



“THE BIRTHPLACE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK”
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

THOMAS M. ROACH
MAYOR

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**WHITE PLAINS ST. PATRICK’S DAY PARADE
CELEBRATES THE IRISH
AND THE WEARING OF THE GREEN**



WHITE PLAINS, NY, February 24, 2016. On Saturday, March 12, 2016 White Plains will hold its 19th Annual White Plains St. Patrick’s Day Parade.

2016 also marks the 100th Anniversary of the Easter Rebellion/Rising. The Easter Rebellion, organized by a band of poets, Irish language enthusiasts, former British soldiers and a revolutionary Marxist, was mounted by Irish republicans to end British rule in Ireland and establish an independent Irish Republic. It was mounted while the United Kingdom was heavily engaged in World War I.

(More)



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The White Plains St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee is honored to have William Bertram as this year's Grand Marshall. Bill has served as a St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee member since its inception. Bill will lead the parade with his aides, who can all trace their ancestry back to Ireland: Coleen Ward Iodice (Galway and Roscommon), Doris Mady (Cork), Geri Molloy (Galway), Timothy Ryan (Waterford), Kevan Slattery (Clare, Offaly, Tipperary, Mayo or Sligo) and Patrick Walsh (Cork). Bill Bertram's roots go back to Galway.

Bill received an Associate's Degree in Applied Police Science from Westchester Community College, and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from Mercy College. In 1963 Bill enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and is a decorated veteran with the rank of E4 Airman First Class. Following the Air Force Bill worked for Con Edison in New York City. In 1968 he was sworn in as a Police Officer with the City of White Plains Police Department and was assigned to the Patrol Division. He has also been in Radar Enforcement, Sergeant, and Lieutenant. He was assigned to the Department's Administrative Division and as Executive Officer to the Traffic Division where he served until his retirement. He was a decorated member of the City of White Plains Police Department, having received eight Meritorious Duty Awards, a Life Saving Award and numerous commendations. Bill retired from the Police Department on December 30, 2003 after serving for 35 ½ years.

Before his retirement in 2003, Bill had the honor of also becoming an Irish citizen. Since 1969 he has been a member of the Police Emerald Society of Westchester and has served as the Society's Financial Secretary, 2nd Vice President, Trustee and is currently a Trustee Emeritus. He was also a member of the Police Emerald Society of Westchester Pipe and Drum Band and a member of the N.Y. Police Fire Retiree Association, American Legion Post 1009 Yorktown Heights, The Friendly Sons of St. Patrick in the County of Westchester, and the Putnam County Traffic Safety Board. Bill was instrumental in establishing the Police Retirees of White Plains Association and served as its First President.

Bill has been married for almost 48 years to Joanne Emhardt and they have three children.

The installation of the Grand Marshal and Aides will be on Wednesday, February 24th at Vintage Bar & Restaurant, 171 Main Street in White Plains, starting at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments will be offered from 6:30 - 7: 30 p.m. Live music by Pdraig Allen will follow the Installation Ceremony. A \$20 donation is requested at the door.



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John Martin, chairman of the White Plains St. Patrick’s Parade Committee, may be contacted at [914-686-0239](tel:914-686-0239) for further details on the installation reception or the parade. For more information about the parade go to: <http://www.whiteplainssaintpatricksday.com>.

Parade Day will begin with 9:00 a.m. mass at Our Lady of Sorrows Church, 920 Mamaroneck Avenue in White Plains. The parade itself will begin promptly at 12 noon on Mamaroneck Avenue and proceed to Main Street.

After the Parade all are encouraged to visit White Plains restaurants for Irish music, dance and food.

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