



# 55th Annual Parade

March 19, 2006

March 19, 2006 marked the 55th annual St. Patrick's Day Parade. It was a brisk day to say the least, one of the coldest I can remember. But as is the tradition with this grand celebration in Holyoke, the people came out and lined the parade route to celebrate, view, and cheer the parade. The parade was the "longest on air" television broadcast we have ever had, yet it moved swiftly down the street. More than 45 marching bands participated and we had a combination of 50 floats – which are judged and "float floats" which are your not so ordinary wheeled vehicles – in the parade, the most we have ever had. The grand prize float winner, the Westfield Colleen Float, scored a perfect 300 – the first time we ever had a perfect score.



2006 Parade President  
David J. O'Connor



2006 Grand Marshal  
Frederick L. Sullivan, Esq.



2006 Rohan Award  
Richard J. Dupuis

The 2006 parade was led by our Grand Marshal, Fred Sullivan, his wife Judy, and their family. Our Grand Colleen, Katy Brunelle, and her court sat proudly atop the Holyoke Grand Colleen float and joyfully greeted all the onlookers with the famous colleen wave. Our JFK National Award Winner, Thomas Ridge, was unable to be with us parade day due to a previous speaking engagement in Australia. He did, however, proudly wear his tartan tie at 5:00 a.m. Sunday morning on his way to the airport. David Kelly, our Ambassador Award recipient, direct from Dublin, said "It truly was the grandest parade I have ever seen". Holyoke award winners Hank Porten, Rich Dupuis, Roger Reidy, and Peter Stewart all proudly marched with family and friends, some marched several times, through the streets of Holyoke greeting all as they went. All of the equally as proud out-of-town marshals, Colleens, and award recipients, came to proudly march in Holyoke on the day when Western Mass comes to Holyoke to celebrate.

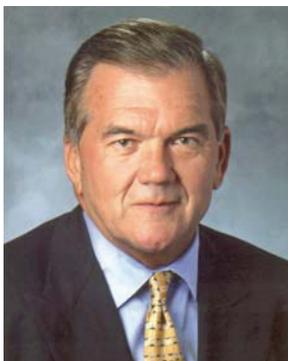


2006 O'Connell Award  
Roger Reidy

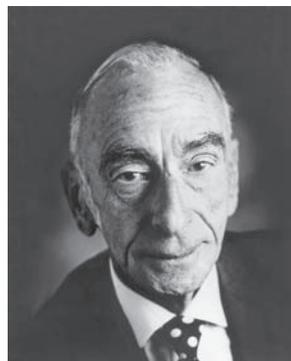


2006 Gullivan Award  
Peter J. Stewart

The 2006 parade season was an extremely successful one due to the hard work and perseverance of all committee members involved. From those on the awards selection committees, to the chairs of individual events, to the marketing committee who did a tremendous job bringing in the money to put on our parade, all worked hand in hand. I thank you all from the bottom of my heart for making this a year I will never forget.



2006 John F. Kennedy Award  
Thomas J. Ridge



2006 Ambassador's Award  
David Blake Kelly



2006 Citizenship Award  
Hank J. Porten



2006 Grand Colleen  
Katy Beth Brunelle