

# 58th Annual Parade

March 22, 2009



**2009 Parade President**  
Robert F. Kane, Jr.

The 2009 Holyoke St. Patrick's day Road Race and Parade was certainly one for the record books. As we passed all former milestones in Race participants and spectators and with estimates of over 300,000 smiling faces lining the entire 2.6 miles of our Parade route. The mark has been set for future St. Patrick's weekends to reach. It was certainly a weekend that best symbolized for me the core values of our Parade Committee Family, Religion, Community and Heritage.

It was summed up best by my 9 year old son Aidan, when he first encountered the crowds as we embarked on our march that day. He turned and announced to us " Family, get used to the glory" and a glorious day it was for the Kane family as well as our esteem award winners.



**2009 Grand Marshal**  
Christine (Padden) Zajac



**2009 Rohan Award**  
Russell J. McNiff, Jr.

Christine (Padden) Zajac , Our 2009 Grand Marshal and her family led us off with the grace and civic pride that made her the excellent selection for this honor. The Grand Marshal was followed by the Float carrying the 5 beautiful young women that made up this year Grand Colleen and court. Ashley Tucker (our Grand Colleen) and her court consisting of Bridget Sullivan, Kaleigh Clark, Alexandra Grass and Caitlin O'Neill.

The 2009 JFK award winner was a very special one in the fact that we honored a Holyoke native son who has truly distinguished himself in his chosen career. Joseph Loughrey and his family marched proudly.

Tommy Leonard our 2009 Citizenship Award winner, Russ McNiff Jr our 2009 Rohan Award winner, Kateri Walsh our 2009 O'Connell Award winner and Michael Ahearn our 2009 Gullivan Award winner along with their family walk the streets of Holyoke being greeted with the cheers of support that made them worthy recipients of their respective Awards.



**2009 O'Connell Award**  
Kateri Walsh



**2009 Gullivan Award**  
Michel T. Ahearn

The 2009 Ambassador Award winner Patricia Harty the Editor -in -chief and co-founder of Irish America magazine was accepted warmly by the crowds that welcomed her to our community.

Once again a sincere Thank You to everyone for such a memorable experience that Brittney, Devan, Aidan, Martie and I will never forget.

Cead Mile Failte

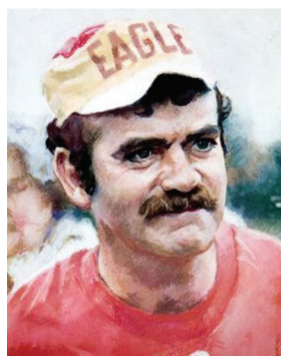
Rob Kane



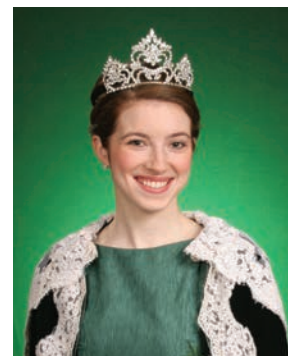
**2009 John F. Kennedy Award**  
Joseph Loughrey



**2009 Ambassador's Award**  
Patricia Harty



**2009 Citizenship Award**  
Tommy Leonard



**2009 Grand Colleen**  
Ashley R. Tucker

