



The 26th Annual Manhattan Irish Fest is will be held on March 6th and 7th in Downtown Manhattan. The Irish American Society of County Will (IASCW) is the official Fest host in conjunction with the Village of Manhattan. The parade will begin at 11am on Saturday, March 7th beginning on North Street then proceeding to State Street.

Each year, the Manhattan Irish Fest honors individuals who exhibits the grass-roots ideals the Fest exemplifies of service to the community, devotion to family, and love of country. We are proud to introduce Franklin Forsythe Jr., the Grand Marshal of the 2020 Manhattan Irish Fest Parade.

Frank is so old that he had Anna McDonald as his 1st grade teacher. A lifelong member of Manhattan, Frank is 1 of 5 brothers who terrorized the community of 800 in the 1960's.

A graduate of St. Joseph Grade School, Providence Catholic High School and College of St. Francis. Frank is married; he has three children & seven grandchildren all of which reside in the area. Self employed as a Financial Representative with COUNTRY Financial. Frank has been involved with Manhattan in numerous capacities from volunteering to financially supporting several initiatives. He was a member of the Manhattan Fire Department for 40 years, served one term on the planning commission and three terms on the Village Board of Manhattan. He's served as the commissioner of men's and women's softball for the Park District for several years and has coached boys and girls baseball and basketball teams for over 20 years. He has been involved with Manhattan Irish Fest since its inception; volunteering on several committees and most recently as chairman of the Manhattan Irish Fest parade committee. A financial supporter of many of the community programs, sports teams and civic events.

Frank cares about his community. When out of town he is often asked, "Where is Manhattan?" and his answer is always the same! He asks them, "Do you plan on going to Heaven?" and when they say yes, he responds, "Manhattan is the last stop before Heaven."

His favorite saying is "Tonight We Ride."

For more information www.manhattanirishfest.com