United States Capitol. As per tradition, President Donald Trump and Prime Minister of Ireland Leo Varadkar are scheduled to participate as an ode to St. Patrick's Day and strong U.S.-Ireland ties. This is the third year that Speaker Ryan will host this event.

"This luncheon is a tradition deeply rooted in the Capitol's St. Patrick's Day season," said Speaker Ryan. "I am thrilled to welcome the Taoiseach and the president for it. Ireland has been and remains a strong ally of ours, and I'm honored to have a third opportunity to tout that friendship. Equal parts beer and bipartisanship, I trust it will surely satisfy everyone's appetite to celebrate St. Patrick."

Watch this background video for more on this bipartisan tradition, started in 1983 by President Ronald Reagan and Speaker Tip O'Neill to signify their bipartisan commitment to peace and security in Ireland.