

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE; 2/2/2018

ASBURY PARK ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE, ASBURY PARK NJ

FOR QUESTIONS PLEASE EMAIL: [asburystpatsparade@gmail.com](mailto:asburystpatsparade@gmail.com)



## **TOM DONOVAN Announced as Grand Marshal for Asbury Park's St. Patrick's Day Parade, March 11 2018**

Born and raised in Lewes, Delaware and a University of Delaware graduate, Tom Donovan arrived to Asbury Park in the summer of 2007 as the president of the Asbury Park Press. After settling in town, Tom quickly bonded with the city and had a strong desire to help lead the continuing economic and community revitalization of the city. Donovan began working with community leaders to not only preserve the musical history of Asbury Park but to invest in the city's youth as our future leaders. Donovan is one of the original board members of the Asbury Park Music Foundation and is the co-chair of the Asbury Park Music & Film Festival, where all monies fund children's programs in town. Tom was also the co-producer of the 'Just Before the Dawn' film that captured both the musical and racial impact of the 60's & 70's in Asbury Park. Any profits from the sale of the film will be invested in the future of Asbury Park by developing conflict resolution educational programs.

Under Tom's leadership the Asbury Park Press is the continuing premier sponsor of the Light of Day Winterfest weekend, the Springwood Avenue Summer Music Program, Asbury Underground and numerous other programs and fundraisers.

There will be a Grand Marshal Dinner honoring Tom for all his many contributions to the city on March 8th. Past Grand Marshals were Father Bob, Big Joe Henry, The Carroll Family & Stone Pony Manager Caroline O'Toole, each Grand Marshal has given back to the city in extraordinary ways and represents the spirit of the city. This year's dinner will be held in the Grand Arcade of the historic Asbury Park Convention Hall. Tickets on sale and available through [EventBrite.com](http://EventBrite.com)

In 2013 a small committee gathered to craft a parade that celebrates St. Patrick while acknowledging the diversity of the people and culture of Asbury Park. Much thought went into the original concept to make certain that it was all inclusive, unique to Asbury Park while still incorporating the most loved traditions of a good old fashioned parade.

Every year the parade has been able to make donations to charitable organizations including the Asbury Park Little League, The Center, the Asbury park Historical Society, AP FD Local 384, A.P. Recreation and the victims of the Orlando shooting. The parade is completely funded by donations and sponsorship, fundraising events go on throughout the year to help keep the parade going and giving. Upcoming events information can be found on Asbury Park St. Patrick's Day Parade on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram as well as all parade info, application to participate, parade route and parking on [asburyparkstpatriksparade.com](http://asburyparkstpatriksparade.com). To make a direct donation visit [Go Fund Me](http://GoFundMe)

The Asbury Park St. Patrick's Day parade is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Garrett Giberson - President

Sammy Boyd - Vice President

Committee members include: Eileen Chapman, Judi Yaccarino, The Asbury Park Chambers of Commerce, The Asbury Ushers, and Chris Femiano for Madison Marquette