



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Montauk's Friends of Erin St. Patrick's Day Parade Is 56 Years Young on March 25;  
Second Largest St. Paddy's Parade in New York State**



Called the second largest St. Paddy's parade in New York State, the Montauk Friends of Erin 56<sup>th</sup> St. Patrick's Day Parade kicks off the visitor season in Montauk, Long Island, on Sunday, March 25.

The Montauk Chamber of Commerce ladles out hot soup for sale in parade commemorative mugs, starting at 10 a.m. Grand Marshal, Kathleen Keller, kicks off the parade at noon. Keller is the third Keller family grand marshal, following her brother Patrick in 2007, and father Gil in 1969, and is the granddaughter of Joseph Pugh, one of the founding fathers of the parade. Keller is a member of the Friends of Erin Ladies Auxiliary.

"Generations and thousands of Montaukers, East Enders and visitors, young and old, have been cheering on the family-friendly floats for more than half a century," notes Laraine Creegan, executive director, Montauk Chamber of Commerce.

Three Friends of Erin events lead up to the big parade. They are on March 10, with the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner at The Point Bar & Grill, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. On March 23 is Behan's Grand Marshal Luncheon at the Montauk Yacht Club, where the Grand Marshal is introduced, roasted and presented with the parade sash, top hat and shillelagh, noon to 3 p.m. (tickets by advance sale by Joan Lycke at the Montauk Laundromat). On March 24, is the Gala Cocktail Party at Gurney's Montauk, 4 to 8 p.m. that includes a buffet, open bar and live music and a "Pot of Gold" raffle. It is one of the main fundraiser events for the parade. For information visit <http://www.montaukfriendsoferin.org/>

During the parade, kids have fun with green face-painting, grabbing foam shamrocks and shillelaghs, and collecting lucky beads and candy tossed from the floats of hometown businesses and fire trucks. Long Island

bagpipe bands march in the parade which starts on Edgemere Street, to South Edison Street and enters Main Street at the east end of town.

A variety of hot soups are donated by Montauk restaurants for the soup sale including Montauk Yacht Club, Naturally Good and Inlet Seafood Restaurant, with many more signing up this month.

WLNG Radio broadcasts live from the parade and via a live stream at <http://tunein.com/radio/WLNG-921-s30715/>

**Visit Montauk Chamber of Commerce Facebook page for updates on the parade:**  
[www.facebook.com/pages/montauk-chamber-of-commerce/296102421861](http://www.facebook.com/pages/montauk-chamber-of-commerce/296102421861)

**Follow the Montauk Chamber on Twitter on parade day, as we will have info and feeds tweeted  
Live from the parade route: <https://twitter.com/Montaukinfo>**

*Montauk Chamber of Commerce is a member business organization dedicated to providing community leadership for the development of and sustaining a sound economy, primarily through responsible tourism, for Montauk, NY. It provides leadership in the creation of constructive community action and a forum for the exchange of ideas and information for the betterment and care of the hamlet.*

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