



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Feb. 26, 2019

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Welcome Spring at the 57th Montauk Friends of Erin St. Patrick's Day Parade, March 24



The Montauk Friends of Erin St. Patrick's Day Parade, founded in 1962 to "bring the dreary winter to an end," kicks off spring in Montauk, Long Island, on Sunday, March 24. Grand Marshal, Gordon G. Ryan Esq., leads the parade at noon.

"For 57 years, generations of Montaukers, East Enders and visitors come to downtown Montauk to cheer on the family-friendly floats, marchers and welcome the spring season," comments Laraine Creegan, executive director, Montauk Chamber of Commerce, one of the, literally, "heart-warming" participants in the event. The Chamber ladles out hot soup donated by Montauk restaurants for sale in parade commemorative mugs, starting at 10 a.m. on Sunday and the soup is served starting at 11 a.m. Mugs may be purchased in advance at the chamber starting on March 22.

Three Friends of Erin fund-raisers lead up to the big parade. They are on March 9, with the 16th Annual Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner at The Point Bar & Grill, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. On March 22, noon to 3 p.m., is the Grand Marshal Luncheon at Gurney's Star Island Resort and Marina, where the Grand Marshal is introduced, roasted and presented with the parade sash, top hat and shillelagh (an Irish walking stick). It is hosted by Joan Lycke, a past Marshal. Purchase tickets in advance only at Montauk Laundromat. On March 23, is the Gala Cocktail Party at Gurney's Montauk Resort and Seawater Spa, starting at 6 p.m. that includes a buffet, open bar and live music and a raffle, "Pot of Gold." It is one of the main fundraisers 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, gathering lucky beads and candy tossed from the floats of hometown businesses and fire trucks. Long Island

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

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

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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Photo: Kathleen Keller, last year's Montauk Friends of Erin St. Patrick's parade Grand Marshal proudly wears the green.

Courtesy: Montauk Chamber of Commerce