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# Roscommon people

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## ORAN MAST: LOCALS TO SEEK COURT INJUNCTION TODAY

■ Paul Healy

The Oran Donamon Action Group will seek a court injunction today (Thursday) to try and prevent eircom from commencing work on their controversial plans to erect a mast in the area.

Last week Roscommon County Council cleared the way for 'Threefold' – a company acting on behalf of eircom – to proceed with a project which has outraged local people. Roscommon Council had refused planning for the

mast – to be located on an existing eircom site – but An Bord Pleanála later overturned that decision.

Locals have opposed the project on health and safety grounds and are particularly appalled at the fact that the mast is to be located just thirty metres from the home of Michael and Claire Hussey and their three children.

When workers arrived at the site yesterday (Wednesday) to carry out some preliminary work, a concerned Mr. Michael Hussey spoke with them.

It was indicated to him that personnel will return today (Thursday) to commence work on the site.

Mr. John F. Hanley, committee spokesperson, told the *Roscommon People* on Wednesday evening that the Action Group will seek a court injunction today (Thursday). "In anticipation of these men returning on Thursday and moving in on site we will be seeking to have the work terminated on the basis that they (eircom) have moved the location of the mast from the

southern boundary to the northern boundary. If we are successful in getting an injunction a judicial review will follow."

Mr. Hanley said significant fund-raising has already been undertaken. "The local people are united on this and we have more fund-raising planned. We will be pursuing every legal avenue open to us." He added that the IFA, who are supporting the local committee's campaign, are endeavouring to secure a face-to-face meeting with eircom.



Traditional methods of trading were on display at the official opening of the Roscommon Lamb Festival on Wednesday. See pages 14-15 and 8 inside. Picture: Andrew Fox.

### Leyden forfeits pension

Senator Terry Leyden announced yesterday morning (Wednesday) that he is to give up his Ministerial pension, which amounts to €21,700, because "we are now in a very tough economy". The announcement was made on RTE's Morning Ireland radio programme and followed the decision by several other politicians who are receiving a salary as a member of the Oireachtas as well as a pension for being a former Minister to forfeit their pensions.

Asked why it had taken him so long to make the decision, Senator Leyden noted that RTE staff had taken a place in the Dáil and then returned to RTE and he added, "you are not the most neutral people in the situation." Senator Leyden also called for pension entitlements within the entire public service system to be reviewed.



## PLUNKETT HOME BOOST

A decision to re-instate the day care services at Plunkett Home, Boyle, was welcomed this week by both Minister Michael Finneran and Fine Gael TD Frank Feighan. The dramatic decision follows a meeting on Tuesday, April 27<sup>th</sup> with Ms. Aine Brady TD, Minister for Older People and Health Promotion. Following the meeting, arranged by Minister Finneran, a decision has been taken to re-instate the Day Care Services at the Plunkett Home, subject to the moratorium on recruitment in the public service being lifted by the Minister for Finance in this case.

Minister Finneran said: "Minister Brady TD stated she had secured funding for the post of a Clinical Nurse Manager. The Health Service Executive has already carried out interviews and has identified the person suitable for the position. This proposal is now with Brian Lenihan TD Minister for Finance for approval and this is expected within days." See full story and reaction on page 25.



At the recent Athleague/Tremane Hurling Club medal presentation and social were Carina Delaney, Hazel Murray and Tracy Connolly. More photographs in our next issue. Picture: Ken Nolan.

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