



**Rockville Centre's St. Patrick's Parade, Inc.**  
**265 Sunrise Highway ~ Suite 1-350**  
**Rockville Centre, New York 11570**  
[www.rvcstpatrick.com](http://www.rvcstpatrick.com)



March 2012

On this 16<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year we are extremely proud to honor an amazing woman and ardent supporter of the Rockville Centre St. Patrick's Parade ~ Kathleen Alcock. Since the Parade's beginning Kathleen has been there lending support, guidance and always asking "what can I do to help". Kathleen is a wonderful ambassador to all that come into Rockville Centre and her "Little Irish Shop" *Kathleen's of Donegal* is a warm and friendly business that helps to make the Rockville Centre's business community the place to shop on Long Island. *Kathleen's of Donegal* is celebrating 25 years in Rockville Centre and it is fitting that Kathleen Alcock is being honored as the First Woman and 16<sup>th</sup> Grand Marshal of the "Parade that Cares and Shares"®.

Since the Parade's inception in 1997, \$676,000 has been distributed to 45 individual charities. The Rockville Centre St. Patrick's Parade Committee is thrilled to support the 2012 sponsor charities: Association for Children with Down Syndrome (ACDS), ECAD ~ Educated Canines Assisting with Disabilities and The Ronald McDonald House of Long Island.

This year the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Rockville Centre St. Patrick's Parade will step off at 12 Noon on Saturday March 24<sup>th</sup> 2012. We will have over 90 groups participating, including most of the Metropolitan area's top Pipe Bands. We depend on the generosity and support of our sponsors to enable us to reach out to those in need. Our sponsorship dollars generate the necessary funds that allow us to raise needed funds to underwrite our Parade and support our charities. Year after year, our very proud sponsors have stated that the exposure they receive pales in comparison to the feeling they get when they see the members of the charities march by.



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We, in Rockville Centre, have a level of social responsibility that is beyond compare. The parade committee holds our sponsors in high regard, not only on parade day, but all year through. Included are applications for the sponsorship and journal opportunities that are being offered in 2012. These applications outline the various benefits you would receive should you chose to donate and take advantage of them. If none of these are within your budget, please know that all donations are greatly appreciated. We are looking forward to a wonderful parade in 2012 and hope that you will join us in supporting the giving nature of the Irish and the community of Rockville Centre. We are "Marching Towards a Million" dollars raised and we would love for you to be a part of this journey.

The RVC St. Patrick's Parade Committee is a 501(c)3 Charitable Organization. All donations are tax deductible within the guidelines of the Internal Revenue Service.

Gratefully yours,

**Sean O'Rourke**  
Co-Chairperson  
**516-380-4671**

**Kathleen Schwarting**  
Co-Chairperson  
**516-635-5687**

**Michael Spieler**  
Sponsorship  
**516-456-1722**

**John Glynn**  
Journal  
**516-817-0127**

The Rockville Centre St. Patrick's Parade is

**"The Parade that Cares and Shares"®**

**15 Years ~~ 45 Charities ~~ \$676,000 Raised**

**"Marching Towards a Million!!!!"**

## 2012 Event HIGHLIGHTS

### 16th Annual Calendar of Events

#### "The Taste of Rockville Centre"

Food and Wine Tasting Event

Friday, January 27, 2012 ~ 7-10 pm

St. Agnes Parish Center

North Village Ave, Rockville Centre, NY

Contacts: Dennis and Jane Houdek

Cell (347) 512-2182

Home(516) 608-2954

#### Grand Marshal's Reception

Friday, March 23, 2012 ~ 7 pm

Rockville Links Club

Contacts:

Susan Boland ~ (516) 413-8825

Paddy Boland ~ (516) 413-2277

#### Breakfast Fundraiser

Sunday, March 11, 2012

8 am - 1 pm

CJ's Coffee Shop

225 N Long Beach Rd, Rockville Centre, NY

Contacts:

Kevin O'Brien (516) 594-3900

Jeanne Mulry (516) 536-0376

#### Commemorative Mass

Saturday, March 24, 2012 ~ 9 am

St. Agnes Cathedral

29 Quealy Place, Rockville Centre, NY

Contact: June Cosgrove

(516) 536-6997

# 16th Annual Parade

## Saturday, March 24, 2012 ~ 12 Noon

Corner of Long Beach Rd and Maple Ave

~ Rockville Centre, New York ~

Contacts: Suzanne Sullivan ~ (516) 297-6033

Keely Collins ~ (516) 764-8729

#### Annual Golf Outing

Hosted by: Kasey's Kitchen and Cocktails

September 2012

Contacts:

Tom McNicholas

Anthony Geraci

(516) 766-5049

#### Fall "Kick Off" Fundraiser

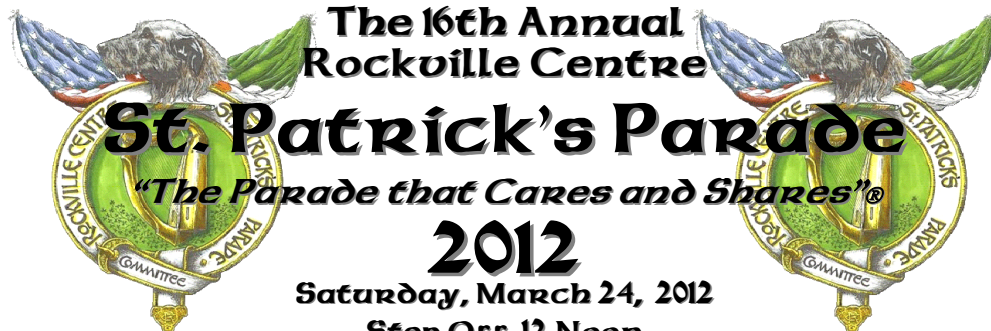
Hosted by: R.J. Daniels

Fall 2012

Check

[www.rvcstpatrick.com](http://www.rvcstpatrick.com)

for details



**2012**  
Saturday, March 24, 2012  
Step Off 12 Noon



## Kathleen Alcock

### ***MISSION STATEMENT***

Rockville Centre's St. Patrick's Parade was established on March 22, 1997, and remains dedicated to:

*"Promoting Irish heritage and culture, family and patriotic values; promoting and financially supporting three charities (National, Irish and Rockville Centre focused); and contributing to the good and welfare of the residents and businesses of Rockville Centre."*

*The Rockville Centre St. Patrick's Parade is  
"The Parade that Cares and Shares"®  
15 Years ~ ~ 45 Charities ~ ~ \$676,000 Raised*

#### Key Contacts

##### Co-Chairpersons

Sean O'Rourke (516) 380-4671

Kathleen Schwarting (516) 599-2953

##### Public Information

Catherine Muscente (516) 678-5000 ext. 6218

##### Fundraising

Michael Spieler - (516) 456-1722

##### Journal

John Glynn (516) 817-0127

##### Mailing Address

265 Sunrise Highway ~ Suite 1-350  
Rockville Centre, NY 11570

##### Chosin Few

Official Parade Color Guard

#### Former Grand Marshals

- 1997 Most Reverend John R. McGann, Bishop of Rockville Centre
- 1998 NYPD Detective Steven McDonald
- 1999 Honorable Peter King, Congressman
- 2000 Rockville Centre's Millennium Mayors
- 2001 William J. Flynn
- 2002 James F. Gill
- 2003 Joseph F. Roughan
- 2004 Joseph K. Collins
- 2005 Major General Joseph A. Healey
- 2006 David Crowe
- 2007 Jack Irwin
- 2008 Francis Darcy
- 2009 Francis Murray
- 2010 Bernie O'Brien
- 2011 Joseph Kelly & Francis "Bud" Cosgrove

## The 2012 Rockville Centre St. Patrick's Parade Selected Charities



The Association for Children with Down Syndrome ("ACDS") was established more than 40 years ago and serves over 700 individuals affected by Down syndrome and other severe developmental disabilities. ACDS is dedicated to providing lifetime resources of exceptional quality, innovation and inclusion for individuals with severe developmental disorders, providing them with hope and support through all of life's stages through a cycle of mutual service and support, and has become Long Island's leading provider to such individuals. Specifically, for the approximately 300 children per year it serves, from infancy to 5 years old, ACDS provides a continuum

of year-round programs and services that include diagnostic evaluations and treatment, early intervention, day care/nursery school, preschool, special education and clinical services. In addition, for the approximately 250 children aged 5 and over ACDS serves per year, it provides evening and weekend recreation services while providing its adult population, approximately 50 adults aged 21 and over, with supervised homes.



Educated Canines Assisting with Disabilities, Inc. ("ECAD") a national non-profit organization incorporated in New York and primarily serving the East Coast through its mission of enabling people with disabilities to gain greater independence and mobility through the use of specially trained dogs. ECAD has placed over 150 educated dogs with clients with a range of disabilities. From the first ECAD client who suffered from muscular dystrophy to some of the latest, wounded warriors contending with disabilities and/or post traumatic stress disorder or children with autism, ECAD recognizes that each disability calls for a different kind of assistance from the dog.

These canine skills range from opening the door of a refrigerator or pulling socks on and off, grocery shopping or picking up change, acting as an anchor, providing strength or balance when needed, and, always, the companionship of a good friend who will give unconditional love. Each dog is to respond to over 80 commands when finished with their training, which lasts from when they are about 8 weeks old until they are about 2 years old.



The Ronald McDonald House of Long Island, which opened in 1986 in New Hyde Park as the 100th of the over 300 Ronald McDonald House programs around the world. Its mission is to give shelter and comfort to the approximately 1,000 families with a seriously ill child in a local hospital it serves per year. A "home-away-from-home", the House provides the parents and siblings of these children with a temporary haven in a secure and comfortable environment among other families sharing a similar burden. The New Hyde Park House consists of a 44,000 square foot facility which includes 42 bedrooms, each with a private bath, children's play areas both inside and outdoors, a

library, eight kitchen stations, two Kosher kitchens, a fully stocked food pantry, five laundry rooms and a great room where the families can socialize or watch television. For more privacy, there is a small TV room on the second floor and an additional main floor lounge that is perfect for quiet activities



## 2012 Grand Marshal Kathleen Alcock

The Rockville Centre St. Patrick's Parade Committee has chosen long time Rockville Centre businesswoman Kathleen Alcock, the owner of "Kathleen's of Donegal" at 10 North Park Avenue, Rockville Centre, to be Grand Marshal of the event, scheduled for Saturday, March 24, 2012. She is the first woman ever to be selected as Grand Marshal.

"Kathleen Alcock has been a staunch supporter of the Rockville Centre St. Patrick's Parade since its inception in 1997," said Parade Committee President Sean O'Rourke, noting her extensive list of contributions to the success of the Parade. "Her charitable work, her family values, her love of life and her tireless dedication to serving her country, her church and her community reflect the true essence of the Rockville Centre St. Patrick's Parade—The Parade That Cares and Shares®, that celebrates both our Irish heritage and our pride in being American. She has broken the glass ceiling, which is what we are all about—she is a great Irish woman."

Kathleen Alcock was born in County Donegal as the oldest of three children. In 1958, at the tender age of 19, Kathleen set sail to America and an uncertain future. During the next three years, Kathleen lived with her aunt in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania and worked in the hotel industry. In 1961, Kathleen set off for New York and another uncertain future, working for the next four years in Schraff's Restaurant in Manhattan. After returning to Ireland just before Christmas, 1965, she met her husband, Thomas Alcock, by chance on a trip to England to meet friends. They wed in February 1967, and this year celebrated their 44th Anniversary. They are the proud parents of three grown children and have 12 grandchildren with another one expected in March 2012, just in time for the step off of this year's Rockville Centre St. Patrick's Parade. In the early 1970s, Kathleen decided to follow her dream and opened her own Irish handcraft and gift shop business as an extension to her own home in County Donegal, allowing her to run her home and business at the same time. In the early 1980s, Kathleen opened her second Irish craft shop in Donegal town. After the opening of this second shop, Kathleen became involved heavily in organizing tours and events for various Irish American associations and produced a visual travelogue of Donegal's history, scenery, and folk traditions for tourists. While visiting New York in 1986 to promote her completed video of Donegal, Kathleen visited Rockville Centre where she instantly felt a connection to both the town and the people. This instant connection led Kathleen to open Kathleen's of Donegal at 10 North Park Avenue in March of 1987. Kathleen's of Donegal will celebrate its 25th year of being in business in March of 2012, once again just in time for the step off of the Rockville Centre St. Patrick's Parade. During its long tenure in Rockville Centre, the shop has provided a hand knit sweater to the late President Ronald Reagan and Belleek porcelain china to former President Bill Clinton. In addition, Kathleen's of Donegal has donated hand knit sweaters to New York Governors and traditional Irish walking sticks to the Grand Marshals of the St. Patrick's Parades in both New York City and Rockville Centre. "I am humbled and proud to be associated with 'The Parade That Cares and Shares®,'" Kathleen Alcock said. "And I am honored to serve as the Grand Marshal for the 2012 parade".



