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## St. Patrick's Day parades Saturday in Mount Kisco, Peekskill

*Marcela Rojas and Sean Gorman  
The Journal News*

Irish heritage celebrations are on tap this weekend in two northern Westchester communities.

Both Peekskill and Mount Kisco will host their annual St. Patrick's Day parades on Saturday.

In Peekskill, the event is extra special because it is the city's 20th parade. Bagpipers, Boy Scouts, fire departments and community groups will march through downtown Peekskill starting at 3 p.m. A 1:30 p.m. Mass at Assumption Church will precede the event.

The parade has a new route this year that will step off at the Washington Engine Company firehouse on South Division Street. The parade's reviewing stand will be at James and Park streets. The celebration also will feature 10 bands.

Among the participants will be Joselle Cunane, a longtime Peekskill St. Patrick's Committee member who was selected this year as the parade's grand marshal.

"It's quite an honor especially being that it's the 20th anniversary," Cunane said. "It speaks to the longevity of the event."

Cunane said it is telling for her that Dr. John McGurty was the parade's first grand marshal in 1990, and his son, Dr. John McGurty Jr., was the 10th, and that she will now be the 20th. Both men have been her doctors throughout the years. Cunane was raised in Peekskill and went to school with former Gov. George Pataki, she said. She now lives in Garrison.

"I'll be walking the same route that I did going back and forth to school," said Cunane, who works in the business department of the Westchester Medical Practice in Yorktown.

Each year, the Mount Kisco St. Patrick's Day parade draws thousands of people downtown to watch marching bands, antique cars and bagpipe players.

"That's our main focus - just to have a nice family event and celebrate Irish-American culture," said William McCormack, president of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, Division 16.

Near the front of the parade will be Mount Kisco resident and attorney Thomas Singleton, who is its grand marshal.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians - a fraternal group of Irish Roman Catholics - picked Singleton for the top parade honor, citing his work with local groups such as the Mount Kisco Lions Club and the Moses J. Taylor Jr. American Legion post.

"That's one good thing about America is that we have a multitude of nationalities and religions and so forth," said Singleton this week.

The parade will start at 2 p.m. at the intersection of Moore Avenue and Main Street. From there, the parade will head north to South Moger Avenue where it will turn south before ending at Green Street.

There will be a reviewing stand at the gazebo across the street from the South Moger Avenue Starbucks.

Shortly before the parade, around 1 p.m., storyteller Jonathan Kruk will tell Irish children's stories at the reviewing stand.

## Additional Facts

### On the Web

**Mount Kisco parade:** [www.aohdiv16.org](http://www.aohdiv16.org)

**Peekskill parade:** [www. peekskillstpatricksparade.org](http://www.peekskillstpatricksparade.org)

**Share your St. Patrick's Day celebration photos:** [www.LoHud.com/snap](http://www.LoHud.com/snap).

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