

O'Riordan St. Patrick's Day Parade

Sponsored by
The Youngstown Business & Professional Association

Noon Saturday,
March 18
Main Street in
Youngstown

Let the St. Patrick's Day festivities begin

BY TERRY DUFFY

Editor-in-Chief

Come Friday, March 17, and into next weekend, the annual St. Patrick's Day celebrations will again commence throughout Buffalo-Niagara.

A true celebration of Irish culture, look for a host of happenings big and small in two counties over three days. These include the Old First Ward Shamrock Run and Neighborhood Parade/Irish Hooley in South Buffalo; the "World's Shortest Parade" in Niagara Falls; countless Irish-themed gatherings throughout the region; civic dinners and Irish dance troops/performance at the Buffalo Irish Center; celebratory Masses in churches; bar crawls in downtown Buffalo; a shopping cart parade in Youngstown; "the grand parade" in downtown Buffalo – it goes on and on.

Bishop Michael William Fisher of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Buffalo even granted dispensation from the Lenten abstention from eating meat for next Friday.

Yes, Buffalo Niagara knows how to celebrate the day – so much so that WalletHub rates Buffalo No. 9 out of 200 cities nationwide for 2023 when it comes to its Irish-American heritage, and No. 4 in celebrations of Irish traditions.

Jay Josker of Visit Buffalo-Niagara called this "holiday" a do-whatever-suits-your-fancy type of affair.



"Whether you plan to celebrate for a few hours or all weekend, the best way to experience St. Patrick's Day is to forget the plan, grab some friends and see where the day takes you. Because there's always a hooley to be had (with) St. Patrick's Day celebrations in Buffalo."

So many celebrations, you just might as well call it St. Patrick's weekend.

Some "goodies" to check out:
•The 39th annual St. Patrick's Day celebration, presented by the Niagara Falls chapter of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, opens at 4:45 p.m. with the "World's Shortest Parade" from the corner of Rainbow Boulevard and Old Falls Street. The evening con-

tinues with family-friendly Irish-themed activities from 5 to 11 p.m. inside the Niagara Falls Convention Center, 101 Old Falls St.

Look for offerings of Irish foods, beverages, the Restless



St. Patrick's Day 2022 celebrations in Niagara Falls and Youngstown. (File photos)

Souls on stage, and the McCarthy School of Irish Dance on the floor.

Tickets are priced at \$10 pre-sale, \$15 at the door, with those SEE YOUNGSTOWN, on Page 12

The Town of Porter wishes to congratulate
YBPA on the Annual O'Riordan
St. Patrick's Day Parade

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Join the Youngstown Business and Professional Association for the annual

O'Riordan St. Patrick's Day Parade

Saturday, March 18
Noon
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This sign property of the Youngstown Business and Professional Association

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